



**Department
Social Theology and Christian Culture**

**Inter-Institutional Postgraduate Program
"RELIGIOUS AND PILGRIMAGE TOURISM"**

**M2.2
Updated
Internal Rules of Operation
of the I.P.P.
according to Law 4957/2022**

December 2023

The necessary adaptation of the Amendment Decision and the Regulation of the I.P.P. in accordance with Law 4957/2022 is in progress. The necessary documents will be submitted to [the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education](#), HAHEA, when approved by the Senate of the Foundation-[Institution](#) (Decision).

The following are attached to this Annex:

1. The document under preparation of the Regulation of Postgraduate Studies of the I.P.P. "Religious and Pilgrimage Tourism", which was approved by the Assembly of the Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P. and by the Assemblies of the two collaborating Departments, as follows:
 - α) By unanimous decision of the Assembly no. 23/6-12-2023 of the Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P. "Religious and Pilgrimage Tourism"
 - β) By unanimous decision of the Assembly no. 751/12-12-2023 of the expedited Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
 - γ) By unanimous decision of the Assembly no. 23/21-12-2023 of the Department of Organization Management, Marketing and Tourism of the School of Economics and Management (Thessaloniki) of the IHU

**REGULATION OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES
I.P.P. "RELIGIOUS AND PILGRIMAGE TOURISM"
according to Law 4957/2022**

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General provisions

1. The second cycle of studies consists of attending a Postgraduate Studies Program (MSc) and ends with the award of a Postgraduate Diploma (MSc).

2. This Regulation of Postgraduate Studies supplements the provisions of Chapter I [Organization and Operation of Second and Third Cycle Study Programs] of Law 4957/2022 (Government Gazette 141 / t.A / 21-7-2022): "New Horizons in Higher Education Institutions: Enhancing the quality, functionality and connection of Higher Institutions with society and other provisions", as well as the Regulation of Operation of Postgraduate Programs of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Article 1

Object-Purpose of the I.P.P.

1. The Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (expedited) in collaboration with the Department of Organization Management, Marketing and Tourism of the School of Economics and Management (Thessaloniki) of the IHU, have agreed to organize and operate an Inter-institutional Postgraduate Program entitled "Religious and Pilgrimage Tourism".

2. **The object** of the I.P.P. is the study and research of the various religious and pilgrimage data of mainland Greece, the Balkans, Asia Minor and the Holy Land, which include the relevant sources and traditions and also the ways of promoting and highlighting those sites.

3. **The purpose** of the I.P.P. is to cultivate and promote scientific knowledge and research in the fields related to the theoretical background of religious and pilgrimage tourism, but also to provide and develop skills for those who have a general interest in working in the field of religious and pilgrimage tourism or they already professionally work with it in the public or private sector.

The specific purpose of the I.P.P. is the pastoral training, deepening and promoting specialized theological studies, for those who serve inter-church relations and work for the connection of the science of Theology with society.

4. **The learning outcomes and qualifications** of those who successfully attend the I.P.P. are the following:

- 1) Acquisition of high-level postgraduate training in his/her subject and development of critical and research skills required for doctoral studies
- 2) Training with specialized knowledge on religious and pilgrimage tourism issues
- 3) Capacities for interdisciplinary handling of complex practical issues
- 4) An academic research approach to the subject with the aid of various scientific resources from related sciences
- 5) Acquisition of skills for the organization and general management of religious and pilgrimage tourism data for relevant projects
- 6) Ability to produce new knowledge and scientific work, which will enrich knowledge on the subject, deepen the phenomenon of religious and pilgrimage tourism and contribute to the interpretation and understanding of its various aspects
- 7) Training theologians, historians, philologists, teachers in general, Church officials, tourism professionals, state and social institutions with a relevant knowledge and skills, so that they can offer high quality professional work and become competent executives in organizations related to the fields of the Program.

5. Postgraduate studies aim at the promotion of knowledge, the development of research and the arts, as well as the satisfaction of the educational, research, social, cultural and

developmental needs of the country, the training of high-level scientists capable of contributing to theoretical and applied areas of specific disciplines, special thematic units or sub-branches of the disciplines of the first cycle of studies. Departments, as well as the production and transmission of knowledge, know-how, methodologies, tools and research results in the scientific field in which each Department operates.

Article 2

Awarded title of I.P.P.

1. The I.P.P. awards an MSc in "Religious and Pilgrimage Tourism". The program does not provide for individual specializations.

2. The successful completion of the I.P.P. leads to level seven (7) of the National and European Qualifications Framework in accordance with article 47 of Law 4763/2020 (A' 254).

Article 3

Bodies of the I.P.P.

1. The competent bodies for the administration, organization and operation of the Postgraduate Programs are:

- I. **The Senate of the University**, which is responsible for the academic, administrative, and organizational issues of the Postgraduate Programs, and exercises those responsibilities related to the Postgraduate Programs that are not assigned by law to other bodies.
- II. **The Committee for Postgraduate Studies**, which is established by decision of the Senate and consists of the competent Vice-Rector, who serves as President, as well as one (1) member of the Teaching Research Staff (T.E.P.) from each School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and one (1) member who comes from the categories of members of Special Educational Staff (E.E.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.DI.P.) and Special Technical Laboratory Staff (E.T.E.P.) of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. All members of the Commission have experience in organising and participating in second cycle programmes. The term of office of the Committee is two (2) academic years.
- III. **The Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P.** consisting of four (4) members coming from the Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and three (3) members coming from the Department of Organization Management, Marketing and Tourism of the School of Economics and Management (Thessaloniki) of the IHU, who are elected for a two-year term by the Assembly of the collaborating Departments, in accordance with article 81 par. 3 and 5 of Law 4957/2022. The Curriculum Committee has the following responsibilities:
 - α. establishes Committees for the evaluation of the applications of prospective postgraduate students and approves their enrollment in the I.P.P.,
 - β. assigns the teaching work to the teachers of the I.P.P.,
 - γ. recommends to the Senate the amendment of the decision establishing the I.P.P., as well as the extension of the duration of the I.P.P.,
 - δ. establishes examination committees for the examination of postgraduate students' dissertations and appoints the supervisor per thesis,
 - ε. ascertains the successful completion of studies, in order to be awarded the title of I.P.P.,
 - στ. approves the report of the I.P.P., upon the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee (Co.C.).

By decision of the Curriculum Committee, the responsibilities of per. a) and d) may be transferred to the Coordinating Committee of the I.P.P.

IV. The Coordinating Committee of the I.P.P. which may be established by decision of the Curriculum Committee for a two-year term and which consists of the Director of the I.P.P. and four (4) of the members of the Program of Studies Committee. In particular, the Coordinating Committee consists of three (3) members coming from the expedited Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and two (2) members coming from the Department of Organization Management, Marketing and Tourism of the School of Economics and Management of the IHU. The I.P.P. S.P. has the following responsibilities:

- α. prepares the initial annual budget of the I.P.P. and its amendments, provided that the I.P.P. allocates resources in accordance with article 84 of Law 4957/2022, and recommends its approval to the Special Account for Research Funds (E.L.K.E.),
- β. prepares the report of the I.P.P. and recommends its approval to the Curriculum Committee,
- γ. approves the implementation of expenses of the I.P.P.,
- δ. approves the granting of scholarships, contributory or not, in accordance with the provisions of the decision establishing the I.P.P. and the Regulation of Postgraduate Studies,
- ε. recommends to the Curriculum Committee the distribution of teaching work, as well as the assignment of teaching work to the categories of teachers of article 83 of Law 4957/2022,
- σ. recommends to the Curriculum Committee the invitation of Visiting Professors to meet the teaching needs of the I.P.P.,
- ζ. prepares a plan for the modification of the curriculum, which it submits to the Curriculum Committee,
- η. recommends to the Curriculum Committee the redistribution of courses between academic semesters, as well as issues related to the qualitative upgrading of the curriculum.

Emeritus Professors of the collaborating Departments may participate in the Curriculum Committee and the S.E., provided that they provide teaching work to the I.P.P.

V. The Director of the I.P.P. who comes from the expedited Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture, prioritizing the rank of Professor or Associate Professor, and is appointed by decision of the Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P. for a two-year term, renewable without limitation and is not entitled to additional remuneration for his administrative work.

