



**QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY OF THE ACADEMIC UNIT FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF THE DISTANCE
LEARNING MASTER'S PROGRAMME**

DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF THESSALY



**JOINT MASTER'S
IN LEADERSHIP EDUCATION
IN DISABILITY AND INCLUSION**

JUNE 2026

QUALITY POLICY STATEMENT

The Department of Special Education of the University of Thessaly, in collaboration with the Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP) and the competent services of the University, has aligned the Quality Policy of its Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Doctoral Programmes with the Quality Policy of the University of Thessaly.

This Quality Policy has been developed in full alignment with the University of Thessaly Quality Policy for Distance Learning Master's Programmes, the applicable national legislative framework, the principles and guidelines of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE), the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), and the approved Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of the University.

The Department is committed to ensuring and continuously improving the quality of its educational, research and administrative activities, in accordance with the principles of academic excellence, inclusion, transparency, accountability and continuous improvement.

In particular, the distance learning Master's Programme forms part of the strategic planning of both the University of Thessaly and the Department of Special Education and contributes to:

- the advancement of scientific knowledge and research,
- the development and dissemination of innovative practices in education, inclusion and social policy,
- the promotion of equal participation and rights for all citizens,
- the development of advanced professional, academic and research competencies,
- addressing contemporary societal, educational and developmental needs at national and international levels.

The Programme is committed to implementing a quality policy that:

- supports its academic identity and strategic orientation,
- promotes its mission and learning objectives,
- ensures the quality of distance education,
- guarantees academic integrity, transparency and fairness,
- promotes internationalisation, collaboration and innovation,
- defines the means and processes through which objectives are achieved,
- pursues continuous enhancement and improvement.

THE DISTANCE LEARNING MASTER'S PROGRAMME

Designs, reviews and continuously improves its curriculum

in order to:

- respond to contemporary scientific developments and societal needs,
- achieve the intended learning outcomes,
- provide qualifications aligned with national and European qualifications frameworks,
- ensure academic equivalence with comparable face-to-face programmes,
- incorporate the principles of inclusion, accessibility and Universal Design for Learning (UDL),
- connect theory with practice, research and societal needs,
- enhance students' professional and academic development.

Implements quality assurance procedures in teaching

through:

- the selection of highly qualified academic staff,
- systematic evaluation of teaching by students,
- participation in internal and external quality evaluation processes,
- the use of contemporary pedagogical and technological approaches,
- monitoring students' academic progress,
- provision of academic advising and support,
- ensuring accessible and high-quality learning resources,
- fostering a culture of respect, collaboration, mutual understanding and equal participation.

Ensures the quality of research activity

through:

- strengthening national and international research collaborations,
- encouraging participation in research projects and networks,
- supporting international mobility,
- promoting high-quality scholarly publications,
- seeking alternative sources of research and innovation funding.

Ensures

- the integration of teaching, research and societal impact,
- monitoring graduate employability and career progression,
- maintaining an appropriate number of admissions based on available resources,
- systematic collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative quality indicators,
- utilisation of feedback from students, alumni and external stakeholders,
- effective management of complaints, suggestions and improvement proposals,
- continuous enhancement of all programme functions.

DISTANCE LEARNING QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Programme ensures the quality and continuous improvement of distance education through:

- the use of reliable digital platforms and technological tools supporting synchronous and asynchronous learning,
- ensuring accessibility for persons with disabilities and diverse learning needs,
- implementation of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles,
- provision of technical, administrative and academic support,
- continuous professional development of staff in distance education,
- safeguarding academic integrity and the reliability of assessment procedures,
- ensuring data protection and information security,
- systematic monitoring of student experience and learning outcomes,
- utilisation of evaluation and feedback data for programme improvement,
- monitoring international developments and best practices in online and distance education.

Quality assurance follows the continuous improvement cycle (Plan – Do – Check – Act) and is coordinated by the Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP) of the University of Thessaly.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND TRANSPARENCY

The Programme:

- publishes its Quality Policy and related procedures on its website,
- communicates the policy to all stakeholders,
- systematically updates its website to ensure reliable and accurate information,
- publishes key quality indicators and operational information,
- periodically reviews this Quality Policy to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness.