

SURVEY OF TOURISM MANAGEMENT STUDENTS ON LEADERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP

Execution time

The survey was conducted at the end of the spring semester of the academic year 2024-2025.

Purpose

To find out the opinion of Tourism Management students on the professional internship, and to use the answers to improve the process of organisation and execution of practices.

Short presentation of the questionnaire

Tourism Management students rated the practice supervisor at the faculty according to 6 statements on a scale from 1 to 5, where 5 means strongly agree and 1 means strongly disagree. The results were analysed by calculating the mean scores. The survey was anonymous and voluntary.

Presentation of survey results:

The overall assessment point average for the practice tutor of the Faculty according to all 6 criteria is 4.9 out of 5 possible points.

Statements	Avarage
Practice Tutor at the Faculty:	
I was introduced to the objectives and evaluation of the practice	5,0
The practice tasks were clearly formulated	4,7
Clear payment terms and forms	5,0
The practice lecturer provided an opportunity for consultation	5,0
Settlement results discussed (written or oral)	5,0
The evaluation shall follow the published evaluation forms and criteria	5,0
Average:	4,9
Statements	
Practice Tutor at the Company, Institution, Organization, etc.:	
Clearly formulated the tasks	4,7
Assigned practical activities that corresponded to the objectives of the practice programme	4,7
Provided opportunities to improve practical skills and competencies	4,0
Demonstrated how to perform practical activities	4,8
Observed how I carried out practical activities	4,7
Provided detailed answers to questions related to practical activities	5,0
Evaluated my practical activities according to clear criteria	4,3
Maintained mutual and respectful relationships	4,7
Vidurkis:	4,6

Positive statements:

The most appreciated aspects of the practice were that students were clearly informed about the objectives and evaluation process, payment terms and forms were transparent, the lecturer provided opportunities for consultation, the settlement results were discussed (either in written or oral form), and the evaluation followed the published evaluation forms and criteria.

Points to improve:

It is necessary to pay closer attention to students' communication with both the Faculty practice tutor and the practice tutor in the company, institution, or organization. The practice tasks were clearly formulated; however, this aspect still requires improvement.

Student observations

“ I am speaking on behalf of the students who had both practice and work at the same time, as the practice required a lot of time, making it difficult to balance both activities simultaneously.”.

(NOTE: students' responses are unadjusted and uncorrected).

What's next?

The Survey on the Evaluation of Students' Professional Practice is one of the measures aimed at improving the quality of studies. When assessing the survey results, the Training and Cooperation Development Department identifies areas for improvement in the organization of professional practices, paying particular attention to students' communication with the practice tutor at the Faculty and the practice tutor at the company, institution, or organization, in order to achieve the objectives and tasks set out in the practice programme. After conducting the survey and summarizing the results, the Training and Cooperation Development Department submitted the findings to the Department of Tourism.

Students are informed about the upcoming professional practice in advance to ensure that they have sufficient time to find a placement that matches their study programme and field of study. The Internship Coordinator at the Training and Cooperation Development Department of the Faculty of Business Management organizes a meeting between students, practice tutors, and the Head of the Department before the start of the practice. Prior to the practice, students are also provided with access to the regularly updated Database of Internship Placements of the Faculty of Business Management at VK, which allows them to choose from a wide range of companies.

After the completion of the practice, the Head of the Department of Tourism, the Dean, and the Vice-Dean of the Faculty are acquainted with the results of the student survey, and the need for improvements in the organization of professional practices at the Faculty of Business Management is analyzed.