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Εθνική Αρχή
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Αριστείδου 1 & Ευριπίδου 2 • 10559 Αθήνα | 1 Aristidou str. & 2 Evripidou str. • 10559 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 9220 944 • F. +30 210 9220 143 • E. secretariat@ethaae.gr • www.ethaae.gr

Accreditation Report for the Postgraduate Study Programme of:

Cultural and Cinema Studies

Department: Communication and Media Studies

Institution: National and Kapodistrian University
of Athens

Date: 08/07/2024



Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση
της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης



Πρόγραμμα
Ανθρώπινο Δυναμικό και
Κοινωνική Συνοχή



NOTES

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Report of the EEAP appointed by the HAHE to undertake the review of the Postgraduate Study Programme of **Cultural and Cinema Studies** of the **National Kapodistrian University of Athens** for the purposes of granting accreditation

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PART A: BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT OF THE REVIEW

I. The External Evaluation & Accreditation Panel

The Panel responsible for the Accreditation Review of the postgraduate study programme of **Cultural and Cinema Studies** of the **National Kapodistrian University of Athens** comprised the following four (4) members, drawn from the HAHE Register, in accordance with Laws 4009/2011 & 4653/2020:

1. Professor Stella Baraklianou (Chair)

University of Huddersfield

2. Professor Ulrich Moennig

Universität Hamburg

3. Professor Stavros Lazaris

College de France

4. Mr. Konstantinos Thalys Ropotos

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

II. Review Procedure and Documentation

In preparation for the visit, the External Evaluation & Accreditation Panel (EEAP) reviewed multitude of material provided by the Hellenic Authority of Higher Education (HAHE), which included background information and guidance on the accreditation process, detailed material and data related to the programme under evaluation, such as the programme accreditation proposal and associated appendices.

The programme review was conducted via teleconference, organised and coordinated by the host institute via WebEx an online teleconferencing tool, whilst the private debrief meeting were held via Zoom with links provided via HAHE/ETHAEE.

The schedule and agenda of the review were as stated below.

Monday, 01/07/2024:

- a) Preliminary private meeting of the EEAP. Discussion of the programme under review; assignment of writing Principles of the accreditation report draft to the members of the EEAP.
- b) Welcome meeting and short overview of the two postgraduate study programmes (PSP) with the Head of the Department of Media Studies, Professor Lisa Tsaliki. The short presentation was followed by presentations by the Director of the PSP Cultural and Cinema Studies and acting member of the Steering Committee of OMEA, Professor Mrs Diamantopoulou,. In attendance were also Professor Elli Filokyrou, Assistant Professor Mrs Aphroditi Nikolaidou, Dr Petros Zounis, Laboratory teaching staff.

The presentation covered all aspects of the respective post-graduate programmes, their history, academic profile, degree awarding capacity, numbers of incoming students, internal procedures, course structure and academic modules, insight into the allocation of the Master's budget.

The EEAP also had the chance to consult and discuss with the academic teams regarding their teaching facilities, classrooms, lecture theatres equipment and access to these by the students.

- c) Private debriefing meeting (EEAP members only).

Tuesday, 02/07/2024:

- a) Meeting with academic and teaching staff members for PSP1 Cinematic and Cultural Studies: Professor Elli Filokyrou, Dr Despina Chronaki, Adjunct Lecturer, Dr Vivian Papageorgiou, Laboratory Teaching Staff, Dr Despina Chronaki, Adjunct Lecturer and Dr Nadia Fragouli, Adjunct Lecturer. Discussion about the programme and the delivery, as well as staff workloads, teaching facilities and laboratories etc.
- b) Meeting and discussion with eight current PSP students.
- c) Meeting and discussion with eight graduates of the PSP Cinematic and Cultural Studies.
- d) Meeting and discussion with employers and PSP external stakeholders partners from both private and public sector: Maria Komninos (Emeritus Professor, Head of the Greek Film Archive), Mrs Angela Tsiftsi (Journalist, Greek Parliament Channel), Eleni Kefala, (Senior Lecturer, Head of Spanish, University of St. Andrews), Mr Dimitris Alithinos, (painter, Honorary Professor Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Ms Venia Dimitrakopoulou, (Sculptor, fine artist), Ms Geli Medemli (Head of Publications, Thessaloniki International Film Festival), Ms Nellie Karra, (Actress & Director, ARHI Drama Art School) and Ms Athina Daskalea (Marketing and Communications Director at Psihogios Publishing).
- e) Private debriefing meeting (EEAP members only): discussion of the outcomes and findings of the virtual visit; preparation of oral report.
- f) Closure meeting with the Director of President of PSP Cinematic and Cultural Studies Professor Diamantopoulou, Head of the Communication and Media Studies, Lisa Tsaliki, Afroditi Nikolaidou, Assistant Professor OMEA, Elli Filokyrou, Assistant Professor and member of the Steering Committee, Dr Elena Timplalexi, Laboratory Staff: informal, oral presentation of the EEAP key findings, and clarifications.

Thursday 4/07/2024 to Saturday 06/07/2024:

Draft report writing. EEAP virtual meetings. Review and finalisation of draft report.

Throughout the review and evaluation process, the EEAP was in close communication with the University MODIP, which was very accommodating in providing additional information requested by the EEAP. The EEAP found that OMEA and MODIP representatives, as well as the faculty, external teaching staff, students, and staff interviewed were eager and helpful in our discussions, providing all additional information requested by the EEAP.

