

Regulation of Postgraduate Programme at the Department of Communication and Media Studies of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), “MSc in Journalism and New Media”.

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 The Department of Communication and Media Studies (DCMS) of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, starting from the academic year 20265-2027, will organize and operate a Greek-taught intensive Postgraduate Program entitled “MSc in Journalism and New Media”, according to the provisions of the legal framework in force and the present Regulation of the Postgraduate Program.

1.2 The Postgraduate Programme will operate until the academic year 2035-36 provided that it meets the criteria of internal and external evaluation, in accordance with the legislation in force.

ARTICLE 2. SUBJECT -OBJECTIVE

2.1 Upon full and successful completion of the program of study, students are awarded a Master's degree in "JOURNALISM AND NEW MEDIA."

2.2 The Master's degree is awarded by the Department of Communication and Media Studies, Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

2.3 The objective of the Postgraduate Programme is to train journalists and general experts in the field of Communication, Media, and Culture. Learning outcomes are achieved through the critical examination of theoretical concepts and their practical application.

2.4 Upon successful completion of the program, students are expected to:

- Have developed advanced professional skills suited to the rapidly evolving environment of media and contemporary journalism. Graduates will possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to work as qualified professionals across print, broadcast, and digital media platforms.
- Have acquired strong analytical skills, enabling them to gather information effectively and, most importantly, to synthesize complex events and socio-economic developments into coherent journalistic narratives.
- Possess a solid scientific background, enabling them to critically understand and contextualize events and developments within the media

field.

- Be able to apply the fundamental principles of research, documentation, writing, editing, and publishing of news content across different types of media.
- Be equipped to critically engage with and utilize new methods of information dissemination as they emerge within the digital environment of the internet.

ARTICLE 2. STRUCTURE AND GOVERNING BODIES OF THE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

The competent bodies for the operation of the Postgraduate Programme, in accordance with Law 4957/2022, are as follows:

2.1 At the university level, the competent bodies are the Committee of Postgraduate Studies and the Senate.

2.2 At the department level, the competent bodies are:

2.2.1 The **Department Assembly**. The Assembly is responsible for:

- a) Proposing the establishment or amendment of Postgraduate Programmes, as well as the extension of the duration of a Postgraduate Programme, to the Senate through the Committee of Postgraduate Programmes.
- b) Appointing the Director and the members of the Steering Committee for each Postgraduate Programme offered by the Department.
- c) Forming committees for the evaluation of postgraduate candidates' applications and approving their registration in the Postgraduate Programme.
- d) Assigning instructional work among Postgraduate Programme faculty members and, upon proposal of the Steering Committee, assigning auxiliary instructional work in Postgraduate Programmes to PhD candidates of the Department, under the supervision of a member of the teaching and research staff.
- e) Certifying the successful completion of studies and awarding the MSc degree.
- f) Approving the Postgraduate Programme budget, upon proposal by the Steering Committee.
- g) Assigning auxiliary instructional work in undergraduate curricula of the Department to postgraduate students.
- h) Exercising any other responsibilities as provided by law.

Note: By decision of the Department Assembly, the responsibilities outlined in points (d) and (g) may be delegated to the Steering Committee.

2.2.2 The Steering Committee (S.C.)

The Steering Committee consists of the Director of the Postgraduate Programme and four (4) members of the teaching and research staff of the Department, or possibly emeritus professors whose subject area is relevant to that of the Postgraduate Programme and who undertake instructional work in

the Programme. The members of the Steering Committee are appointed by resolution of the Department Assembly.

The Steering Committee is responsible for monitoring and coordinating the operation of the programme. Its specific duties include:

- a) Compiling the initial annual budget of the Postgraduate Programme and any subsequent amendments, provided the Programme has available resources, and proposing its approval to the Review Committee of the Special Account for Research Grants (ELKE) of NKUA.
- b) Compiling the annual report of the programme and proposing its approval to the Department Assembly.
- c) Approving Postgraduate Programme expenditures, with the authority to delegate this responsibility to the Director of the Postgraduate Programme.
- d) Forming committees to evaluate applications from prospective graduate students and approving their enrollment in the programme.
- e) Approving the granting of scholarships, whether compensatory or not, in accordance with the provisions of the Postgraduate Programme's establishing resolution and the Regulations for Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies.
- f) Proposing the distribution of instructional work, as well as the assignment of teaching duties, to the Department Assembly.
- g) Establishing examination committees for the assessment of postgraduate students' dissertations and appointing dissertation supervisors.
- h) Proposing to the Department Assembly the invitation of visiting faculty to cover the instructional needs of the Postgraduate Programme.
- i) Drafting proposals for amendments to the curriculum and submitting them to the Department Assembly.
- j) Proposing to the Department Assembly the redistribution of courses across academic semesters, as well as any other issues pertinent to improving the quality of the curriculum.

2.2.3 The Director of the Postgraduate Programme

The Director of the Postgraduate Programme is a member of the teaching and research staff of the Department, holding the rank of Professor or Associate Professor. The Director is appointed by resolution of the Department Assembly for a two-year term and may be reappointed without restriction.

The Director of the Postgraduate Programme is responsible for:

- a) Presiding over the Steering Committee, drafting its agenda, and convening its meetings.
- b) Proposing issues regarding the organization and operation of the Postgraduate Programme to the Department Assembly.
- c) Proposing issues concerning the effective operation of the Postgraduate Programme to the Steering Committee and other bodies of the Programme and the University.
- d) Serving as the Scientific Coordinator of the programme and exercising related duties.
- e) Monitoring the implementation of resolutions adopted by the bodies of the Postgraduate Programme and the Regulations of the Postgraduate Programmes, as well as overseeing the implementation of the Postgraduate

Programme budget.

f) Exercising any other duties stipulated in the resolution establishing the Postgraduate Programme.

