

University of Ioannina
Department of History and Archaeology
D.1.3. Quality Policy of the Institution for the distance learning PSP
[Faculty Board Decision, No 542, 27/5/2026]

1.1. Strategic Alignment and Quality Policy of the PSP

The PSP “Byzantine Studies via AI and Immersive Technologies” has been designed in alignment with the strategic priorities of the University of Ioannina and the participating academic units, particularly with regard to academic excellence, internationalisation, research innovation, digital transformation, and societal engagement. Through its interdisciplinary orientation and international collaboration with the University of Münster, the programme contributes to the achievement of the Institution’s strategic objectives in education, research, and international outreach.

The PSP implements a Quality Policy in alignment with the Institution's Quality Policy, aiming for the continuous upgrade of its curriculum as well as its educational, research, and administrative work. Moreover, it enhances research, extroversion, and interconnection with social and productive bodies, promoting the University's prestige and the labor market's trust in its graduates, while ensuring the necessary resources and procedures for the effective operation of the Programme.

With regard to distance-learning Master's Programmes, the Department of History and Archaeology applies quality assurance procedures that provide evidence of:

- a) the appropriateness of the design, structure, and organization of the distance-learning Master's Programmes;
- b) the alignment of the intended learning outcomes and awarded qualifications with Level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and the Hellenic Qualifications Framework for Higher Education;
- c) the enhancement of the quality and effectiveness of teaching, learning, and assessment processes within the distance-learning Master's Programmes;
- d) the adequacy and suitability of the academic qualifications, expertise, and pedagogical competencies of the teaching staff involved in the delivery of distance-learning Master's Programmes;
- e) the establishment, implementation, monitoring, and periodic review of annual quality objectives aimed at the continuous improvement of the Master's Programmes;
- f) the relevance and recognition of the qualifications awarded, as reflected in graduate employability and labour market demand;
- g) the quality and effectiveness of student support services, including administrative support, library services, and student welfare provision for Master's students;
- h) the effective and transparent management and utilization of the financial resources of the Master's Programmes, including, where applicable, revenues derived from tuition fees;
- i) the implementation of annual internal evaluation and review processes for the quality assurance system governing the distance-learning Master's Programmes, in cooperation with the Department's Internal Evaluation Group (OMEA) and the Institution's Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP).

This policy is harmonized with international academic standards, the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), the directives of Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE), and the applicable legislative framework.

It is implemented through a continuous cycle of planning, execution, evaluation, and feedback within the framework of the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of the University of Ioannina, and is documented by quantitative and qualitative indicators, such as the evaluation of courses and instructors, enrollment and completion rates, research activity, participation in mobility actions, and the absorption of graduates into the labor market.

More specifically, the PSP “Byzantine Studies via AI and Immersive Technologies” aims to educate young scientists using an interdisciplinary approach in the fields of Byzantine Studies and Computer Science, preparing them for the demands of modern research and the labor market. Within this context, it provides students with the necessary knowledge, skills, and competences for a successful academic or professional career.

At the same time, the PSP ensures the promotion of high-level research and the continuous enhancement of the scientific work of the teaching and research staff. Through the systematic evaluation of the educational process, the renewal and enrichment of the subject areas, as well as the participation of students in research and educational activities, the link between teaching and research is strengthened, and the quality and effectiveness of the educational work are ensured. In this way, students enjoy high-level educational and support services, both at the level of studies and at the level of infrastructure and communication.

1.2. Quality Target-Setting Quality Objectives and Target Setting

The PSP establishes specific quality objectives that are aligned with the quality policy of the University of Ioannina and support the continuous enhancement of its educational, research, and administrative functions. The quality objectives are reviewed periodically through the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) and are monitored using qualitative and quantitative indicators.

The principal quality objectives of the PSP include:

- the continuous improvement of teaching, learning, and assessment processes;
- the achievement of high levels of student satisfaction and academic support;
- the enhancement of research activity and the active involvement of students in research projects and scientific dissemination activities;
- the strengthening of the international dimension of the Programme through cooperation with the University of Münster, international academic networks, guest lecturers, and student and staff mobility initiatives;
- the promotion of interdisciplinarity through the integration of Byzantine Studies, Artificial Intelligence, and Immersive Technologies;
- the enhancement of graduate employability and the alignment of the Programme with contemporary scientific, technological, and societal needs;
- the effective integration of digital technologies and innovative pedagogical approaches in the educational process;
- the continuous development of the academic and digital competencies of the teaching staff.

