



University of Thessaly

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS & DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

INTERDEPARTMENTAL POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM

In Accounting and Auditing



REGULATIONS OF THE MASTER'S PROGRAM
(according to the provisions of Law 4957/2022)

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Contents

Introduction.....	4
Article 1. Object and Purpose of the Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program (MSc)	5
1. Purpose of the MSc	5
2. Academic Subjects of the MSc Program.....	5
3. Degree Title	5
4. Candidate Categories in the MSc Program.....	6
Article 2. Master's Degree	6
1. Duration.....	6
2. Requirements for Obtaining the Master's Degree	7
3. Bodies Operating the MSc Program	7
Article 3. Admissions to the MSc Program - Selection Procedures - Tuition-Free Enrollment..	8
1. Submission of Applications.....	8
2. Selection Process.....	8
3. Tuition Fees.....	9
4. Free Tuition.....	10
Article 4. PROGRAM	11
1. Program of Studies for the Master's Degree	11
2. Instructors and Teaching Assignments in the Postgraduate Program	12
3. Remuneration for Teaching	13
4. Supervision	13
5. Evaluation	13
6. Master's Thesis	13
Article 5. Financial Management of Revenues and Expenditures.....	14
1. Resources	14
2. Management	14
3. Expenses.....	14
Article 6. Enrollment in the MSc Program	14
1. Attendance of Courses.....	14
2. Suspension of Enrollment.....	15
3. Part-Time Enrollment	15
4. Technical Infrastructure.....	15
5. Completion of Studies	15
6. Certificates.....	16
7. Secretarial, Technological, and Financial Support	16
8. Scholarships	16

9. MSc Program Website	17
Article 7. Quality Assurance.....	17
1. Intellectual Property and Plagiarism.	17
2. Research Ethics and Deontology Committee - Three-Member Internal Ethics and Deontology Subcommittee for Research.....	17
3. Evaluation / Quality Control of the Program.	17
Article 8. Transitional Provisions.....	18
Article 9. Mobility Regulation	19
Annexes	21
ANNEX A. EXAMINATION REGULATIONS	22
ANNEX B. PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS BY PROSPECTIVE POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS	26
ANNEX C. OBLIGATIONS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS	27
ANNEX D- TEMPLATE FOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS	28

Introduction

The Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program (MSc) titled "Accounting and Auditing" of the Departments of Economic Sciences, Accounting, and Finance of the School of Economics and Administrative Sciences at the University of Thessaly was established in accordance with the provisions of Law 4957/2022, as they have been formulated and are in force.

The Internal Regulations of the MSc program "Accounting and Auditing" follow the General Regulations of Postgraduate Studies of the University of Thessaly (https://www.uth.gr/sites/default/files/contents/2022/20220713_protosmos.pdf) and are first approved by the Program Committee (E.P.S.) and subsequently by the Senate of the University of Thessaly, following the concurring opinion of the Postgraduate Studies Committee of the University of Thessaloniki. The approved Internal Regulations are published in the Government Gazette, posted on the Department's website, communicated to the Ministry of Education & Religious Affairs, and brought into effect.

The approved Internal Regulations may be amended and periodically revised with continuous improvements and updates, without losing its basic structure and content. The decision for any modifications is made by the Program Committee, composed of members of the Academic and Research Staff of the Departments of Economic Sciences and Accounting & Finance of the University of Thessaly, following the relevant proposal of the MSc Director and following the aforementioned publication process in the Government Gazette.

Article 1. Object and Purpose of the Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program (MSc)

1. Purpose of the MSc

The purpose of the program is to equip its graduates with the necessary knowledge required in various fields and sectors of accounting and auditing. This enables them to meet the increasing demands of the labor market and/or the professional position in which they are already employed. The MSc targets recent graduates of Higher Education Institutions (AEI) as well as those already working in the private and broader public sectors. It addresses the needs of those wishing to enter the job market with enhanced qualifications, specialized knowledge, and skills, as well as those already employed who seek to strengthen, update, and specialize their knowledge to improve their professional performance and/or enhance their career prospects in the sector they are currently employed in or explore better employment opportunities in other fields, sectors, or businesses.

Specifically, the objectives of the program are:

- To promote the development of applications and research in the Science of Accounting in practice by providing knowledge in the subjects of "Accounting and Auditing" at a theoretical and applied level to address increased professional requirements in the private and public sectors.
- To deepen understanding of the fundamental principles and methods of Auditing in the contemporary business environment, as well as concepts of enterprise risk management and internal control.
- To prepare program graduates for doctoral-level studies.
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2. Academic Subjects of the MSc Program

The Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program (MSc) of the Departments of Economic Sciences and Accounting & Finance of the University of Thessaly aims to specialize graduates of Departments of Economic and Administrative Sciences, as well as other related specialties, in "Accounting and Auditing."

The Master's degree (MSc) leads, according to the procedures defined by law each time, to the recognition of professional rights beyond those provided by the undergraduate degree.

3. Degree Title

The MSc Program awards a Master's degree with the title "Accounting and Auditing" (MSc in Accounting and Auditing).

The Diploma Supplement is provided to each graduate in both Greek and English. It includes the start and end dates of the studies, any interruptions, and the courses with the corresponding European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) credits attended, along with the grades received.

4. Candidate Categories in the MSc Program

The MSc Program accepts graduates from domestic Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and equivalent recognized institutions abroad, in subjects related to those of the MSc program.

Specifically, graduates from Departments of Accounting and Finance, Banking, Economics, Social and Political Sciences, Administration, Polytechnic, and Natural Sciences, as well as graduates from Higher Military Schools in Greece or corresponding institutions abroad, whose degree has been recognized by the Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (DOATAP), are eligible to apply. For international candidates, a sufficient knowledge of the Greek language is required (in accordance with the provisions of Law 2083/1992).