III. Postgraduate Study Programme Profile

The post-graduate study programme of Cultural and Cinema Studies is a new post-graduate programme, that was founded and delivered for the first time during the academic year 2018-2019, and is offered by the Department of Media and Journalism.

Originally founded in 2017, it has since undergone restructure in 2021 as detailed by the Greek Government Gazette (FEK 3153-19/07/2021).

The subject of the PSP Cultural and Cinema Studies, as outlined in the Study Guide is to: promote the scientific potential and deepening of learning in cultural studies, both in their contemporary and timeless dimensions. Cultural studies, cinema, visual arts, literature, popular culture, creative writing issues of gender and sexuality, are approached independently but also with the aim of highlighting the multiple connections. The Audiovisual media workshops as well as the Arts and Cultural Management workshop, frame the courses by offering students the necessary technical support to practice their skills in the above areas.

The purpose of the post-graduate programme is to equip students with the analytical tools for interpretations of cultural products, provide with the methodology specific to their field, provide with tools for practice-based research, for example, in the form of video essays, provide them with the research tools for writing original academic papers for publication, work inter-disciplinary, be able to promote creative and ethical thinking, work in cultural institutions or other similar positions.

The programme's overview is via the Director, Professor Evangelia Diamantopoulou, and the academic teaching staff Professor Nikolaidou Aphrodite. The academic team includes eight teaching staff (EDIP) as well as specialist teaching and laboratory staff, Professor Eva Stefani. Further sessional teaching staff as well as invited guest speakers are ad hoc.

Teaching is delivered in Greek and the coursework is submitted in Greek. The intake per academic year is 16 students and this is done via an application and then selection procedure, including an interview.

The academic curriculum is delivered over three semesters and the tuition fees are at 1950€ in total for the programme (650€ per semester, 2018-19).

PART B: COMPLIANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES

PRINCIPLE 1: QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY AND QUALITY GOAL SETTING FOR THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES OF THE INSTITUTION AND THE ACADEMIC UNIT

INSTITUTIONS SHOULD APPLY A QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY AS PART OF THEIR STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT. THIS POLICY SHOULD EXPAND AND BE AIMED (WITH THE COLLABORATION OF EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS) AT THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES OF THE INSTITUTION AND THE ACADEMIC UNIT. THIS POLICY SHOULD BE PUBLISHED AND IMPLEMENTED BY ALL STAKEHOLDERS.

The quality assurance policy of the academic unit should be in line with the quality assurance policy of the Institution and must be formulated in the form of a public statement, which is implemented by all stakeholders. It focuses on the achievement of special goals related to the quality assurance of the study programmes offered by the academic unit.

Indicatively, the quality policy statement of the academic unit includes its commitment to implement a quality policy that will promote the academic profile and orientation of the postgraduate study programme (PSP), its purpose and field of study; it will realise the programme's goals and it will determine the means and ways for attaining them; it will implement appropriate quality procedures, aiming at the programme's improvement.

In particular, in order to implement this policy, the academic unit commits itself to put into practice quality procedures that will demonstrate:

- a) the suitability of the structure and organisation of postgraduate study programmes*
- b) the pursuit of learning outcomes and qualifications in accordance with the European and National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education - level 7*
- c) the promotion of the quality and effectiveness of teaching at the PSP*
- d) the appropriateness of the qualifications of the teaching staff for the PSP*
- e) the drafting, implementation, and review of specific annual quality goals for the improvement of the PSP*
- f) the level of demand for the graduates' qualifications in the labour market*
- g) the quality of support services, such as the administrative services, the libraries and the student welfare office for the PSP*
- h) the efficient utilisation of the financial resources of the PSP that may be drawn from tuition fees*
- i) the conduct of an annual review and audit of the quality assurance system of the PSP through the cooperation of the Internal Evaluation Group (IEG) with the Institution's Quality Assurance Unit (QAU)*

Documentation

- Quality Assurance Policy of the PSP
- Quality goal setting of the PSP

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

The PSP Cultural and Cinema Studies is a post-graduate programme of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and specifically offered from the Department of Communication and Media. It has been offered as a post-graduate course to students since 2018, as a result of the need to offer more detailed post-graduate programmes.

As such, the EEAP is called to validate the current PSP with all new implementations and its transition to new study regulations since 2023.

The EEAP was provided beforehand with the documentation pertaining to the Quality Assurance Policy and the Quality Policy, as adhering to the outlines provided by HAHE/ΕΘΑΕΕ. The EEAP, after consulting the documentation provided beforehand online, met with respective representatives of the academic community and current and former students, as well as with external stakeholders.

The overall strategic aims for the postgraduate programme are to provide students with high quality teaching and learning in the field of Cultural and Cinematic Studies and equip students with necessary tools needed to embark in a professional career within the areas of cultural studies and cinema.

The fees for the PSP are at 1950€ (2018-19) and this as explained by the academic staff, is a nominal amount to cover administrative fees as the Master's is entirely self-funded. The fees for the specific Master's appear to be at an average suitable for the purposes of the level of study. The Academic unit provided with details regarding the budget and expenditure of the Master's programme.

Teaching is delivered in Greek and the coursework is submitted in Greek. The intake per academic year is 16 students and this is done via an application and then selection procedure, including an interview.

The ECTS credits are at 90 overall for obtaining the post-graduate diploma which is accurate for this type of Level 7 education. The Department also has a good research record and supports Doctoral students.

I. Analysis

The EEAP largely resorts to the meetings with academic staff and students as well as stakeholders in order to discern when and how the Policies are implemented and the Strategic Goal setting targets met. The EEAP also had at its disposal internal documents provided by the Academic Unit, related to the respective publications in the official government gazette FEK. Notably, these documents are only available in Greek.

After consulting with the members of the academic community and from their presentation and discussion, the EEAP finds that the PSP adheres to Quality Assurance Policy and Goal setting.

II. Conclusions

After consulting with the members of the academic community and from their presentation and discussion, it is ascertained that the PSP adheres to Quality Assurance Policy and Goal setting. The overall structure and organisation of the masters is suitable for Level 7 education.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following:

Principle 1: Quality assurance policy and quality goal setting for the postgraduate study programmes of the institution and the academic unit	
Fully compliant	X
Substantially compliant	
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

The Quality Assurance Policy document should be made available in English.

PRINCIPLE 2: DESIGN AND APPROVAL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES

INSTITUTIONS SHOULD DEVELOP THEIR POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES FOLLOWING A DEFINED WRITTEN PROCESS WHICH WILL INVOLVE THE PARTICIPANTS, INFORMATION SOURCES AND THE APPROVAL COMMITTEES FOR THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES. THE OBJECTIVES, THE EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES AND THE EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS ARE SET OUT IN THE PROGRAMME DESIGN. DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES, THE DEGREE OF ACHIEVEMENT OF THE LEARNING OUTCOMES SHOULD BE ASSESSED. THE ABOVE DETAILS, AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMME'S STRUCTURE ARE PUBLISHED IN THE STUDENT GUIDE.

The academic units develop their postgraduate study programmes following a well-defined procedure. The academic profile and orientation of the programme, the research character, the scientific objectives, the specific subject areas, and specialisations are described at this stage.

The structure, content and organisation of courses and teaching methods should be oriented towards deepening knowledge and acquiring the corresponding skills to apply the said knowledge (e.g. course on research methodology, participation in research projects, thesis with a research component).

The expected learning outcomes must be determined based on the European and National Qualifications Framework (EQF, NQF), and the Dublin Descriptors for level 7. During the implementation of the programme, the degree of achievement of the expected learning outcomes and the feedback of the learning process must be assessed with the appropriate tools. For each learning outcome that is designed and made public, it is necessary that its evaluation criteria are also designed and made public.

In addition, the design of PSP must consider:

- *the Institutional strategy*
- *the active involvement of students*
- *the experience of external stakeholders from the labour market*
- *the anticipated student workload according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) for level 7*
- *the option of providing work experience to students*
- *the linking of teaching and research*
- *the relevant regulatory framework and the official procedure for the approval of the PSP by the Institution*

The procedure of approval or revision of the programmes provides for the verification of compliance with the basic requirements of the Standards by the Institution's Quality Assurance Unit (QAU).

Documentation

- *Senate decision for the establishment of the PSP*
- *PSP curriculum structure: courses, course categories, ECTS awarded, expected learning outcomes according to the EQF, internship, mobility opportunities*
- *Labour market data regarding the employment of graduates, international experience in a relevant scientific field*
- *PSP Student Guide*
- *Course and thesis outlines*
- *Teaching staff (name list including of areas of specialisation, its relation to the courses taught, employment relationship, and teaching assignment in hours as well as other teaching commitments in hours)*

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

The programme has been designed on appropriate standards. Factors, which were taken into account are: the overall academic profile of the Department; the ongoing progress made in the field of research; the social needs for PSP of high quality; the needs of the job market and the related opportunities. The PSP is research oriented, and the overall objective is to gain a specialised human potential with high-level training that will staff public and private services and companies and enhance research and scientific centres with esteemed young researchers. In addition to the theoretical training, both the Laboratory of Audiovisual Media and the Laboratory of Arts and Cultural Management, provide the students of the PSP with the necessary technical training for cinematic, theatrical, and journalistic applications. The latter is of high importance for the employment opportunities of the PSP students.

The PSP in Greece is unique in its kind, interdisciplinary linking Cultural Studies and Cinema Studies. Its standards are comparable to analogous PSP abroad, with a special regard to research methodology. Additionally, it takes into consideration Greek specificities in the field of culture and cinema. Lessons are centred on current bibliography. Students write essays in all lessons they attend; this intense training in writing essays is an additional measure, which ensures that the PSP meets universally accepted standards. The MA thesis is credited 30 ECTS; this, too, reconfirms that the PSP is in line with international standards.

The structure is rational and clearly articulated, a fact that was reaffirmed by current and former students whom the EEAP had the opportunity to meet. A consistent procedure for revising the PSP curriculum is one of the topics of the continuous internal evaluation. Student feedback is taken seriously, as the EEAP was informed by members of the PSP, current students, and graduates. The Study Guide is very detailed and reliable. Students and graduates have confirmed that the Study Guide is an important factor that substantially helps them with time management, especially since many PSP students are concurrently working to support themselves.

II. Analysis

The PSP is designed according to Level 7 education accepted standards. The process of approval is according to the relevant regulations by law, as described in the Study Guide (2023-2024). There is a constant and transparent process of revising the PSP, into which students and staff members are involved.

III. Conclusions

The PSP is entirely in accordance with the accreditation criterion which is implemented in a very effective manner.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following:

Principle 2: Design and approval of postgraduate study programmes	
Fully compliant	X
Substantially compliant	
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

PRINCIPLE 3: STUDENT-CENTRED LEARNING, TEACHING, AND ASSESSMENT

INSTITUTIONS SHOULD ENSURE THAT POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES PROVIDE THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE LEARNING PROCESS. THE ASSESSMENT METHODS SHOULD REFLECT THIS APPROACH.

