

Quality Assurance Policy

The Department of Political Science and International Relations is committed to the organisation, development and continuous improvement of high-quality undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes, as well as to the promotion of excellence in all its educational, research and administrative activities. In addition, the Department of Political Science and International Relations seeks to create a model work environment where its community enjoys freedom of expression and is presented with significant opportunities for academic and professional development.

The Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies, whose quality assurance policy is fully harmonized with the corresponding quality policy of the University of Peloponnese, is governed by the following principles:

- Its organization adheres to the highest international academic standards and its research-based curriculum keeps pace with the development of knowledge generated in the interdisciplinary field of Southeastern European Studies.
- Its thematic orientation systematically monitors and takes into account the needs of the labour market through consultations with external stakeholders and periodic feedback from an International Advisory Board.
- Its clearly defined learning outcomes correspond to level 8 of the European Higher Education Area Qualifications Framework.
- Its learning environment is sufficient (and constantly improving) for the effective conduct of international high-quality cutting-edge research by every member of the academic community.
- Its teaching staff includes highly qualified, experienced and motivated professors with expertise in aspects of Southeastern European Studies.
- Its ever-increasing research activity is thorough, leads to original findings and strictly adheres to the constantly revised internationally established rules and norms of ethics and conduct.
- Its culture of quality is based on the assumption that every member of the academic community (administration, faculty members and students) must support the maintenance and promotion of program quality.
- The quality assurance system operates on a cyclical basis (from organization to implementation, evaluation and review) on an annual basis and is organized in collaboration with the Department's Quality Assurance Team.

Implementation of Quality Assurance Policy

The Department of Political Science and International Relations and the Doctoral Program in Southeastern European Studies apply the quality assurance procedures of the Quality Assurance Manual of the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of the University of Peloponnese in collaboration with the University's Quality Assurance Unit. The applied procedures have as reference points:

- The current legislative and regulatory framework.
- The Regulations and Decisions of the University of Peloponnese.
- The best practices applied in the European Higher Education Area.
- The Regulations and Decisions of the Department and the Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies.
- The declared mission of the Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies, taking into account the views of students, alumni and labour market bodies.

The implementation of the quality assurance policy of the Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies (in accordance with the guidelines of the National Association for Southeastern European Studies (NASEES) and the guidance of the University's QAU) and its annual internal evaluation is based on the processing and evaluation of data resulting from the following procedures:

- The submission by the instructors to the information system of the QAU of the Individual Data Sheets.
- The periodic collection and entry of a set of data in the Integrated National Quality Information System (NQIS) of the NASEES.
- The annual survey with questionnaires of the satisfaction of both academic staff and administrative staff with the working environment (infrastructure and working relations) and career development prospects offered by the Department.
- The overall evaluation of the Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies by the graduates after the completion of their studies.
- The periodic needs assessment of graduate employment agencies and the annual consultation with the Advisory Committee of the Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies.
- The monitoring of the academic and professional development and progress of the graduates of the Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies.
- The monitoring and analysis of national and international quality indicators.

Quality Objectives

The Department of Political Science and International Relations will focus its efforts on achieving the following quality objectives within the framework of the Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies:

1. Monitoring student progress and performance.
2. Evaluation of the educational process.
3. Exploiting the mobility of the Erasmus+ programme.
4. Participation in Calls for Research Proposals for funded actions.
5. Systematic consultation with representatives of stakeholders

Publication

The Quality Policy is communicated to academic and administrative staff, students and interested stakeholders about the Doctoral Programme in Southeastern European Studies. The Quality Policy is posted on the website of the Southeastern European Studies Doctoral Programme.