A prerequisite for selection is the relevance of the undergraduate studies and sufficient knowledge of at least one language other than the language of instruction of the MSc program.

Article 2. Master's Degree

1. Duration

The MSc in "Accounting and Auditing" is structured into three academic semesters, including a total of 12 courses. The minimum duration for program completion is 18 months. For all courses, the participation of postgraduate students is required either in person or through remote means. The maximum allowable absences for each course are set at 30%.

An absence exceeding 13 teaching hours in a course, results in the student failing that specific course. The duration of each postgraduate course is 36 teaching hours.

If deemed necessary, before the start of the program, the MSc program offers mandatory preparatory courses to fill gaps and contribute to the uniformity of the background of participating students. Additionally, students have the opportunity to attend scientific lectures and educational visits offered by the Department. Courses are supported by the eclass and MS-Teams platforms of the University of Thessaly, as well as provided educational material.

The total duration of studies for each student is three semesters. In special cases, the Postgraduate Studies Committee may grant a temporary suspension of studies, not exceeding two consecutive semesters. The overall duration of studies can be extended for up to three additional semesters due to outstanding courses. The semesters of suspension are not counted in the prescribed maximum duration of six semesters.

Lectures may also be organized using modern methods of synchronous and asynchronous distance education to ensure the integrity of the evaluation process.

The conduct of courses during the three semesters is distributed in the classrooms and laboratories of the two Departments: Volos - Department of Economics, Matsaggou building, and Larissa - Department of Accounting & Finance.

There is also the option for part-time enrollment for employed individuals, and in exceptional cases for non-employed individuals. The duration of part-time enrollment is six semesters

without additional financial burden. Part-time students, for the first two semesters, declare one out of the four offered courses each semester, with the course "Research Methodology" being mandatory. In the third semester, they also declare two out of the four offered courses. Part-time students are advised to select courses in such a way as to ensure the academic continuity of courses with the same title, e.g., "Financial Accounting I" in the first semester and "Financial Accounting II" in the second semester of studies. The number of part-time students cannot exceed 30% of the admitted students.

2. Requirements for Obtaining the Master's Degree

The total number of academic/teaching units (ECTS) required for obtaining the Master's Degree (MSc) is ninety (90) ECTS, i.e., thirty (30) per semester. Attendance of the courses is mandatory. The maximum allowable absences for each course are set at 30%.

3. Bodies Operating the MSc Program

Competent bodies for the organization and operation of the MSc program are as follows:

- The Senate of the University, which exercises the powers of paragraph 1 of Article 82 of Law 4957/2022.
- The Program Committee, the number of members and composition of which are specified in the Collaboration Protocol of the MSc. The Program Committee consists of members of the Teaching and Research Staff (D.E.P.) of the collaborating Departments according to the terms set in the Collaboration Protocol of the MSc. By decision of the Program Committee, a Coordinating Committee (C.C.) may be formed, with a two-year term, consisting of the Director of the MSc and four (4) members of the Program Committee.
The Program Committee is responsible for the organization, administration, and management of the MSc program according to Article 81, as well as for monitoring and coordinating the program's operation according to Article 82 of Law 4957/2022.
- The Director of the MSc, who is a member of the Program Committee (P.C.), prioritized by the rank of Professor or Associate Professor. The Director is appointed by the P.C. for a two-year term, with the possibility of renewal without limitation.

The P.C. may establish additional Committees, where deemed necessary. All proposals or decisions of the committees are approved by the P.C.

Article 3. Admissions to the MSc Program- Selection Procedures- Tuition-Free Enrollment

1. Submission of Applications

The maximum number of new postgraduate students admitted to the M.Sc. program is set at forty (40) per academic year, including students exempted from tuition fees based on current legislation. This limitation does not apply to candidates with equal scores in the evaluation process, one (1) scholarship holder from the State Scholarships Foundation (I.K.Y.) who succeeded in the relevant competition for postgraduate studies in the field of the M.Sc. program, and one (1) foreign scholarship holder of the Greek State.

The final number of admitted students, the admission of new students, and other details regarding the admission of students are determined by the Program Steering Committee (PSC).

2. Selection Process

The M.Sc. program accepts holders of a bachelor's degree from domestic or equivalent foreign institutions. A prerequisite for selection is the relevance of the undergraduate degree and sufficient proficiency in at least one language other than the language of instruction in the M.Sc. program, which is Greek.

The call for expressions of interest for applying to the M.Sc. program is published at the beginning of the spring semester and includes all the information regarding the application process, required qualifications, necessary documents, and selection criteria. Applications are valid if submitted in full within the specified deadline, according to the relevant guidelines on the M.Sc. program's website.

The deadline for document submission, the required documents, and other related matters are announced on the M.Sc. program's website and at the program's secretariat.

Within the document submission deadline, interested applicants submit their applications electronically, along with the required documents, as detailed on the M.Sc. program's website (<http://accaud.uth.gr/>).

The evaluation of candidates, who have timely submitted all required documents, occurs in two phases: The first phase involves the verification of the formal qualifications of candidates who have submitted all required documents on time. The second phase of evaluation includes those who were deemed successful in the first phase and encompasses the interview process.

Based on the examination of formal and substantive qualifications, and considering the results of the interviews, a list of successful and reserve candidates for the M.Sc. program is compiled, taking into account the evaluation criteria.

The selection process takes into account both academic criteria and language proficiency levels as follows:

	Rank Criteria for Selection Points (%)	Points (%)
1	Bachelor's Degree Grade	30%
2	Relevance of the Bachelor's/Diploma Degree to the Subject Area of the Master's Program	15%
3	Proficiency in a Foreign Language or Languages	10%
4	Possession of Other Postgraduate Degrees	5%
5	Relevant Professional or Research Experience	10%
6	Interview	30%
	Total	100%

The evaluation of the supporting documents also takes into account the submission of recommendation letters.