Note: The Director of the Postgraduate Programme, as well as the members of the Steering Committee, are not entitled to any fee or other compensation for exercising the responsibilities assigned to them in the execution of their duties.

2.3 Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme

a) The Secretariat of the Department is responsible for the secretarial and administrative support of the Postgraduate Programme.

b) The Secretary of the Department appoints the employee or employees—depending on the number of Postgraduate Programmes and the associated workload—responsible for the Postgraduate Programmes of each School within the Department.

c) In cases where the Postgraduate Programme has its own resources, it may, in accordance with current legislation, contract external personnel for secretarial and administrative support. Such personnel shall operate under the supervision of the Department Secretariat.

d) An **International Advisory Committee**, composed of professors from international universities in related fields, provides advisory support to the Steering Committee regarding the progress and development of the postgraduate programme.

ARTICLE 3. CATEGORIES AND NUMBER OF ADMITTED STUDENTS

3.1 Applicants must hold a university degree from an accredited institution in Greece or abroad. Degrees in Communication, Cultural Studies, Journalism and Media, Philosophy, Social Sciences, Law, Economics, Humanities, or Education are considered particularly relevant. The Programme also accepts graduates from any other Greek or foreign University department recognized by the Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Centre (DOATAP), provided they demonstrate a clear interest in the subject area of the Postgraduate Programme. The selection of students from this category requires a justified proposal by the Steering Committee to the Assembly of the Department of Communication and Media Studies (DCMS).

3.2 The maximum number of students admitted to the Postgraduate Programme is twenty (20). This limit is determined based on several factors, including the number of faculty members involved in the Programme, the student-to-faculty ratio, available logistical infrastructure and classrooms, and the absorption rate of graduates by the job market.

3.3 In addition to the annual list of selected applicants, one member from

the categories of Special Teaching Staff, Laboratory Teaching Staff, or Special Technical Laboratory Staff may be accepted, provided that their work at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens is relevant to the subject matter of the Postgraduate Programme.

3.4 Holders of scholarships from the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY) and foreign nationals holding scholarships from the Greek state for the same or a relevant subject area are admitted without examinations.

ARTICLE 4. ADMISSIONS

4.1. The selection of students is conducted in accordance with current legislation, the Regulation for Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies of NKUA, and the provisions of this Regulation.

4.2. Each June, by decision of the Assembly of the Department of Communication and Media Studies, a call for applications is published on the website of the Department and the Institution for the admission of new postgraduate students to the MSc program. Applications, along with the required supporting documents, must be submitted to the Department's Secretariat by the deadline specified in the announcement. This deadline may be extended by decision of the Department Assembly.

4.3 The Department Assembly entrusts the candidate selection process to the Steering Committee.

4.4 Candidates must submit the following documents:

- a) Completed application form.
- b) Detailed curriculum vitae with a photograph.
- c) A simple photocopy of their undergraduate degree from a Greek university or a recognized equivalent institution abroad.
- d) A photocopy of their academic transcript.
- e) A photocopy of a Greek ID card or passport (for Greek and international students).
- f) Certification of English language proficiency at level C1, demonstrated by one of the following: a recognized language certificate (C1); completed undergraduate, postgraduate, or doctoral studies at an English-taught institution (supported by relevant documentation); certified professional experience in an English-speaking environment for at least one year (supported by valid documentation); documentation proving that English is the candidate's native language; or examination administered by a Special Committee appointed by the Steering Committee. The same certification requirements apply for demonstrating proficiency in a second, third, etc., foreign language.
- g) At least two letters of recommendation (not required for

candidates who are graduates of the Department of Communication and Media Studies).

h) A copy of a dissertation or papers published in scientific journals or conference proceedings.

i) Any other elements that may support the candidate's application, such as evidence of volunteer work, etc.

4.5 For candidates who do not submit an official degree recognition certificate from DOATAP, the following procedure applies:

The Department Assembly appoints a committee responsible for determining whether a foreign institution or a degree from a foreign institution is recognized. For a degree to be recognized, the awarding institution must be included in the list of foreign institutions maintained and updated by DOATAP. If the foreign university is included in the university list referred to in Article 307 of Law 4957/2022, the candidate must submit a Place of Study certificate issued and sent directly by the foreign university. If the place of study, or any part thereof, is located within Greek territory, the degree is not recognized unless the place of study within Greek territory is a public Higher Education Institution.

4.6 The assessment of candidates and the selection of successful students are based on the following criteria:

- Grade point average of undergraduate degree: 25%
- Dissertation: 2%
- Proficiency in a foreign language other than English at C1 level: 5%
- Possession of another postgraduate degree from a Greek Higher Education Institution or a recognized foreign institution (recognized by DOATAP), relevant to the subject matter of the Programme: 5%
- Work experience relevant to the core subject of the Postgraduate Programme: 10%
- Publications in journals or conference proceedings with blind peer review: 15%
- Oral interview with a committee formed by the Steering Committee: 30%

4.7 Following the completion of the evaluation, the Steering Committee prepares a list of selected candidates for approval by the Department Assembly. The list of selected candidates is validated by the Department Assembly and posted on the Postgraduate Programme's website.

Selected candidates must enroll at the Postgraduate Programme Secretariat within thirty (30) days of the validation of the list by the Assembly and notification to the candidates. In cases where candidates have equal scores, up to 10% of the maximum number of admitted students may be accepted. If one or more selected candidates fail to enroll, runners-up (if any) will be invited

to enroll in the MSc program, in the order determined by the approved evaluation list.