Student-centred learning and teaching plays an important role in enhancing students' motivation, their self-evaluation, and their active participation in the learning process. The above entail continuous consideration of the programme's delivery and the assessment of the related outcomes.

The student-centred learning and teaching process

- *respects and attends to the diversity of students and their needs by adopting flexible learning paths*
- *considers and uses different modes of delivery, where appropriate*
- *flexibly uses a variety of pedagogical methods*
- *regularly evaluates and adjusts the modes of delivery and pedagogical methods aiming at improvement*
- *regularly evaluates the quality and effectiveness of teaching, as documented especially through student surveys*
- *strengthens the student's sense of autonomy, while ensuring adequate guidance and support from the teaching staff*
- *promotes mutual respect in the student-teacher relationship*
- *applies appropriate procedures for dealing with the students' complaints*
- *provides counselling and guidance for the preparation of the thesis*

In addition

- *The academic staff are familiar with the existing examination system and methods and are supported in developing their own skills in this field.*
- *The assessment criteria and methods are published in advance. The assessment allows students to demonstrate the extent to which the intended learning outcomes have been achieved. Students are given feedback, which, if necessary is linked to advice on the learning process.*
- *Student assessment is conducted by more than one examiner, where possible.*
- *Assessment is consistent, fairly applied to all students and conducted in accordance with the stated procedures.*
- *A formal procedure for student appeals is in place.*
- *The function of the academic advisor runs smoothly.*

Documentation

- *Sample of a fully completed questionnaire for the evaluation of the PSP by the students*
- *Regulations for dealing with students' complaints and appeals*
- *Regulation for the function of academic advisor*
- *Reference to the teaching modes and assessment methods*

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

The PSP harmonically integrates the disciplines of cultural and cinema studies. The curriculum and its themes are systematically reformed, renewed and enriched. More precisely, based on student evaluations carried out in 2022–2023, in the next academic year (2023–2024) courses 3312 and 3313 were introduced as mandatory, while course 3314 was incorporated into the program. Some courses are co-facilitated by two lecturers, while all of them have an e-class component.

Students refine their academic proficiencies with four elective courses and the group projects they undertake can be tailored to their specific research interests. Theory and practice are synthesised through the creation of video essays and short films. A bibliography is accessible in the course outline file.

Students attend conferences, seminars, and festivals, while experts and artists are invited to deliver lectures. As an essential aspect of learning, students are encouraged to engage in dialogues with their professors and classmates on a variety of topics, fostering discourse and mutual respect. Graduates have informed us that, despite the apparent diversity of the PSP courses, they were indeed capable of concentrating on their particular interests.

Assessment criteria are detailed in the Studies Regulation, and students are evaluated based on assignments and oral presentations.

Anonymous paper questionnaires are distributed to students during class time between the 8th and 10th weeks in order to assess the courses, lecturers, and laboratories on a scale of 1-5. For the 2022–2023 winter semester, the average rating was 4.5 with a (highly satisfactory) 60% student participation rate. Student appeals occur every June. The PSP director functions as the academic advisor and concurrently manages student grievances.

II. Analysis

The structure and ongoing renewal of the curriculum ensure that the postgraduate program is prepared to meet future demands and challenges.

III. Conclusions

Courses encompass a wide range of subjects and are conducted in a conducive learning environment. The PSP is entirely student-centred, emphasising both the development of individual skills and teamwork.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following:

Principle 3: Student-centred learning, teaching, and assessment	
Fully compliant	X
Substantially compliant	
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

The EEAP encourages the perpetuation of the positive atmosphere of learning and cooperation.

PRINCIPLE 4: STUDENT ADMISSION, PROGRESSION, RECOGNITION OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES, AND CERTIFICATION.

INSTITUTIONS SHOULD DEVELOP AND APPLY PUBLISHED REGULATIONS COVERING ALL ASPECTS AND PHASES OF STUDIES (ADMISSION, PROGRESSION, THESIS DRAFTING, RECOGNITION AND CERTIFICATION).

All the issues from the beginning to the end of studies should be governed by the internal regulations of the academic units. Indicatively:

- *the student admission procedures and the required supporting documents*
- *student rights and obligations, and monitoring of student progression*
- *internship issues, if applicable, and granting of scholarships*
- *the procedures and terms for the drafting of assignments and the thesis*
- *the procedure of award and recognition of degrees, the duration of studies, the conditions for progression and for the assurance of the progress of students in their studies*
- *the terms and conditions for enhancing student mobility*

All the above must be made public in the context of the Student Guide.

Documentation

- *Internal regulation for the operation of the Postgraduate Study Programme*
- *Research Ethics Regulation*
- *Regulation of studies, internship, mobility, and student assignments*
- *Degree certificate template*

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

At the beginning of each academic year, new students are informed by the President of the Department, about the structure and content of the Postgraduate Study Program (PSP), the identity and actions of the Department, as well as the prospects of professional career options for the graduates, including options for continuation of their studies at doctoral level. This presentation is posted on the Department's website. The members of the teaching and administrative staff inform the students about more specialised topics (possibilities of using the library, student mobility through the ERASMUS program, campus facilities including the canteen as well as psychological support) as well as the activities that students can get involved with during their studies.

The progress of the students is monitored through the Electronic Secretariat and recorded in the annual Internal Evaluation Reports which are posted on the MO.DI.P. platform. In addition, to monitor the progress of the students, the MO.DI.P.'s quality indicators, such as the graduation rate and student performance, are used periodically. The study program meets the specifications of the European ECTS system of credit accumulation and transfer. Each semester corresponds to 30 ECTS.

