

# **QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY**

### **Quality Assurance Policy of the Academic Unit**

#### 1.1 Quality Assurance Policy of the Department of Economics

The central focus of the quality assurance policy of the Department of Economics, directly linked to the Quality Assurance Policy of the University of Thessaly (UTH), is to provide the required high-quality contemporary education in accordance with international academic and research standards. This is achieved through continuous and effective improvement of the curriculum, along with the support of educational and research activities as well as administrative services and functions. This ensures that the department, as a whole, can meet international academic and research conditions and demands. The Department of Economics supports and implements the quality policy, which guides program planning and implementation, strengthens its position in the international academic community, highlights its role in the local and regional community, remains committed to its mission and objectives, and invests in continuous improvement.

A primary mechanism for advancing the UTH quality policy, aimed at ensuring quality in all areas of activity, is the "Quality Assurance Policy of the Institution" approved by the Rectorate Council in its meeting no. 168/12-10-2021. This plan is based on the philosophy of providing high-quality education to students through the promotion of knowledge and research. It also aims to recognize and enhance the attractiveness of undergraduate and postgraduate programs for the next decade at the national level, as well as to gain international recognition for the research work carried out by DOE. It includes policies and measures related to quality and excellence, encouraging and providing opportunities for students, faculty, and administrators to showcase their abilities and achievements in all areas.

The Quality Assurance Policy covers the following areas:

- Theoretical and Applied Education of Undergraduate Students
- Postgraduate Studies
- Excellence in Education and Research
- External Engagement and Internationalization
- Contribution to Regional Development
- Effective Administrative Operation

The Quality Assurance Policy of the Department of Economics aligns with the principles and strategic framework of UTH's Quality Assurance and Academic Units."

#### 1.2 Key Objectives of the Quality Assurance Policy of the Department

In the context of shaping and implementing the Quality Assurance Policy of the Department, the Academic Unit, in collaboration with all internal teams within the department, is called upon to meet the following objectives and to determine the means/mechanisms for their realization. More specifically, the objectives are as follows:

- 1. Ensure the suitability of the organization of the curriculum.
- 2. Pursue learning outcomes and qualifications in accordance with the European and National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education.
- 3. Promote the quality and effectiveness of teaching work.
- 4. Suitability of the adjunct teaching staff.
- 5. Promote the quality of research work conducted by members of the academic unit.
- 6. Highlight ways to connect teaching with research.
- 7. Improve the level of demand for the acquired qualifications of graduates sought in the labor market.
- 8. Quality of support services, such as administrative services, libraries, and student support services.
- 9. Conduct annual reviews and internal audits of the quality assurance system of the Department of Higher Education, as well as collaboration between the Academic Unit and the Quality Assurance Unit of the Institution."

## **Quality Policy of the MSc "Applied Economics"**

The quality policy of the MSc program is fully aligned with the quality policies of the Institution and the Department. It focuses on continuous improvement in the quality of the curriculum, educational, research, and administrative activities.

The MSc program is committed to implementing the quality policy with the aim of enhancing the quality of the services offered through processes that will ensure:

- The suitability of the structure and organization of the MSc curriculum.
- The development and improvement of the existing curriculum, taking into account current developments in the field of science and the job market.
- The pursuit of learning outcomes and qualifications in accordance with the European and National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education.
- The promotion of the quality and effectiveness of teaching work.
- The suitability of the qualifications of the teaching staff.
- The integration of teaching and research, incorporating the needs of the job market.
- The development, implementation, and monitoring of annual quality targets to improve the curriculum.
- The provision of quality services to postgraduate students.
- The conduct of annual internal evaluations of the MSc program, within the framework of the Internal Quality Assurance System, in collaboration with the Quality Assurance Unit of the Institution.

For the successful implementation of the Quality System, the administration of the MSc program is committed to providing all necessary infrastructure and tools, and

quality is placed at the top of the strategic priorities of the University and the Department, to which the MSc program belongs."