The results are announced to the candidates within ten (10) working days from the completion of the interviews. They are posted on the department boards in a way that ensures the confidentiality of personal data and are communicated through the electronic correspondence of the successful candidates.

Successful candidates are required to respond in writing (electronically) within a deadline of fifteen (15) working days regarding their acceptance or rejection of enrollment in the program.

Failure to respond in a timely manner by a selected candidate within the specified deadline is considered equivalent to resignation from their candidacy. In case of resignations, the Secretary informs the next eligible candidates in accordance with the evaluation ranking.

Any objections from the candidates are submitted electronically to the Secretary of the M.Sc. program within seven (7) calendar days from the date of announcement of the results. The Program Committee appoints an Objections Committee consisting of three (3) members of the teaching and research staff (DEP), which examines the objections and subsequently makes recommendations to the Program Committee.

3. Tuition Fees

Sources of funding for the program include tuition fees, donations, sponsorships, financial assistance of any kind, funds from research projects or programs, endowments, the institution's own resources, and financial support from the state budget or public investment program, as well as any other legal cause. In case of modification, the procedure of the current legislation is followed. Students pay their financial contribution exclusively to the University of Thessaly, in the project's special bank account, with the possibility of discounts depending on the payment method (single payment, number of installments).

Tuition fees are €4,200 (four thousand two hundred euros) for attending the M.Sc. program, and they are deposited into the program's special bank account with the possibility of discounts depending on the payment method (full payment, number of installments).

Tuition fees are non-refundable after the start of each academic year.

Payment of tuition fees can be made by the student or by a third party, whether a natural or legal person, on behalf of the student.

The delay in payment of the tuition fee installment creates an obstacle to the participation of students in exams.

The financial management, including the preparation of the budget and the accountability of operational, administrative, and other related expenses of the Joint M.Sc. Program, is supervised by the Program Committee. The Director of the M.Sc. Program is responsible for financial management. For the Research and Education Funding Committee (ELKE), the scientific coordinator of the respective project is considered the Director of the M.Sc. Program.

The ELKE of the University of Thessaly exclusively manages all expenses of the two contracting parties related to the M.Sc. program, based on the agreed protocol of collaboration.

4. Free Tuition

According to Article 86 of Law 4957/2022, enrolled students in the Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program may attend it for free if tuition fees are required, provided they meet the economic or social criteria established by law. A prerequisite for the grant of the right to free tuition due to economic or social criteria is the fulfillment of excellence conditions during the undergraduate studies, corresponding to a minimum grade of seven and a half (7.5/10), provided that the evaluation in the undergraduate degree, submitted for admission to the Postgraduate Program, has been carried out according to the ten-point scale of assessment of a Domestic Higher Education Institution (HEI). Otherwise, this criterion is applied proportionally according to the respective evaluation scale, provided that the submitted degree has been awarded by a foreign institution.

The total number of students attending for free cannot exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total enrolled students per academic year. If, during the numerical calculation of the number of beneficiaries exempt from tuition fees, a decimal number is obtained, it is rounded to the nearest integer. If the number of beneficiaries exceeds the current percentage, the beneficiaries are selected in descending order until the number is reached.

Applications for free tuition for each Postgraduate Program are submitted after the completion of the admission process of students to the Postgraduate Program and within a timeframe specified by the Program itself.

Article 4. PROGRAM

1. Program of Studies for the Master's Degree

The duration, as well as the minimum period of enrollment, for the Master's Program is three (3) semesters, including 12 courses. The courses are distributed into four (4) per semester. The total academic/teaching units (ECTS) required for obtaining the Master's Degree (MSc) are ninety (90), distributed in thirty (30) per semester. The timetable of the MSc courses is structured in a way that allows the concentration of lectures on only two days of the week – Saturday and Sunday – to facilitate students who are employed. The Program is periodically reviewed with continuous improvements and updates, without losing its characteristic structure and orientation, based on information and data on a national scale, as well as the analysis of study programs of universities both domestically and internationally. With a proposal from the Program Committee (E.P.S.) and approval from the Senate of the University of Thessaly, both the redistribution of courses in additional semesters of study in the part-time Program and the modification of the course schedule can be carried out.

The E.P.S. has the authority to amend provisions of this operating regulation. Amendments are approved by the Senate of the University of Thessaly. The detailed course program per semester is as follows:

DETAILED CURRICULUM

1st Semester

	Course Code	Course	Teaching units (ECTS)
1	MSC0101	Financial Analysis I	8
2	MSC0102	Financial Accounting I	8
3	MSC0104	Auditing I	8
4	MSC0105	Research Methodology I	6
	Total for the semester		30

2nd Semester

	Course Code	Course	Teaching units (ECTS)
1	MSC0103	Management Accounting I	8
2	MSC0201	Financial Analysis II	8
3	MSC0202	Financial Accounting II	8

4	MSC0208	Research Methodology III	6
	Total for the semester		30

3rd Semester

	Course Code	Course	Teaching units (ECTS)
1	MSC0301	Management Accounting II	8
2	MSC0204	Auditing II	8
3	MSC0206	Tax Accounting	8
4	MSC0207	Information Systems in Accounting	6
	Total for the semester		30
	Total Credit Units		90

2. Instructors and Teaching Assignments in the Postgraduate Program

The teaching responsibilities in the Postgraduate Program are assigned by decision of the Program Specialization Committee.