The Department actively supports the mobility of students by providing facilities for procedural issues or other study issues of the students who move.

II. Analysis

The Department develops and implements published regulations concerning all aspects and phases of the program's studies. All matters from the beginning to the end of the studies are governed by the internal regulations of the academic unit. The students have the feeling of support and acceptance from the beginning of their studies throughout the course and the development of their student life.

III. Conclusions

All procedures concerning the admission, development, recognition and certification of the student follow amply the regulations of institutional studies.
The Department fully complies with Principle 4.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following:

Principle 4: Student admission, progression, recognition of postgraduate studies and certification	
Fully compliant	X
Substantially compliant	
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

PRINCIPLE 5: TEACHING STAFF OF POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES

INSTITUTIONS SHOULD ASSURE THEMSELVES OF THE LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS OF THEIR TEACHING STAFF, AND APPLY FAIR AND TRANSPARENT PROCESSES FOR THEIR RECRUITMENT, TRAINING AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT.

The Institution should attend to the adequacy of the teaching staff of the academic unit teaching at the PSP, the appropriate staff-student ratio, the appropriate staff categories, the appropriate subject areas, the fair and objective recruitment process, the high research performance, the training- development, the staff development policy (including participation in mobility schemes, conferences, and educational leaves-as mandated by law).

More specifically, the academic unit should set up and follow clear, transparent and fair processes for the recruitment of properly qualified staff for the PSP and offer them conditions of employment that recognise the importance of teaching and research; offer opportunities and promote the professional development of the teaching staff; encourage scholarly activity to strengthen the link between education and research; encourage innovation in teaching methods and the use of new technologies; promote the increase of the volume and quality of the research output within the academic unit; follow quality assurance processes for all staff (with respect to attendance requirements, performance, self-assessment, training, etc.); develop policies to attract highly qualified academic staff.

Documentation

- Procedures and criteria for teaching staff recruitment
- Employment regulations or contracts, and obligations of the teaching staff
- Policy for staff support and development
- Individual performance of the teaching staff in scientific-research and teaching work, based on internationally recognised systems of scientific evaluation (e.g. Google Scholar, Scopus, etc.)
- List of teaching staff including subject areas, employment relationship, Institution of origin, Department of origin

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

The team involved in the teaching of the programme is, without exception, extremely committed and provide high quality teaching and preparation for the practical aspects of the course. In addition, the results of the interviews demonstrate very close cooperation between the teaching staff and the students.

The selection of staff depends on the specialisation and the courses offered and required each year. Staff can benefit from mobility opportunities afforded by the ERASMUS+ program and the Department approaches the selection of staff to participate in the exchanges in a democratic fashion. It is undeniable that mobility programs allow teachers to make their expertise better known to the international and especially the European academic community.

Staff are appropriately qualified, holding PhDs from prestigious Universities. The student-to-teacher ratio for the Program is not completely sufficient. Since faculty members bring a wide range of expertise and research interests to the program and are willing to give their best in implementing the curriculum, this peculiar ratio actually hinders a bit the operations of the department.

The mobility of the faculty and the adjunct teaching staff is carried out through individual initiative, but also through the participation in the ERASMUS+ program. This exchange program gives the opportunity to faculty members for teaching or training in the framework of cooperation with other European Universities and research institutions. The tenured staff members have been appointed and promoted through the ranks following the established Greek academic system supported by Apella.

Regarding the tenure and promotion of academic and teaching staff, a committee is responsible, including external members. Procedures are followed that are standard to all Greek Universities.

II. Analysis

All current faculty members are highly qualified professionals with significant contributions to their academic fields. In addition, the program promotes faculty development opportunities, promotes scholarly research activities, supports the development and use of new technologies, and facilitates faculty mobility. At the same time, the department consistently applies quality assurance processes with regard to recruitment, qualifications, assessment and general academic and artistic competence for all teachers.

After consultation with teaching staff it is commendable that most of the academic and specialist staff are remunerated from their appointed DEP or EDIP post, therefore the teaching on the Master's is extra work on their behalf.

III. Conclusions

The PSP follows best practices. The programme benefits from extremely well qualified and very dedicated staff. We encourage the Program to maintain its commitment to excellence regarding the quality standards of its teaching staff.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following

Principle 5: Teaching staff of post-graduate study programmes	
Fully compliant	X
Substantially compliant	
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

PRINCIPLE 6: LEARNING RESOURCES AND STUDENT SUPPORT

INSTITUTIONS SHOULD HAVE ADEQUATE FUNDING TO COVER THE TEACHING AND LEARNING NEEDS OF THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMME. THEY SHOULD –ON THE ONE HAND- PROVIDE SATISFACTORY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES FOR LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORT, AND – ON THE OTHER HAND- FACILITATE DIRECT ACCESS TO THEM BY ESTABLISHING INTERNAL RULES TO THIS END (E.G. LECTURE ROOMS, LABORATORIES, LIBRARIES, NETWORKS, NETWORKS, CAREER AND SOCIAL POLICY SERVICES ETC.).

Institutions and their academic units must have sufficient resources and means, on a planned and long-term basis, to support learning and academic activity in general, so as to offer PSP students the best possible level of studies. The above means include facilities such as the necessary general and more specialised libraries and possibilities for access to electronic databases, study rooms, educational and scientific equipment, IT and communication services, support and counselling services.