ARTICLE 5. DURATION OF STUDIES

5.1 The duration of studies leading to the award of the Master's Degree is three (3) academic semesters, including both taught modules and the preparation and submission of the master's thesis. No study breaks are permitted during this period.

5.2 Postgraduate students may apply to the Department Assembly for an extension of studies by up to one additional semester. The maximum duration of studies, including any extension, is four (4) semesters.

5.3 Students who have not exceeded the maximum duration of studies may, by submitting a justified application, request a suspension of studies due to force majeure for up to two (2) consecutive full semesters at any point during their studies. Suspension of studies is granted for serious reasons, such as military service, illness, maternity, or absence abroad.

The application must be justified and accompanied by all relevant documents from competent public authorities or organizations substantiating the reasons for the requested suspension.

During the suspension period, student status is revoked, and participation in any educational process is prohibited. The suspension takes effect from the date of the relevant decision by the Department Assembly. At least two weeks before the end of the suspension period, students are required to re-enroll in the programme to continue their studies with the rights and obligations of active students. Students may apply for the cessation of the suspension and return to the Programme only if they have suspended their studies for two consecutive academic semesters. The application for cessation must be submitted at the latest two weeks before the beginning of the second semester of the suspension.

5.4 The duration of any suspension or extension of studies is discussed and approved on a case-by-case basis by the Steering Committee, which subsequently submits its proposal to the Department Assembly for final decision.

ARTICLE 6. CURRICULUM

6.1 . The Postgraduate Programme commences at the beginning of the fall semester of each academic year.

6.2 Courses are taught in Greek. The postgraduate dissertation may be written in either Greek or English, following a student's application and approval by the Steering Committee.

6.3 For the award of the Master's degree, students must:

- a) Participate in all educational and research activities of the Programme, as specified in the Curriculum and in Articles 5.1 and 5.5 of this Regulation.
- b) Successfully pass all courses in the first and second semesters, as defined in the prescribed curriculum.
- c) Successfully submit and defend the master's dissertation.
- d) Accumulate a total of sixty (60) ECTS credits.
- e) Pay the full amount of tuition fees.
- f) Fulfill any outstanding obligations to the Student Affairs Office, the Library, or any other NKUA facilities.

6.4 Students are required to attend courses amounting to thirty (30) ECTS credits in the first semester and thirty (30) ECTS credits in the second semester, for a total of 60 ECTS upon completion of the taught component.

6.5 Courses are delivered either in person or remotely, in accordance with the legal framework in force at the time and the provisions of Article 7 of this Regulation.

6.6 Throughout their studies, postgraduate students are required to attend and successfully pass postgraduate courses, participate in research projects and scientific papers as applicable, and submit their postgraduate dissertation.

6.7 The indicative curriculum is as follows:

1st Semester (winter)		
	Hours per week	ECTS
Compulsory Courses		
Media and Journalism	3	10
Quantitative Research and Analysis Methods	3	10
Elective Courses		
Data Journalism	3	10
The Legal Aspects of Media	3	10
English for Journalism Studies	3	10
Science Journalism		

Total	9	30
2nd Semester (spring)		
Compulsory courses		
Advertising, Social Media and Marketing	3	10
Multimedia Journalism	3	10
Elective Courses		
Qualitative Research Methods	3	10
Journalism and Social Media	3	10
Fact Checking Methods	3	10
Artificial Intelligence and Journalism	3	10
Total	9	30
3rd Semester (winter)		
MA Dissertation writing up		30
Total	18	90

Course syllabi description

The program consists of two compulsory and two elective courses in each of the first and second semesters. As illustrated in the table above, the curriculum offers a variety of options. This flexibility reflects the broad scope of journalism, which necessitates—or rather enables—diverse pedagogical approaches.

Each academic year, the course offerings are shaped by several factors: the availability of teaching staff and their collaborators, their research interests, and the specific themes or historical periods selected for study. As a result, the curriculum is designed to allow for multiple combinations, with some courses potentially adopting a laboratory-based format.

The program is firmly grounded in the core subject areas of the Master's degree. At the same time, the Steering Committee is committed to integrating student feedback received each year to continuously update and improve the curriculum. Accordingly, based on this feedback, as well as the availability and research focus of the teaching staff and the thematic priorities of the academic year, the course structure may vary considerably. This may include the conversion of elective courses into compulsory ones and vice versa, or the transformation of traditional courses into laboratory-style classes and the reverse. Additionally, courses may be moved between the winter and spring semesters as needed.

For detailed and up-to-date information on the curriculum for a given academic year, prospective and current students are advised to consult the official course descriptions available on the MSc program's website.

1st Semester (winter)

Compulsory courses

Media and Journalism

We are in a period of constant and major changes in the field of communication and media. Undoubtedly, the structure and operation of media systems in all countries have changed significantly, and the changes have coincided with or been more closely related to new understandings of the economy and society and communication. The course consists of two parts: the first part discusses the developments in the whole range of communications, the development and globalization of markets, the increase and intensity of competition, as well as the effects on the field of media. The second part aims to analyze the new tools and new skills required in the new modern digital environment. Based on the basic principles of audio-visual production and the circulation of information in the new online environments, technological changes and how they affect each journalist will be examined. New digital tools and the secrets of their use, as well as new technologies in research and publishing on the internet (metadata, search engines, cloud storage, etc.) are examined too.

