

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΔΗΜΟΚΡΕΤΕΙΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ
ΘΡΑΚΗΣ
ΣΧΟΛΗ ΚΛΑΣΙΚΩΝ ΚΑΙ
ΑΝΘΡΩΠΙΣΤΙΚΩΝ ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ
ΤΜΗΜΑ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗΣ ΦΙΛΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE
SCHOOL OF CLASSICS & HUMANITIES
STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF GREEK PHILOLOGY

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QUALITY POLICY STATEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GREEK PHILOLOGY

The Department of Greek Philology (D.G.Ph.), in co-operation with the Quality Assurance Unit (MO.DI.P.) of Democritus University of Thrace (D.U.TH.) and the responsible services of the Institution has attuned the Quality Policy of the Undergraduate Programme of Studies (U.P.S.) to the Quality Policy of the Democritus University of Thrace.

Mission

The mission of the Department of Greek Philology is:

- a) to study and investigate the ancient Greek and Roman, Byzantine and Modern Greek world, as reflected in written philological or literary records, sources and texts,
- b) to study and investigate the various diachronic manifestations of Greek culture and intellectual life,
- c) to provide its graduates with the theoretical grounding and practical training for their scholarly advancement and professional career and to cultivate innovative skills which will enable them to efficiently respond to the current challenges in the job market, presenting them with alternative perspectives.

Vision

The Department's vision includes:

- a) the Department's compliance with the model of contemporary University Departments responsive to the needs of society, cultivating respect for diversity and adding value to the society,
- b) the reinforcement of the Department's extrovert character by regularly organizing international conferences and inviting renowned scientists from Greece and abroad, to offer lectures open to public, which provide, on the one hand, the **undergraduate and postgraduate students** with the opportunity to meet internationally acclaimed scientists and learn, by attending the lectures in person or online, about modern theoretical approaches or innovative projects, and, on the other hand, the **members of the Teaching Staff** of the Department with the opportunity to develop a fertile scientific dialogue with members of the academic community who are on the forefront of scientific research areas that interest the Department; to be informed about new trends in the field of philology and linguistics; to present their own distinguished research; to promote the Department's achievements and its contribution in contemporary science of philology and linguistics,
- c) the improvement of the Department's international status through supporting the research conducted by its members of staff, and their publications in journals with high impact factor,
- d) the strengthening of the ties between the Department and the local community and the majority and minority groups it comprises, through developing networks of co-operation with local sectors that contribute in the management of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the area,
- e) the reinforcement of teachers and students, by creating appropriate teaching and learning environments, compliant with contemporary conditions and demands,
- f) the adoption of new forms of knowledge attainment and new teaching and learning methods, so that the Department's graduates will become critical thinkers, not simply trained for a future career as educators, but also obtain skills that will ensure alternative professional prospects, even beyond

traditional teaching positions (connection between university studies and labour market).

For the implementation of the aforementioned, the Department puts into effect a Quality Assurance Policy, which fully complies with the Institutional Quality Policy, is inspected and reviewed annually in cooperation with the Institution's Quality Assurance Unit (MO.DI.P.), and is formulated as a Policy Statement. Under the Policy Statement, the Department is committed to constantly ensure its high quality educational, scientific, research and administrative work, in accordance with the international quality assurance standards and good practices in the European Higher Education Area (E.X.A.E.) and the guidelines provided by the Hellenic Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (A.DI.P.), within the framework of the standing legislation. More specifically, the quality commitment is accomplished by the following:

Content of Studies

By considering and perusing the Programmes of Studies of other Departments of Philology in Greece and abroad, the Department of Greek Philology has adopted a reviewed student-centred Undergraduate Programme of Studies (U.P.S.). The Department's U.P.S. is based on common learning outcomes of corresponding departments, embracing the idea of the Tuning Programme; these are actualised through a core of 20 A' Zone compulsory courses, which define the basic knowledge, skills and competences (generic and subject specific) that every graduate of a corresponding department must have (common with the Programmes of Studies of corresponding departments), and a second core of 20 B' Zone subject compulsory or elective courses, which include Student Traineeship, seminars, voluntary work, activities beyond the University, participation in conferences, etc., which students can select according to the skills and abilities they aspire to acquire and enhance, in order to further specialise in one of the three specialisations offered by the Department: Classics, Byzantine and Modern Greek Philology, and Linguistics.

The essence of selection here is substantial, because the students may select, based on their interests, their learning profile or motivation, the B' Zone courses either:

- a) exclusively from their own specialisation, thus they can acquire a strong knowledge-and-skills background in one of the three specialisations offered by the Department, or
- b) they can select 12 courses of their own specialisation (main specialisation) and the other 8 courses from another specialisation (secondary specialisation) or other fields of study (pedagogy, history, archaeology, etc.), acquiring a more spherical knowledge.

In parallel, the Department:

- has adopted the ECTS Credit System,
- provides for formative evaluation in a significant number of courses,
- puts in practice experiential learning methods,
- applies various learning models according to students' needs,
- posts course outlines for all taught courses, which include the 13-classes' titles and precisely delineate additional activities and their proportionate ECTS credits (exercises and other student work, formative evaluation, laboratories, student activities beyond class, etc.),
- since 2018, provides the Diploma Supplement.

Finally, since the academic year 2014-2015 there has been running the Department's Colloquium, which is open to both undergraduate and postgraduate students and promotes the academic osmosis of the Department's Teaching and Research Staff (D.E.P.) with members of Teaching and Research Staff of both other Departments of the School of Classics and Humanities, to which the Department belongs, and other Universities in Greece and abroad.

Services

Apart from the above, the Department of Greek Philology has adopted and applied a new organizational approach which includes procedures for Quality Assurance, such as committee services (OM.E.A., Programme of Studies committee, Student Traineeship committee, Research committee, Erasmus committee), computerisation of the Department, document standardization, procedure adaptation (e.g. internal regulations of all funding resources, systematic control of logistics infrastructure, definition of the procedure for the completion of lecture quota, regulations for Student Traineeship, exams, Colloquium, student international mobility selection), fixed General Assembly dates, open procedures in the ratification of the General Assembly minutes.

Next, it has adopted practices of the strengthening of the Department's democratic functioning (accountability and transparency of reports, five-year strategic plan ratified by the General Assembly, institution building, etc.).

Finally, it has logistics infrastructure (classroom equipment, audio-visual means, wireless Internet access) which is constantly updated with the financial means provided by the central University administration. At the same time, our students benefit from the central Institution structures, such as Student Advisory Service, Student counselling service, Accessibility Unit for students with disabilities, etc.

Strategic planning

The Department has a strategy plan, approved by the General Assembly for:

- a) The ongoing research 1) through the Department research committee which is responsible for the mapping of the teaching staff members' research interests so that synergies among the staff members of the Department, the Faculty, other faculties of the Democritus University of Thrace as well as other national and international academic institutions emerge and 2) the activities of its four Research Laboratories run by the teaching staff members, specialized teaching,

laboratory and technical staff, doctoral candidates, post- and under-graduate students. The research laboratories also constitute a link between research and student traineeship.

- b) Enhancement and upgrading of human resources
- c) Its organization structures, infrastructure and services
- d) Its Programme of Studies

At the same time, its strategic aims are in line with those of the University and they include:

1. Reinforcement/upgrading of teaching
2. Reinforcement/upgrading of research and innovation
3. Improvement of the amount and absorption of financing
4. Reinforcement/upgrading of human resources
5. Reinforcement/upgrading and improvement of the Department facilities and services management