When allocating the available resources, the needs of all students must be taken into consideration (e.g. whether they are full-time or part-time students, employed students, students with disabilities), in addition to the shift towards student-centred learning and the adoption of flexible modes of learning and teaching. Support activities and facilities may be organised in various ways, depending on the institutional context. However, the internal quality assurance proves -on the one hand- the quantity and quality of the available facilities and services, and -on the other hand- that students are aware of all available services.

In delivering support services, the role of support and administration staff is crucial and therefore this segment of staff needs to be qualified and have opportunities to develop its competences.

Documentation

- Detailed description of the infrastructure and services made available by the Institution to the academic unit for the PSP, to support learning and academic activity (human resources, infrastructure, services, etc.) and the corresponding firm commitment of the Institution to financially cover these infrastructure-services from state or other resources
- Administrative support staff of the PSP (job descriptions, qualifications and responsibilities)
- Informative / promotional material given to students with reference to the available services
- Tuition utilisation plan (if applicable)

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

Students' access to learning-related infrastructure and services is assessed as adequate. There is one dedicated audio-visual lab as well as access to the labs and facilities for editing and filmmaking, via the Department of Communication and Media.

The budget coming from the student fee is used to pay for adjunct faculty. It is notable that the tuition fee is used wisely for the reinforcement of the PSP. Administrative services are rated quite positively by students, highlighting the immediate resolution of their concerns.

Contributors have noted that more teaching staff is needed.

Students are well informed about the available services and they are supported and have equal access to the learning process. Indeed, the students interviewed informed the external

evaluators that all important information about services of the University/Department are presented to all students.

II. Analysis

After consultation with teaching staff and specialist staff, it is ascertained that the PSP manages very well in terms of making available the resources for the students' to manage their coursework effectively.

It is evident that staff and specialist technicians go above and beyond their means to facilitate students and provide them with necessary access to resources. However, there is an aspect of specialist equipment, cameras etc., for the needs of the PSP students, as some of the same resources have to be shared throughout the rest of the undergraduate cohort of the Department of Communication and Media. There was a point raised by staff and students, regarding access to specialist libraries, for the viewing of films, documentaries and other copyrighted materials. Mostly these materials are made available via the personal contributions of staff as well as through personal contacts and the affiliation with the Greek Film Archive in Athens.

III. Conclusions

Overall, the EEAP finds that the PSP adheres to Principle 6, however it recommends further investment in audiovisual equipment, and upgrading access to specialist libraries and research archives.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following:

Principle 6: Learning resources and student support	
Fully compliant	
Substantially compliant	X
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

Access to specialist libraries and the audio-visual lab support and equipment need to be upgraded, with extra provision for cameras and specialist equipment.

The PSP should improve the communication channels to better inform students about criteria for scholarships and opportunities for scholarships, research and career development.

PRINCIPLE 7: INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

INSTITUTIONS BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR COLLECTING, ANALYSING AND USING INFORMATION, AIMED AT THE EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES, IN AN INTEGRATED, EFFECTIVE AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE WAY.

Institutions are expected to establish and operate an information system for the management and monitoring of data concerning students, teaching staff, course structure and organisation, teaching and provision of services to students.

Reliable data is essential for accurate information and decision-making, as well as for identifying areas of smooth operation and areas for improvement. Effective procedures for collecting and analysing information on postgraduate study programmes and other activities feed data into the internal system of quality assurance.

The information collected depends, to some extent, on the type and mission of the Institution. The following are of interest:

- *key performance indicators*
- *student population profile*
- *student progression, success, and drop-out rates*
- *student satisfaction with their programmes*
- *availability of learning resources and student support*

A number of methods may be used to collect information. It is important that students and staff are involved in providing and analysing information and planning follow-up activities.

Documentation

- *Report from the National Information System for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (NISQA) at the level of the Institution, the department, and the PSP*
- *Operation of an information management system for the collection of administrative data for the implementation of the PSP (Students' Record)*
- *Other tools and procedures designed to collect data on the academic and administrative functions of the academic unit and the PSP*

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

The PSP has established efficient procedures for the collection of data regarding student body, teaching methods, student progression, employability and career paths of graduates.

The OMEA on an annual basis supplies the information system OPESP (Integrated National Quality Information System) of the HAHE with relevant census data referring to the previous academic year. Additionally, the PSP makes use of the unified Information System Unitron for the collection and analysis of data.

Student satisfaction surveys are conducted regularly. The percentage of participation of students is above average and absolutely satisfactory.

The annual internal assessment reports, monitoring indicators, and relevant tables are published on the website of the PSP (<https://culturecinemastudies.media.uoa.gr/pms/>) and are taken into account by the OMEA, the Steering Committee, the program director, the General Assembly of the Department, and the QAU (MODIP), leading to decision-making aimed at improving the operation of the PSP.

Equipment, social services, IT facilities are subject to the internal evaluation procedure.

II. Analysis

In accordance with university and department regulations, all faculty members are regularly evaluated by students through comprehensive surveys. Every semester, an anonymous evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of the teaching of all courses offered is carried out. This evaluation is carried out using questionnaires that are distributed to the students. The questionnaire is consistent with the educational philosophy and teaching/assessment methods of the department. The main goal is to collect comprehensive feedback on the quality of each course and identify opportunities for improvement to ensure continuous improvement in the student learning experience.