Quantitative Research and Analysis Methods

This module is offered as a common course in four directions of the graduate program. It is a sequence continuation of two compulsory undergraduate courses, namely “Research Methodology” and “Quantitative Research Methods”, including a theoretical and an applied part:

1. The first/theoretical part is a brief and condensed review in research methodology with respect to theoretical approaches to methodology, characteristics of quantitative and qualitative methods, structural research elements and tools, means of data collection, research stages, research methods (subject, design, advantages and disadvantages), applications in communication and media research.
2. The second/applied part is an introduction to data processing and analysis using the statistical package SPSS: SPSS environment, data entry, data check and correction, data processing, analysis using descriptive statistics and inferential techniques of parameter estimation and hypothesis testing with applications in real data.

2nd Spring Semester

Compulsory modules

Advertising, Social Media and Marketing

From advertising to journalism, and from the newspaper to the corporate press release and social media, communication has numerous practical facets. The module aims to map the new and rapidly changing digital environment of "integrated" communicative action (integrated communication) in which modern communication professionals are called upon to act and make decisions.

This module aims to understand communication management, branding, i.e. the communicative transformation of the product into a brand, the role, value and main tools of advertising and public relations, highlighting both at a theoretical and practical level their basic principles and operating rules. Special emphasis is placed on approaching the integrated communication of a product, a service, a company, an organization, a person or an idea, to the audience it is addressed to. In addition, the types of social media are presented and the uses and benefits of new media are analyzed, as well as their effective utilization to promote commercial purposes.

Multimedia Journalism

This module is consisted of two parts. In the first part, selected current topics are analyzed based on the methods of social sciences and the practices of investigative journalism. It is obvious that the journalist in the era of digital media is called upon to distinguish and analyze the rapid changes in social

structures and social institutions that have occurred in Greek society. In the second part of the course, after getting to know the new methods and tools for presenting their topics, the students are asked to present the topics assigned to them not only in the form of a presentation, but also in the form of journalistic production (e.g., text, visualization content, blog, etc.).

1st Semester (winter)

Elective modules

The Legal Aspects of Media

New media is one of the most interesting challenges for law in the modern era. Their regulation is based on the one hand, on the freedoms that guarantee their operation, and on the other hand, on the need to deal with the risks that this entails. In this context, however, it must mainly respond to the specificities of the new media and to the specificities of the journalistic activity that is part of them. The module aims to offer an analytical approach to the legal problematic of the new media and the journalistic activity that develops in them not only by analyzing the regulatory sources, but also by studying cases that have been judged by decisions of the Greek and European courts, as well as foreign courts or independent authorities.

Data Journalism

What is data journalism, and what techniques do journalists use to find, analyze, and tell stories with data? How can data serve not only as a tool for investigative analysis but also as a medium for interactive audience engagement?

In recent years, journalists have increasingly experimented with new methods of research, analysis, storytelling, and audience interaction using digital data. These evolving practices have given rise to what is now known as "data journalism."

This course offers an in-depth exploration of this emerging field, examining how digital data enables new forms of understanding, narrative construction, and public participation. Students will develop a critical data practice, learning to interpret, question, and creatively work with datasets.

The course combines theoretical foundations with hands-on, laboratory-style learning. Through group work guided by instructors—and with possible contributions from external experts and visiting professionals—students will engage directly with the practical challenges of data-driven journalism. Following a research-based teaching approach, assignments will be grounded in real-world problems or research questions, providing an integrated experience that bridges theory and practice.

English for journalism studies

While a C1 level of English is required for admission to the program, this course is designed not only for students who already possess strong language skills but also for those who wish to further develop their proficiency in an international academic and professional environment. It is particularly aimed at students working in fields where a significant portion of the literature and journalistic content is produced in English.

To achieve this goal, the course employs a variety of teaching approaches, including the analysis of books and articles, structured writing exercises, listening comprehension tasks (e.g., lectures), and oral presentations.

The course is organized into analytical units, each divided into sub-units that focus on specific linguistic and grammatical phenomena. This structure allows for comprehensive coverage of a wide range of language skills. In all cases, theoretical concepts are reinforced with ample examples and practical exercises to consolidate learning.

Science Journalism

This course is designed to equip future journalists with the essential skills needed to cover science and technology issues effectively. In parallel, it examines the relationship between the media and the scientific community, both in Greece and internationally.

Science journalism has a vital role to play in shaping public discourse. By developing new communication frameworks, it can help bring critical scientific and technological issues to the forefront of public attention. As key actors in shaping global public opinion on these topics, journalists must approach domestic and international scientific developments with rigor, consistency, and a strong sense of responsibility. Beyond simply reporting on these developments, journalists also have a role in educating the public and fostering the critical understanding needed to engage with them.

2nd Semester (spring)

Elective modules

Journalism and Social Media

In the era of digital communication, social media is gradually gaining a pivotal role in journalism and news reporting. They have increased their role and reach as a source of information on any aspect of social life. At the same time, an increasing number of people are informed about the news through social media. Although the social media terms of use for major press groups are constantly changing, the platforms are still a source of information. This course examines the relationship between journalism and social media, as it is shaped in the new digital environment. The new media ecosystem is mapped, and the changes brought about by new media and especially social

networking platforms in the production and consumption of news content are analyzed. The ways of using social media and the consequences of this use in the field of journalism and publicity are approached.

Qualitative Research Methods

The module centers on the understanding and practice of qualitative research design methods and mixed methodological designs. The differences in research strategies and the epistemological and ontological considerations that emerge in the quest for an appropriate strategy will be discussed. Also, the criteria for selecting a research and data collection method will be presented. The five traditions of qualitative research (narrative research, phenomenology, grounded theory, ethnography and case studies) will then be outlined. The course will emphasize the formulation of research questions, sampling strategies, research ethics, and research validity and reliability criteria as they apply to qualitative research. In terms of qualitative data collection techniques, students will become familiar with in-depth interviews and focus groups, content analysis, and observation. They will be guided on how to compile a data collection plan according to each qualitative method and how to process the collected data. As to the aspects of mixed research design, the requirements for implementing mixed designs and the different types depending on the research objectives will be discussed. Finally, students will be trained in writing research papers and research publications and the use of the latest APA citation system.

