

ANNOTATION

1. **Course title:** Regional Studies
2. **Lecturer:** PhD (Geography), Associate Professor Kateryna Kravchenko
3. **Status:** Elective
4. **Course year:** 2
5. **Semester:** 4
6. **Credits:** 6 ECTS (180 academic hours) (including lectures – 16, practical classes – 16, seminars – 16, independent work – 132)
7. **Prerequisites.** The course “*Regional Studies*” is an elective component of the PhD educational program in specialty **106 “Geography”**. It is based on the knowledge acquired during master’s studies and within the PhD-level courses “*Philosophical Foundations and Methodology of Scientific Research*” and “*Foreign Language for PhD Students*.” In the process of studying this course, PhD candidates develop competencies in **regional analysis, territorial organization of society, and spatial development of territories.**
8. **Course description.** The purpose of the course is to develop in PhD candidates a systemic understanding of the region as a spatial, social, economic, cultural, and political system; to advance skills in the analysis, comparison, and forecasting of regional processes at different hierarchical levels; and to familiarize them with modern approaches to regionalization, typology, and strategic territorial planning.

Course objectives:

- To reveal the essence and methodological foundations of regional studies as an interdisciplinary field of human geography.
- To acquaint students with theoretical models of regional differentiation and integration.
- To develop analytical skills for assessing spatial disparities across a complex system of indicators.
- To master the application of quantitative and qualitative research methods in regional analysis.
- To enhance the ability to formulate analytical conclusions and recommendations for regional policy and strategic planning.

Course content:

1. The concept of region in human geography: essence, structure, and typologies.
2. Methodological foundations of regional studies: systemic, functional, historical-geographical, synergetic, and network approaches.
3. Quantitative and qualitative methods of regional analysis: statistical, GIS-based, cluster, cartographic, and expert methods.
4. Regional models of spatial organization of society: center–periphery, polarized development, territorial networks.
5. Comparative regional studies in Ukraine and worldwide.
6. Regional policy, strategic planning, and sustainable regional development.

Teaching methods and forms – lectures, practical and seminar sessions, individual analytical assignments, and independent research work in accordance with the course program.

Forms of knowledge assessment and evaluation system:

- Questioning (individual, combined, and group);
 - Review and assessment of practical tasks;
 - Written and test-based evaluations;
 - Final exam.
9. **Learning materials and tools.** Lecture notes, multimedia presentations, cartographic and statistical databases, and supplementary analytical resources.
 10. **Language:** English