The obligations of the instructors include:

- Adhering to the schedule of the course instruction.
- Determining and updating the content of the courses or knowledge areas taught within the framework of the courses according to current scientific developments.
- Regularly updating the content of the courses they teach, as well as the relevant bibliography.
- Collaborating with the Program Director and other instructors to coordinate the curriculum to avoid overlaps between courses, as well as coordinating the workload of the students.
- Preparing and delivering to the students the educational material used during the course instruction. The educational material is intended exclusively for the use of the students of the course. Use of the educational material for any other purpose is not allowed without the written consent of the instructor.
- Monitoring the attendance of students in all educational activities of the course and certifying it by maintaining attendance records and submitting them to the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Program.
- Transparent and objective evaluation of the performance of students in the courses they teach, as well as delivering grades within the specified deadlines.

- Regular communication via email or phone (if a serious reason arises) with the students on matters related to their studies and the courses they teach.

3. Remuneration for Teaching

All categories of instructors may be remunerated exclusively from the resources of the MSc program. Payment or any other remuneration from the state budget or the public investment program is not allowed. Details regarding the procedure for concluding the relevant remuneration contracts for academic staff are determined by the Research Committee.

4. Supervision

For each postgraduate student, a faculty member is appointed as an advisor by the Program Committee. The advisor is responsible for monitoring and overseeing the overall progress of the postgraduate student.

5. Evaluation

The evaluation and grading of each course are the exclusive responsibility of the instructor. It is done independently of other courses and is a derivative of the objective assessment of the student's performance in that specific course (assignments, exams, etc.). The evaluation criteria are clearly defined and stated in the informative document for each course.

In the event that a student fails a course, they may retake the examination in the September resit examination period. The maximum number of resit examinations for a student in a single course is three (3) times. If a student fails to obtain a passing grade in the same course in three (3) consecutive examination periods, the case is reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Program Committee. The committee evaluates the substantive and formal dimensions of the issue and, at its discretion, may decide on the student's repetition of the course or even their removal from the program.

Overall, a student can be examined in up to six (6) courses in which they have failed. Cases of students failing in more than six (6) courses lead to the termination of their enrollment. Failure in up to four (4) of the resit-examined courses leads to the re-enrollment in these courses and the payment of the corresponding tuition fees. Failure in more than four (4) resit-examined courses leads to the termination of enrollment. Students who fail in the second resit examination are not awarded the degree. In any case, the tuition fees are non-refundable.

6. Master's Thesis

In the MSc program, a master's thesis is not required for postgraduate students to obtain the Master's Degree (MSc). This is in accordance with decision 1838/22/ΓΠ/31-1-2022, published in the Official Government Gazette (FEK) 778/21-2-2022/t. B'.

Article 5. Financial Management of Revenues and Expenditures

1. Resources

The financial resources of the MSc program primarily derive from tuition fees paid by postgraduate students. Other sources of funding include donations, sponsorships, various financial support, funds from research projects or programs, legacies, the institution's own resources, the state budget, or the public investment program, as well as any other lawful cause. In the event of an insufficient number of students, alternative funding sources will be sought.

2. Management

The Program Steering Committee (E.P.S.) prepares the initial annual budget of the MSc program and its modifications, submitting it for approval to the Research Committee of the Special Account for Research Funds (S.A.R.F.) of the University of Thessaly. The Director of the MSc program is the Scientific Supervisor of the program and exercises the corresponding responsibilities according to Article 234 of Law 4957/2022. For all financial management processes of funded MSc programs, the provisions of Law 4957/2022 are uniformly applied starting from the academic year 2022-2023.

3. Expenses

The resources of the MSc program are mainly allocated to teaching remunerations. Additionally, tuition fees are utilized for travel expenses of instructors, consumables and equipment, scholarships, conferences, as well as remunerations for administrative and technical support, and other miscellaneous expenses.

Article 6. Enrollment in the MSc Program

1. Attendance of Courses

Each cycle (duration) of the Master's program leading to a Master's Degree (MSc) is three (3) semesters, including a total of twelve (12) courses, four (4) per semester. The minimum time required to complete the program is eighteen (18) months. Attendance of courses is mandatory. The upper limit for allowable absences for each course is set at 30%.

Student withdrawal from the Master's program, without the refund of tuition fees, is possible by decision of the Program Committee (E.P.S.), in cases where students fail to meet the following obligations:

- Regular attendance of courses, at least 70% of the conducted lectures each semester.
- Submission of required assignments within the specified deadlines for each course.
- Participation in examinations.

- Respect and compliance with decisions of the departments' bodies, as well as academic ethics.
- Unjustified absence for one (1) academic semester from studies and obligations arising from the status of a postgraduate student.

In exceptional cases, an extension of studies, up to a maximum of three (3) semesters, may be granted based on a reasoned decision of the Program Committee (E.P.S.).

2. Suspension of Enrollment

Postgraduate students may be granted temporary suspension of studies, not exceeding two (2) consecutive semesters, upon submission of a relevant application. During the suspension, the postgraduate student loses the status of a student. The time of suspension is not counted towards the maximum duration of regular enrollment.

3. Part-Time Enrollment

There is the option of **part-time enrollment** in the program for six (6) semesters without additional financial burden. In part-time enrollment, students choose for the first two semesters, two (2) out of the total four (4) offered courses per semester, before the start of the courses, one of which is the mandatory course "Research Methodology." In the third semester, they also declare two (2) out of the four (4) offered courses. Part-time students are advised to select courses in such a way as to ensure academic continuity of courses with the same title, e.g., "Financial Accounting I" in the 1st semester and "Financial Accounting II" in the 2nd semester of studies. The number of part-time students cannot exceed 30% of the admitted students.

Part-time students declare their preference for this option from the beginning in the application for their admission to the Master's program if they cannot meet the minimum requirements of the "full" enrollment program. The duration of part-time enrollment cannot exceed twice the normal enrollment duration.

4. Technical Infrastructure

The MSc program will operate in the facilities of the Departments of Economics and Accounting & Finance of the School of Economics and Administrative Sciences at the University of Thessaly. Each Department provides classrooms, computer labs with modern computers equipped with necessary software, and necessary audiovisual means for teaching the courses. In addition to these, the Department of Economics has a library and a reading room with textbooks that are regularly updated, funded by the revenues of the MSc program.

5. Completion of Studies

A postgraduate student is considered a holder of the Master's Degree upon fully completing their obligations. To participate in the graduation ceremony, the student must have:

- Successfully completed the study program as outlined by the curriculum.

- Submitted the Academic Identity.
- No outstanding issues with the library.
- Settled any financial obligations.

The graduation ceremony for postgraduate students is conducted by the Rectorate Authorities, in the presence of the Director of the MSc program.

6. Certificates

The format of the Master's Degree and the ceremony of the oath are determined by the regulations of the institution. For the format of the Degree Supplement, the decision of the Senate Council of the 224th/17-10-2008 session and the provisions of Ministerial Decision F5/89656/B3/13-8-2007 apply.

7. Secretarial, Technological, and Financial Support

Secretarial, technological, and financial support is provided by members of the Administrative and Technical Staff (TOE), as well as external collaborators with the appropriate experience and responsibility. Their remuneration is solely covered by the budget of the MSc program.

8. Scholarships

In recognition and reward of excellence based on the undergraduate grade, the following scholarships are provided:

One (1) Excellence Scholarship (full exemption from tuition fees) for the candidate with the highest undergraduate grade, provided that the grade is "EXCELLENT."

Scholarships (50% tuition fee reduction) for four (4) postgraduate students with an undergraduate grade above 8 (eight). In case the number of eligible students exceeds four (4), scholarships are awarded to the top four students with the highest grades above eight (8).

Additionally, in the MSc program, one (1) scholarship recipient of the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY) who succeeded in the relevant competition for postgraduate studies in the specific field of knowledge of the MSc program is accepted. Furthermore, one (1) scholarship recipient from abroad, sponsored by the Greek State, is accepted.

Scholarships of excellence exemption are also granted, taking into account academic performance measured by the average of grades received by students over the three semesters. The number and extent of scholarships depend on the revenues of the MSc program, and the final decision is made by the Educational and Programming Committee (EPS).

Scholarships are not granted in the following cases:

- a) Postgraduate students already receiving a scholarship from another source.
- b) Postgraduate students on educational leave with allowances.

c) Postgraduate students exempt from tuition fees.

Excellence scholarship recipients may contribute to the Library, Laboratories, Secretariat, and Research for the MSc program, and must adhere to the decisions of the EPS and academic ethics.

9. MSc Program Website

The official website of the MSc Program – www.accaud.uth.gr is continuously updated, containing all the information and announcements of the Program. It serves as the official platform for informing students. The alumni network website is also operational at <http://accaud.uth.gr/alumni-accaud/>.

Article 7. Quality Assurance

1. Intellectual Property and Plagiarism.

The intellectual property rights of works, or rights to patents or commercial exploitation of works, are determined by relevant decisions of the Ethics Committee of the University of Thessaly. Any form of plagiarism in coursework, publications, or their authorship, invention of research data, and unscientific behavior in general are prohibited. The Ethics Committee is responsible for informing MSc students and imposing penalties where necessary. Detailed guidelines on the matter will be issued by the University Ethics Committee.

2. Research Ethics and Deontology Committee- Three-Member Internal Ethics and Deontology Subcommittee for Research.

According to Law 4957/2022, Article 279, the Research Ethics and Deontology Committee may express opinions on ethical and deontological issues related to an article for publication in a scientific journal or an in-progress dissertation or doctoral thesis. Templates for drafting the relevant forms can be found on the University of Thessaly website at the following address:

[https://2018.uth.gr/panepistimio/thesmika/themata-deontologias/InternalCommittee Ethics and Deontology/Related Forms-Documents](https://2018.uth.gr/panepistimio/thesmika/themata-deontologias/InternalCommittee%20Ethics%20and%20Deontology/Related%20Forms-Documents)

3. Evaluation / Quality Control of the Program.

The MSc program as a whole, as well as individual courses, will be systematically evaluated according to the proposed procedures and criteria established by the Internal Quality Assurance System of the University of Thessaly, which also contributes to its further improvement.

Article 8. Transitional Provisions

Any issue that arises in the future and is not covered by the relevant legislation or the respective Postgraduate Studies Regulation will be addressed through decisions of the Program Committee (Ε.Π.Σ.), following a proposal by the Director, and of the University Senate, by amending the Regulation and publishing it in the Government Gazette.

In the MSc program, a master's thesis is not required for postgraduate students to obtain the Master's Degree (MSc). This is in accordance with decision 1838/22/ΓΠ/31-1-2022, published in the Official Government Gazette (FEK) 778/21-2-2022/t. B'.

For those who are currently enrolled in the academic year or those from previous years who have not completed their theses, they have the option, instead of completing a master's thesis, to successfully attend and complete courses either (a) from the 3rd semester of the current MSc in Accounting and Auditing, or (b) from the MSc programs in "Applied Economics" and/or "Sustainable Accounting, Finance, and Governance," accumulating a total of at least 30 ECTS. A summary of the courses offered by these three MSc programs is described in the following table.

MSc "Accounting and Auditing"		
Management Accounting II	3rd semester	7 ECTS
Information Systems	3rd semester	6 ECTS
MSc "Applied Economics"		
Money Markets and Capital	2nd semester	7 ECTS
MSc "Sustainable Accounting, Finance and Governance"		
Corporate Governance & Corporate Social Responsibility	1st semester	6 ECTS
Sustainable Accounting-Non-financial Information	2nd semester	6 ECTS

The MSc program, in addition to providing educational services, may collaborate with equivalent postgraduate programs of domestic and foreign institutions, as well as entities such as ESOEL (National Coordinating Body for Audit and Accountability), the Ministry of Finance, Financial Institutions, and major Audit Firms.