Fact Checking Methods

This course introduces students to the phenomenon of fake news and misinformation as it has emerged within the global digital media landscape. It examines the various morphological types of false or misleading information, as well as the factors that have contributed to their proliferation.

A central focus of the course is the professional practice of factchecking, which will be explored from both practical and philosophical perspectives. Attention will be given to clearly distinguishing factchecking from related but distinct journalistic practices, such as political scrutiny, source cross-checking, and general verification.

Students will critically examine the full methodological process of factchecking through hands-on case studies. This includes identifying statements or news items that warrant investigation and are verifiable; searching for and evaluating evidence and sources; and producing a specialized report or opinion piece assessing the accuracy of the issues or events under review.

Artificial Intelligence and Journalism

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the fundamentals of artificial intelligence (AI) in journalism, examining both its practical

applications and the emerging forms of journalistic practice it enables.

Students will explore the AI tools currently used to collect, produce, and publish news, gaining hands-on experience and practical skills. The course is designed for journalism students seeking a deeper understanding of how AI is transforming the profession.

Key topics include the practical uses of AI in newsrooms, the ethical challenges it raises, and the verification strategies essential for accurate reporting and content creation in the age of artificial intelligence.

3rd Semester (winter)

Dissertation

Unlike undergraduate thesis projects, which are typically shorter in length and scope, a master's thesis is a comprehensive scholarly work that allows students to investigate a topic in depth, expand on existing research, and demonstrate their ability to develop and defend a coherent argument.

In the MSc in Journalism and New Media program, students are expected to produce original research as part of their thesis. The master's thesis is undertaken during the third semester of the program and carries 30 ECTS credits. The dissertation is produced after the approval of the suggested title for the dissertation and the appointment of the supervisor by the Steering Committee. The dissertation is to be no shorter than 15,000 words, and 10,000 words in case it is accompanied by audio-visual material and includes a theoretical and research part.

Each thesis is evaluated by a three-member examination committee, which includes the supervisor. Students are required to propose a potential supervisor by the end of their second semester. At the beginning of the third semester, they must submit a research area proposal and a summary of their intended thesis to the program secretary for approval by the Program Board.

ARTICLE 7. DISTANCE LEARNING

7.1 The educational process of the MSc program may also be organized using modern distance learning methods. This applies to courses and educational activities that, by their nature, can be effectively supported through distance learning and do not involve practical, laboratory, or clinical training requiring the physical presence of students.

7.2 Permitted Uses & Technical Support Modern distance learning methods may be employed in the following cases:

- In situations of force majeure or emergency circumstances where in-person instruction or the use of NKUA infrastructure for educational,

research, or other activities is not feasible.

- For the organization of in-depth courses and tutorial exercises beyond the compulsory teaching hours per course.

The Digital Governance Unit of NKUA is responsible for supporting the distance learning process and for addressing matters related to the protection of personal data.

7.3 The NKUA maintains an electronic platform accessible to persons with disabilities, through which asynchronous distance learning services are provided. Educational material for each course—including notes, presentations, exercises, suggested solutions, and video-recorded lectures—may be posted on the platform, provided that applicable personal data protection legislation is observed. All materials are made available exclusively for the educational use of students and are protected under Law 2121/1993 (A' 25), where applicable.

ARTICLE 8. EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

8.1 The academic year is divided into two semesters, fall and spring, each consisting of at least thirteen (13) weeks of teaching and three (3) weeks of examinations. Courses from both semesters are re-examined during the September exam period.

8.2 In cases where a course session cannot take place, a replacement session is scheduled. The date and time of the replacement session are posted on the MSc website and the e-class of the particular course.

8.3 Attendance at courses, workshops, etc., is compulsory. A postgraduate student is considered to have attended a course (and thus has the right to participate in examinations) only if they have attended at least 75% of the course hours. Otherwise, they must retake the course in the following academic year. This issue is reviewed by the Steering Committee, which provides recommendations to the School or Department Assembly.

8.4 Postgraduate students and their performance in each course they are obliged to attend in this Postgraduate Programme are assessed at the end of each semester through written or oral examinations, assignments throughout the semester, or through midterms, written assignments, exercises, or a combination of these methods. The instructor of each course determines the assessment method. During written or oral exams, when used as assessment methods, the integrity of the examination process must be ensured. Grading is on a scale of 0 to 10. Examination results are announced by the instructor and submitted to the MSc Secretariat within four (4) weeks after the examination at the latest. If an instructor repeatedly exceeds this deadline, the MSc Director informs the School or Department Assembly accordingly.

8.5 The percentage contribution of the laboratory exercises, assignments, and seminars to the final grade for each course is determined separately for each

course, following a recommendation by the instructor of each course in the M.Sc. program.

8.6 In cases of emergency or force majeure, alternative assessment methods, such as online written or oral examinations, may be implemented, provided that the integrity of the assessment process is ensured.

8.7 Alternative assessment methods may be applied for students with disabilities or special educational needs, upon a decision by the Steering Committee and recommendations from the University Accessibility Committee, while taking into consideration the relevant guidelines provided by the Unit for the Accessibility of Students with disabilities.

8.8 The assessment of students in Postgraduate Programmes that are organised with distance learning methods can be examined remotely, provided the integrity of the assessment process is ensured.

8.9 In cases of illness or recovery from serious illness, instructors are encouraged to facilitate students as appropriate, such as by allowing oral remote examinations. During oral examinations, the instructor ensures they are not alone with the examinee.

