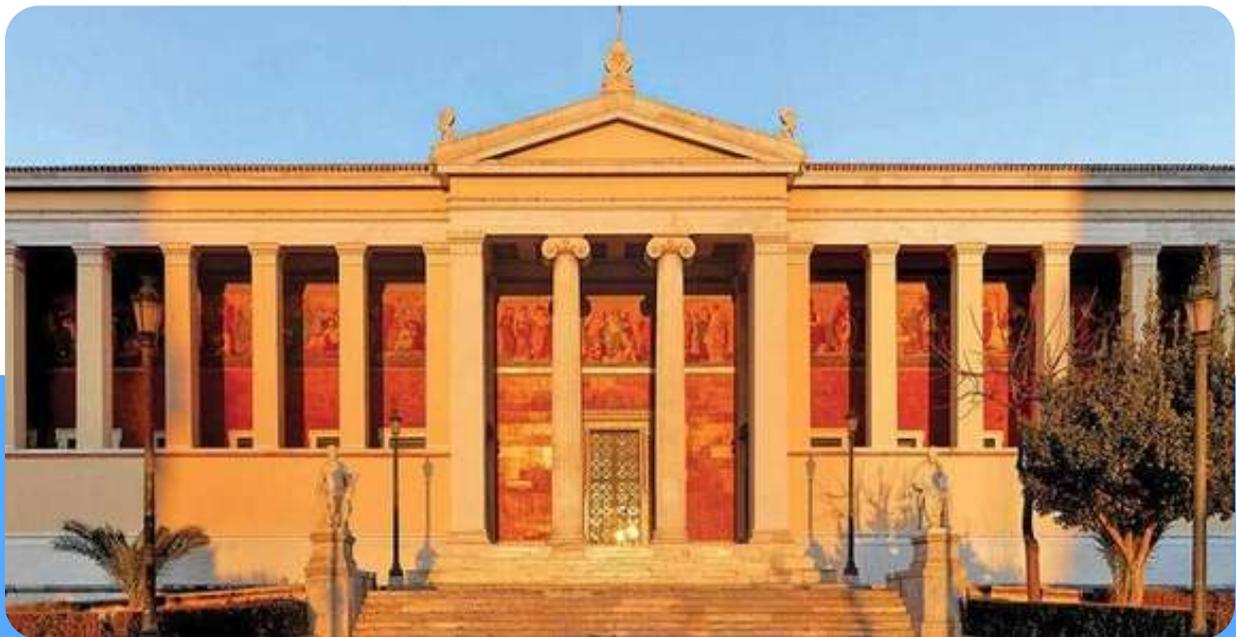


## JOINT MASTER PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

**2026-2027**



## TOP COLLABORATION

### **National and Kapodistrian University of Athens**

Department of Theology (expedient)  
Faculty of Philology &  
Department of Educational Studies

with

### **The European Wergeland Centre**

(Council of Europe and the Norwegian Government)



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

**National and Kapodistrian  
University of Athens**

EST. 1837

THE EUROPEAN  
WERGELAND  
CENTRE



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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# ABOUT US

**Joint Master's Programme  
Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture-  
Study online from anywhere!**

**National and Kapodistrian University of Athens &  
The European Wergeland Centre**

The Joint MA Program: Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture is the new international, fully online Master Program by three Departments of the **National and Kapodistrian University of Athens,**

- **Theology (expedient),**
- **Educational Studies &**
- **Philology**

in collaboration with the **European Wergeland Centre (EWC)** of **the Council of Europe and the Norwegian Government.**

**An innovation in the field of Education both in Greece and abroad!**



# ABOUT US

## The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens:

- The longest standing University in Greece (est. 1837)
- Top Greek University according to international Rankings
- High quality Graduate, Undergraduate and Doctoral Studies
- Commitment to uphold international quality standards in all offered Curricula
- Distinctions of the cooperating Departments in external and internal evaluation processes
- High ranking positions in both global and European rankings.

## Distinction of NKUA in 2024\*:

- number 1 Higher Education Institute in Greece
- 16th place among European Universities
- 89th place globally

\*ανάμεσα σε 5600 Ιδρύματα σύμφωνα με το «Top Universities by Top Google Scholar Citations» της Webometrics.



In addition to the University's overall presence in the global rankings, the Collaborating Departments organizing the MA Program have also received individual especial **distinctions**. All provide certified, high-quality Undergraduate and Master Programs. More specifically, the **Department of Theology** of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, which has undertaken the administrative support of the New Master's Program has reached **the top 140 Departments** in the field of Theology and Religious Studies ( Theology, Divinity, Religious Studies) for two consecutive years, in 2023 & 2024 according to the very important **ranking by subject of the QS Ranking**.