III. Conclusions

The PSP is entirely in accordance with the accreditation criterion which is implemented in an effective manner.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following

Principle 7: Information management	
Fully compliant	X
Substantially compliant	
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

PRINCIPLE 8: PUBLIC INFORMATION CONCERNING THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES

INSTITUTIONS SHOULD PUBLISH INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR TEACHING AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES IN A DIRECT AND READILY ACCESSIBLE WAY. THE RELEVANT INFORMATION SHOULD BE UP-TO-DATE, OBJECTIVE AND CLEAR.

Information on the Institutions' activities is useful for prospective and current students, graduates, other stakeholders, and the public.

Therefore, Institutions and their academic units must provide information about their activities, including the PSP they offer, the intended learning outcomes, the degrees awarded, the teaching, learning and assessment procedures applied, the pass rates, and the learning opportunities available to their students. Information is also provided on the employment perspectives of PSP graduates.

Documentation

- Dedicated segment on the website of the department for the promotion of the PSP
- Bilingual version of the PSP website with complete, clear and objective information
- Provision for website maintenance and updating

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

The PSP Cultural and Cinematic Studies has a separate, dedicated website as part of the Department of Communications and Media website, accessible via <https://culturecinemastudies.media.uoa.gr/>.

Visitors can consult the course aims and scope, the course outlines, find information regarding the new call for admissions for prospective students and other course related regulations. Furthermore, the Policy for Quality Assurance is publicly available, in accordance with HAHE standards, but only in Greek.

The EEAP did find however that the catalogue of DEP members is incomplete, as two of them are not listed and the CVs of two other members are absent.

II. Analysis

Whilst the website and information on the program is made public and for the most part, is updated and easy to access, there are weaknesses.

Although we were unable to find the Study Guide on the webpage, the one provided to us by the Department contains all necessary information regarding the postgraduate program, as well as additional information about university services. However, there is a brief Studies Regulation that includes some general information about the PSP.

III. Conclusions

The PSP's website is accessible only in Greek, as we observed that the English version is not functioning properly.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following:

Principle 8: Public information concerning the postgraduate study programmes	
Fully compliant	
Substantially compliant	X
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

We strongly recommend publishing and making available the Study Guide information on the Department's website. The website should be fully accessible in English, not only in Greek.

The EEAP recommends assigning a member of staff or administrative member to regularly update the information available on the website (Greek and English).

PRINCIPLE 9: ON-GOING MONITORING AND PERIODIC INTERNAL EVALUATION OF POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES

INSTITUTIONS AND ACADEMIC UNITS SHOULD HAVE IN PLACE AN INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM FOR THE AUDIT AND ANNUAL INTERNAL REVIEW OF THEIR POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES, SO AS TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES SET FOR THEM, THROUGH MONITORING AND POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS, WITH A VIEW TO CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT. ANY ACTIONS TAKEN IN THE ABOVE CONTEXT SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO ALL PARTIES CONCERNED.

The regular monitoring, review, and revision of postgraduate study programmes aim at maintaining the level of educational provision and creating a supportive and effective learning environment for students.

The above comprise the evaluation of:

- a) *the content of the programme in the light of the latest research in the given discipline, thus ensuring that the PSP is up to date*
 - b) *the changing needs of society*
 - c) *the students' workload, progression and completion of the postgraduate studies*
 - d) *the effectiveness of the procedures for the assessment of students*
 - e) *the students' expectations, needs and satisfaction in relation to the programme*
 - f) *the learning environment, support services, and their fitness for purpose for the PSP in question*
- Postgraduate study programmes are reviewed and revised regularly involving students and other stakeholders. The information collected is analysed and the programme is adapted to ensure that it is up-to-date.*

Documentation

- *Procedure for the re-evaluation, redefinition and updating of the PSP curriculum*
- *Procedure for mitigating weaknesses and upgrading the structure of the PSP and the learning process*
- *Feedback processes concerning the strategy and quality goal setting of the PSP and relevant decision-making processes (students, external stakeholders)*
- *Results of the annual internal evaluation of the PSP by the Quality Assurance Unit (QAU), and the relevant minutes*

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

The internal, self-assessment process of the PSP is conducted annually and in close cooperation with the QAU (MODIP), as stipulated by the IQAS. This yearly process commences after the start of the winter term and concludes in early summer, aligning with the academic year, and thus can be considered as an iterative and continuous process.

The Annual Internal Assessment Reports, monitoring indicators, and relevant tables are published on the website of the PSP (<https://culturecinemastudies.media.uoa.gr/pms/>) to facilitate information dissemination and feedback opportunities for all stakeholders. Additionally, all parties involved in the implementation of the PSP will be notified via a specific message sent to their email accounts. The self-assessment of the PSP results in action plans that are communicated to the interested parties.

On the basis of attachment A8 (which is also published on the website of the PSP), the QAU (MODIP) on its meeting dated 26 of January, 2023, decided an action plan, divided in “Preventive actions” and “Corrective actions”).

II. Analysis

The Department has a very efficient IQAS and is substantially supported by the QAU (MODIP) of the Institution. The Internal Evaluation Protocol dated January 26, 2023, is very precise regarding the actions determined, although it does not delve into the details of the problems that need to be addressed.

It is commendable that the PSP has taken part in this exercise going above and beyond their means in order to provide with the necessary documentation for the Accreditation Procedure.

However, the EEAP finds that there are elements to the process that need to be made efficient, both serving the purposes of the PSP and adhering to the guidelines for further strategic making practices and goal setting.

