

*Approved
by Rector's Order № 2
dated January 5, 2026*

**Doctoral degree program
«8D03115 - International Relations»**

1. Name of the program: Doctoral Degree Program «8D03115 – International Relations» (training area «8D031 – Social sciences»).

2. Term of study: 3 years

3. Total credits (ECTS): 180

4. Program description:

The program is aimed at training highly qualified specialists capable of conducting independent scientific research in the field of international relations on the basis of systematic and in-depth mastering of methods of applied analysis and research activities. Doctoral students receive fundamental methodological and research training. The educational program includes theoretical, practical and research training.

The program involves a combined study of modern international theories and concepts, topical issues of politics and security, and the Republic of Kazakhstan's foreign policy priorities and national interests.

The program is based on strategic documents that determine the priorities of the state's foreign policy - the Development Strategy of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2050 and the Foreign Policy Concept of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2020-2030.

5. Aim and objectives of the program:

Purpose: training of leading research experts in the field of international relations.

Program objectives:

- to develop research competencies for conducting scientific research focused on solving the current foreign policy of Kazakhstan with the possibility of implementing its results in the practice of state bodies;
- to give a deep and detailed understanding of current international processes, as well as the role and place of Kazakhstan in regional and international politics.

6. Benefits of the program:

- 1) practice-oriented disciplines in the specialty to improve the level of professional training of specialists using modern teaching methods;
- 2) implementation of research work (*dissertation*) focused on solving topical problems of the foreign policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan under the scientific supervision of recognized international experts and experienced practitioners;
- 3) development of research potential – study of research methods and design, research practice;
- 4) participation in lectures and workshops by invited experts on topical issues of international relations and foreign policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, participation in international forums and conferences;
- 5) teaching disciplines in three languages: Kazakh, Russian, and English.

The partner in the implementation of the program is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

7. Expected learning outcomes:

Formation/development of competencies:

Adherence to ethical norms and principles - strictly follows the rules of ethical behavior in all situations in accordance with the code of ethics, adheres to the principles of integrity, honesty, benevolence, respect for colleagues and stakeholders, does not get lost in a stressful situation, seeks and finds solutions.

Result-oriented - sets complex goals and achieves them, makes additional efforts to complete tasks, takes responsibility for achieving the result.

Independence and decision-making skills - know how to analyze opportunities, risks, calculate and plan resources, act effectively in uncertain conditions, and offer several options for solving problems, taking into account possible risks.

Self-development - identifies and makes proposals for the promotion of promising employees, takes systematic measures for the development of employees, demonstrates by personal example the desire for self-development.

Initiative - considers and develops proposals for the implementation of innovative approaches and solutions aimed at improving the efficiency of activities, analyzes and makes proposals for the implementation of innovative approaches and solutions aimed at improving the efficiency of activities, initiates projects to improve the activities of the state body.

Teaching methods, forms, technologies: discussions and discussions, situational tasks, group work, case studies, case studies, case studies, debates, seminars, guest lectures, field classes.

8. Program structure and academic content:

Semester	Name of the discipline	BD/ PD	UC/ SC	ECTS
1	Academic Writing	BD	UC	3
	Methods of scientific research	BD	UC	3
	Modern Geopolitics	PD	UC	3
	<i>Total theoretical training</i>			9
	<i>Experimental and research work of doctoral students (hereinafter referred to as ERWD)</i>			21
TOTAL FOR SEMESTER 1				30
2	Research Methods in International Relations	BD	UC	3
	International Organizations and Multilateral Diplomacy of the Republic of Kazakhstan	BD	UC	3
	Modern Economic Diplomacy and Risk Prevention	BD	UC	2
	<i>Teaching practice</i>			5
	<i>Research practice</i>			5
	<i>Total theoretical training</i>			18
	<i>ERWD</i>			12
TOTAL FOR SEMESTER 2				30
3	Elective Component	PD	SC	3
	<i>Teaching practice</i>			5
	<i>Research practice</i>			5
	<i>Total theoretical training</i>			13
	<i>ERWD</i>			17
TOTAL FOR SEMESTER 3				30
4	Elective Component	PD	SC	3
	<i>Total theoretical training</i>			4
	<i>Internship</i>			4
	<i>ERWD</i>			22
TOTAL FOR SEMESTER 4				30
5	Research Seminar on Topical Issues of Contemporary International Relations/Research Workshop	PD	UC	2
	<i>Total theoretical training</i>			2
	<i>ERWD</i>			28
TOTAL FOR SEMESTER 5				30
6	<i>ERWD</i>			18
	<i>Final certification (registration and defense of a doctoral dissertation)</i>			12
TOTAL FOR SEMESTER 6				30
Total theoretical training + practice				45
Final certification (writing and defense of a doctoral dissertation)				12
ERWD+ Internship				123
TOTAL CREDITS FOR COMPULSORY DEVELOPMENT				180