## The European Wergeland Centre:

- is a research center founded by the Council of Europe and the Norwegian Government
- aims at education for intercultural understanding, human rights and democratic citizenship education.
- has played an important role in organizing initiatives and actions in these directions
- participates in and organizes itself research projects that promote Human Rights Education (HRE) and Education for Democratic Citizenship (EDC).

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

## AT A GLANCE

The innovative Master Program "Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture" aims at consolidating Democracy through the training of teachers and trainers of all specialties, formal, informal and non-formal education in the Competences for Democratic Culture. The focus of the educational process is human rights and the processes of identity formation. Pillars of the CPMS are the Reference Framework for Competencies for a Democratic Civilization (RFCDC) (Council of Europe, 2018) and the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals 2030 Agenda. It is a highly innovative program as there is nothing like it at Master level, neither in Greece nor abroad.

**The programme can be completed entirely online from anywhere in the world, without the need to travel to Greece at any point.**

However, students can choose to do hybrid studies if they attend the optional internship in the summer (extra 15 ECTS).

### Why this particular MA Program;

- **One-year** studies in the field of Education (2 semesters with courses + the summer for the master thesis)
- **The programme can be completed entirely online from anywhere in the world, without the need to travel to Greece.**
- Modern experiential, interactive, student-centered teaching methods
- **75 ECTS**
- **Taught entirely in English**
- **Online live interactive classes on Friday and Saturday to cater to working students' needs.**
- Three Specializations:
  - **Religion, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture**
  - **Language, History, and Literature in Education and Competences for Democratic Culture**
  - **Education for Democratic Citizenship (EDC) and Human Rights Education (HRE) and Competences for Democratic Culture**

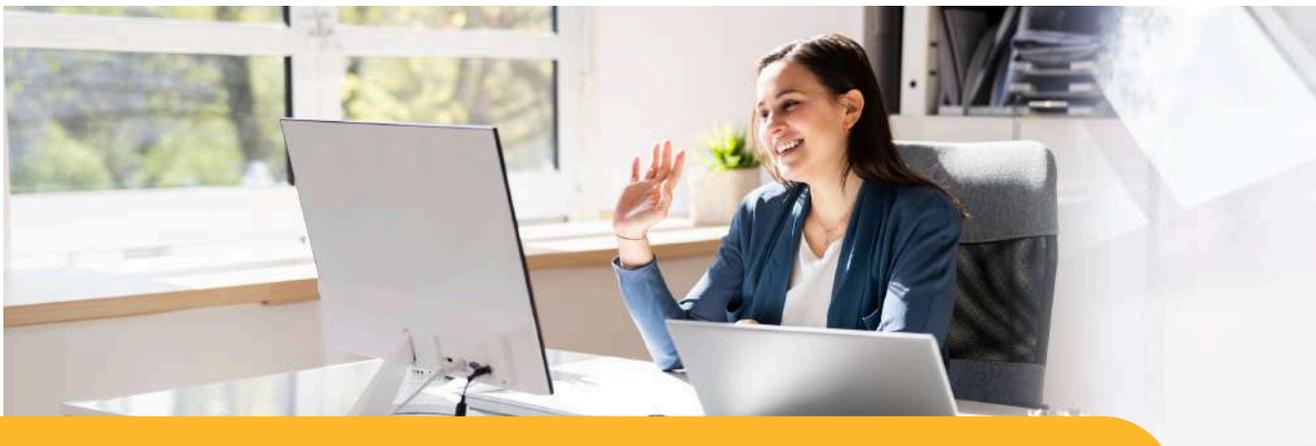
## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

## Additional Information

- **Tuition fees:** 3.400 euros (EU students and Council of Europe students), 5.600 euros (International students)
- **1 Scholarship by the EWC (after registration to the MA Program):** exemption from tuition fees (apart from enrolment fees) (1 per year)
- **Excellence Awards**
- **Optional Internship and summer school**
- **Esteemed professors/instructors** from Greek and International Universities/ Organizations.

Please note that any fees paid to the University are non-refundable. Partial or total refunds cannot take place under no circumstances.



The english MA Program will welcome its first students in the academic year 2026-27. The courses will be taught by distinguished instructors and researchers from various Departments of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Law Department, Preschool Education, Philology, Theology, Educational Studies), other Greek Universities (Aristotle University, Crete), and experts from foreign Institutes (U.S., Scotland, Netherlands, Norway, Ukraine).