The achievement of these objectives is monitored through appropriate quality indicators, including student evaluations, completion and graduation rates, participation in international activities, research outputs, graduate employment data, and feedback from stakeholders. The results are reviewed annually and are used to support evidence-based decision-making and continuous quality improvement.

1.3. Quality Assurance Actions and Improvement Measures

The PSP implements a series of quality assurance actions and improvement measures within the framework of the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of the University of Ioannina. These actions support the achievement of the Programme's quality objectives and the continuous enhancement of its educational, research, and administrative functions.

In particular, the PSP implements:

- periodic review and updating of the curriculum, taking into account developments in Byzantine Studies, Artificial Intelligence, and Immersive Technologies, as well as feedback from students, graduates, and stakeholders;
- systematic evaluation of courses and teaching effectiveness through student questionnaires and quality assurance procedures;
- monitoring of the achievement of learning outcomes and their alignment with the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and the Hellenic Qualifications Framework (<https://proson.eoppep.gr/el/QualificationTypes/Details/60>);
- continuous enhancement of research activity and the integration of research outcomes into teaching and learning processes;
- procedures for ensuring the academic qualifications and scientific competence of teaching, research, and administrative staff;
- monitoring and improvement of student support services, including academic advising, administrative support, and access to learning resources;
- promotion of internationalisation through academic cooperation, mobility opportunities, and participation in international scientific networks;
- collection and analysis of quality indicators and performance data, in cooperation with the Department's OMEA and the University's MODIP;
- implementation of corrective and preventive actions whenever quality assurance processes identify areas for improvement;
- allocation of the necessary human, financial, and technological resources to support the effective implementation of the quality policy and the smooth operation of the PSP.

The effectiveness of these actions is reviewed periodically and the findings are used to support evidence-based decision-making and continuous quality improvement.

1.4. Dissemination, Implementation and Revision of the Quality Policy

The Quality Policy of the PSP is regularly reviewed and updated in accordance with contemporary academic, educational, and societal needs, as well as developments in the fields of Byzantine Studies, Artificial Intelligence, and Immersive Technologies. It is publicly available through the official website of the PSP (<https://byzantine-ai.ac.uoi.gr/>) and the website of the Department of History and Archaeology (<https://hist-arch.uoi.gr/>), where relevant information concerning the Programme, its operation, and quality assurance procedures is made accessible to all interested parties. This ensures the continuous and transparent dissemination of information to prospective students, enrolled students, graduates, academic staff, and external stakeholders.

The dissemination of the Quality Policy is further supported through the promotion of the educational, research, and outreach activities of the PSP in conferences, workshops, public lectures, information events, scientific meetings, and digital communication channels.

Information regarding the activities, achievements, and developments of the PSP is regularly communicated through its official website, institutional communication channels, and, where appropriate, local and national media.

The implementation, monitoring, and continuous improvement of the Quality Policy are supported by the competent collective bodies and committees of the PSP, including the Coordinating Committee, the Department Assembly, the Internal Evaluation Group (OMEA), the Curriculum and Student Affairs Committee, and the Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP) of the University of Ioannina, with the support of the academic and administrative staff.

Students actively participate in quality assurance processes through course evaluations, feedback mechanisms, and other quality enhancement procedures, thereby contributing to the continuous improvement of the Programme and the effective implementation of its Quality Policy.

The Quality Policy is subject to periodic review within the framework of the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of the University of Ioannina. The review process is based on the analysis of quality indicators, student and graduate feedback, Programme evaluation results, recommendations arising from internal and external quality assurance procedures, and developments in the academic and professional environment. Where necessary, corrective actions, improvement measures, and revisions are adopted by the competent academic bodies in order to ensure the continued relevance, effectiveness, transparency, and quality of the PSP.