Since 2018, it has also been collaborating with ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants). Graduates of the MSc program who wish to participate in the professional examinations for obtaining the international title of Chartered Accountant are exempted from the examination of educational units (courses).

It can also collaborate with professional bodies for the implementation of educational programs. Any issue that arises in the future and is not covered by the relevant legislation or the respective Postgraduate Studies Regulation will be addressed through decisions of the Program Committee (Ε.Π.Σ.), following a proposal by the Program Director, and of the University Senate, by amending the Regulation and publishing it in the Government Gazette.

Regular review of this Internal Postgraduate Studies Regulation may take place every two years.

Article 9. Mobility Regulation

The MSc in Accounting and Auditing actively participates in the Erasmus+ program of the European Union for Higher Education, believing in international collaborations and the benefits that students, as well as the teaching and administrative staff, can gain from this experience.

The Program Committee (Ε.Π.Σ.) of the MSc has appointed the Director of the MSc as the Erasmus+ academic coordinator, who informs and supports students interested in undertaking internships abroad. The Director closely collaborates with the International Relations Office of the University of Thessaly, which, as an institution, has been certified with the Erasmus+ University Charter by the European Commission.

Mobility within the MSc framework follows the mobility principles adopted by the University of Thessaly. However, it is within the jurisdiction of the General Assembly of the Department of Economics to decide, following a proposal by the Program Committee (Ε.Π.Σ.) of the MSc, on the procedures and selection criteria for the mobility of students.

The subject of the Internship should be relevant to the field of Accounting and Auditing.

The objectives of student mobility abroad for internships under the Erasmus+ framework are:

- Acquisition of professional experience and development of professional skills
- Easier and better integration of graduates into the production process
- Practical application of knowledge in the professional field
- Familiarization and understanding of the economic and cultural conditions of other European countries
- Exchange of information between the University and businesses for a more effective connection between theory and practice

Within the framework of the Erasmus Placement program, active students and **graduates of the MSc** have the right to travel abroad for internships. The entire process should be completed while they are still students, and the internship, which lasts from 2 to 12 months, should take place **within one year** before and after their graduation (not later).

The mobility is initially approved by the academic coordinator responsible for the Erasmus+ program and then by the Department's assembly.

Eligible host organizations include any form of public or private entities in the social sector, regardless of size or activity (e.g., educational institutions, training and development organizations, research centers, school units, etc.) related to the core subjects treated in the MSc.

Host organizations are obligated to provide the trainee with the conditions for the internship by appointing a supervisor for the work to be performed and by providing all necessary information for achieving the goals, as well as the required technical infrastructure.

The student:

- Initially receives information from the International Relations Office website about the process, deadlines, and the results of the selection process, and later from the academic coordinator of the MSc.
- Is responsible for finding the host organization and coordinating the period and duration of the internship, as well as details of travel and stay in the host country (visa issuance, special insurance coverage, residence permit issuance).
- Sends a brief curriculum vitae to the organizations they wish to move to, describing their area of expertise and requesting acceptance for an internship.
- To have the mobility approved, they must provide an acceptance certificate according to the specifications mentioned in the participation process (internship duration, subject, and supervisor details).
- Upon completion of the internship, the student submits a report on the work performed.

The internship in the MSc in "Accounting and Auditing" does not carry credit units calculated towards the bachelor's degree grade. However, it is listed in the diploma supplement. The program supports the development of professional skills of students, not their current research activities. Therefore, a student may work in a research-related organization only under the condition that the subject of the internship is determined by the needs and activities of the host organization and is not designed to serve part/section of a dissertation or thesis. Of course, the knowledge and skills acquired by the student, such as learning a technique, can be utilized by the intern within the scope of their personal research activities.

Annexes

Annex A. Examination Regulations

Annex B. Procedure for Submitting Applications by Prospective Postgraduate Students

Annex C. Obligations of Postgraduate Students

Annex D. Template for writing assignments

ANNEX A. EXAMINATION REGULATIONS

1. Introduction

This regulation defines the duties and obligations of instructors, students, and invigilators in the conduct of examinations.

2. Preparation of Examinations

2.1 The scheduling of examination periods is determined by the Senate. Any modification, made only by decision of the Program's Steering Committee (EDC) in case of necessity, is promptly communicated.

2.2 The examination schedule is compiled by the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Program in consultation with the instructors.

2.3 In case the responsible instructor is absent for exceptional reasons, examinations for a course may proceed only if the Program Director has made a relevant decision, appointing another department instructor as responsible for the examination process.

2.4 The detailed examination schedule for the winter and spring semesters is announced at least fifteen (15) days before the start of the examination periods.

2.5 The detailed schedule for the September examination period is announced at the end of the spring semester examination period.

3. Commencement of Examinations

3.1 The responsible examiner for a course must:

- Timely collect from the secretariat the relevant folder for conducting the examination, including competition stickers, a list of examinees, grading sheets, etc., for the examination room of the course.
- Arrange the arrangement or rearrangement of examinees in the rooms.
- Be present in the examination area throughout its duration.

3.2 Before the distribution of the test papers, examinees must remove all aids except those explicitly allowed by the detailed examination schedule.

3.3 The examination papers are printed and must:

- Have been reproduced at the Secretariat, under the responsibility of the responsible examiner, in a sufficient number of copies to ensure distribution to all examinees.
- Include, at the header of the first page, the details of the course, the name of the responsible examiner, the examination period, the date of the examination, and the duration of the examination

4. Conduct of Examinations

4.1 The format of the examinations is determined by the responsible examiner of the course (written, oral, with presentation of assignments).