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

## Studying at the MA Program

The Master's requires successful completion of coursework (60 ECTS) and a Master Thesis (15 ECTS) for a total of 75 ECTS.

Students must:

- Complete all mandatory courses in their specialization (6 in total)
- Select and complete two elective course (1 per semester)
- Submit and defend their Master's thesis

### Teaching Style and Assessment

- Modern experiential and interactive teaching methods, no passive learning!
- The MA Program is implemented 100% online.
- 75% (10 weeks each semester) with synchronous courses (up to 3 absences available for each course)
- 25% asynchronous study (materials, video lessons students can study at their own pace)
- We are dedicated to a student-centered approach providing support for our students throughout their studies with personalized academic counselling.

### Assessment

- Core courses: 1 short assignments + final online exam
- Electives: final written assignment
- Grading scale: 1–10
- Online exams include oral or written formats via secure university platforms
- All final dissertations are submitted digitally and assessed by a three-member committee.

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# CURRICULUM

Mandatory Courses (common in all specializations):

### 1st Semester:

- Identity and Culture, Diversity, Pluralism and Intercultural Dialogue in Education (9 ECTS)
- Human Rights and Education for Democratic Citizenship – Human Rights Education (9 ECTS)
- Competences for Democratic Culture and Education : Research, Learning theories, and Teaching (teaching practicum) (9 ECTS)

### 2nd Semester:

- Competences for Democratic Culture and Pedagogy: Education and Teaching Methodology (8 ECTS)
- Teaching Controversial Issues Related and Their Management in the Classroom (8 ECTS)
- Research: Methodology and Applications (11 ECTS)

### Specializations:

- Religion, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture
- Language, History, and Literature in Education and Competences for Democratic Culture
- Education for Democratic Citizenship (EDC) and Human Rights Education (HRE) and Competences for Democratic Culture

How do specializations work?

**The mandatory courses are common throughout the specializations. In order to complete a specialization, students are required to choose 2 specialty elective courses (1 per semester). Different courses may be available to choose from each year.**

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

### SPECIALTY COURSES

#### Religion, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture

Elective Specialty Courses (3 ECTS each)  
(differentiated across specializations):

##### 1st Semester (1 out of the options):

- Religions and Human Rights
- The Bible and Democratic Culture
- Orthodox Theology and Democratic Culture
- Teaching about the Holocaust
- Islam and Democratic Culture Competences
- Philosophy of Religion, Public Reason and Democratic Culture
- Cultural Diplomacy and Democratic Culture Project Design for schools/NGOs/municipalities/museums/digital environments
- Individualised and Small-Group Learning Support: Study Skills, Family Engagement and Inclusion

##### 2nd Semester (1 out of all options):

- Contemporary Pedagogical Approaches to Religious Education
- Christianity and Dialogue on Human Freedoms and Religious Diversity
- Religions and the Sustainable Development Goals
- Bioethical Issues in Religious Contexts
- Islamic Education and Democratic Culture
- Contemporary Religious Movements, Worldviews, and Non-Religious Beliefs in Religious Education
- Education, Democracy and Social Cohesion in the Age of Artificial Intelligence
- Religion, Radicalisation, Resilience and Interfaith Peacebuilding
- Digital Applications in Humanities and Social Sciences Teaching and Competences for Democratic Culture

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

### SPECIALTY COURSES

#### Language, History, and Literature in Education and Competences for Democratic Culture

Elective Specialty Courses (3 ECTS each)  
(differentiated across specializations):

##### 1st Semester (1 out of the options):

- Language, Society and Identity
- Intercultural Education and Drama/Theatre in Education
- Identity, Nation and the World in School Education
- Designing Curricula for an "Open" Education
- Teaching Techniques and Assessment in a Democratic Framework
- Teaching about the Holocaust
- Teachers' Personal and Professional Growth and Competences for Democratic Culture
- Individualised and Small-Group Learning Support: Study Skills, Family Engagement and Inclusion

##### 2nd Semester (1 out of all options):

- Hate Speech and Hate Crimes in Democratic Culture
- Literature and History in Education and Democratic Culture
- Human Rights Education through the Language, History, and Literature Curriculum (Primary & Secondary)
- Arts in Education and Democratic Culture
- Democratic Leadership in the Classroom and the School
- Peace Pedagogy, Conflict Resolution and Mediation
- Education, Democracy and Social Cohesion in the Age of Artificial Intelligence
- Historical Memory, Conflict and Reconciliation Education
- Digital Applications in Humanities and Social Sciences Teaching and Competences for Democratic Culture
- Critical Discourse Analysis, Ideology and Historical Memory in Public and Institutional Discourse: Applications to Education

