



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΙΑΣ

**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT
SCIENCE**

**INTERDEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMME OF
POSTGRADUATE STUDIES
MSc in Lifestyle Medicine**

M1.1

Quality policy of the academic unit for the
development and improvement of the
Master's Programme.



2024

Introduction

Quality assurance in Higher Education is a main target of the European Education Area in which Greece participates since 2005 (Law 3374/2005). A main aim to foster quality assurance is that each University assumes responsibility towards their students and the society to provide high quality education and research.

The University of Thessaly (UTH) has instigated and operates a Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP) according to article 14, Law 4009/2011. MODIP is the central unit to coordinate and support the quality assurance processes of UTh via its Internal System of Quality Assurance (ESDP). ESPD aims to cultivate a culture of quality within the academic society in order (for its members) to be able to transfer knowledge via effective teaching and to produce high quality know how via innovative research (as described in the website of MODIP of UTh ΜΟΔΙΠ).


Among other, MODIP aims in further improving the quality indices of the academic and administrative units of the University, in providing motivation for attracting scientists of high calibre and international recognition, of promoting excellence and in improving overall the ranking of the Academic Units individually and of the University of Thessaly overall. That is why MODIP was instigated and functions along with Departmental Teams of Internal Evaluation (OMEA), at each department, that have undertaken the internal process of evaluation and submit to MODIP of UTh their annual evaluation reports. Following that MODIP approves of the Four-year Reports of Internal Evaluation of the departments and submits them to the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE), while in parallel it submits to the Rector's Council the Internal Self-Evaluation Report of the UTh every two years for their information.

Quality policy of the IPPS for the development and improvement of the Master's Programme of Studies

The Quality Policy of the IPPS MSc in Lifestyle Medicine of the University of Thessaly has as a central axis the development and maintenance of a culture of quality within the academic community in order to viably achieve its educational targets in excellence, the promotion of new knowledge and innovation in research, interdisciplinarity, internationalization, and the interaction with the society at large. The Program's Policy is harmonized with the strategic operational plan of MODIP and the directives of the ESDP of the University of Thessaly.

Within the context of developing and implementing the Quality Policy, the OMEA team, in collaboration with the programme's team is activated to satisfy the objectives for the implementation of the policy of quality for the IPPS and to delineate the means/mechanisms for their achievement.

The main objective is the application of processes that target and prove:

-  the appropriateness of the structure and organization of the Interdepartmental Programme of Postgraduate Studies (IPPS)

- 📌 the determination and effort to achieve learning outcomes and qualifications in accordance with the European and National Higher Education Qualifications Framework
- 📌 the continuous improvement of the quality and effectiveness of the teaching work and the support of its evaluation by the IPPS students
- 📌 the appropriateness of the qualifications of the faculty of the IPSS
- 📌 the academic fulfilment of the students
- 📌 the development, application and review of specialized quality targets for the improvement of the IPPS
- 📌 the level of demand for the specific attributes of the graduates in the work field/market
- 📌 the quality of support services such as administrative services, libraries and student welfare services for this IPPS
- 📌 the effective use of financial income of the IPSS that might incur from tuition fees of other sources
- 📌 the implementation of the annual departmental internal evaluation exercise and the reviewing of the system for quality assurance for post-graduate programmes in collaboration with the departmental OMEA team and the institutional MODIP team
- 📌 securing the academic freedom in teaching and research and of freedom of expression and the free movement of ideas
- 📌 the compilation and implementation of guidelines at all levels
- 📌 the promotion of quality and quantity of research work by the members of the academic unit
- 📌 public communication about the educational and overall academic activities of the IPSS
- 📌 the promotion of ways to connect teaching with research and the interaction with third parties and the society

The quality policy of the IPPS is communicated and implemented with the participation of faculty members, other teaching staff, administrative staff and students. The quality policy of the department (and of this IPPS) is discussed in the Assembly and is reported to the Institution's MODIP. The pledge of applying the Quality Policy is communicated to the academic unit's members via its inclusion in the departmental website. Moreover it is discussed during the assembly as regarding the fulfilment of the quality targets for the postgraduate programmes.

The basic text of the departmental Quality Policy and the internal evaluation reports by MODIP, the Study Programme Guide of the IPPS, the Programme Regulations Guide, the departmental/University Postgraduate Studies Regulations, the Academic Advisor Regulations, and the Regulations for the management of complaints or objections by students, are available via the departmental website and /or the IPPS's site. Moreover, new students are informed about their Postgraduate Programme of Study at the start of their academic year. This induction event is implemented by the Director of the programme in the presence of faculty members. The induction event includes information of the Study Guide, the rights and obligations of students, the evaluation and the grading of modules, the implementation of the Thesis, and the requirements for the conferment of the MSc degree.

The quality policy of the IPPS is available in the website of the programme in the following link:

<https://>