The Director shall have the powers provided for in Article 82 para. 4 of Law 4957/2022 and any others defined in the decision establishing the I.P.P.:

- α. chairs the C.E. as well as the Curriculum Committee and drafts the agenda and convenes its meetings,
- β. recommends issues related to the organization and operation of the I.P.P. to the Curriculum Committee,
- γ. recommends to the S.C. and the other bodies of the I.P.P. and the HEI issues related to the effective operation of the I.P.P.,
- δ. is the Scientific Coordinator of the I.P.P. in accordance with article 234 of Law 4957/2022 and exercises the respective responsibilities,
- ε. monitors the implementation of the decisions of the bodies of the I.P.P. and the Internal Regulation, as well as the monitoring of the implementation of the budget of the I.P.P.

2. The Director of the I.P.P., as well as the members of the C.E. and the Curriculum Committee, are not entitled to remuneration or any compensation for the performance of the responsibilities assigned to them and related to the performance of their duties.

3. The Secretarial Support of the I.P.P. is provided by the Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture. The Secretariat of the I.P.P. is responsible for keeping records and grades of postgraduate students. It also informs postgraduate students on issues related to the organization and operation of the I.P.P. Finally, the Secretariat is responsible for the preparation of the topics introduced to the Curriculum Committee.

Article 4

Categories of Candidates in I.P.P.

1. The I.P.P. admits holders of first cycle degrees of Departments of Universities in Greece and abroad and in particular:

- 1) Holders of first cycle degrees from Greek Universities and Technological Educational Institutes
- 2) Holders of first cycle degrees from equivalent foreign institutions. Postgraduate Diploma is not awarded to a student whose first cycle degree comes from a foreign institution that is not in the DOATAP register and cannot be added to it.
- 3) Holders of first cycle degrees from the Higher Ecclesiastical Academies (AEA) and the Productive Schools of the Armed Forces and Security Forces.

2. The recognition of foreign degrees for admission to the postgraduate program of studies is made by the I.P.P. In case the first cycle of studies has taken place abroad, the candidate is not obliged to carry the equivalence of degrees from DOATAP. Even if he presents equivalence, the recognition is still made by the I.P.P.

3. The Academic Departments are **responsible only for the academic recognition of degrees** and not for equivalence. For the equivalence of degrees, DOATAP remains responsible.

4. Interested parties, who have already applied or are studying at the I.P.P., subject to the presentation of an individual recognition act by DOATAP, are exempt from this obligation and their application or continuation of their studies is examined according to the criteria of the new law.

5. **How to check** the general type of first cycle qualification:

1. The authenticity shall be certified:
 - 1.1. with a seal of The Hague,
 - 1.2. by submitting the degree and simultaneously informing the Foreign University by the interested party. The update is accompanied by an official email of the University of Abroad, giving the Secretariat of each Academic Department the opportunity to check the authenticity,
2. in case the specialty awarded by the degree is required, the check is made by its entry in the degree and the transcript of grades or the Diploma Supplement,
3. in case we are interested in the grade, we use the match with the procedure notified by DOATAP,
4. academic recognition concerns only the specific procedure, is guaranteed by decision of the Curriculum Committee and **is not given to the person concerned**. If the candidate wants a relevant certificate, he should contact DOATAP for equivalence.

Article 5

Number of Admissions, Criteria and Selection Procedure

1. The number of students admitted per year is set at a maximum of 60 postgraduate students. The I.P.P. cannot operate with less than 15 postgraduate students. The number of students admitted may be changed following a decision of the Curriculum Committee, in accordance with the applicable provisions.

2. The I.P.P., following a decision of the Curriculum Committee, announces positions through an open procedure. In particular, the call shall indicate the admission requirements, the number of admissions, the categories of candidates, the method of admission, the selection criteria, etc., the deadlines for the submission of applications as well as the supporting documents required.

3. The announcement for the admission of postgraduate students is published on the website of the I.P.P. Applications accompanied by the necessary supporting documents are submitted to the Secretariat of the I.P.P., either in printed or electronic form.

4. Along with the Application for participation in the I.P.P. and the necessary supporting documents, a detailed CV and a Photocopy of the identity card or passport are also submitted.

5. **The criteria for the selection** of the entrants include the following, for which the corresponding supporting documents shall be submitted:

- I. Possession of a first cycle degree/diploma in Greece or abroad.
- II. Transcript of all undergraduate courses.
- III. Adequate knowledge of a foreign language, as a prerequisite, at least B2 level. Certificate of good (level B2) or very good (level C1) or excellent knowledge (level C2) of the English language, according to the system of the Council of Europe, which is accepted by ASEP. Alternatively, a degree or postgraduate diploma from a Greek University or equivalent foreign University can be submitted, which results in the successful completion of an English-speaking undergraduate or postgraduate program.

Specifically, the level of foreign language proficiency is proven by the following ways: i) State Certificate of Law 2740/1999 as replaced by para. 19 of article 13 of Law 3149/2003, ii) With a degree in Foreign Language and Literature or a Degree in Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting of the country or equivalent and equivalent foreign schools, iii) With a bachelor's, undergraduate or postgraduate diploma or doctoral degree of any recognized higher education institution abroad, iv) With a baccalaureate title equivalent to Greek secondary schools, if they have been obtained after at least six years' regular study abroad.

The foreign language teaching license does not prove knowledge of a foreign language (Presidential Decree 347/2003). Candidates holding the relevant licence must provide a certified copy and an accurate translation of the qualification on the basis of which the foreign language teaching licence was issued.

For the knowledge of Slavic languages, a certificate from the I.M.X.A. or a diploma of a recognized institution is submitted. Candidates who do not hold a foreign language certificate have the opportunity to be examined in writing, by a special committee of teachers with corresponding language proficiency, to prove adequate knowledge of the language.

- IV. Interview by a competent committee.
- V. In addition to the above supporting documents, the candidate may submit, if he/she has them:
 - α. Diploma or diplomas of postgraduate studies in a Greek University or equivalent foreign institution.
 - β. PhD degree from a Greek University or equivalent foreign institution.
 - γ. Certificates for possible good knowledge of a second foreign language, as above. If the candidate is a foreigner, he/she can submit certificates for knowledge of the Greek language.
 - δ. Documentary evidence of any research and writing activity relevant to the field of specialization, participation in educational student mobility programs and professional experience relevant to the field of specialization.

The above documents shall be submitted either as an exact copy or as a simple photocopy.

- VI. Foreign candidates, as a prerequisite for admission to the I.P.P., must present a certificate of attainment in Greek or a certificate of at least B2 level. If they are graduates of a Greek-speaking University Department, this degree is equivalent to a certificate of proficiency in the Greek language.

6. The method of evaluation (crediting) of the above criteria is the responsibility of the Curriculum Committee.

7. The **selection process of** candidates by decision of the Postgraduate Studies Committee is carried out by a competent three-member Selection and Examination Committee consisting of faculty members who have undertaken postgraduate work.

8. The Committee draws up a complete list of all candidates and, after the relevant examination, rejects those who do not meet the minimum criteria set by the I.P.P. and invites to an interview, where applicable, the selected candidates who have met the prerequisites.

9. The award of points to candidates for admission to the I.P.P. is made with a maximum of one hundred (100) points and results as follows:

- 1) Degree or diploma grade: maximum forty-five (45) points.
- 2) Certified knowledge of foreign languages: ten (10) points.
- 3) Interview by the three-member Selection and Examination Committee: maximum twenty (20) points. The fields of the interview concern the candidate's CV (studies, professional experience, scientific and social activity), as well as the reasons why he is interested in pursuing the studies of the I.P.P.
- 4) Research activity: ten (10) credits.
- 5) Other qualifications: five (5) credits.
- 6) Relevant professional experience: up to ten (10) points. 10 credits are awarded to relevant professional experience of 5 years or more, five (5) credits to experience from 1 to 4.9 years, one (1) point to experience under 1 year.

10. After the completion of the procedure, whether it concerns a written examination or an evaluation based on a file of supporting documents and an interview, the final list of successful candidates is drawn up under the supervision of the Academic Committee and the administrative support of the Secretariat of the I.P.P.

11. In the event of a tie, all successful candidates shall be admitted.

12. In case the positions of admissions remain vacant, they are filled until the prescribed percentage of admissions is exhausted (according to the provisions of the notice), either by classifying, as successful candidates, in descending order of total marks, if this is at least thirty (30) points, or by a supplementary announcement of vacancies.

