

Quality Assurance Policy

Academic units should develop and implement a quality assurance policy deriving from their strategy, specialized in the scope of International Study Programs, and accompanied by monitoring annual Quality Assurance standards to ensure their continuous improvement.

1. Statement of the Quality Assurance Policy of the English-taught Undergraduate “BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece” of the School of Philosophy, NKUA

The English-taught “BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece” of the School of Philosophy, NKUA is fully dedicated and committed to the implementation of a policy that ensures the provision of a high-quality university program in a foreign language to students who choose this International Undergraduate Study Program, which is structured and delivered with high quality academic standards and significant added value, in English, to all the domains and fields of antiquarian science. Additionally, it seeks to develop a creative research environment of free scientific expression and employment for all staff members of the School.

2. Analysis of the Quality Assurance Policy of the School of Philosophy, NKUA and its application in the implementation of the English-taught “BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece”.

The School of Philosophy that is part of NKUA, the oldest representative of the Greek public University, has developed and implemented, through its departments, a specific and officially formulated Quality Assurance Policy, which is part of its academic strategy. The Quality Assurance Policy of the Departments of the School of Philosophy is fully aligned with the requirements of the Institution's Internal Quality Assurance System and is fully linked to the legal and regulatory framework that governs the operation of the School and the Greek public university.

The pursuit of high-quality Greek and foreign-language higher education in all fields of Antiquarian Science as well as in all the rapidly developing individual scientific fields associated with the education of students (Prehistoric Archaeology, Classical Archaeology, Ancient History, Ancient Greek Philology, Latin Philology, Modern Greek Philology, etc.) is a commitment of all staff and those involved in the academic activity of the School.

This Quality Assurance Policy applies in its entirety to the implementation and monitoring of the English-taught “BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece” (BAAG). It aims at pursuing of specific annual Quality Assurance objectives, related to the Quality Assurance standards offered by the School of Philosophy, NKUA. For the implementation of this policy, the School of Philosophy, among other things, is committed to and implements procedures that prove the suitability of the structure and organization of the English-taught “BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece”, the aptness of the qualifications of the teaching staff as well as the quality of the support

services of both the School of Philosophy and the University (with the newly established International Students' Support Unit), but also of the Program itself, which have been staffed with appropriate administrative personnel and have the necessary infrastructure to provide service to international students.

The Management's commitment to the effective operation and implementation of the Quality Assurance Policy in all aspects of the English-taught "BA program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece", aiming at its continuous improvement, is ensured by the following actions:

- Definition of objective, measurable and observable standards for the quality of the English-taught BA program.
- Participation in the evaluation and Quality Assurance process of the students. The students of the Program participate in the evaluation on the courses and the academic experience gained through electronic questionnaires.
- Completion of an annual internal evaluation of the Program through the collaboration of the Internal Evaluation Team with the University Quality Assurance Unit. In the context of the annual internal evaluation, in addition to identifying weak points and defining improvement actions, the review and improvement of the Quality Assurance Policy applied to the Program will be sought.
- Recording of information and data on the quality standards of the Program on an annual basis, in the integrated National Information System for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (NISQA) of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE).
- Affirmation of the importance of the continuous fulfillment of the requirements and expectations of the students and members of the School of Philosophy.
- Constant monitoring of the effective operation of the support structures and services that are available to the international students of the Program.
- Safeguarding of the academic principles and ethics, the prevention of discrimination, the encouragement of the involvement of external agencies in quality assurance processes.
- Continuous improvement of learning and teaching, research, and innovation.
- Full alignment with European and International Standards (ECTS system).
- Effective organization of the administrative, educational, research, museum and laboratory services it provides as well as the development and maintenance of its infrastructure, provision and effective management of the necessary resources for the delivery of the "BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece", the development and rational allocation of the human resources participating in the "BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece".

The ultimate goal of the implementation of a Quality Assurance Policy in all study programs of the School of Philosophy is to maintain and improve qualities such as:

- Recognition and reputation it has both in Greece and abroad for the excellent and up-to-date education it provides, which is also confirmed by the following:

- Evaluation and Accreditation Council of HAHE, accepted the Accreditation Report of the Undergraduate Study Program of the Department of History and Archeology (prot. no. ETHAAE 8590/04-02-2019), according to which the Undergraduate Study Program in question fully complies with the HAHE Quality Standards and the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
- Evaluation and Accreditation Council of HAHE accepted the Accreditation Report for the Undergraduate Study Program of the Department of Philology (prot. no. ETHAAE 16347/23-06-2020), according to which the said Program fully complies with the Principles of the HAHE Quality Standards and Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
- International collaborations that are in effect between the "BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece" and the Chinese Southwest University (SWU) and Northwest Normal University (NWNNU), and the University of Cincinnati in the USA, during these three short years of administrative and two years of educational operation of the Program, along with the large number of important Universities in Europe, the USA and Australia with which bilateral cooperation agreements are in progress, such as: the University of Reading, the University of Leeds and Queen Mary University of London, UK (after consultations with these aforementioned Universities, BAAG's proposal to the Senate has been accepted and the individual arrangements for concluding the agreements are proceeding), William & Mary and the University of Tennessee, USA (also, after consultations with these Universities, BAAG's proposal to the Senate has been accepted and the individual arrangements for the conclusion of the agreements are in process), with La Trobe University and Macquarie University in Australia (with which consultations are ongoing). Moreover, BAAG's summer school in collaboration with Boston University, USA, and participation of Study in Greece (SiG) "Voyage into Greek Civilization Summer Program" has already successfully taken place in the summer of 2022. The summer school "Mythos as MythUs: Facing and Overcoming crises through traditional narrative from antiquity to the present" has received the approval of the NKUA Senate and will be launched in the summer of 2023. This Program has been designed in accordance with the principles of the latest relevant law and the standards set during the recent visit to the NKUA of representatives of American Universities, which was organized by the Ministry of Education. Eminent Greek and foreign scientists will teach during the summer school. Finally, consultations with other Universities are at an early stage and the implementation of International Summer Schools is underway.
- Interest in attending courses of the Program by students of European universities within the framework of Erasmus and Erasmus + agreements of faculty members of the School of Philosophy.

- High scientific training, education, academic and professional ethos of the graduates of the two Departments (i.e., History and Archaeology, Philology) of the School of Philosophy who support the program, who have the opportunity to continue their studies at postgraduate and doctoral level in high-level specialization programs in Europe and the USA.
- High level of antiquarian knowledge through research programs in the fields involved and elsewhere, as well as the museum and other laboratory infrastructures and actions.
- Ly distinguished scientific contribution of the teaching and research staff participating in the Program and more generally in the two Departments that support it.
- Major role and participation of the School in informing and raising public awareness in matters of national history and cultural heritage.
- Strengthening of extroversion and internationalization through the organization and implementation of foreign-language undergraduate and postgraduate study programs such as the English-taught "BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece" with three years of administrative and two years of educational operation, but also the English-taught Master's Program "Greek and Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology" of the Department of History and Archaeology, with four years of operation.
- Endeavor to develop a creative research and work environment for the staff of the School.
- Strengthening of the "commitment" of the Academic members of the Teaching and Research Staff (DEP), the Lab Teaching Staff (EDIP), the Technical Lab Staff (ETEP) and the administrative staff of the School to the continuous improvement of the teaching, research, laboratory and museum work, and of the other services provided in Greek and foreign language study programs.

The vision of the School of Philosophy is to continue to address, in this case through the "BA Program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece", the cultural, social, research and developmental needs of the country, adhering to the principles of scientific ethics, accountability, sustainable development and social cohesion.

3. Goals and actions of the English-taught "BA program in the Archaeology, History, and Literature of Ancient Greece"

The main axes - strategic objectives in the implementation of this Bachelor's degree in English are the following:

- Upgrading and continuous improvement of teaching activities.
- Renewal and strengthening of the Curriculum by adding academic subjects and increasing the number of elective courses.
- Strengthening the student-centered learning in the curriculum.
- Improving student performance in the courses of study.
- Strengthening extroversion - internationalization - increasing the mobility of students and the teaching and research academic staff.

- Strengthening and promoting research activity and innovation.
- Improving services and infrastructure to support international students.
- Development and management of human resources.

The objective and planning measures for this undergraduate degree program, as well as the analysis of the above axes, are detailed in Appendix 1.

Through the adoption, review, redesign and redefinition of the Quality Assurance Policy, this program is committed to achieving even higher levels of performance.

4. Communication methods of the Quality Assurance Policy

The Statement of the Quality Assurance Policy of the English-taught Program of the school of Philosophy is publicly accessible on the website <https://baag.uoa.gr/>

The staff of the School of Philosophy of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens is fully informed about and actively participates in the quality assurance procedures that apply to all programs taught in Greek and in foreign languages. Specifically, the teaching and research staff conducts course evaluation procedures by students and faculty members under the guidance of the / Internal Evaluation Team (O.M.E.A.) and the University Quality Assurance Unit (MO.DI.P.), while the Head of the Program and academic director informs teaching faculty of the evaluation results, highlighting both the positive elements and those that need improvement.

The BAAG Quality Assurance Policy is also discussed in the Program Steering Committee's meetings, as well as in specially organized meetings with faculty, members of the Secretariat, and all members of the academic community who can and should be involved in its design and implementation.