4.2 At the beginning of the examination and immediately after the delivery of the topics, examinees may submit clarifying questions to the responsible examiner if accepted.

4.3 Students who have timely submitted relevant documentation for a mandatory oral examination to the secretariat are examined by the responsible examiner during the period of written examinations for the course, in another room within the same building where the examinations take place. The Secretariat must inform the examiners in writing in a timely manner about the number of students being examined orally.

4.4 The exit of an examinee from the examination room during the examination and the return for its continuation are generally prohibited. In exceptional cases, it may be allowed at the discretion of the invigilators.

4.5 Violations of the authenticity of the examinations through collaborations among examinees or the use of methods to steal answers or copy are prohibited. In such cases, the invigilator must sign the examination papers, noting relevant observations on the first page of the competition label, and inform the responsible examiner. The student must leave the room, delivering his/her written work, which is nullified in such cases.

4.6 Fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled end of the examination deadline, examinees are notified that the end is approaching.

4.7 Once the deadline set for the examination expires, invigilators must interrupt the examination and collect the written papers. Upon submitting the written work, each examinee signs the attendance sheet after verifying their student identification details by the invigilator. In the presence of the examinee, the invigilators erase all blanks in the written periods and sign the written work. After counting the written papers, they co-sign the attendance sheet and deliver it to the person in charge along with the written papers of the examinees.

4.8 The final written/oral examination for each course in both the regular and retake examination periods is carried out only with physical presence in the classrooms of the Matsaggos Building in Volos (Department of Economics) or the Gaiopolis Building in Larissa (Department of Accounting & Finance).

5. Interruption of the Examination

5.1 The examination may be interrupted only for reasons of force majeure that make it technically impossible for the examinees to process their responses to the topics. The interruption is done under the responsibility of the responsible examiner.

5.2 In this case, the examination is canceled, and the responsible examiner, in collaboration with the secretariat, schedules a re-examination immediately after the end of the current examination period.

5.3 The examination that is interrupted, as described above, is awarded to the examinees who have submitted their written work.

6. Cancellation of the Examination

6.1 The cancellation of the examination can be decided by the responsible examiner, and in the case of proven leakage of the topics, after a decision by the Examination Board of the Postgraduate Program.

6.2 The Examination Board of the Postgraduate Program decides on the need for a new examination.

7. Right to Participate in Examinations

7.1 The right to participate is granted to students who have duly declared, by submitting the Course Registration Form, that they include the corresponding course in their study program for the semester corresponding to the current examination period. In the September examination period, students are entitled to participate in the examinations for the courses included in their individual study programs during the two immediately preceding semesters.

8. Examination Results

8.1 The grading is deposited by the responsible examiner, who signs a relevant protocol, at the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Program within an exclusive deadline of twenty (20) days from the examination.

8.2 Within a deadline of seven (7) days from the date of announcement of the results of the course, with a reasoned request from each student who participated in the examination, they may request clarifications about their performance by submitting an application to the Department's Secretariat. The matter is referred to the Examination Board of the Postgraduate Program, which decides accordingly.

8.3 The written papers and topics are kept by the examiner for the next two years.

9. Student Obligations as Examinees

9.1 Students-examinees must have their student ID with them.

9.2 Each student must, during the written examination, adhere to the conditions of its smooth conduct, avoiding any disturbances to other examinees.

9.3 Each student must follow the instructions of the invigilators.

9.4 The use of coffee, soft drinks, etc., is not allowed in the examination room.

9.5 Smoking in the examination room is prohibited, as well as the use of mobile phones, the deactivation of which is required before students enter the examination room.

10. Compliance with the Regulation and Defense of the Integrity of Examinations

10.1 The compliance with the regulation, its completion, and the interpretation of its provisions are undertaken by the Examination Board of the Postgraduate Program

10.2 The Examination Board of the Postgraduate Program may propose sanctions to the competent University bodies if it is deemed that there is an issue.

ANNEX B. PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS BY PROSPECTIVE POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

Applications are submitted online through the Postgraduate Program's website, along with the required documents, which should be uploaded to the program's specific platform. The call for expressions of interest for the submission of applications to the Postgraduate Program is published during the spring semester and includes all information on how to submit applications, the required qualifications, necessary documents, and selection criteria. Applications are valid if submitted in full within the specified deadline according to the relevant instructions on the Postgraduate Program's website.

The deadline for submitting applications, required documents, and other details are announced on the Postgraduate Program's website and at the offices of the Program's Secretariat. Within the document submission deadline, interested parties submit their applications and the required documents exclusively electronically, as detailed on the program's website. Recommendation letters from Professors/Employers are sent exclusively electronically to the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Program before the date of the candidates' interviews.

Candidate Documents:

- Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae
- University/Technical Educational Institute Degree (with the corresponding recognition by DOATAP if obtained from a foreign university)
- Detailed Grade Transcript (with exact GPA)
- Recognized English Language Proficiency Certificate
- Computer Skills Certificate or proof of computer literacy from the graduation department's secretary
- Scientific Publications/Distinctions (if any)
- Proof of professional experience (if any)
- Additional qualifications (postgraduate degrees, university/technical educational institute degrees)
- Two recommendation letters from University Professors or Technical Educational Institute Professors or employers (exclusively electronic)
- Photocopy of the ID card or passport

Candidates who meet the necessary requirements will be invited for an interview. There will be timely information from the Secretariat.