8.10 If a student fails a course, they must retake it. However, successfully completed laboratory or practical exercises are retained and do not need to be repeated.

8.11 Grade adjustments are permitted in cases of obvious miscalculations or numerical errors, subject to a written request from the instructor and approval by the Department Assembly.

8.12 If a student fails the same course more than three (3) times, the procedure defined by the applicable legislation is followed.

8.13 The written examination papers must be kept under the responsibility of the course instructor for two (2) years. After this period, the papers cease to be valid, and with the responsibility of the Assembly, a relevant protocol is drawn up, and the papers are destroyed—unless there is an ongoing legal, disciplinary, or other administrative procedure.

8.14 To calculate the final degree, the weight of each course in the curriculum is taken into account, expressed in terms of the number of ECTS credit units. The number of ECTS units assigned to a course also serves as its weighing factor. The final grade is calculated by multiplying the grade of each course by the corresponding number of ECTS units for that course. The total sum of these weighted products is then divided by the total number of ECTS units required for the degree. This calculation is expressed by the following formula:

$$\text{Degree grade} = (\sum_{k=1}^N \text{CG}_k * \text{CU}_k) / \text{CUT}$$

where:

N = number of courses required for obtaining the degree

CG_k = grade of course k

CU_k = credit units (ECTS) of course k

CUT = total credit units (ECTS) required for obtaining the degree (90 in this case)

For obtaining the Master's degree, each student has to attend and successfully be examined in all compulsory courses and the required selective courses offered by the Postgraduate Programme and submit their dissertation, thus collecting ninety (90) ECTS.

ARTICLE 9. POSTGRADUATE DISSERTATION

9.1. The dissertation can be assigned after all programme courses have been completed and successfully examined.

9.2 The dissertation must be individual, original, of a research nature and written in accordance with the writing guidelines posted on the website of each Postgraduate Programme.

9.3. Following an application by the candidate, in which the proposed title of the dissertation, the supervisor and an abstract of the proposed dissertation are indicated, the Assembly appoints the supervisor of the dissertation and forms the three-member examination committee for the approval of the dissertation, one of whose members is the supervisor. The language of the postgraduate dissertation may be English or Greek and shall be specified along with the definition of the topic.

9.4 The title of the dissertation may be finalised upon application by the student and the agreement of the supervisor to the Steering Committee of the MSc. The application must also include a justification for this change.

9.5 In order for the dissertation to be approved, the student must defend it before the three- member examination committee.

9.6 The Supervisor and the members of the three-member examination committee for the postgraduate dissertation are appointed from the categories below who have undertaken instructional work in the MSc:

a) members of teaching and research staff, of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or another Higher Educational Institution or a Higher Military Educational Institution, with additional employment beyond their legal obligations, if the Postgraduate Programme has tuition fees,

b) Professors Emeritus or retired members of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or other Higher Education Institutions,

- c) associate professors,
- d) appointed instructors,
- e) visiting professors or visiting researchers,
- f) researchers and special functional scientists of research and technological institutions mentioned in Article 13A of Law No. 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centres and institutes of the country or abroad.

By decision of the Assembly, the supervision of dissertations may also be assigned to members of Teaching and Research Staff, of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff, who have not undertaken teaching work in the Postgraduate Programme.

9.7. Postgraduate dissertations, after they are approved by the examination committee, must be posted on the Digital Repository “PERGAMOS”, according to the decisions of the NKUA’s Senate.

9.8 If the postgraduate dissertation contains original results that have not been published, only the abstracts may be published on the website upon request of the supervisor, which is co-signed by the postgraduate student, and the full text may be published later.

9.9 Upon evaluation of a student's master's thesis, the three-member examination committee may take one of the following actions: (1) Minor Corrections: The committee may request minor corrections to the thesis. In this case, the student must submit the revised thesis within 20 days. Following the resubmission, the supervisor conducts a re-check. If the supervisor confirms that the corrections have been satisfactorily implemented, the committee submits the final grade to the Secretariat without requiring a new examination. (2) Major Corrections: The committee may request major corrections to the thesis. The student must then submit the revised thesis within 45 days. Following this deadline, a re-examination of the corrected thesis is scheduled at a reasonable date. If the student fails to respond successfully to the requested revisions, the three-member examination committee may issue a reasoned recommendation for the student's expulsion, which is then subject to a decision by the Department Assembly. (2) Rejection: The committee may reject the thesis and recommend to the Department Assembly that the student be expelled from the program.

ARTICLE 10. POSTGRADUATE STUDENT RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

10.1 Postgraduate students are entitled to all rights and benefits provided for undergraduate students until the end of a possible granted extension of studies, apart from the right to obtain course books free of charge.

10.2 The Institution secures accessibility to suggested course books and teaching to students with disabilities and/or special educational needs

(<https://access.uoa.gr/>).

10.3 The NKUA's Career Office offers advisory support to students in terms of studies and employment opportunities (<https://www.career.uoa.gr/ypiresies/>).

10.4 Postgraduate students are expected to participate in and attend seminars by research groups, discussions on information on literature, laboratory visits, conferences/meetings on subject matters relevant to the subject of the Postgraduate Programme, lectures, or other scientific events and activities organised by the Postgraduate Programme, etc.

10.5 The Assembly of the Department of Communication and Media Studies, after the suggestion of the Steering Committee, can decide to terminate a postgraduate student, if:

- they exceed the maximum allowed absences,
- they have failed the exam of a course or courses and have not successfully completed the programme, according to what is stipulated in the Programme Regulation,
- they exceed the maximum duration of studies at the Postgraduate Programme, as stipulated in the present Regulation,
- they have violated the provisions in force, concerning the handling of disciplinary offences by the competent disciplinary bodies,
- they do not pay the tuition fees,
- they submit a request for their termination themselves,
- they have violated the Code of Research Ethics, which is posted in the MSc website.

