

# SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, BUSINESS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

## **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

# POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME "COMPETITION POLICY AND MARKET REGULATION" (MSc Competition Policy and Market Regulation)

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#### **Article 1: Categories of applicants**

Holders of a first cycle degree from a higher education institution in Greece or similar institutions abroad as well as graduates of the former Technical Universities are admitted to the MSc.

Members of the categories of R.E.P., R.I.P. and R.T.E.P. and administrative staff of the institution, who meet the requirements of the previous paragraph, may, upon their request, be admitted as supernumeraries, and only one per year, only to a P.M.S. of the institution where they serve and under the Internal Regulations of the institution.

#### **Article 2: Criteria and Candidate Selection Procedure**

The selection of admission to the programme is made under the provisions and regulations of the present Regulation for Postgraduate Studies.

By decision of the Assembly, a notice is published and posted on the website of the Department and the Foundation for the admission of postgraduate students to the MSc. The notice includes all relevant details (dates and place of submission of the application, necessary documents that must accompany it, etc.). The relevant applications together with the necessary supporting documents are submitted electronically or deposited at the Department's Secretariat within a deadline set in the announcement and may be extended by the decision of the Department's Assembly.

The documents required from each candidate are as follows:

- 1. Application for candidacy
- 2. Copy of a diploma or certificate of completion of studies
- 3. A certificate of analytical marks, including the degree grade.
- 4. Two letters of recommendation from a faculty member of an HEI and/or an employer
- 5. Proof of English language proficiency, level C2, as attested by the language proficiency certificates accepted by the A $\Sigma$ EP, or the degree or postgraduate or doctoral diploma of a foreign university
- 6. A clear photocopy of two sides of the identity card
- 7. A recent ID card-type photo
- 8. Curriculum vitae
- 9. A copy of your Bachelor's or Diploma thesis (if completed)
- 10. Publications in peer-reviewed journals (if any)
- 11. Evidence of professional or research activity, (if any)
- 12. A declaration (via the service https://www.gov.gr or using an attestation of the authenticity of the signature at a KEP) stating that the supporting documents submitted and filed in the application file are true.

The Assembly of the Department may, by decision, prescribe additional document(s). The exact procedure is described in the notice.

Candidates who hold a first-cycle degree from a foreign institution must submit a degree to check whether the foreign institution is included in the National Register of recognised foreign institutions and the National Register of types of degrees of recognised foreign institutions. Foreign qualifications are submitted and accepted in accordance with the applicable provisions. It is noted that if the place of study or part of the studies is confirmed as the Greek territory, the degree is not recognised, unless the part of the studies undertaken in the Greek territory is at a public higher education institution.

The Secretariat of the Department checks the necessary formal documents submitted by the

candidate, registers the application and forwards it to the Candidate Selection Committee.

The selection of admissions is carried out by a committee of faculty members (Selection Committee), established by the decision of the Assembly.

The selection criteria as well as the details of the application of these criteria (points, coefficients, etc.) are made known to the candidates with the announcement of the MSc and are indicatively the following:

- 1. Degree(s) at 30% degree level(s)
- 2. Average grade in 4 undergraduate courses related to the cognitive subject of the MSc at a rate of 5%
- 3. Performance in a degree or diploma thesis at 5%
- 4. Knowledge of foreign language(s) at 5%
- 5. Relevance of the Department of Origin with the MSc in 5%
- 6. Possession of a second degree of A or B cycle at a rate of 5%
- 7. Type and scope of work and/or research experience at 15%
- 8. 25% interview
- 9. Letters of recommendation from faculty members of HEI and/or from an employer at 5%

The Assembly may set additional criteria as well as establish a (Additional Internal) Examination Committee, on the proposal of the Selection Committee for all or some candidates. The Selection Committee shall determine the subject matter and timing of these examinations.

The selection procedure is carried out by the Selection Committee, which:

- $\alpha$ ) draw up a complete list of those who have applied.
- b) Reject candidates who do not meet the selection criteria.
- c) Invite all candidates for an interview. The interview shall be conducted by the members of the Selection Committee.
- d) Evaluate the candidates and submit its proposal for final approval to the Assembly.

The final list of successful candidates is confirmed by the Assembly of the Department.

In the event of a tie, the Assembly shall decide to register all tied candidates as supernumeraries. The registration of candidates in the programme is completed by submitting all the required documents to the Secretariat.