III. Conclusions

The EEAP finds that whilst largely in accordance with the accreditation criterion, the mechanisms of internal evaluation need to be streamlined in order to become functional and not addressed as administrative obligations.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following:

Principle 9: On-going monitoring and periodic internal evaluation of postgraduate study programmes	
Fully compliant	
Substantially compliant	X
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

The PSP should regularly keep detailed records of meetings between members of DEP, EDIP and the Director, at the end of each semester, with points about how they respond to crucial aspects of the course curriculum, students’ admissions, the need of the labs and equipment but also the workload of both staff and students.

PRINCIPLE 10: REGULAR EXTERNAL EVALUATION OF POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES

THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMMES SHOULD REGULARLY UNDERGO EVALUATION BY PANELS OF EXTERNAL EXPERTS SET BY HAHE, AIMING AT ACCREDITATION. THE TERM OF VALIDITY OF THE ACCREDITATION IS DETERMINED BY HAHE.

HAHE is responsible for administrating the PSP accreditation process which is realised as an external evaluation procedure, and implemented by panels of independent experts. HAHE grants accreditation of programmes, based on the Reports delivered by the panels of external experts, with a specific term of validity, following to which, revision is required. The quality accreditation of the PSP acts as a means for the determination of the degree of compliance of the programme to the Standards, and as a catalyst for improvement, while opening new perspectives towards the international standing of the awarded degrees. Both academic units and Institutions must consistently consider the conclusions and the recommendations submitted by the panels of experts for the continuous improvement of the programme.

Documentation

- *Progress report of the PSP in question, on the results from the utilisation of possible recommendations included in the External Evaluation Report of the Institution, and in the IQAS Accreditation Report, with relation to the postgraduate study programmes*

Study Programme Compliance

Please comment on the compliance with the Principle. Specifically: Please describe the findings related to the Principle, analyse, and conclude your judgement. Findings, analysis of judgement and conclusions should be developed below in three distinct parts.

I. Findings

The members of the teaching staff are fully aware of the importance of the external evaluation and its contribution to improvement.

All stakeholders of the academic unit actively engage in the external evaluation of the PSP and the entailed follow-up actions.

The recommendations of the EEAP and their implementation are part of the monitoring process of the PSP under the guidance of the QAU (MODIP). The PSP provides a detailed action plan on how the recommendations of the EEAP will be implemented.

II. Analysis

The PSP (other than the department and the USP) has not yet undergone an external evaluation process. The PSP is very well prepared and fully aware of the importance of the procedure.

III. Conclusions

The PSP was established in 2018. It has not undergone external review conducted by Agencies other than HAHE.

Panel Judgement

Please tick one of the following:

Principle 10: Regular external evaluation of postgraduate study programmes	
Fully compliant	X
Substantially compliant	
Partially compliant	
Non-compliant	

Panel Recommendations

PART C: CONCLUSIONS

I. Features of Good Practice

- The teaching staff and supporting external partners are enthusiastic and committed to providing high-quality teaching and research of their respective areas of specialism.
- The PSP is in line with current global trends to provide with inter-disciplinary studies in Greece.
- It fulfills the needs of post-graduate students wanting to enrich their approach to cultural and cinema studies.
- The staff go above and beyond their means to provide students with support and advice throughout the course of their studies.
- The PSP comprises a close-knit community, dedicated to the goals and aims of the programme, as it accepts a small number of students.
- Offers opportunities for students to continue into research, supporting PhD projects.
- Offers students the skills and equips them to produce practice-based outcomes, like the production of a short film or documentary.

II. Areas of Weakness

- Access to specialist libraries and the audio-visual lab support and equipment need to be upgraded, with extra provision for cameras and specialist equipment.
- The PSP website needs updating and ensuring that all pages are fully functional in English.
- The PSP should improve the communication channels to better inform students about criteria and opportunities for scholarships, research and career development.
- Whilst the close-knit nature of the small programme allows for staff and students to interact directly, it is advisable also to create detailed administrative log for matters arising and how these are addressed, for example, with regard to updating the Study Guide.
- Review the coursework and units annually in order to ensure that academic staff are not overworked.
- Internal Review (MODIP/OMEA): it was noted that the internal review of the programme is mostly done ad hoc, depending on issues arising. In order to adhere to the Quality Assurance for internal review procedures, it is recommended that the Director of the PSP conducts internal reviews each semester on a specific agenda, related to the overall running of the programme.

III. Recommendations for Follow-up Actions

- Allocate and manage a budget for the purchasing of new camera equipment and provide better access to audio -visual labs.
- Seek further access to specialist libraries and film archives.
- PSP website: update and provide all information in English.
- Ensure the Quality Assurance Policy is available in English.
- Ensure that Internal Quality Assurance procedures are effectively utilised, for the purposes of the PSP rather than being an administrative obligation.

IV. Summary & Overall Assessment

The Principles where full compliance has been achieved are:

Principles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 & 10

The Principles where substantial compliance has been achieved are:

Principles 6, 8 & 9

The Principles where partial compliance has been achieved are:

None

The Principles where failure of compliance was identified are:

None

The members of the External Evaluation & Accreditation Panel

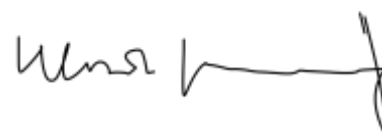
Name and Surname

Signature

1. Prof. Stella Baraklianou, University of Huddersfield.



2. Prof. Dr. Ulrich Moennig, Universität Hamburg



3. Prof. Stavros Lazaris, CNRS and Catholic University of Paris



4. Mr. Konstantinos Thalís Ropotos, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki



