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PREPARATION OF STUDENTS FOR ENVIROMENTAL CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN VILNIUS UNIVERSITY

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In Vilnius University, there are two faculties which deal with students who shall work in enviromental chemical analysis : the Faculty of Chemistry and the Faculty of Natural Science.

After the usual background in analytical chemistry students may studying at a fourth stage: analysis of enviromental objects (32 hours of lectures, 16 in the laboratory, for 2.5 credits); analysis of biological, medical and food materials (48 hours of lectures, 32 hours in the laboratory, for 3 credits); and analysis of organic compounds (48 hours of lectures, for 5 credits). Students finish their BS studies with diploma work.

In magister (master) studies, students may choose such courses as: methods of biochemical analysis (32 hours of lectures, 32 in the laboratory, for 3 credits); liquid chromatography (32 hours of lectures, 48 in the laboratory, for 3.5 credits); gas chromatography (32 hours of lectures, 48 hours in the laboratory, for 3.5 credits); and methods of spectrometry (32 lectures, 48 laboratory, 3.5 credits).

It is very important that many professors are not only from the university, but from Institutes of the Academy of Science, the Ministry of Environmental Affairs, the Food Center and others. Students have the possibility to visit and work in special laboratories of environmental analysis. The main problem in the university is lack of the modern equipment for analysis.

More common problems of environmental chemistry are solve by students in Vilnius University Centre for Environmental Studies.

Courses of enviromental chemistry at Vilnius University have been taught for no more than 4 – 5 years and still are in a developing stage.

In the future we are thinking about offering specialization in environmental chemical analysis at the Department of Analytical and Environmental Chemistry in the Faculty of Chemistry.