In case of non-registration of one or more students, the runners-up, if any, will be invited, based on their order in the approved evaluation list, to enroll in the Program.

#### **Article 3: Duration of Studies - Terms of Attendance**

The duration of studies for the award of the Diploma of Postgraduate Studies is defined as three (3) semesters of full-time study, which includes the time for the preparation of a thesis or the successful completion and examination of three elective courses instead of the preparation of a thesis.

The maximum time allowed for the completion of studies is set at five (5) academic semesters. An exception to the extension of this formal maximum time limit may be made by the Assembly only for serious reasons. After the expiry of the extension generally provided for by the Rules of Study, the student shall be withdrawn from the programme.

In exceptional cases, suspension of studies may be granted, upon the student's request, for up to two (2) academic semesters by decision of the Departmental Assembly. In this case, the course of study is extended for as many academic semesters as the suspension lasts. The continuation of studies is based on the curriculum as it is in force at the time of resumption of studies and not at the time of initial enrolment. The Assembly of the Department may, with a specially reasoned decision, settle any issue arising from the suspension of studies.

#### **Article 4: Course programme**

The programme starts in the winter or spring semester of each academic year. A total of ninety (90) credit hours (ECTS) are required for the award of the MSc.

During their studies, postgraduate students are required to attend and complete postgraduate courses, research and writing of scientific papers, etc. as well as the preparation of a postgraduate thesis.

The courses are taught face-to-face but can also be delivered through distance learning. The organisation of the educational process using distance learning methods ensures accessibility for people with disabilities and special educational needs. The institution maintains an electronic platform accessible to people with disabilities, through which asynchronous distance education services are provided for all the MSc courses.

Courses are organized in semesters, are held weekly and are conducted in Greek and/or English. The duration of the courses is determined by the Coordinating Committee and is announced in the timetable. Each course is taught for three (3) hours per week.

In the first and second semesters of the programme, postgraduate students are required to attend and pass six (6) Compulsory courses and two (2) Elective courses. Elective courses are registered by graduate students at the beginning of each semester and before the start of classes for that semester.

In the third semester, postgraduate students prepare a postgraduate thesis or choose compulsory attendance and successful examination in three (3) elective courses which are equivalent to the preparation of a thesis.

At the beginning of the third semester, postgraduate students are required to attend a seminar entitled "Training of Executives in Regulatory Authority Procedures". The seminar will be conducted by a company with proven experience in issues related to the organisation and the functioning of regulatory authorities. It will have a compulsory attendance of fifteen (15) hours and will be completed by an examination where the acquisition of knowledge will be certified (pass or fail) without a grade, therefore it will not be taken into account in the final degree grade but will be a prerequisite for obtaining the degree. The ECTS credits of the course will count towards the total.

The MSc requires a good knowledge of economic theory and industrial organisation. In addition, students must be familiar with quantitative methods, especially econometric techniques. For this purpose, two preparatory courses are proposed as follows:

- α) Market mechanism failures and state intervention
- b) Statistical analysis and mathematical economics

The preparatory courses will cover 5 three-hour courses in total and will be taught before the start of the first semester. These courses will be concluded by examinations in which the acquisition of knowledge will be certified without a grade (pass or fail).

The curriculum aims at the following:

- $\alpha$ ) To provide students with the fundamental knowledge required for their professional development in areas of public policy such as competition policy and market regulation.
- b) To keep students in touch with the most current issues that affect and will affect competition and regulatory policy in the future.
- c) To provide students with freedom of choice, taking into account their interests and covering a wide range of subjects through thesis and elective courses.
- d) To prepare students for doctoral studies.
- e) To create qualified scientists and executives to meet the needs of effective administration in the private and public sectors.

