



UNIVERSITY OF IOANNINA  
SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY  
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOLOGY  
DIVISION OF CLASSICS



## **Special Regulation for the Implementation of E-Learning in the Postgraduate Program ‘Ancient Texts and Modern Readings’ Department of Philology, University of Ioannina**

### **Article 1**

#### **Synchronous and Asynchronous Distance Learning in the Postgraduate Program ‘Ancient Texts and Modern Readings’**

Pursuant to Article 12, paragraph 4, subparagraph 1 of the Regulations of Postgraduate Programs of the University of Ioannina (Government Gazette, Issue B’ 4942/07.08.2023), the organization of the educational process of Postgraduate Programs (MA) may be conducted, in whole or in part, using synchronous distance learning methods, in accordance with European standards and specifications.

The educational process of the MA ‘Ancient Texts and Modern Readings’ is primarily conducted in-person at the Department’s facilities. However, exclusively in cases of force majeure or extraordinary circumstances, as stipulated in Article 12, paragraph 4, subparagraph 3 of the aforementioned Regulations and Article 13.6 of the MA Operating Regulations, teaching may be conducted via synchronous distance learning methods, provided that this does not exceed thirty-five percent (35%) of total instruction. Distance learning is implemented using Microsoft Teams, which is freely available to all academic and administrative staff, as well as to all undergraduate and postgraduate students of the University of Ioannina (see: <https://support.it.uoi.gr/kb/faq.php?id=31&id=31&lang=el>).

The nature of the MA courses allow for the application of up to this proportion of synchronous distance learning, as the courses do not involve practical, laboratory, or clinical exercises requiring students’ physical presence (Article 12, paragraph 4, subparagraph 2 of the University’s Postgraduate Program Regulations).

Concerning asynchronous distance learning, the MA fully complies with the provisions of the University of Ioannina’s Postgraduate Program Regulations (Article 12, paragraph 5, subparagraph 1): Part of the educational process may be conducted via asynchronous distance learning in accordance with European standards and specifications. The electronic platform used is the Asynchronous Tele-Education Service Ecourse (see: <http://ecourse.uoi.gr>; further details, including description, requirements, access rights, and FAQ, can be found at <https://uoi.gr/it/ypiresia-asygchronis-tilekpaidefsis-ecourse/>).

According to Article 12, paragraph 5, subparagraph 2 of the Regulations, educational material may be uploaded per course to the electronic platform, including lecture notes,

presentations, exercises, sample solutions, and recorded lectures, in compliance with applicable data protection legislation. All educational material is provided solely for students' academic use and is protected under Law 2121/1993 (A' 25), as amended.

## **Article 2**

### **Master's Thesis Defense via Distance Learning**

The public defense of the Master's Thesis (M.Th.) may take place via Microsoft Teams in cases of force majeure or extraordinary circumstances. Examiners who are not members of the University of Ioannina's teaching staff participate remotely via Microsoft Teams. The physical presence of examiners who are University teaching staff is mandatory. Responsibility for organizing the examination process (creating a virtual room, sending links to participants, etc.) lies with the MA Secretariat and the supervisor of the student's thesis.

## **Article 3**

### **Conferences and Lectures via Distance Learning**

Within the framework of the MA 'Ancient Texts and Modern Readings,' national and international conferences and lectures may be conducted via Microsoft Teams. Postgraduate students are encouraged to attend and participate. Distance learning methods are especially recommended when invited scholars are from foreign institutions, as they provide broader access to these events. Responsibility for organizing remote conferences lies with the respective Conference Organizing Committee, while the instructors who invite guest speakers are responsible for organizing lectures.

## **Article 4**

### **Methodology for Developing and Implementing Courses via Asynchronous E-Learning**

The 'Electronic Classroom' (<https://ecourse.uoi.gr/>) is a comprehensive course management system that supports asynchronous e-learning at the University of Ioannina without restrictions. Access is provided through a standard web browser, without requiring specialized technical knowledge.

Integrating e-learning methods into the University's educational process supports and enhances teaching and access to interdisciplinary knowledge, complementing traditional teaching methods. Participants can select their own schedule for accessing course material and communicating with instructors.

The platform also enables digital organization and distribution of course materials and provides multiple communication channels between instructors and students, ensuring smooth course delivery. The primary objectives of the Electronic Classroom (Ecourse) are:

- Integration of new technologies into educational activities
- Electronic organization and presentation of educational materials (notes, assignments, presentations, etc.)

- Constructive educational use of the internet
- Ease of use for instructors and students without requiring specialized technical knowledge
- Structured and uniform presentation of courses

The content hosted on Ecourse, as well as the intellectual property rights, belong to the respective authors. Continuous support is provided by the University's Network Management Center (K.E.D.D.), along with a user guide for the platform (<http://noc.uoi.gr/ecourse/manual.htm>).

## **Article 5**

### **Responsibility for Organizing Distance Learning Courses via Microsoft Teams**

In the event that distance teaching via Microsoft Teams becomes necessary, the instructor is responsible for organizing the course and informing students.

## **Article 6**

### **Student Access to Ecourse and Microsoft Teams**

Postgraduate students of the MA 'Ancient Texts and Modern Readings' register on Ecourse and Microsoft Teams using their institutional accounts. In cases where Microsoft Teams is required, students are notified via Ecourse messaging or institutional email (...@uoi.gr).

## **Article 7**

### **Postgraduate Student Support System**

Postgraduate students have access to all manuals for operating Ecourse and Microsoft Teams, as well as continuous support from K.E.D.D. staff. Any technical issues arising during the use of online educational services are expected to be resolved promptly.

## **Appendix**

### **Institutional Services Supporting E-Learning**

The University of Ioannina operates the Network Management Center (K.E.D.D.), ensuring uninterrupted, high-speed connectivity to the University's internal network and national/international data and voice networks. K.E.D.D. oversees continuous infrastructure upgrades, adoption of new expertise, and rapid integration of evolving technologies. Its objectives include supporting education, research, administration, and modernization of IT infrastructure in collaboration with relevant departments.

K.E.D.D. also provides comprehensive e-learning and multimedia support services for faculty, including:

- **eduroam Service:** Provides wireless access to participating educational or research institutions worldwide ([www.eduroam.org](http://www.eduroam.org)).
- **ECOURSE:** An asynchronous e-learning system (<http://ecourse.uoi.gr>) enabling instructors to create online courses, add text and audiovisual material, and use tools such as quizzes, discussion groups, assignments, surveys, and databases.

- **WEBMAIL:** The University's WebMail system (<https://webmail.uoi.gr/>) provides a complete and user-friendly email environment for academic communication.
- **User Pages:** Faculty and students can host personal webpages at <http://users.uoi.gr/username>, activated upon request to K.E.D.D.
- **Institutional Repositories 'OLYMPIAS' and 'IPIROMNIMON':**
  - 'OLYMPIAS' hosts scientific articles, theses, book chapters, and other academic outputs (<https://olympias.lib.uoi.gr/jspui/>).
  - 'HPEIROMNIMON' Digital Library includes digital copies of books, journals, archival material, with emphasis on Epirus' history and culture (<https://olympias.lib.uoi.gr/jspui/handle/123456789/27710>).
- **Microsoft Office 365 and Microsoft Teams:** Available to all academic and administrative staff and all students (<https://uoi.gr/it/diacheirisi-ypostirixi-office365-ms-teams/>).
- **Proxy Server Service:** Caches web pages to improve access speed, with local support provided to departments by K.E.D.D. technical staff.