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

### SPECIALTY COURSES

#### **Education for Democratic Citizenship (EDC) and Human Rights Education (HRE) and Competences for Democratic Culture**

Elective Specialty Courses (3 ECTS each)  
(differentiated across specializations):

##### **1st Semester (1 out of the options):**

- Teaching Techniques and Assessment in a Democratic Framework
- ICT and Competences for Democratic Culture
- Intercultural Education and Drama/Theatre in Education
- Teaching about the Holocaust
- Fundamental Principles of Liberal and Democratic Governance
- Teaching English as a Second Language and Competences for Democratic Culture
- Cultural Diplomacy and Democratic Culture Project Design for schools/NGOs/municipalities/museums/digital environments
- Individualised and Small-Group Learning Support: Study Skills, Family Engagement and Inclusion

##### **2nd Semester (1 out of all options):**

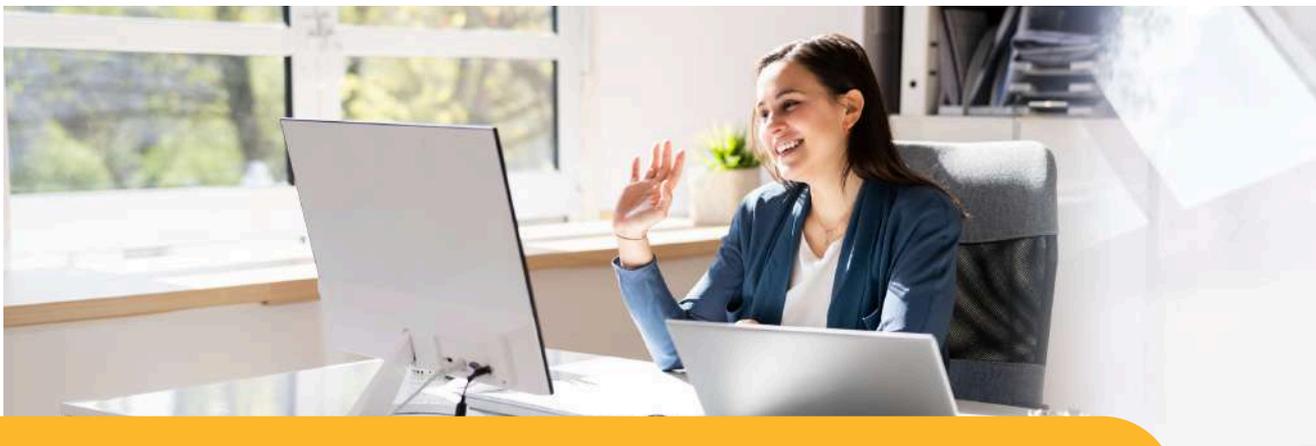
- STEM and Competences for Democratic Culture
- Education for Democratic Citizenship through the Curriculum (Primary & Secondary)
- Competences for Democratic Culture in Early Childhood Education
- Hate Speech and Hate Crimes in Democratic Culture
- Arts in Education and Democratic Culture
- Transformative Education and Democratic Culture in Physical Education
- Education and Sustainable Development Goals
- Education, Democracy and Social Cohesion in the Age of Artificial Intelligence
- Education Policy & Systems Lab: Governance, Reforms, and Professional opportunities

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

### SUMMER SEMESTER

# MASTER THESIS (15 ECTS)

- **Time:** During the summer period, after completion of all courses
- **Deadline of submission:** Until the end of August (extensions possible upon justified request)
- **Specifications:**
  - Small-scale research project aligned with the programme's thematic focus and the student's chosen specialisation
  - May take the form of either empirical research or a literature-based study
  - Length: 15,000–20,000 words
  - Must be an original and individually produced piece of research



### Process

- Submission of thesis proposal including the title, brief description, and proposed supervisor.
- The competent Committee formally appoints a supervisor and a three-member examination committee.
- The thesis is written under the supervision of the appointed faculty member.
- After submission, the supervisor may request corrections or revisions.
- The student then defends the thesis before the three-member committee.
- The committee assigns a final grade.
- If the grade is passing, the student is considered to have completed the programme.