13. The final list of successful candidates and any runners-up, once validated by the Curriculum Committee, is posted on the website of the I.P.P.

14. Objections may be submitted within five (5) working days from the publication of the results.

15. The registration of successful candidates takes place following a relevant announcement by the secretariat of the I.P.P., which also specifies the duration of registrations and any necessary supporting documents.

16. If a candidate does not register within the prescribed deadline, it is taken as a refusal to accept the position and it is covered by the next successful candidate.

Article 6

Duration and Terms of Studies

Duration

1. The duration of studies at the I.P.P. leading to the receipt of the Postgraduate Diploma (D.M.S.) is set at least three (3) semesters, which include the time of preparation and evaluation of the postgraduate dissertation.

2. The maximum allowed time for completion of studies is set at four (4) semesters and in any case may not exceed twice the time of the minimum attendance, i.e. six (6) semesters. By decision of the Curriculum Committee, upon submission of a relevant application accompanied by a Certificate of Primary Public Health Committee or Public Hospital, the maximum duration of studies may exceptionally be exceeded for serious health reasons related to the person of the student or to the person of a first-degree relative by blood or spouse or person with whom the student has entered into a cohabitation agreement.

3. Postgraduate students are offered the possibility of part-time study, the duration of which may not exceed twice the normal course, i.e. six (6) semesters. Part-time attendance is provided for those who demonstrably work at least twenty (20) hours per week and for non-working postgraduate students who are unable to meet the minimum requirements of the "**full-time**" program, as well as for particularly serious cases, for which the Curriculum Committee decides. Extremely serious cases are defined as reasons of illness, adverse conditions and workload, serious family reasons, military service, or other reasons of force majeure. In this case, students applying for part-time study should submit, in addition to the relevant application, the following supporting documents:

- a) Certificate of the Primary Public Health Committee in case of illness.
- b) Employer's certificate stating the weekly workload, which cannot be less than 20 hours per week.
- c) Summons to military service in case of conscription.
- (d) Any other supporting document may certify the reasons of force majeure.

4. The application for part-time attendance is submitted at the beginning of each semester, accompanied by the supporting documents required by the Department. The postgraduate student can attend half of the courses of the proposed program of study per semester.

5. Also, postgraduate students who have not exceeded the normal duration of studies may be granted, upon submission of a relevant application, a suspension of **studies**, which may not exceed two (2) consecutive semesters. During the suspension, the graduate student loses his or her student status. The time of suspension does not count towards the maximum duration of normal studies.

With the resumption of studies, postgraduate students return to a state of normal attendance with all the rights and obligations provided by the I.P.P.

6. In addition, upon reasoned application before the completion of the normal duration of studies, the postgraduate student may request an **extension** of studies, concerning the completion of studies or the preparation of the postgraduate thesis. After the end of the extension of studies, the postgraduate student, if he has not successfully completed the Program, is deleted from the I.P.P. by decision of the Program of Studies.

7. Applications of postgraduate students for **part-time study, suspension or extension of studies** are made before the beginning of the academic semesters.

8. For issues of review of courses in due courses or deletion, the Curriculum Committee decides on a proposal of the Coordinating Committee, which decides on the terms of the review and the reasons for deletion. Reasons for deletion are a) the insufficient progress of the postgraduate student (which is documented by non-participation in the educational process: attendance, examinations), b) the improper fulfillment of other obligations defined by the Regulation, c) conduct that offends academic ethics, such as plagiarism, and d) the postgraduate student's own application.

9. The educational process includes courses, seminars and research employment, application exercises and various educational and research activities, such as site visits and assignments. For the award of the Postgraduate Diploma, participation in all educational and research activities, successful examination in core and elective courses, as well as the preparation of a Postgraduate Diploma Thesis are required. Specifically, in addition to attending courses of the I.P.P., postgraduate students must participate in parallel educational and research activities organized by the Program, such as special seminars, workshops and conferences, as well as other activities, which may consist of the operation of accelerated educational programs of general or specialized nature, training of executives of specific duration, participation or editing in various publications or research projects related to the provision of services to organizations, etc.

Tuition fees

10. The I.P.P. provides for tuition fees set at the amount of two thousand (2000) euros for each cycle of studies. Postgraduate students are required to pay 200 euros upon registration

and three equal installments (600 euros per installment) before the beginning of the respective semesters. The payment of tuition fees is made to the Special Account for Research Funds of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. The improper payment of financial obligations constitutes a sufficient reason for non-award of the Diploma or deletion from the I.P.P.

Exemptions

11. Postgraduate students who meet the criterion of excellence during the first cycle of studies, which corresponds at least to the possession of a grade equal to or higher than seven and a half with excellent out of ten (7.5/10), have the right to free attendance due to economic or social criteria. The specific terms and conditions of the right to free attendance at the Postgraduate Programs are described in the current legislation as well as in the decision of the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs, and are announced annually on the website of the Program.

12. Exempt students should not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total number of students admitted to the I.P.P. If the beneficiaries exceed the above percentage, they are selected in order of ranking starting from those with the lowest income.

13. The application for exemption from tuition fees is submitted by the interested party to the I.P.P. after the completion of the selection process of the students in the I.P.P. The possibility of exemption from the obligation to pay tuition fees is provided exclusively for attendance at one (1) Postgraduate Program organized by Greek Universities.

14. The examination of the criteria for exemption from tuition fees is carried out by the Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P. and a reasoned decision is issued on the acceptance or rejection of the application.

Article 7

Rights and Obligations of Attendance

1. Postgraduate students are enrolled and participate in the I.P.P. following a relevant announcement by the Secretariat of the I.P.P., which defines the duration of registrations and the supporting documents required for registration.

2. Postgraduate students have all the rights, benefits and facilities provided for students of the first cycle of studies, **except** for the right to provide free textbooks. Information on the services provided is published on the website of the I.P.P.

3. The I.P.P. provides facilities to postgraduate students with disabilities or special educational needs, regarding the examination method and the unhindered access to the educational facilities. Interested parties submit a relevant request to the Curriculum Committee, which decides on a case-by-case basis after consultation with the academic responsible for vulnerable groups and with the teachers.

4. Postgraduate students admitted to the I.P.P. are obliged to:

- 1) Attend the courses of the I.P.P. Attendance of courses and exercises is mandatory. Derogations may only be granted for serious justified reasons. No more than four (4) absences are allowed per lesson.
- 2) Participate in all educational and research activities.
- 3) Submit course statements on time each semester.
- 4) Submit within the prescribed deadlines the assignments required for each course.
- 5) Attend the exams and present the assignments assigned to them.
- 6) Submit to the Secretariat, along with their diploma thesis to be evaluated, a solemn declaration that there is no evidence of plagiarism.
- 7) Pay the tuition fees within the dates specified.
- 8) Have settled all their financial obligations, as well as any other obligation to the Institution, before taking the oath. Otherwise, they will not be entitled to take the oath and/or receive the postgraduate diploma.

- 9) If they have received a scholarship, to offer rewarding work where necessary in the academic and educational activities of the I.P.P., such as secretarial or technical support of conferences and seminars.
- 10) It is possible to attend in parallel an undergraduate program of studies and a postgraduate program of studies or in two (2) postgraduate programs of the same or another Department, of the same or another HEI.
- 11) Respect and abide by the decisions of the Master's bodies as well as academic ethics. Failure to comply with the above, without a substantiated justification, may lead to failure in a course or exclusion from the program.
- 12) All postgraduate students must participate in the electronic evaluation of the courses they attended, and of the Program in general, following the invitation of the Director of the I.P.P. and the teachers.

Non-observance of all the above without serious and substantiated justification is a reason for the postgraduate student's expulsion from the program.

5. The course of studies of each postgraduate student is monitored by the academic advisor in accordance with the rules of operation of the institution of academic advisor, which is published on the website of the I.P.P.

6. Postgraduate students may express any complaint or objection related to their studies by following the complaint management mechanism, which is published on the website of the I.P.P.

Article 8

Curriculum-Knowledge Test

1. The I.P.P. is structured in three (3) academic semesters and delivers a total of ninety (90) ECTS (1 ECTS = 25 Hours of Workload).

In the first semester, four (4) Compulsory Courses and one (1) Elective Course are taught, credited with six (6) ECTS per course, with a total of thirty (30) ECTS.

