School of Informatics
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Quality Assurance Policy of the School of Informatics for the Postgraduate Program "Digital Media-Computational Intelligence"

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Introduction

The Quality Assurance Policy of the School of Informatics is fully aligned to the quality assurance policy of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTh), as it has been approved by the Institution's Senate, and reflects its core values.

The School of Informatics ensures and disseminates the quality of its teaching, research and administrative services, through their continuous improvement and with the participation and contribution of all its members.

The School designs and implements Postgraduate Programs of high standards in the most important areas and subjects, oriented to modern trends and demands, thereby strengthening its academic profile and orientation. In addition, the School is committed to the development of a creative research and work environment for all its teaching, research and administrative staff as well as to the development of a creative academic environment for its students.

Quality is recognized as a fundamental element for the realization of the School's vision and the achievement of its mission; therefore, the establishment of a quality culture is of paramount importance.

Quality Policy Implementation – Quality Assurance

The School of Informatics and the Postgraduate Program “Digital Media – Computational Intelligence” in particular are committed to the implementation of a quality policy, which demonstrates:

- The suitability of the structure and organization of the Postgraduate Program
- The intended learning outcomes and qualifications are in line with the European and National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education
- The enhancement of the quality and effectiveness of the Postgraduate Program’s teaching/research activity
- The adequacy of the teaching staff's qualifications for the Postgraduate Program

- The drafting, implementation, and review of specific annual quality goals for the Postgraduate Program's improvement
- The level of labor market demand for the graduates' acquired qualifications
- The quality of support services
- The efficient use of the Postgraduate Program's resources, which may derive by any tuition fees
- The conduct of an annual internal evaluation and review of the quality assurance system for the Postgraduate Program "Digital Media – Computational Intelligence", with the cooperation of the School's Internal Evaluation Group (IEG/OM.E.A.) and the MO.DI.P.

In addition to the above, the School is committed to fostering a climate of communication and cooperation between all its members (staff, students and interested parties).

The School of Informatics and the Postgraduate Program apply the quality assurance procedures of AUTh's Internal Quality Assurance System's (IQAS) Manual, while proceeding to any required adjustments on a case-by-case basis at the Postgraduate Program level. The implementation of the IQAS procedures is carried out in collaboration with the University's Quality Assurance Unit (QAU/MO.DI.P.). The quality assurance procedures constitute a valuable tool for the School and each Postgraduate Program in order for them to fulfill their teaching and research purpose, to ensure the achievement of their set goals and to upgrade the effectiveness of their academic services in general.

The School of Informatics and the Postgraduate Program "Digital Media – Computational Intelligence" while implementing the present policy, are committed to apply the quality procedures that will demonstrate the following:

The procedures applied to monitor and continuously improve the Postgraduate Program's quality are analyzed as follows:

- Implementation of the Postgraduate Program's Quality Assurance Policy, its periodic review and revision (when required)
- Postgraduate Program design, in accordance with the current Legislation and AUTh's Regulations, taking into account – to the extent possible – the opinions of the School, the Postgraduate Program's students and graduates as well as of other stakeholders
- Harmonization with the in force legislative and regulatory framework
- Implementation of the Postgraduate Program's Regulations, any other Regulations and AUTh's Regulatory Decisions
- Submission of the Personal Inventory Form and the Course Description Form to MO.DI.P.'s information system, by the teaching staff

- Conduct of Courses and teachers' evaluation by the students
- Various student assessment methods
- Effort towards the monitoring of the professional/career development of the Postgraduate Program graduates
- Faculty staff (selection, regulations, performance, support)
- Postgraduate Program's resources allocation and management (infrastructure, equipment, etc.)
- Quality data collection and processing/analysis (apt, complete, correct) as to ensure the Postgraduate Program's quality with the goal of improving it
- Monitoring, analysis and comparison to national and international key performance indicators
- Postgraduate Program information publication.
- Updating of the Postgraduate Program website in a systematic and qualitative way (Greek, English and potentially in another language), for the publication of the Program's relevant information.
- Feedback mechanisms for strategy and goals, etc. review, corrective actions implementation (when required)
- Annual internal evaluation (monitoring, control and revision of the Postgraduate Program), in accordance with all the aforementioned and based on the guidelines provided by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (H.A.H.E./ETHAAE) and the MO.DI.P.
- Support of external evaluation and accreditation procedures, in collaboration with the MO.DI.P.

Quality Goals

The quality goals, on which the School of Informatics will focus its efforts for the Postgraduate Program "Digital Media – Computational Intelligence" are the following:

- Strategic Objective "S1. Quality Assurance of the Education"
    - Quality Objective S1.1 "Decreasing the Average Duration of Studies"
    - Quality Objective S.1.2 "Increasing Participation in the Evaluation of Courses/Teachers"
    - Quality Objective S.1.3 "Strengthening Study Counseling"
    - Quality Objective S.1.4 "Increasing the Annual Rate of Graduation"
    - Quality Objective S.1.5 "Strengthening Study Flexibility & Student-Centered Learning"
    - Quality Objective S.1.6 "Number of applications submitted to the Postgraduate Program"
- Strategic Objective "S2. Excellence in the research performance of the faculty members enrolled in the Postgraduate Program"

    - Quality Objective S.2.1 "Increase the number of peer-reviewed scientific publications per faculty member"
    - Quality Objective S.2.2 "Increase in the number of citations per faculty member"
    - Quality Objective S.2.3 "Increase the annual percentage of projects coordinated by a faculty member"
- Strategic Objective "S3. Internationalization"
    - Quality Objective S.3.1 "Strengthening Student Mobility"
    - Quality Objective S.3.2 "Attracting Foreign Students"
    - Quality Objective S.3.3 "Attracting Visiting Professors from Institutions Abroad"

Quality Policy Dissemination and Publication

The Quality Policy is communicated and disseminated to the academic and administrative staff, to the students, as well as to other involved parties. The Quality Policy is published at URL https://dmci.csd.auth.gr/en/the-programme/quality-assurance-and-evaluation/quality-policy/