

Academy Unit in Užice (former Užice College of Applied Sciences)

The Academy Unit in Užice is one of the leading institutions in the field of applied studies in the Republic of Serbia, which offers study programmes in three fields of science: engineering and technology, social sciences and humanities, and medical and health sciences.

Study programmes offered by this unit are designed so as to develop students' ability to apply the acquired knowledge and skills in real-world business settings. Therefore, the Academy Unit in Užice provides higher education not only through the course delivery, but also through other forms of professional development, such as seminars and training courses, workshops, round tables and professional lectures on different contemporary topics, such as business communication, tourism destination management, energy efficiency, ecology, urban planning and design, artificial intelligence, etc.

For over 40 years, i.e. since the establishment of the College of Applied Sciences in Užice, the study programmes have been harmonised with the development strategy of the Republic of Serbia and Zlatibor District, and modernised so as to respond to technical and technological, social and economic changes, as well as to labour market demands. Numerous partnership agreements have been signed with various entrepreneurs and institutions in order to provide students with hands-on experience.

Moreover, the Academy Unit in Užice is doing everything in its power to fight against the trends detrimental to our society, such as betrayal of expectations, loss of trust and lack of belonging, which affect young people, who are, unfortunately, increasingly leaving not only their hometown, but also their country. One of the ways to motivate and encourage young people is to recognize and appreciate their efforts and work accordingly. There are plenty of occasions and events when our best students receive awards, such as scholarships, grants or study trips.

Our staff is composed of professors holding a doctoral degree, lecturers holding a master's degree, and teaching associates with profound scientific, professional and practical knowledge.

So far, the Academy Unit in Užice, i.e. former Užice College of Applied Sciences, has successfully organised 13 international scientific conferences titled 'Science and Higher Education in Function of Sustainable Development', received over 120 papers per conference, and gathered renowned experts and scientists both from the country and abroad. The conference also provides students with an opportunity to present the results of their scientific research, and have their papers published.

Since 2009, both staff and students have been actively involved in the implementation of international Tempus and Erasmus projects, resulting in successful cooperation with higher education institutions from Serbia and beyond. The grants received have been used to modernise

study programmes, provide state-of-the-art equipment, and increase the international mobility of both our staff and students.

Today, the institution occupies an area of around 4000 m², and offers lecture halls, IT classrooms, laboratories, a students' club and a library, fully equipped to ensure a high-quality learning environment.