In the second semester, four (4) Compulsory Courses and one (1) Elective Course are taught, credited with six (6) ECTS per course, with a total of thirty (30) ECTS.

In the third semester, a postgraduate thesis is prepared, which is credited with thirty (30) ECTS.

2. The program of studies at the I.P.P. is implemented through 39 academic hours of synchronous distance teaching for each course, corresponding to 6 ECTS credits. The link of the course to the modern education platform, such as Zoom etc., is announced in the timetable. At the same time, a Learning Management System (LMS) is used, such as elearning, etc., which allows the organized management of each element of a course. For example, the teacher can upload (i.e. make available through the system) his/her educational material in the form of appropriate files (text, video images), organize exercises and quizzes for students, organize discussion spaces, allow assignments to be sent, announce grades. etc. The link of the course to the LMS is announced in the course schedule.

3. The I.P.P. organizes its educational process following methods of modern distance education. In particular, it adopts fully modern distance education, in accordance with the provisions of Joint Ministerial Decision no. 18137/Z1 (Government Gazette 1079/ τ. Β' /28-02-2023). For this purpose, it uses the integrated e-learning system for modern distance education, provided by the Institution of the accelerated School of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (see <https://it.auth.gr/services/academicsupport/>), which has the following characteristics:

a) the use of videoconferencing and virtual electronic classroom technologies, so that the teacher and students who are in different places receive immediate feedback at the same time. In particular, the system supports:

- (aa) real-time visual and audio communication using appropriate equipment (computers, cameras, microphones, speakers, headphones, high-speed networking and videoconferencing software) so that teachers and learners can have voice and visual communication while in different rooms;
- ab) the ability to share applications and texts (application and document sharing),
- (ac) the possibility of using an electronic board.

b) the possibility of access to chat rooms both between teacher and student as well as between students for any cooperation, exchange of views and preparation of joint projects.

The I.P.P., for fully modern distance education, also uses the material and technical infrastructure of the collaborating Department of Organization Management, Marketing and Tourism of the IHU, which has:

- Ten (10) licenses of online Zoom platform rooms with a capacity of 300 people each.
- One licensed online Zoom platform room with a capacity of 500 people
- Access to the exams-sod.the.ihu.gr online course platform based on the moodle platform.

The above infrastructure ensures for each course of the I.P.P.:

- ✓ Simultaneous participation of trainer / trainers and trainees.
- ✓ Instructor's access to course settings.
- ✓ Continuous and unhindered interaction through image, sound and text messages between faculty and students
- ✓ Use of active, participatory and interactive training techniques, such as group work, case study, role playing, snowballing, simulation and internships.

The I.P.P., for fully modern distance education, also uses the material and technical infrastructure of the collaborating Department of Organization Management, Marketing and Tourism of the IHU.

4. The integrated system of synchronous distance learning is fully accessible to people with disabilities and people with special educational needs.

5. By decision of the Curriculum Committee, one (1) natural person is appointed as the Manager of an integrated e-learning system, who has the required know-how to support the teachers and students of the I.P.P. during the use of the e-learning system. The details of the Manager are communicated to the users of the integrated e-learning system. If the number of system users is high, more natural persons may be designated.

6. The official language of the program is Greek, and the language of the postgraduate thesis may be Greek or different from it. Some courses, including those of visiting professors, may be conducted in English or in another of the main European languages.

7. Curriculum

A) Indicative curriculum

Semester A (Total ECTS 30)				
(Four compulsory courses; from the elective courses, students choose one)				
n/a	Course Title	Type of course (obligatory/elective)	Modern Distance Learning	ECTS
1	RTO1. Introduction to Tourism. The phenomenon and concept of religious and pilgrimage tourism	Y	100%	6
2	RT2 Biblical places and pilgrimages in Greece. History and theology	Y	100%	6

3	RT03. Sources of pilgrimage tourism. Pilgrimage Guides, Lives of Saints, Travel Texts	Y	100%	6
4	RT04. Research methodology. Research sources	Y	100%	6
5	WS01. Religious monuments in Greece. History and culture	E	100%	6
6	WS02. Pilgrimages to the Orthodox Slavic area. History and culture	E	100%	6
7	WS03. Creation of pilgrimage and religious tourism packages	E	100%	6
Second semester (Total ECTS 30) (Four compulsory courses; from the elective courses, students choose one)				
n/a	Course Title	Type of course (obligatory/elective)	Modern Distance Learning	ECTS
1	RT05. Biblical sites and pilgrimages in Asia Minor and Palestine. History and theology	Y	100%	6
2	RT06. Monastic centers in Greece. History and culture	Y	100%	6
3	RT07. Christian pilgrimage centers of the eastern Mediterranean. Monumental topography-cultural heritage-relics	Y	100%	6
4	RT08. Marketing of Tourism of religious interest	Y	100%	6
5	SS01. Ecclesiastical institutions and pilgrimage tourism. Destinations of special pilgrimage interest: Kastoria, Meteora, Patmos	E	100%	6
6	SS02. Social and cultural aspects of religious tourism. Celebrations, customs, museums	E	100%	6
7	SS03. E-business in Tourism	E	100%	6
Third semester (Total ECTS 30)				
n/a	Course Title	Type of work	Teaching hours	ECTS
1	Postgraduate Thesis	Y		30

8. Courses may be reformed or replaced with others, by decision of the Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P. and the Committee of Postgraduate Studies, and approval of the Senate, if deemed appropriate for the better operation and structure of the Program.

9. The weekly teaching hours of each course are at least three (3) and correspond to three (3) teaching units. Each course includes thirteen (13) teaching sessions per semester.

10. Students are required to register at the beginning of each semester five (5) courses: four (4) compulsory and one (1) elective.

11. Courses are taught during the afternoon hours and may also take place on Saturday and/or Sunday, in order to facilitate working or practicing postgraduate students.

12. The beginning and end of courses as well as the duration of the examination periods are determined by decision of the Curriculum Committee.

B) Knowledge testing-Student evaluation

Regulatory Framework for Remote Evaluation

The I.P.P. "Religious and Pilgrimage Tourism" will apply remote evaluation methods with technologies as described in paragraphs 2.2, 3.2, 4.2 of Annex I of the decision of the Senate of the Aristotle University (3024/26-5-2020) taking all necessary technical and organizational measures to ensure the protection of personal data in accordance with the European Regulation EU 2016/679 (GDPR) and Law 4624/2019.

The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, as controller, takes all appropriate means to safeguard the security, accuracy and confidentiality of the personal data of all participants while processing them to the minimum extent possible. Based on Article 35 of the GDPR, the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki proceeded to the impact assessment on the protection of personal data, which will be processed during the remote evaluation methods in order to make: a) a systematic description of the envisaged processing operations and the purposes of the processing, b) an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing operations in relation to the specific purposes, (c) an assessment of the risks to the rights and freedoms of data subjects and (d) provision of risk mitigation measures as well as safeguards, measures and security mechanisms in a way that ensures the protection of personal data and compliance with the GDPR.

The minimum personal data of the participants necessary for the remote evaluation are the institutional account, the IP address of the computer, the date and time of the connection. During the examination, examinees will be supervised through their open cameras, which should focus on the examinee and avoid projection and focus on the surrounding area as much as possible.

The conduct of the remote assessment of students will not be recorded. The electronic file containing the student's electronic writing will be stored in accordance with the applicable legislation on physical documents in the secure infrastructure of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

The instructors of the I.P.P. must inform students, through an electronic announcement from the elearning.auth.gr or a message (from sis.auth.gr), about the way their course is examined, about the required technological means (e.g. use of camera, microphone, computer, word processor, internet connection, etc.) and about the digital platforms that will be used (e.g. elearning.auth.gr, zoom) in a reasonable time before the examination date of the course.

Students are invited to be informed about the required equipment and actions for their participation and identification, such as:

1. Internet connection.
2. Computer system.
3. Means to participate in video conferencing (e.g. camera, microphone, smartphone).
4. Activate institutional accounts to participate in Skype for Business, GoogleMeet, Zoom video conferencing platforms.
5. Registration in elearning.auth.gr.
6. User agreement of Turnitin plagiarism checker tool in elearning.auth.gr.