10.6 In case a postgraduate student is terminated from the Postgraduate Programme, they can apply for receiving a certification for the courses they have successfully completed.

10.7 NKUA postgraduate students can enroll in a Postgraduate Programme of the same or another Higher Education Institution in Greece or abroad, in the framework of educational or research cooperation programmes, according to the legal framework in force.

10.8 Students can simultaneously attend an undergraduate programme and a Postgraduate Programme or two (2) Postgraduate Programmes of the same or different Department of the same or different Higher Education Institution.

10.9 At the end of each semester each course and each teaching professor/instructor is evaluated by the students (see Article 17).

10.10 Postgraduate students can apply for a diploma supplement both in Greek and English.

10.11 For their participation in MSc "Journalism and New Media" postgraduate students are required to pay tuition fees, which are 800 euros per semester. Tuition fees are paid at the beginning of each semester. Upon completion of registration and payment of tuition fees for any given semester, no refund shall

be issued under any circumstances.

ARTICLE 11. EXEMPTION FROM TUITION FEES

11.1. Postgraduate students can be exempt from tuition fees if they are eligible based on financial or social criteria and excellence requirements during their undergraduate studies, according to the legal framework in force. They can only be exempt for their participation in one Postgraduate Programme. In any case, the exempted students shall not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total number of students admitted to the MSc per academic year.

11.2 The application for exemption from tuition fees shall be submitted after the completion of the selection process of the students of the MSc. The financial status of a candidate shall in no case be a reason for not being selected for a Postgraduate Programme.

11.3 Those who receive a scholarship from another source are not entitled to exemption, nor are citizens of countries outside the EU.

11.4 The examination of the criteria for exemption from tuition fees is carried out by the Departmental Assembly and a justified decision is issued on the acceptance or rejection of the application.

11.5 If the current legislation sets an age criterion, it is recommended, for reasons of good administration and equal treatment, that the date of birth of students be considered as the 31st of December of the year of birth.

11.6 Members of the categories of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff, who are admitted as on top of the maximum number of students in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of this decision, shall be exempted from payment of tuition fees.

11.7 In case members of the same family (up to relatives of the second degree) or by blood or affinity study simultaneously in a Postgraduate Programme of the Institution, there is the possibility to provide a 50% reduction in the tuition fees.

ARTICLE 12. INFRASTRUCTURE AND FUNDING OF THE PROGRAMME

12.1 For the smooth operation of the MSc program, the following facilities of the Department of Communication and Mass Media (EMME) are made available: classrooms and seminar rooms, lecture halls equipped with audiovisual media, and laboratory facilities.

12.2 Administrative and secretarial support for the MSc program is provided by the Secretariat of the Department of Communication and Media Studies (EMME).

12.3 The funding of the Postgraduate Program may come from the following sources:

- a) tuition fees,
- b) donations, sponsorships, and financial support of any kind,

- c) bequests,
- d) resources from research projects or programs,
- e) the Higher Education Institution's (HEI) own resources,
- f) the state budget or public investment program, and
- g) any other legal source.

12.4 Tuition fees are paid either by the student personally or by a third party (natural or legal person) on behalf of the student, provided that this is stipulated in the decision establishing the MSc program.

12.5 All financial resources of the Postgraduate Studies Programs of the Higher Education Institution are managed by the Special Research Fund Account (ELKE) of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

12.6 The resources of the Postgraduate Studies Program are allocated as follows:

a) An amount corresponding to thirty percent (30%) of the total revenue from tuition fees is retained by the Special Research Fund Account (ELKE). This percentage includes the withholding applied in favor of the Research Fund for the financial management of the Postgraduate Studies Program. In cases where revenue derives from donations, sponsorships, financial support of any kind, bequests, or resources from research projects or programs, the applicable ELKE withholding rate for the corresponding funding source is applied.

b) The remaining amount of the total income of the MSc program is allocated to cover its operating expenses.

ARTICLE 13. ASSIGNMENT OF TEACHING WORK/MSc INSTRUCTORS

13.1 The teaching work in Postgraduate Programmes is assigned, upon decision by the Assembly, to the following categories of instructors:

- a) members of teaching and research staff, of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or another Higher Educational Institution or a Higher Military Educational Institution, with additional employment beyond their legal obligations, if the Postgraduate Programme has tuition fees,
- b) Professors Emeritus or retired members of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or other Higher Education Institutions,
- c) associate professors,
- d) appointed instructors,
- e) visiting professors or visiting researchers,
- f) researchers and special functional scientists of research and technological institutions mentioned in Article 13A of Law No. 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centres and institutes of the country or abroad.

13.2 All instructor/teaching staff categories can be compensated exclusively by the MSc own resources. The compensation or provision of any benefits by the state budget or the state investment programme is not allowed. Upon decision by the Department Assembly, the

amount due to each instructor is determined. Specifically, instructors who are members of the Teaching and Research Staff can be also compensated for work they provide to the MSc, as long as they fulfill the minimum obligations provided by law, as stipulated in Paragraph 2 of Article 155 of Law 4957/2022. The last passage is applied in proportion for members of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff, as long as they fulfill the minimum obligations provided by law.

13.3 By decision of the Assembly of the Department, doctoral candidates of the Department may be assigned auxiliary teaching work under the supervision of an instructor of the MSc.

13.4 The assignment of the teaching work of the MSc is carried out by decision of the Assembly of the Department, following the recommendation of the Steering Committee of the MSc.