ANNEX C. OBLIGATIONS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

Postgraduate students accepted by the MSc program are obligated to:

- Attend the lectures of the courses and seminars.
- Submit the required assignments for each course within the specified deadlines.
- Attend the examinations.
- Pay the tuition fees on the dates set by the Program Secretariat.
- Respect and adhere to the decisions of the Department's bodies, as well as academic ethics and the present regulation of the MSc program.
- Complete anonymous evaluation questionnaires based on objective and academic judgment after the completion of each course in each semester and before the examination of the course. The analysis of the questionnaires, along with the students' observations and comparative tables, is prepared by the Secretariat in collaboration with the Hellenic Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency in Higher Education (HQAA). The prepared tables are delivered to the instructors. In cases with serious student complaints, the HQAA examines the severity of the problem and discusses the issue with both students and the instructor to find an immediate solution. The HQAA has the right, within the framework of external evaluation, to request the instructor not to continue teaching the specific course.

Failure to comply with all of the above, without a serious and documented justification, constitutes grounds for exclusion from the program, following the unanimous opinion of the HQAA.

ANNEX D- TEMPLATE FOR WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

The complete work will be written according to the following instructions:

Work Length:

There is no restriction on the number of words or pages. There is no necessary positive relationship between the quantity and quality of a work. What is required is the substantial and qualitative coverage of the examined topic.

Typography:

Font: Times New Roman, 12

Language: Greek (with an English abstract immediately after the Greek abstract)

Margins: 2.5cm margins on all sides.

Line Spacing: 1.5 spacing

Page Numbering:

Pages should be numbered consecutively from the first page after the title page to the end.

Figures and Tables:

Figures and tables can be in black and/or color within the text.

Titles (captions) of figures and tables should be at the top and should be cited in the text.

The presentation of results from statistical or econometric programs without processing and introduction into appropriate tables is not recommended. If presenting a ready-made table, the source must be provided.

Equations:

Equations should be numbered consecutively and appear on the left side of the page, with the numbering in parentheses on the right side.

Citations:

Every figure, equation, or anything else used from existing literature should be clearly referenced.

Each figure or diagram should have the source in the bottom left, e.g., Source: Samarás (2009, p. 109).

If there is any unpublished information, it should be referenced as a personal communication, e.g., The information was obtained from Mr. G. Papandreou through personal communication.

Chapters - Subchapters:

Divide the work into chapters numbered in ascending order.

Subchapters will be numbered as 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc.

Each chapter and subchapter will have a concise title.

Each chapter description will appear on its own separate line. Each subheading (times new roman 14, italic) will appear with its numbering.

General Structure of the Papers:

• **Title Page:**

- The entire title of the work
- Name, patronymic, and surname of the student who wrote the paper
- Full name and title of the supervising professor
- Master's Program: Interdepartmental Master's Program of Studies in "Accounting and Auditing," University of Thessaly, Department of Economics and Department of Accounting and Finance
- Year of completion of the master's thesis.
- Title of the master's thesis centered in capital letters, Times New Roman 18, bold.
- Above the title: "University of Thessaly, Department of Economics - Department of Accounting and Finance, Interdepartmental Master's Program of Studies 'Accounting and Auditing.'"
- Below the title: "Volos 2022," centered, Times New Roman 14, bold.

• **Table of Contents**

• **Abstract:**

Abstract and keywords, 100-200 words, written in Greek and English in Microsoft Word.

The page with the abstract will have the title of the paper with the indication: "ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ" (for the Greek) and "ABSTRACT" (for the English text), in capital letters, Times New Roman 14, bold.

Keywords and JEL codes follow the abstract.

• **Chapters:**

- Introduction
- Literature Review (with a clear contribution of the candidate)
- Data (for empirical works, not for theoretical ones)
- Research Methodology (for empirical works, not for theoretical ones)
- Empirical Results (for empirical works, not for theoretical ones)
- Discussion and Comments
- Conclusions and suggestions for further research
- Bibliography

- Appendices

If there are more than one appendix, they are numbered as A, B, etc. Equations and formulas in the appendices take a different numbering: e.g., (A.1), (A.2), etc. In the next appendix (B.1), etc.

In-Text Citations:

- If the author's surname is not part of the text: (Author, 2009)
- If the author's surname is part of the text: Author (2009)
- If there are three or more authors: (First Author et al., 2009)
- If the same author appears more than once in the same year: (Author 2008a, b)
- For articles under publication: (Author, under publication)

Footnotes:

Footnotes are placed next to each citation or generally at any point in the text that requires clarification or additional support. Footnotes are numbered continuously from 1 to n and are cited in the footnote section.

Bibliography:

References are listed alphabetically with the surnames of the authors for each work (Foreign-language first, followed by Greek-language references). Journal names and book titles are italicized.

Journal Article:

Dickey, D.A., & Fuller, W.A. (1981). Likelihood Ratio Statistics for Autoregressive Time Series with a unit Root. *Econometrica*, 49, 1057-1072.

Book:

Hamilton, J.D. (1994). *Times Series Analysis*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey.

Book Chapter:

Brunner, K., & Melzer, A.H. (1990). Money Supply. In: Friedman BM, Hahn FH (Eds), *Handbook of monetary economics*, vol.1. North-Holland: Amsterdam, 1990. pp. 357-396.

DOI Article:

Slifka, M.K., & Whitton, J.L. (2000) Clinical implications of dysregulated cytokine production. *Journal of Molecular Medicine*. doi:10.1007/s001090000086

Online Article:

Abou-Allaban, Y., et al. (2006). Religious/spiritual commitments and psychiatric practice. Resource document. American Psychiatric Association. Link. Accessed 25 June 2007.

The bibliography is listed alphabetically by the authors' surnames for each work (foreign language first, followed by Greek). The names of journals and book titles are presented in italics.

Original Text Quotation:

In direct use of excerpts, place the sentence in quotation marks and provide the source at the end of the quote. Avoid excessive use of such quotations and any form of plagiarism without proper source attribution. If there is doubt about the correct translation of an English scientific term into Greek, the English term is provided in parentheses after the Greek term (*italic*).