In addition, they must submit an electronic statement (or take any other positive action) prior to participating in any examination, stating that:

-They were informed about the remote examination techniques, the required equipment and the required actions for their participation and identification in the remote examinations and intend to participate:

1. With the required equipment during their examination.
2. By using exclusively an institutional account to participate in the remote exams.
3. Accepting that the papers/writings they deliver are the product of their own, exclusively, intellectual labor, clearly indicating any help they received from another person, organization, system and/or the sources they used in writing their work or writing.
4. Accepting plagiarism testing in the papers/papers they deliver.

5. By accepting the privacy policy.

In case they are unable to participate in remote evaluation, students are requested to submit to the Secretariat that has undertaken the administrative support of the I.P.P., before the beginning of the examination period, a solemn declaration stating (a) that they are unable to participate in remote evaluation, and (b) that they request examination of the courses they have declared, in another way.

The participation of students in the remote assessment does not negate the right of access to their electronic writing, as it existed after conducting face-to-face examinations. The right to delete personal data is exercised if it is not limited by the applicable legal obligations and obligations of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Within the framework of actions for the protection of personal data, it is prohibited to record in any way the examination process as well as to record or publish or post on websites or communicate to third parties or transmit or distribute in any way all or part of the remote examination. Such further processing goes beyond the framework of personal data protection of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki as it violates the General Data Protection Regulation EU 679/2019 and Law 4624/2019 and entails the responsibility of the one who carries it out.

Any questions on personal data protection issues can be addressed to data.protection@auth.gr email address.

The above text on the protection of personal data is communicated to all exam participants by adding the reference to the [Privacy Policy of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki](#). In particular, students must declare that they have been informed during the online registration for the exams.

13. The examination of individual courses or other educational activities takes place at the end of each semester with written or oral examinations, preparation of assignments or a combination of the above, examinations conducted by distance methods, as well as alternative methods, such as submission of assignments, conduct of practical tests.

14. The method of evaluation is defined by the instructor of each course at the beginning of the academic semester. The percentage of participation in other educational activities (laboratory exercises, assignments and seminars where applicable) is determined in the final grade of each course for each course separately, upon the recommendation of the instructor of each course and is approved by the S.E. of the I.P.P.

15. The written or oral remote examination may be carried out through technological mediation and corresponding remote examination systems/applications, which ensures user authentication, physical identification and supervision of the examination process, where necessary. Specifically, the evaluation of students is carried out in a digital way, as follows: a) the final exams are carried out after electronic identification of each student and with his camera open at the same time on the e-learning platform, and with supervision by teachers of the I.P.P., and / or b) by submitting assignments electronically to the Learning Management System (LMS).

16. The processing of personal data during the remote examination process shall be carried out in such a way as to achieve an appropriate level of security against risks such as accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, personal data transmitted, stored or otherwise processed. Teaching staff, supervisors and persons providing technical and/or administrative support (such as the platform operator) are bound by confidentiality obligations. The choice of the electronic platform for the remote examination is based on reliability and guarantees regarding the protection of personal data.

17. At the end of their evaluation process, students are informed of their grades either through anonymized posting of results in a special field of the integrated e-learning system referred to in Article 3 or by other appropriate electronic means.

18. The grading scale for the evaluation of postgraduate students' performance is defined from zero (0) to ten (10), as follows:

- Excellent (8.5 to 10)
- Very Good (6.5 to 8.5 not included)
- Good (6 to 6.5 not included)
- The passing grade is six (6) and above.

19. The attendance of courses or any other educational activity is mandatory. A postgraduate student is considered to have attended a course (and therefore has the right to participate in the examinations) only if he has attended at least 27 hours of the teaching hours of the course. Otherwise, the postgraduate student is obliged to attend the course again during the next academic year. Derogations are allowed only for serious justified reasons. No more than four (4) absences are allowed in each course.

20. If the percentage of absences of a postgraduate student exceeds 70% in all courses, there is a question of deletion. This issue is examined by the S.E., which gives its opinion to the Curriculum Committee.

21. In cases of illness, it is recommended that the instructor facilitate, in any way he deems appropriate, the student (e.g. oral or remote examination).

22. The postgraduate student who fails the examinations of one or more courses of a semester is re-examined only once in them within four months from the issuance of the results. In case of further failure, the student has the opportunity to repeat the course during the next semester in which it is scheduled to be taught.

23. If the postgraduate student fails the examination of a course or courses and is considered not to have successfully completed the program, he/she is examined, upon his/her request, by a three-member committee of teachers of the I.P.P., who have the same or related subject matter to the examined course and are appointed by a Program of Studies Committee. The teacher in charge of the examination is excluded from the committee.

24. In special cases, such as the inability of the postgraduate student to take part in the examinations or to deliver work within the examination period for professional or health reasons, at the discretion of the instructor, a new deadline is set and if within it the student fulfills all his obligations, he is graded normally.

25. Students who are admitted to the I.P.P. and wish recognition of courses in which they were successfully examined in their Department of origin, must submit their relevant requests in writing to the Secretariat of the Department within an exclusive deadline of one (1) month from the date of their registration, together with a certificate of their transcript and an extract from the Study Guide of the Department of origin, from which the syllabus and textbooks of the courses in which they were successfully examined can be derived. The above requests are examined uniformly in the Curriculum Committee and decisions are taken following suggestions by the professors responsible for the respective courses of the I.P.P.

26. Students participating in a student exchange program (e.g. Erasmus), in execution of a contract or cooperation protocol concluded by the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki with a foreign or national University, which welcomes them to carry out part of their studies, may, upon application submitted to the Secretariat of the Department after completing their studies at the host University, apply for recognition of the subjects in which they have been successfully examined there. In the courses recognized in this way, no more credits (ECTS) can be credited than those provided for the corresponding courses of the Undergraduate Program of Studies of the Department. The grade of courses from a foreign HEI must be proven by an original official document of that HEI, bearing the relevant certificate (Apostille) as provided for by the applicable international conventions. In order to match this score with the grading scale of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the person responsible for the mobility programs at the I.P.P. is responsible, who proposes this to the Curriculum Committee for approval. In case some of these courses are not recognized as equivalent by the above procedure, then they are registered only

in the Diploma Supplement, without credits and without being counted in the calculation of the degree grade.

27. The grade of the MSc results from the weighted average of the courses of the I.P.P. and the Postgraduate Diploma Thesis (the weighting is made by the credits of the courses and the Master's Thesis) and is calculated, with an accuracy of two decimal places, in the following way:

The grade of each course and the Master's degree is multiplied by the corresponding number of credits (ECTS) and the sum of the products is divided by the minimum number of credits required to receive the MSc.

The formula is as follows:

$$\text{Grade of MSc} = (\text{Course grade 1} \times \text{ECTS course 1} + \text{Course grade 2} \times \text{ECTS course 2} + \dots + \text{Postgraduate thesis grade} \times \text{ECTS postgraduate thesis}) / \text{Total number of ECTS.}$$

C) Postgraduate Thesis

28. For the preparation of a Postgraduate Diploma Thesis, after the completion of the courses of the second semester, the postgraduate student submits an application, in which the proposed title of the postgraduate thesis is indicated, the proposed supervisor, with his agreement, and a preliminary research outline is attached, in the form of a summary of the proposed thesis. The research outline should specify the topic to be analyzed, the methodology of its scientific approach as well as the bibliography to be used. The acceptance of the postgraduate student's research proposal by the supervisor is based on the criteria of the relevance of the subject to the subject of the I.P.P., the expected scientific contribution and the emerging elements of originality in the approach of the specific subject under investigation. This acceptance of the research proposal is validated by a decision of the Curriculum Committee.

29. The right to supervise dissertations is granted to teachers of the categories, as described in article 83 of Law 4957/2022, provided that they hold a doctoral degree:

- α. Members of Teaching and Research Staff, Special Educational Staff (E.E.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.DI.P.) and Special Technical Laboratory Personnel (E.T.E.P.) of the collaborating Departments or other Departments of the collaborating or other Higher Education Institution (HEI) or Higher Military Educational Institution (ASEI), with additional employment beyond their legal obligations,
- β. Emeritus Professors or retired faculty members of the Department or other Departments of the same or another HEI,
- γ. collaborating teachers,
- δ. Adjunct lecturers,
- ε. visiting professors or visiting researchers,
- στ. researchers and special operational scientists of research and technological bodies of article 13A of Law 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centers and institutes in Greece or abroad.