The course programme is as follows:

Courses of the first semester	Category	Credits (ECTS)
Principles of Microeconomics	Mandatory	7,5
Applied Industrial Organization and Market Regulation	Mandatory	7,5
Economics of Competition Policy	Mandatory	7,5
Applied Econometrics	Mandatory	7,5
Total Credit Units First Semester		30
Courses of the second semester		
Strategic Business Decisions	Mandatory	7,5
Financial for Managers	Mandatory	7,5
Elective course	Select	7,5
Elective course	Select	7,5
Total Credit Units for the second semeste	r	30
Elective courses of the second semester:		
Economics of Bilateral Markets		
Digital Data Analysis (Mega) Applications		
Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence		
EU competition law		
Economics of Mergers and Acquisitions		
Regulation of Digital Markets		
Business Organization and Management		
Third Semester Courses		
Executive Training Seminar on Regulatory Authorities'	Mandatory	6
Preparation of Diploma Thesis	Select	24
ή		
Elective course	Select	8
Elective course	Select	8
Elective course	Select	8
Total Credit Units Third Semester		30
Elective courses of the third semester:		
Competition Case Studies in Online Markets		
Leadership and Competition		
Game Theory in Oligopolistic Markets		
State aid policy		
Econometric Techniques in the Economics of Competition	on and	
Total Credit Units		90

The modification of the course programme and the redistribution of courses between semesters can be made by decisions of the competent bodies (AC, Assembly and Senate).

The academic calendar and the timetable are drawn up based on the academic calendar of the University of Piraeus under the responsibility of the Director of the MSc. At the beginning of each period, the timetable is announced, which includes the days and hours of the courses.

#### Article 5: Obligations and rights of postgraduate students

- 1. Postgraduate students have all the rights and benefits provided for students of the first cycle of studies, except for the right to free textbooks. The Foundation shall ensure equal access to the premises of the institution for students with disabilities or special educational needs and the accessibility of infrastructure, services, both physical and digital, equipment and educational material.
- 2. Postgraduate students are invited to participate and attend e.g. seminars of research groups, visits to laboratories, conferences/meetings related to the subject matter of the MSc, lectures or other scientific events of the MSc, etc.
- 3. Graduate students participate in the Information Literacy courses conducted by the library concerning: strategies for searching information sources and evaluating results (validity, timeliness, relevance), bibliography writing and bibliographic citation standards, and information ethics (avoiding plagiarism). Postgraduate students are required to deposit their theses in the DIONI institutional repository.
- 4. The Assembly of the Department, after the recommendation of the AC, may decide to withdraw postgraduate students if:
- (a) exceed the maximum number of absences
- (b) have failed the examination of a course or courses and have not completed the programme,
- c) exceed the maximum duration of study in the MSc, as defined in the present Regulation,
- d) automatically at the request of postgraduate students,
- (e) fail to pay the prescribed attendance fee.
- f) commit misconduct such as copying in the examinations or violating the provisions on intellectual property (Law 2121/93) in the writing of their prescribed papers
- (g) have violated the provisions in force concerning the treatment of disciplinary offenses by the competent disciplinary bodies.
- 5. Postgraduate students are required to:
- Attend the courses in the current curriculum without interruption and arrive on time at the delivery times. For each course, there is a maximum absence limit corresponding to 25% of the teaching hours of each course. If this limit is exceeded, the student is considered to have failed the course. If the student's absence rate exceeds 30% per course / or in all courses, the student is subject to withdrawal. In cases where the excess of absences is due to serious personal/professional or health reasons, the matter is examined by the Department Assembly, which gives its opinion on the matter.
- To be provided in time with the necessary textbooks and photocopies of scientific articles covering the curriculum.
- Submit, within the deadlines, the work assigned to them for each course.
- Attend the examinations of each course with their Academic Identity Card. If a student is unable to attend the scheduled examinations, he/she must submit a written request for non-attendance in time, accompanied by official documents (e.g. a medical certificate of illness). The Director of the MSc decides on the possibility for the student to take the examination on a different date within a reasonable period in consultation with the lecturer.

• To meet their obligations concerning the scheduled and set deadlines (e.g. submission of declarations, payment of fees).

Failure to comply with the above to the extent that it makes it difficult to attend courses and take examinations in them, without serious and documented justification, is a basis for a failing grade or exclusion from the programme following a decision of the Assembly.

- 6. For their studies in the MSc, postgraduate students pay tuition fees amounting to 4.500€ euro. The student registers for each semester of study for the courses and after paying the prescribed tuition fees.
- 7. The MSc, by decision of the Departmental Assembly, can recognize to its students courses from previous integrated postgraduate studies of similar institutions.

Each candidate, before registering, must take note of these Regulations and declare in writing that he/she accepts the rules of the MSc.

#### **Article 6: Practical training**

The students of the MSc are provided with the possibility of an internship which is carried out according to the regulations of the Department's MSc internships.

