

Quality Policy of the Undergraduate Programme

"Studies in Natural Sciences"

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The quality policy of the Undergraduate Program of Studies "Studies in Natural Sciences" (hereinafter referred to as the UPS FYE) is fully harmonized with the quality policy of the Institution and is formulated in the form of an official statement, which is made public and implemented with the active participation of all interested parties. This policy aims at continuous assurance and promotion of quality at all levels of its operation. The Undergraduate Program of FYE implements a systematic and documented cycle of quality assurance and improvement, in accordance with the procedures and standards of the Institution, with an emphasis on the utilization of evaluation data and the continuous upgrading of the educational function.

Within the framework of the School of Sciences and Technology (hereinafter SST) of the HOU, the Undergraduate Program of the FYE seeks to fulfill its educational and scientific goals and ensures the quality of the educational process, promoting the continuous improvement and upgrading of its educational mission.

The UPS FYE is committed to working closely with the SST and the HOU to implement clear and documented quality procedures, which ensure:

- Provision of a high level of Higher Education (level 6), in the field of of Natural Sciences, applying methodologies of distance learning teaching.
- Provision of a high level of distance teaching and face-to-face laboratory training in the laboratories of Physics, Chemistry and Biology of the School of Science and Technology of the Hellenic Open University.
- Optimal satisfaction of the students' learning and psychoeducational requirements.
- Provision of appropriate support services to students to enhance academic progress.
- Maintaining technical and scientific excellence in applied distance learning methodologies.
- Appropriately targeted structure and organization of the Curriculum.
- Achieve learning outcomes and obtain qualifications in accordance with the European and National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (L;evel 6).
- Achieve high quality and effectiveness of teaching work.

- Ensuring the regular updating and renewal of the educational material, so that it remains scientifically valid and pedagogically appropriate.
- Ensuring the suitability of the qualifications of the members of the teaching staff and promoting cooperation and exchange of teaching practices between them, with the aim of continuously improving the quality of teaching.
- Excellence of the research work and scientific empowerment of the members of the academic community of the Curriculum.
- Connection of research with teaching and utilization of the knowledge produced.
- Responding to and utilizing the acquired qualifications of graduates to the needs of the labor market.
- Strengthening the interconnection of academic education with the professional field, through partnerships and initiatives that support student development.
- Transparency in the administration of the Program and compliance with the operating regulations.
- Promote the active participation of students in the evaluation and feedback processes, recognizing their contribution to the continuous improvement of the Curriculum.

The FYE Curriculum operates in accordance with the institutional framework governing the Curricula of the HOU. In addition, the Programme is committed to considering in a systematic and documented manner the observations and suggestions for improvement of the competent evaluation committees, as well as of any other statutory body or delegated person with relevant competence, which examine its effectiveness and overall operation. In this context, the UP FYE documents the actions it implements for its evaluation and continuous improvement, following the prescribed quality assurance procedures of the Institution.

In particular, for the UP FYE, the following are ensured:

- Training of graduates in the fundamental principles and modern applications of Natural Sciences (Physics, Chemistry, Biology).
- Transfer of knowledge and methodologies so that graduates can understand, in the future, changes in scientific theories, experimental patterns and new discoveries.
- Ability of graduates to participate with a key role in conducting laboratory studies, analyzing physical systems and/or successfully attending specialized postgraduate studies.
- Ability to synthesize knowledge from different branches of science to solve complex problems and produce new knowledge.
- Cultivating self-learning skills and effective use of digital tools, necessary for participation in distance learning and modern scientific practice.

The FYE Curriculum is committed to its continuous review and internal evaluation, in close and continuous cooperation with the OMEA and the MODIP, as well as to the redesign and upgrading of its Quality Policy, in accordance with the procedures

provided by the Institution. The aim is to systematically improve its performance in all areas of operation, enhance educational effectiveness and comply with applicable quality standards.

The Quality Policy of the FYE is published on the Program's information [website](#) on the HOU main webpage.