30. The subject of the Master's Thesis is included in a special list of postgraduate studies kept at the Secretariat of the I.P.P. This list necessarily includes the name of the candidate and the supervisor, the date of approval of the subject by the S.C. and the date of completion of the procedure, either by acceptance or rejection.

31. The length of the Master's Thesis can range from 22,000 to 25,000 words, in the following fonts: New Times Roman, Palatino Linotype, SBL Greek, Garamond or Arial or similar. The size of the letters for the main text is 12pt and for the footnotes 10pt. The line spacing of the main text should be 1.5 and in the footnotes 1.3. As citation and bibliography systems, one of the two forms of the Turabian system can be used, either with notes-bibliography or parentheses for author-date, depending on the nature of the postgraduate thesis and the supervisor's suggestion. Instructions for the structure, format of the cover and examples of footnotes and

bibliography according to the above systems can be found on the relevant website of the Program. Compliance with these instructions is mandatory. Methodologically, the graduate student follows the supervisor's suggestions, refers to sources and the latest bibliography, where required.

32. When the completion of the diploma thesis, it is submitted electronically to the Secretariat of the I.P.P., with the agreement of the supervising professor that it meets the requirements for admission for evaluation.

33. For the examination of the postgraduate dissertation, the Curriculum Committee establishes, upon the recommendation of the supervising professor, a three-member Advisory Committee, in which the supervising professor and two (2) other members participate, who must have the same or related scientific specialty with the subject of the thesis. After the appointment of the three-member Examination Committee, the work is sent to its members.

34. The elaboration of the Master's Thesis is governed by the Code of Academic Ethics of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Every creator or co-creator of any intellectual work is entitled to be referred to and recognized as such, enjoying both the economic and moral rights / powers deriving from that work. Exceptionally, if the original intellectual creation ("work") is the final exported paid research work, which has been commissioned by an entity outside the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the economic rights of the author or co-authors may be limited under the terms the contract by which the research work in question is awarded, while the moral rights remain with the author or authors, subject to the contractual restrictions necessary for the exploitation/economic exploitation of the intellectual creation produced.

35. For the presentation of the dissertation, the positive recommendation of the three-member Examination Committee is required. Presentations of postgraduate theses are mandatory after the end of the third semester. In case the support of the dissertation is carried out publicly, a specific date is set and the online link for its conduct by the S.C., after consultation with the supervising professor, who coordinates and presides over this process. The invitation and announcement for the public support of the diploma theses is addressed by the Director of the I.P.P.

36. After the support of the Dissertation, a report is drawn up stating the individual grade of each member of the three-member Examination Committee, the average score as well as any observations or remarks.

37. In order for a Master's Thesis to be approved, it must meet the following requirements:

- α) The subject and content of the thesis should be relevant to the subject of the I.P.P.
- β) The discussion of the subject, without necessarily having completely new elements, should be done in such a way as to approach the sources and bibliography, so as to present the personal research effort and performance of the candidate.

38. The grade of the Master's thesis is derived from the average grade of the three members of the examination committee. The passing grade is six (6) and above. The scale of distribution of grades for the qualification is: Excellent (08.50 to 10.00), Very Good (06.50 to 08.49), Good (06.00 to 06.49).

39. After the completion of the public presentation, evaluation and grading of the work, the student is obliged within two (2) months to take into account all corrections and suggestions made to him by the members of the three-member Examination Committee. If for serious reasons, such as illness, serious family reasons, military service or force majeure, it is not possible to make the corrections within the stipulated time period, it is possible to grant an extension of one (1) month upon application of the student and recommendation of the C.E. to the Curriculum Committee.

40. If the judgment of the dissertation is negative, the postgraduate student may submit his/her thesis incorporating the notes for its improvement within a time period set by the three-

member Examination Committee. Although the second judgment is negative, the postgraduate student loses the right to be awarded the MSc.

41. In exceptional cases, if there is an objective impossibility or an important reason, it is possible to replace the supervisor or member of the three-member Examination Committee following a decision of the Curriculum Committee.

42. The change of the subject of the postgraduate dissertation is possible only by decision of the Curriculum Committee, following a reasoned recommendation of the supervising professor.

43. The award of the title to postgraduate students is made by an announcement by the Director of the I.P.P. before the Curriculum Committee and provided that the final form of the thesis has been submitted, in which the comments of the members of the three-member Examination Committee have been included. During its final submission, the thesis is submitted to the Secretariat of the I.P.P. electronically as well as in three (3) printed copies along with its summary in English. The text of the thesis and its summary in Greek and English are posted electronically in the relevant digital repository of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Article 9

Scholarships

1. It is possible, by decision of the Curriculum Committee, depending on the income of the I.P.P., to award excellence scholarships to postgraduate students. The scholarships are provided on the basis of academic, objective criteria (such as academic performance based on an average grade of the previous semester) and must be included in the approved budget of the I.P.P. The terms of award, the obligations and the rights of the scholars are determined by decision of the Curriculum Committee and are immediately notified to the interested parties.

2. The I.P.P. may award up to three (3) scholarships of excellence, depending on its revenue, which are given after the end of studies with academic, objective criteria and to students of regular study. Specifically, the criteria by which scholars are selected are the following:

- Total grade equal to or greater than 8.5/10.
- Regular participation in the examination of the courses of the program within the regular and not the repeat examination period and regular submission of the postgraduate thesis at the end of the third semester of studies.
- Consistency in all kinds of obligations, both academic and financial.
- Constant presence in classes.

3. The excellence scholarships refer to the installment amount of one semester, which amounts to six hundred (600) euros and is awarded to the scholarship holder after the submission of his/her postgraduate thesis.

4. The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki may grant rewarding scholarships to postgraduate students with the obligation to support the educational process and provide auxiliary teaching work, in accordance with the applicable provisions (MD 70116 "Granting of rewarding scholarships", Government Gazette 3500 / t. B / 25-5-2023). The I.P.P. provides for the provision of reciprocal benefits to students of the third semester. Based on academic and economic criteria, through two main actions:

- A. The coverage of students' travel expenses for their participation in educational activities of pilgrimage tourism, and
- B. The organization of a scientific conference on religious – pilgrimage tourism where students will be given the opportunity to present the results of their diploma theses and participate in round table discussions.

Beneficiary students are obliged to offer rewarding work where necessary in the academic and educational activities of the I.P.P., such as secretarial or technical support of conferences and seminars.

5. Postgraduate students are informed about the scholarships following a relevant announcement by the Secretariat of the I.P.P.

6. Scholarships for postgraduate studies are also provided by other bodies, such as I.K.Y., Ministry of Education, G.G.E.T., Patriarchates, Autocephalous Churches, Community Programs, other Foundations and organizations, public or private. In case a postgraduate student has a scholarship or subsidy from another institution, he is not entitled to a scholarship from the I.P.P.

Mobility/Erasmus programmes

7. Through the Erasmus+ program, postgraduate students are given the opportunity to attend part of their study program (i.e. some of their courses, elective courses not offered in their program of study or to prepare all or part of their postgraduate thesis in one of the countries of the European Union or the rest of the world (ERASMUS+ International). The website of the I.P.P. publishes the Mobility Regulation of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, which applies proportionally to all courses of study of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, in accordance with the applicable Legislation and the Regulation of each Postgraduate Program. In addition, the website of the Department of European and Educational Programmes (<https://eurep.auth.gr/el/students/studies>) systematically posts and updates information and procedure regarding mobility.

Article 10 Faculty

Faculty

1. The teaching work of the I.P.P. is assigned, upon the recommendation of the I.P.P. and the decision of the Curriculum Committee, in accordance with the provisions of Law 4957/2022, to the following categories of teachers:

- α. members of Teaching and Research Staff, Special Educational Staff (E.E.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.DI.P.) and Special Technical Laboratory Staff (E.T.E.P.) of the Department or other Departments of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki or other Higher Education Institution (HEI) or Higher Military Educational Institution (ASEI), with additional employment beyond their legal obligations,
- β. emeritus professors or retired faculty members of the Department or other Departments of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki or another HEI,
- γ. collaborating teachers,
- δ. adjunct lecturers,
- ε. visiting professors or visiting researchers,
- στ. researchers and special operational scientists of research and technological bodies of article 13A of Law 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centers and institutes in Greece or abroad,
- ζ. scientists of recognized prestige, who have specialized knowledge and relevant experience in the subject of the I.P.P.