#### **Article 7: Academic Advisor**

The Department Assembly appoints one faculty member as an academic advisor for each cycle of studies, according to the academic advisor regulation.

# **Article 8: Mobility**

The mobility of students of the MSc through the Erasmus programme for studies or internships is carried out under decisions of the competent bodies of the Department and/or the University.

# Article 9: Assignment of teaching - teachers

- 1. The teaching work of the Postgraduate Studies Programmes (MSc) is assigned, by decision of the Assembly upon recommendation of the AC, to the following categories of lecturers:
- a) members of Teaching Research Staff (D.R.P.), Special Teaching Staff (S.T.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (L.T.P.) and Special Technical Laboratory Staff (S.T.L.P.)) of the Department or other Departments of the same or another Higher Educational Institution (HEI) or Higher Military Educational Institution (HEMI), with additional employment beyond their legal obligations, if the MSc has tuition fees,
- b) Emeritus Professors or retired members of the Department or other Departments of the same or other HEI,
- c) cooperating teachers,
- d) appointed teachers,
- (e) visiting professors or visiting researchers,

- f) researchers and special operational scientists of research and technological institutions of article 13A of Law No. 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centers and institutes in Greece or abroad,
- g) scientists of recognized prestige, who have specialized knowledge and relevant experience in the subject matter of the MSc.
- 2. The assignment of the teaching work of the MSc is carried out by decision of the Assembly, following the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee of the MSc, if it exists, otherwise by the Director of the MSc.
- 3. All categories of lecturers may be remunerated exclusively from the resources of the MSc. The decision of the competent body of the MSc on the assignment of teaching duties shall determine the amount of the remuneration of each lecturer.
- 4. By decision of the Assembly of the Department, doctoral candidates of the Department or the Faculty may be assigned to assist in teaching under the supervision of a professor of the MSc.

#### **Article 10: Title of studies**

- 1. The Diploma of Postgraduate Studies (M.Sc.) is a public document. Its form shall be determined by the decision of the Senate. It shall be drawn up in the Greek language.
- 2. The MSc courses lead to a level 7 qualification in accordance with the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).
- 3. 3.
- 4. The grade of the Diploma is graded as follows: from 5 to 6.49 GOOD, from 6.50 to 8.49 VERY GOOD and from 8.50 to 10 EXCELLENT
- 5. The register of graduate students is signed by the Secretary of the Department, the President of the Department and the Rector of the University.
- 6. A Diploma Supplement in Greek and English is attached to the MTS in accordance with the provisions of Art. 15 of Law 3374/2005 (Government Gazette 189, vol. A) and of Y.A. Φ5/89656/B3/13-8-07 (Government Gazette 1466, vol. B).

#### Article 11: Oath of office

- 1.A student who has completed his/her postgraduate studies is sworn in at an oath-taking ceremony, before the Rector or the Vice Rector as the representative of the Rector, the Dean of the Faculty, the President of the Department and the Director of the Postgraduate Programme.
- 2. For reasons of force majeure and with a request to the Secretariat of the Department, the graduate may request the award of the degree without participating in the swearing-in ceremony or request to participate in a subsequent swearing-in ceremony. Before the swearing-in ceremony or exemption from it, graduates may be given a certificate of successful completion of their studies.
- 3. The text of the oath of office for graduates who acquire an MSc is determined by a decision of the Senate. Graduates who do not wish to take an oath of a religious type may simply invoke their honour and conscience.

#### Article 12: Evaluation of the MSc

At the end of each semester, each course and each lecturer is evaluated by the postgraduate students. The accreditation of the MSc is carried out by the National Authority for Higher Education (NEA), under the legislation in force. In this context, the overall assessment of the work carried out by each MSc, the degree of fulfillment of the objectives set at the time of its establishment, its sustainability, the absorption of graduates in the labour market, the degree of its contribution to research, the internal evaluation by postgraduate students, the feasibility of extending its operation, as well as other elements relating to the quality of the work produced and its contribution to the national strategy for higher education are evaluated. For the continuation of the operation of the MSc, its periodic accreditation is required every five (5) years in the framework of the periodic evaluation/certification of the Department of Economics of the School of Economics, Business and International Studies.

### **Article 13: Transitional provisions**

Any issues not regulated in this Regulation shall be regulated by decisions of the competent bodies under the legislation in force.