

**Quality Assurance Policy for the Joint MA Program “Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture” implemented by the Department of Theology, the Department of Educational Studies and the Faculty of Philology of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and the European Wergeland Centre (EWC)**

NKUA’s Joint MA Program "Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture" is implemented thanks to the cooperation of the Departments of Theology (expedient), Department of Educational Studies and the Faculty of Philology of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and the European Wergeland Centre, with the aim of providing high quality post-graduate specialization. The cooperating Departments and by extension the MA Programme comply to the fullest with the NKUA’s Quality Assurance Policy, offering high-standard postgraduate education both in Greek and in English. All the Departments involved are committed to providing high-quality Greek and English-language higher education to the students who choose it, organizing and implementing Master's Degree Programs of high academic standards and significant added value in the most important sectors and fields of the Sciences concerned. In addition, the collaborating Departments seek to develop a creative environment of research, free scientific expression and work for all staff and members of its academic community.

**The collaborating Departments and the EWC are committed to the implementation of this quality assurance policy, in all the postgraduate study programs they offer and will offer in the future,** implementing the quality procedures provided for by the Foundation's ESDP, having as their ultimate aim their continuous improvement. Through this Quality Assurance Policy, the academic profile and orientation of postgraduate study programs is strengthened, their purpose and object is promoted, as well as the implementation of specific goals set each year. In addition, the means and methods of achieving the aforementioned aims are designated and the participation of the relevant parties in their evaluation and redesigning processes is ensured.

In particular, for the implementation of this policy, the collaborating Departments of the MA Programme "Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture" are committed to implementing the quality assurance processes/procedures that are foreseen and analyzed in the Assurance Quality Manual of the Institute’s ESDP, and are applied at the Curricula of the Departments with required individualized processes provisioned for this particular MA Programme in close cooperation with the University's Quality Assurance Unit (MO.D.I.P). All quality assurance procedures of the MA Programme are subject to inspection, review and revision, which are carried out on an annual basis by the OMEA, which will be formed by representatives of the collaborating departments in collaboration with the Institute’s MO.D.I.P. These processes are applied to monitor and continuously improve the quality of the Master's Programs. The processes include:

The implementation of the Quality Assurance Policy in the MA Program, which includes specific quality assurance actions, with the aim of creating a framework within which the Postgraduate Programs operate.

**The MA Program’s allocation and management of resources** through processes aimed at creating a suitable environment for the achievement of the Institute’s objectives by ensuring the required resources such as necessary personnel, financing, infrastructure and equipment are available. This aims at the operation and continuous improvement of the effectiveness of the MA Program in terms of achievement of the quality objectives it has set.

**The designation of Quality Assurance Objectives on an annual basis** set by the MA Program. The objectives are selected after consultation and agreement between the Departments and the MA Program, they are specific, measurable and directly observable annual quantitative and qualitative objectives, which are evaluated by specific indicators. The achievement of these objectives is considered of decisive importance for improving the MA Program's internal operations efficiency.

**The MA Program's annual Periodic Internal Evaluation and Monitoring in collaboration and with the support of the Institute's MO.DI.P.** In all MA Programs, an internal evaluation and assessment of all the processes implemented is carried out. Through the identification of specific issues and the implementation of the corrective actions agreed jointly with the MO.DI.P, the MA Programs are improved by achieving the designated objectives.

**The Quality Data Collection: measurement, analysis and improvement of the MA Program.** Effective procedures for the collection and analysis of information related to MA Programs (e.g. data on students, teaching staff, the structure and organization of courses, etc.) are applied. These are fed with data from the OPESP information system of HAHE, as well as from internal information systems of the Departments and the Institute.

**The Publication of Information for the MA Program** on a special bilingual webpage, which is located in a specialized area of the Departments' website aimed at the promotion of the MA Program, with updated content making all information regarding the MA Program accessible for its effective diffusion. Compliance with the above is thoroughly checked.

**The External Evaluation of the MA Program.** A periodic certification process by HAHE (external evaluation by committees of independent experts) is applied to all the Institute's MA Programs.

The implementation of the aforementioned procedures in the Joint MA Program "Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture" will ensure a) the appropriateness of the structure and organization of its Curriculum, b) that the learning outcomes and the resulting qualifications of the MA Program's graduates correspond to the European and National Framework of Higher Education Qualifications level 7, c) the promotion of the quality and effectiveness of the teaching work in the MA Program through its monitoring by the Coordinating Committee, the OMEA, which will be constituted with representatives from the MA's cooperating Departments, the administration of the Department and NKUA's MO.DI.P, d) that the qualifications of the teaching staff and especially of the external collaborators, are suitable for the training of postgraduate students, e) the drafting, implementation and review of specific annual quality objectives for the improvement of the MA Program "Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture", f) the level of demand for the acquired qualifications of the graduates in the labor market, through regular investigations concerning the needs of the labor market and the monitoring the progress of the graduates of the MA Program, g) that the support services provided to the postgraduate students –including high quality Accessibility services for people with Disabilities– meet their needs for effective monitoring, e.g. easily accessible and available administrative services and libraries, online services, scholarships and student care services suitable for the MA Program, h) the efficient utilization of the MA's financial resources derived from tuition fees, in order to provide the necessary services to postgraduate students and to ensure that the operation of the programs in the facilities of the cooperating Departments is facilitated, i) the performance of the annual internal evaluation and review of the

quality assurance system for the MA Program "Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture" with the cooperation of OMEA, which will be formed with representatives from the collaborating Departments and MODIP.

The MA Program "Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture" will focus its attention on the following Quality objectives:

1) The provision of online educational material in order to facilitate Accessibility in postgraduate studies.

2) The Activation of Academic Counseling.

3) The Strengthening of postgraduate students' participation in research processes and in the promotion of research.

4) The further development of mobility and extroversion through the attraction of foreign students to MA Program, as well as instructors from Foreign Institutions.

5) The improvement of the infrastructure and support services of the student community in the MA Program.

6) The further facilitation of the Accessibility for students with disabilities.

7) The promotion of gender equality.