2. Upon the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee of the I.P.P. or the Director, subsidiary teaching work may be assigned to doctoral candidates, under the supervision of the instructor of the I.P.P. Auxiliary work is defined as the assistance of faculty members in the exercise of their teaching work, the exercise of students, the conduct of tutorials, laboratory exercises, the supervision of examinations and the correction of exercises. By decision of the

Curriculum Committee it may either be assigned subsidiary work or to publish a call for expression of interest in subjects offered in the curriculum of the I.P.P. The Call for Expression of Interest specifies the deadlines for the submission of candidature as well as the specific qualifications.

3. The selection of teachers in the I.P.P. is made by the Curriculum Committee based on the following criteria:

a) the relevance of the subject, the specialized experience and the teaching work of the candidate with the subject of the I.P.P.

b) the availability of the candidate in the Program for at least two (2) academic years, in order to enable the completion of the teaching of the course and the supervision and examination of the postgraduate dissertations he/she will undertake.

c) the published research work of the candidate, which falls within issues related to the subject of the I.P.P.

d) any previous evaluations of students, mainly from postgraduate courses.

e) For both the administration and the teachers of the I.P.P. it is necessary to adhere to the philosophy and interdisciplinary principles of the Program.

4. The hourly allowance of teachers for teaching, as well as the compensation for the supervision of a dissertation (thesis) or for any other assigned postgraduate work, are regulated by decision of the Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P., taking into account the Remuneration Regulation for the provision of teaching work (Government Gazette 6966 / t. B' / 30-12-2022, according to article 126 of Law 4957/2022 (A' 141).

5. The decisions of the Curriculum Committee on the distribution of teaching work must include the following elements:

α. the name of the teacher,

β. its capacity,

γ. the type of teaching assignment per teacher (course, seminar, and

δ. the number of teaching hours per course or seminar.

6. The teaching of each subject may be assigned to one or more teachers. Tutors may invite qualified scientists to give lectures during the course. Invited scientists may not cover more than four (4) lectures in total. When the course is assigned to two or more teachers, one must be appointed as course leader, who will prepare the course syllabus and organize the administration of the examinations.

Obligations of teachers

7. The obligation of the invited teacher is to adhere to the weekly teaching schedule, as defined by the S.E., and to follow the examination and evaluation terms, as described in this Regulation.

8. The obligations of the teachers include, inter alia, the description of the course or lectures, the citation of relevant bibliography, the way the course is examined, the communication with postgraduate students, as well as the supervision of postgraduate dissertations. The maximum number of postgraduate students that each instructor can undertake for the supervision of dissertations is six (6) for each academic year.

9. In particular, the instructor (in case of co-teaching: the teachers) of the I.P.P. is obliged to:

α) To adhere faithfully and accurately to the schedule and schedule of the course deliveries.

β) To control and keep the attendance of students in class.

γ) To determine the content of the postgraduate course, in the context of the material of its specific topic, in an academically valid way and in accordance with current scientific developments.

δ) To ensure the systematic correlation of the theoretical part of teaching with its high-level practical application.

ε) To maintain and publish in the e-learning of the course hours of communication with students on issues related to their studies and the specific course.

- στ) At the beginning of the semester, the course leader publishes on the website of the Quality Assurance Unit. and in the e-learning of the course, the curriculum of the course, which includes the 13 teaching units of the semester (syllabus),
- ζ) Each instructor of the I.P.P. must respect and abide by the decisions of the Curriculum Committee, as well as academic ethics.

Non-observance of all the above, without serious and substantiated justification, is a reason for termination, by decision of the Curriculum Committee, of the teaching or other relationship of the teacher with the Program.

10. Teachers, during the period they are on educational leave or suspension of duties, may provide teaching work to the I.P.P., if they consider that their program allows it, provided of course that under the current circumstances this is essentially and practically feasible, an issue that must be judged on a case-by-case basis.

Academic Advisor

11. Upon commencement of attendance of the I.P.P., one or more permanent faculty members of the I.P.P. are appointed as academic advisors. The role of the academic advisor is to monitor the progress of students' studies, to be informed by the lecturers of any continuous absences of students who are under his/her responsibility, as well as to inform the specific students (through the Secretariat) that such absence may result in failure in the course. In addition, The Academic Advisor provides assistance regarding the selection of the Master's Thesis, taking into account the research interests of the postgraduate student. In general, the academic advisor provides the postgraduate student with the necessary counseling to meet the requirements of the I.P.P.

12. Postgraduate students should contact their academic advisor for any problem that may affect the smooth course of their studies.

13. The teaching staff, the administrative staff, as well as the competent services of the University cooperate and support the Study Advisors in their work, while taking into account information, observations, suggestions and requests for any deficiencies, malfunctions that create problems for students, and any proposals for dealing with them.

Article 11

Program Revenue-Financial Management Procedure

1. The resources of the Postgraduate Program may come from:

- α. tuition fees,
- β. donations, sponsorships and all kinds of financial support,
- γ. Legacies
- δ. resources from research projects or programmes, in particular of the European Union
- ε. own resources of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- στ. any other legitimate cause.

2. The payment of tuition fees, which is set at the amount of 2000 euros, is made by the student himself (or by a third natural or legal person on behalf of the student) to an account of ELKE. Postgraduate students are required to pay 200 euros upon registration and three equal installments (600 euros per installment) before the beginning of the respective semesters. The payment of tuition fees is made to the Special Account for Research Funds of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, which undertakes the financial management of the I.P.P.

3. The resources of the I.P.P. are distributed as follows:

- α. an amount corresponding to thirty percent (30%) of the total income from tuition fees is withheld by ELKE. This amount includes the percentage withheld in favor of ELKE for the financial management of the Postgraduate Programs. By decision of the Board of Directors taken by the end of March each year, it is decided whether the remaining amount, after deduction of the deduction

in favor of ELKE, is transferred to the regular budget or is allocated for the creation of projects/programs through ELKE in order to cover, as a matter of priority, the needs of Postgraduate Programs that operate without tuition fees and to cover research, educational and operational needs of the HEI. (b) to (d) of para. 1 the deduction in favour of ELKE applicable to revenues from corresponding sources of financing shall be made;

- β. the remaining amount of the total income of the I.P.P. (70%) is allocated to cover the operating expenses of the MSc.

4. The distribution of 30% revenues by decision of the Board of Directors of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is defined as follows:

- α. 10% is withheld as management costs from the Special Account for Research Funds.
β. 10% is returned to the participating Departments of the I.P.P., according to the following terms: 60% of the percentage (6%) to the expedited Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and 40% (4%) to the collaborating Department of Organization Management, Marketing and Tourism of the IHU.
γ. 2% is allocated to cover the operating expenses of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and specifically for the needs of the Postgraduate Studies Support Service.
δ. 8% is allocated to the Deanships of the Faculties to which the Departments belong, according to the following terms: 60% of the percentage (4.8%) to the Deanship of the School of Theology, the expedited Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and 40% (3.2%) to the Deanship of the School of Economics and Management, the collaborating Department of Organization Management, Marketing and Tourism of the IHU.

5. The I.P.P. prepares in accordance with the applicable legislation a detailed budget for the five (5) years of operation, which includes all kinds of resources of the program and its operating costs.

6. A student's application for reimbursement of tuition fees for a semester is allowed only if he/she invokes and sufficiently proves the existence of an extremely serious reason for interruption of studies and his/her application is submitted to the Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P. no later than twenty (20) days from the beginning of the semester's courses.

Article 12

Administrative Support - Logistics

1. For the smooth operation of the I.P.P., the material and technical infrastructure of the Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Department of Management of Organizations, Marketing and Tourism of the School of Economics and Management (Thessaloniki) of the IHU is available. , such as classrooms, auditoriums, laboratories and other areas of the collaborating Departments, as well as their technical and electronic equipment.

2. The administrative and secretarial support of the I.P.P. is provided by the Secretariat of the expedited Department of Social Theology and Christian Culture of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

3. In the premises of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki there is a Secretariat of the I.P.P. that deals with all issues for the implementation of the Internal Regulation and the operation of the Postgraduate Program (student registrations, keeping of grade files, teacher evaluations, granting of degrees, certificates, certificates, etc.). It also handles current issues concerning the teaching staff, students, the Program, contacts with the various services and collaborating Institutions and takes care of public relations and the promotion of the Program.