The decisions of the Department Assembly on the allocation of the teaching work must include the following elements:

- a) the full name of the instructor,
- b) the title of the instructor (e.g., member of Teaching and Research Staff, Special Teaching Staff, Laboratory Teaching Staff, Special Technical Laboratory Staff, etc.)
- (a) the type of teaching assignment per instructor (course, seminar or workshop),
- (b) the number of teaching hours per course, seminar or workshop.

13.5 The allocation of teaching work shall be carried out before the beginning of the academic year for both the fall and spring semesters. If the allocation of teaching work cannot be carried out simultaneously for both academic semesters, the decision will be taken before the beginning of each academic semester. By a justified decision of the Department Assembly, the assignment of teaching work may be modified during the academic year.

13.6 Instructors/lectures may, during the period of their sabbatical leave or suspension, provide teaching work for the MSc, if they consider that their schedule allows it, provided of course that under the circumstances this is essentially and practically feasible, a matter to be decided by the competent bodies on a case-by-case basis.

ARTICLE 14. AWARD OF MASTER'S DEGREE

14.1 The student completes the studies for the award of the Master's Degree

by completing the minimum number of courses and credits required for the award of the MSc, as well as the successful completion of the postgraduate dissertation. The Assembly determines the completion of the studies in order to award the Master's Degree.

14.2 Upon completion of the above procedure, the postgraduate student is issued a certificate of completion of studies, loses their student status and ceases to participate in the collective bodies of the University's administration.

14.3 The Master's degree certifies the successful completion of studies and indicates a grade, up to two decimal places, according to the following scale: Excellent (8.5 to 10), Very Good (6.5 to 8.49) and Good (5 to 6.49).

14.4 The type of the Master's Degree by Postgraduate Programme is common for all Departments and Schools of the NKUA and is included in the Regulation for Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies of the Institution.

14.5 The Postgraduate Programme leads to the award of the Master's Degree with the title "MSc in Journalism and New Media".

ARTICLE 15. GRADUATION CEREMONY

15.1 The graduation oath ceremony is not a constituent element of successful completion of the course of study, but it is a necessary condition for the award of the degree. The ceremony takes place at the Communication and Media Studies Department Assembly and in the presence of the Director of the MSc, the Chair of the Department or their Deputy and, where possible, a representative of the Rector.

15.2 At request for a postgraduate student graduation ceremony in the Great Ceremonial Hall of the Main Building shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Rector, based on an assessment of the capabilities and the number of those to be sworn in, to be declared by the Secretariat of the MSc to the Directorate of Education and Research.

15.3 Postgraduate students who have successfully completed the MSc, in exceptional cases (studies, residence or work abroad, health reasons, etc.), may apply to the School/Department Secretariat for an exemption from the obligation to take part in the ceremony. Exemption from the obligation to participate in the ceremony is approved by the President of the School/Department and the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Student Affairs.

ARTICLE 16. EVALUATION OF THE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

16.1 Evaluation by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education

The Postgraduate Programme is evaluated as part of the periodic evaluation/certification of the Department organised by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE). In this context, the overall assessment of the work performed by each Postgraduate Programme is evaluated, the degree of fulfilment of the objectives set at the time of its establishment, its sustainability, the absorption of graduates in the job market, the degree of its contribution to research, its internal evaluation by postgraduate students, the feasibility of extending its operation, as well as other elements relating to the quality of the work produced and its contribution to the national strategy for higher education.

If, at the stage of its evaluation, the Postgraduate Programme is deemed not to meet the conditions for its continued operation, it shall continue to operate until the graduation of the students already enrolled in accordance with the resolution for its establishment and the regulations for postgraduate and doctoral programmes.

16.2 Internal evaluation

The internal evaluation of the Postgraduate Programmes is carried out on an annual basis by the Quality Assurance Unit (QAU) of the Institution. All those involved in the implementation of the actions and activities of the Postgraduate Programme participate in the internal evaluation process, and more specifically, the students, the members of the teaching staff, the administrative and technical support staff, and the members of the Steering Committee of the Postgraduate Programme.

The internal evaluation process is carried out in accordance with the applicable legislation, the Internal Quality Assurance System of the Institution, the guidelines and standards of the HAHE.

The internal evaluation of the Postgraduate Programmes includes the assessment of the teaching work, as well as all academic functions and activities of the MSc.

More specifically, the following are evaluated:

(a) the content of the Curriculum in accordance with the most recent research in the specific subject area of the Postgraduate Programme, to ensure the contemporary character of the Postgraduate Programme,

b) the course workload, as well as the progress and completion of postgraduate studies by the students,

(c) the degree to which students' expectations of the programme of study, the study support services offered, and the learning environment are satisfied,

d) the courses of the Programme per semester through questionnaires completed by the students of the Postgraduate Programme.

The results of the evaluation are communicated to the Department Assembly and aim at the sustainability of the Programme, the high level of studies, the improvement of its services and the efficiency of its instructors. The Steering Committee examines and analyses the results of the internal evaluation of the courses and takes the necessary corrective actions to improve the level of studies.

ARTICLE 17. DURATION OF THE OPERATION OF THE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

The Postgraduate Programme will operate until the academic year 2035-36 provided that it meets the criteria of internal and external evaluation, in accordance with the legislation in force.

ARTICLE 18. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Students already enrolled shall complete their studies in accordance with the regulations in force in the year of their admission to the Postgraduate Programme. They shall otherwise complete their studies in accordance with this Regulation.

For issues not defined in the applicable legislation, in the Regulations for Postgraduate and Doctoral Dissertations of the NKUA, or in this Regulation, the bodies of the Postgraduate Programme are competent to decide.