



Postgraduate Program in Governance and Public Policies

**Quality Assurance Policy of the academic unit for the development and
improvement of the Postgraduate Program**

December 2023

Quality assurance policy

The Department of Political Science and International Relations is committed to the organisation, development and continuous improvement of high-quality undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes, as well as to the promotion of excellence in all its educational, research and administrative activities. In addition, the Department of Political Science and International Relations seeks to create a model working environment where its community develops an environment of cooperation and communication, enjoys freedom of expression and initiative development, and is presented with significant opportunities for academic and professional development.

The Department organizes and implements high-quality Postgraduate Programs in key fields of Political Science and International Relations, based on contemporary academic trends and requirements. The Postgraduate Program in Governance and Public Policies, whose quality assurance policy is fully harmonized with the corresponding quality policy of the University of Peloponnese, is governed by the following principles:

- Its structure and organisation adhere to the highest international academic standards and the curriculum is based on research and the development of knowledge generated in the two core subjects of Governance and Public Policies.
- Its thematic orientation systematically monitors and takes into account the needs of the labour market through consultations with external stakeholders and the periodic feedback of an Advisory Committee.
- Its well-defined learning outcomes respond to labour market demand and correspond to level 7 of the European Higher Education Area Qualifications Framework.
- Its learning environment is sufficient (and constantly improving) for the effective conduct of international high-quality cutting-edge research by every member of the academic community.
- Its teaching staff includes highly qualified, experienced and motivated professors with expertise in aspects of the study of Governance and Public Policies.

- The resources of the Postgraduate Studies Program are used efficiently with a view to providing high-quality educational services and enhancing the academic profile of the Department.
- Its ever-increasing research activity is thorough, leads to original findings and strictly adheres to the constantly revised internationally established rules and norms of ethics.
- Its culture of quality is based on the assumption that every member of the academic community (administration, faculty members and students) must support the maintenance and promotion of program quality, which is a cornerstone of the effort to achieve the Department's mission.
- Its quality policy is based on the drafting, implementation and review of specific annual quality objectives aimed at improving the Postgraduate Program.
- The quality assurance system is based on the formulation and implementation of strategic objectives and is organised in collaboration with the Department's Internal Evaluation Team (IET) and the Quality Assurance Unit (QAU) of the University of the Peloponnese. This system operates cyclically (from organization to implementation, evaluation and review) on an annual basis.

Implementation of Quality Assurance Policy

The Department of Political Science and International Relations and the Postgraduate Program in Governance and Public Policies apply the quality assurance procedures of the Quality Assurance Manual of the Internal Quality Assurance System (QAS) of the University of Peloponnese in collaboration with the University's Quality Assurance Unit. The applied procedures have as reference points:

The current legislative and regulatory framework.

- The Regulations and Decisions of the University of Peloponnese.
- The best practices applied in the European Higher Education Area.
- The Regulations and Decisions of the Department and the Postgraduate Studies Program.

- The declared mission of the Postgraduate Program, taking into account the views of students, alumni and labour market stakeholders.

The implementation of the quality assurance policy of the Postgraduate Program in Governance and Public Policies (in accordance with the guidelines of the National Authority for Higher Education (NAHE) and the guidance of the University's QAU) and its annual internal evaluation are based on the processing and evaluation of data resulting from the following procedures:

- The submission by the lecturers to the information system of the QAU of the Individual Data Sheets and Course Outlines.
- The anonymous periodic evaluation of courses and lecturers by students.
- The periodic collection and entry of a multitude of data in the Integrated National Quality Information System (INQIS) of the NAHE.

The annual survey with questionnaires on the satisfaction of both academic and administrative staff with the working environment (infrastructure and working relationships) and the career development prospects offered by the Department.

- The overall evaluation of the Postgraduate Program by graduates after completion of their studies.
- The periodic needs assessment of graduate employment agencies and the annual consultation with the Graduate Program Advisory Committee.
- The monitoring of the academic and professional development and progress of graduates of the Postgraduate Program.
- The monitoring and analysis of national and international quality indicators.

Quality Objectives

The Department of Political Science and International Relations will focus its efforts on achieving the following quality objectives within the framework of the Postgraduate Program in Governance and Public Policies:

1. Monitoring student progress and performance
2. Enhancing student participation in the evaluation processes of the program

3. Attracting lecturers from foreign institutions
4. Development of a network of external institutions for systematic feedback on the quality of the program
5. Strengthening the research potential of students

Publication

The Quality Assurance Policy is communicated to academic and administrative staff, students, and stakeholders of the postgraduate Program. The Quality Assurance Policy is posted on the Program's website.