4. The Secretariat shall recruit employees with a fixed-term employment relationship under private law (full-time or part-time), provided that Programme resources are available to cover their remuneration and social security contributions. They are recruited in accordance with

the provisions of the current legislation. The operation of the Secretariat of the I.P.P. may also be assisted by staff who have an organizational relationship with the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

5. The Program is implemented using methods of modern distance education. The organization of the modern distance learning process, as far as the faculty members of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki are concerned, is done with the support of the e-course management system managed by the Center for e-Government (K.I.D.) of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in collaboration with the faculty members and the Managers of the I.P.P., who come from the expedited Department. As far as the faculty members of the IHU are concerned. Modern distance learning is supported by the logistical infrastructure of the IQAA. and the Management Officers of the I.P.P., who come from the collaborating Department.

Article 13

Graduation Ritual

1. Taking the oath is not a constituent form of successful completion of studies, but it is a necessary condition for the issue of the written title of the diploma. The attestation takes place within the framework of the Assembly of the Curriculum Committee, in the presence of the Director of the I.P.P., and, as appropriate, the Presidents of the collaborating Departments, the Deans of the respective Faculties or their Alternates and possibly a representative of the Rector.

2. The nomination of postgraduate students as graduates of the I.P.P. may be public. Graduate students take an oath or affirmation before the Curriculum Committee and the Director of the I.P.P. performs the nomination. For justified cases, online participation of students in their swearing-in ceremony is possible.

3. Only students who have successfully completed their studies and have fully paid their financial obligations may participate in the swearing-in.

4. Postgraduate students, who have successfully completed the I.P.P., in exceptional cases (studies, residence or work abroad, health reasons, etc.), may apply to the Secretariat of the School / Department for exemption from the obligation to attest.

Article 14

Type of Postgraduate Diploma (D.M.S.)

1. The title of the MSc is a public document and is awarded by the Curriculum Committee of the I.P.P.

2. The I.P.S.P. is issued by the Secretariat of the I.P.P. The Diploma lists the Departments and Institutions participating in the organization of the I.P.P., and any emblems of the Institutions, the date of completion of studies, the date of issuance of the I.M.S., the graduation protocol number, the title of the I.P.P., the details of the postgraduate student and the evaluation characterization Good, Very good, excellent.

3. Before the award of the MSc and after the successful completion of the I.P.P., the graduate may be issued with a Certificate of successful attendance and completion of the Program.

4. In addition to the B.M.S. A Diploma Supplement is granted [article 15 of Law 3374/2005 and M.D. F5/89656/BE/13-8-2007 (Government Gazette 1466 vol. B)], which is an explanatory document that provides information on the nature, level, general context of education, content and status of studies successfully completed and does not replace the official degree or the transcript of courses awarded by the Institutions.

Article 15

Plagiarism

1. By submitting any postgraduate thesis, the graduate student is obliged to indicate whether he used the work and opinions of others.

2. Copying is considered serious academic misconduct. Plagiarism is considered to be the copying of someone else's work, as well as the use of someone else's work – published or not – without proper attribution. The citation of any documentary material, even from studies of the postgraduate student himself, without relevant reference, may constitute a decision of the Curriculum Committee to delete it.

3. In the above cases - and after a reasoned recommendation of the supervising professor, the Curriculum Committee may decide to delete the postgraduate student.

4. Any misconduct or violation of academic ethics is referred to the S.C. of the I.P.P. for judgment and suggestion to address the problem to the Curriculum Committee. Violations are also considered the offenses of copying or plagiarism and generally any violation of intellectual property provisions by a postgraduate student when writing papers in the context of courses or preparing a postgraduate dissertation.

5. For violations of rules of ethics and quality of studies, the Ethics Committee of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is responsible.

Article 16

Certification-Evaluation of the MSc

1. After the issuance of the decision to establish a Postgraduate Program and before the commencement of its operation, the accreditation of the Postgraduate Program by the National Authority of Higher Education (HAHE) is required, in accordance with per. (c) of para. 1 of article 8 of Law 4653/2020 (A' 12). After their establishment, the Postgraduate Programs are periodically certified, according to the sub. (bb) of per. (b) of para. 1 of article 8 of Law 4653/2020, in the context of the evaluation of the academic unit in which they belong.

2. In case the establishment decision is amended, a new certification of the Postgraduate Program by HAHE is required, provided that the amendment concerns elements such as the subject, the purpose of the program, the learning outcomes and qualifications acquired from its successful attendance, as well as the specializations that award a different diploma.

3. The Postgraduate Programs of each Department, including interdepartmental, inter-institutional and joint Postgraduate Programs, whose administrative support the Department undertakes, are evaluated in the context of the periodic evaluation / accreditation of the academic unit by HAHE. In this context, the overall evaluation of the work carried out by the Postgraduate Program is evaluated, the degree of fulfillment of the goals set at its establishment, its viability, the absorption of graduates into the labor market, its degree of contribution to research, its internal evaluation by postgraduate students, the feasibility of extending its operation, as well as other information on the quality of the work produced and its contribution to the national strategy for higher education.

4. If a Postgraduate Program during the evaluation stage is judged not to meet the conditions for its continued operation, its operation is completed with the graduation of the already registered students in accordance with the decision of establishment and the Regulation of Postgraduate Programs.

Internal Evaluation of Quality Assurance Units

5. In order to ensure and improve the quality of the I.P.P., the Quality Assurance Unit of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (MODIP) carries out a periodic internal evaluation of the I.P.P. within the framework of the Internal Quality Assurance System of the University and in accordance with the instructions and guidelines of HAHE.

6. The obligations of the Administrative Bodies and the teachers of the I.P.P. include all the procedures provided for, based on the respective instructions and directions of the M.O.DI.P.-A.U.TH. for the internal and external evaluation and accreditation of the Programs of Study and academic units.

Evaluation of teachers and courses by students

7. With the sole purpose of improving the level of studies of the I.P.P. and with absolute assurance of their anonymity, students are invited to evaluate the courses and teachers of each semester.

8. For reasons of uniform statistical data keeping and the possibility of extracting conclusions usable for the educational work of the Departments and the Foundation as a whole, the evaluation questionnaires are prepared by the Quality Assurance Unit. and may be partially differentiated based on the specific characteristics and needs of each academic unit and/or course. They are completed electronically.

9. The evaluation is carried out under the responsibility of the Internal Evaluation Team operating in each Department of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, in collaboration with the Quality Management Unit of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and is carried out through the latter's Quality Management Information System (QMS). The Management and the OMEA of the Department must take systematic actions for the attendance of students in the evaluation, in accordance with the guidelines of the Quality Assurance Unit. and the relevant decisions of the Senate.

10. The OMEA Each Department monitors, through the Quality Management Information System (QMS) of MODIP, the degree of participation of students in the evaluation process, analyzes the relevant results and informs the Governing Bodies of the Postgraduate Program and the corresponding academic unit about them. The evaluation questionnaires relate to each subject taught and to each teacher separately.

11. The governing bodies of the I.P.P. and the academic unit, in cooperation with the respective U.P.E.A., must study the results of the evaluation, announce their conclusions, decide to publish the summary results of the evaluation, when deemed necessary and in any case after the announcement of the grade of the courses of the semester, in accordance with the applicable Legislation on the Protection of Personal Data and take action to address any problems.

Article 17 Study Guide

1. The I.P.P. publishes a Study Guide in order to inform postgraduate students about its operation. The Study Guide includes:

1. General Information as well as useful electronic information about the Institution and the Department, especially about administrative services or collective bodies that the postgraduate student can address for the successful completion of his/her studies.
2. The purpose, the subject of the I.P.P. as well as the qualifications acquired after the award of the Postgraduate Diploma (D.M.S.).

3. The academic calendar, which includes the start and end dates of academic semesters, examination periods, postgraduate dissertations and any other obligations such as holiday internships, internship periods, seminars, conferences, etc.
4. The curriculum, specializations (if any), credits, teaching staff, rights and obligations of postgraduate students.
5. The official language of instruction and preparation of the Master's thesis.
6. The administration of the I.P.P.
7. Databases.
8. Use a library.
9. Services to postgraduate students.

Article 18

Transitional arrangements

Any issue that may arise in the future that is not covered by the relevant legislation or the Postgraduate Studies Regulation, will be addressed by decisions of collective bodies, by amending the Regulation.

It is noted that the terms "student", "students", "professor", "professor" refer to all genders.