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

## HYBRID OPTION- INTERNSHIP/ SUMMER SCHOOL

The MA Program includes an **optional** internship, that can be formulated as the four-week international summer school, which will be implemented in collaboration with distinguished public and private entities, relevant to Master's subject-matter, i.e. Education, Human Rights and Democratic Citizenship. Designated internship programs will be offered each year with the approval of the University and the Master's Curriculum Committee.

The educational programs are addressed to all age groups and educational levels, they will be experiential and they will approach issues such as democracy, soft skills development, human rights, interculturalism, democratic citizenship, etc.\*

**Participation in the internship/summer school is optional and not required for the completion of the MA Programme.**

\*(There is no provision for financial compensation for students carrying out an unpaid internship, neither from the University nor the MA Program or the collaborating entities).



## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

## SUMMER SCHOOL

- **Time:** July
- **Type:** **Optional** internship/summer school
- **Mode:** On site
- **Duration of internship:** 21 days (option to attend 7, 14 or 21 days/ weekly units)
- **ECTS:** The MA Program's students attending the full summer school receive 15 extra ECTS on their Master Diploma (total of 90 ECTS)
  - 1st week: *Democracy and Human Rights as the cornerstone of sustainable development and social well-being*
  - 2nd week: *Active Citizenship and Applied Human Rights in the Digital and Real life*
  - 3rd week: *Arts as a Tool for Sustainable Development, Personal and Social Change*

*(The summer school may be offered each year based on demand, in the condition that a minimum number of participants is met.)*

**Master students apply for admission to the annual educational programs offered during the spring semester each year.**

### **Why choose the optional internship or the summer school;**

- Hands-on experience in the field of study
- Support during the research phase for the master thesis
- Additional support in the thesis writing process
- Live contact with professors and fellow students
- International educational programs with specialized instructors
- Contact with people from all over the world!
- Extra ECTS

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

## Tuition and Scholarships

### Scholarship of Excellence

Partial exemption from fees

Scholarships of excellence (up to three per specialization) are awarded to honor students based on their performance in the courses of the first semester. Students are exempt from the tuition fees of the second semester of teaching. Thesis supervision and assessment fees still apply.

### Annual Excellence Scholarship by the EWC

Full exemption

A scholarship of excellence is provided by the European Wergeland Center at the beginning of the academic year to students enrolled in the MA Program, after their registration and the submission of the relevant application. The scholarship fully exempts the beneficiary from tuition fees. The criteria are set by the EWC.

### Exemption from tuition fees

Full exemption

Full exemption from tuition fees is awarded to the MA Program's students, based on financial, social criteria according to the existing legislation.

Prerequisite for eligibility: Bachelor degree of 7.5/10 or more (or equivalent grade according to each Institute's grading system).

\*Third country citizens are not eligible

## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

## Application Process

### Application Deadlines

Candidates may submit their application to participate in the Master Program "Identity, Education and Competences for Democratic Culture" all year long.

There is only one intake each October.

If demand is high there is the possibility of a second intake in March.

### Who can apply?

Graduates that hold a degree from University Schools/Faculties in the field of Education, formal and non-formal, and in fields of the Curriculum taught in any Educational Level

### Procedure

A Call for Applications is posted on the MA Program's website with all the necessary information regarding the application procedure. Applications are to be submitted through the [application page](#).

Needed Documentation:

- CV
- Double-sided photocopy of the applicant's I.D. or Passport
- Copy of First Cycle Degree Certificate or a Certificate of Completion of studies
- Analytical transcript of the grades in the undergraduate courses
- English language Certification (Level B2 at least)
- 1 Reference Letter
- Scientific publications (if any)
- Certification of professional or research experience (if any)

# OUR VISION EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Democratic Culture is not merely the Master's subject; it runs through all aspects of the educational process, from the online course and the offered educational material to the evaluation process. That is why there is special care for **accessibility**.

Education is the main pillar of shaping people's democratic consciousness, which is why Education in democratic citizenship and Education in Human Rights must begin as early as possible in people's lives and should continue throughout life.

*“Education is a social process, education is progress. Education is not a preparation for life, but is life itself.”*

*John Dewey*

**Our vision is to make Education an inclusive space, open to everyone with no discriminations.  
This is the social change we aspire to make!**



## JOINT MASTER'S PROGRAMME

# IDENTITY, EDUCATION AND COMPETENCES FOR DEMOCRATIC CULTURE

## CONTACT US

For any further inquiry or information,  
don't hesitate to contact us!



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Online / Greece

