
PROGRAMS FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

A. MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION OF TERRESTRIAL NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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SECRETARY

Secretary: Christos Varsamakidis
Administrative Staff: Evgenia Otemperi

OBJECTIVE

The program of postgraduate studies is an integral part of the strategic planning of Democritus University of Thrace, is characterized by scientific cohesion and aims at the post-graduate specialization in the maintenance and restoration of terrestrial natural ecosystems via the development and application of contemporary methods and techniques.

The primary objectives of the program are:

- The understanding of the structure and functions of terrestrial natural ecosystems, of the need for biodiversity protection and maintenance as well as of the impact of climatic changes and of human activities in terrestrial natural ecosystems (knowledge level).
- The utilization of contemporary methods and techniques in the recording and monitoring of ecosystems (skills level).
- The selection of the best management and restoration practices and the utilization of restoration types, methods and techniques in disturbed ecosystems (behaviors level).

POST-GRADUATE CANDIDATE NUMBER

The number of candidates is determined to maximum twenty-five (25) postgraduate students annually. In addition, the maximum number of postgraduate students per instructor in the program amounts to 25/12, the maximum number of which in relation to the number of undergraduate students is 25/563 and in relation to the number of instructors in the Department is 25/18 (article 45 par. 1 of law 4485/2017).

CATEGORIES OF POST-GRADUATE CANDIDATES

Post-graduate candidates should be holders of a Bachelor's Degree from a Greek higher educational (A.E.I.) and/or higher technological educational institute (A.T.E.I.) or from equivalent foreign educational institutes of the following categories:

- Graduates of Department of Higher Education Institutes (A.E.I.), of Science and Technology Studies, Health and Life Sciences.
- Graduates of Department of Higher Technological Education Institutes (A.T.E.I.), of Science and Technology Studies, Health and Life Sciences.
- Graduate of equivalent and recognized by the Greek state foreign university departments.

The Diploma of Post-graduate Studies cannot be awarded to any students whose Bachelor Degree that has been received from a foreign University has not been recognized from the Hellenic National Academic Recognition Information Center (DOATAP), according to law 3328/2005 (A' 80).

University staff members who belong to the categories of (i) Special Educational Staff, (ii) Laboratory Teaching Staff and (iii) Laboratory and Teaching Staff who conform to the prerequisites set out in the first part of paragraph 1, can apply for registration in the program as supernumerary and only one candidate per year and postgraduate program, according to the specific regulations determined in article 45, on condition that they are teaching staff in the Department and their

academic studies and services they offer in the Department is consistent with the study area of the post-graduate program.

DURATION OF STUDIES

The regular duration for the completion of postgraduate studies that lead to the Diploma of Postgraduate Studies has been determined to three (3) semesters at minimum, a period that also includes the time required for the undertaking and submission of the postgraduate dissertation. The final dissertation cannot be completed in less than three (3) months.

Participation in the program ends when the writing-up process of the dissertation is completed and its viva examination (public oral defense) has taken place.

The postgraduate student is required to complete his postgraduate studies within a time span of 2 years maximum upon registration in the postgraduate program.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

The total number of Credit Units (ECTS) that is required for the acquisition of the Diploma of Postgraduate Studies amounts to ninety (90). In addition, regular and compulsory course attendance and successful participation in all course examinations that are delivered in the first two semesters of the program (1st and 2nd) are also required. Throughout the 3rd semester, the postgraduate dissertation is only undertaken whose credit units (ECTS) amounts to thirty (30).

The course outline of the postgraduate program (3 semesters) is as follows:

1ST SEMESTER			
CODE	COURSE TITLE	COURSE TYPE	7CTS
1.	Biodiversity Protection and Management	Compulsory	7,5
2.	Climatic Change: Methods of Climatic Analysis, Consequences and Response of Natural Ecosystems	Compulsory	7,5
3.	Grazing Ecology and Management	Compulsory	7,5
4.	Recording and Monitoring – Data Analysis of Terrestrial Ecosystems	Compulsory	7,5
TOTAL OF CREDIT UNITS FOR 1ST SEMESTER			30

2ND SEMESTER			
CODE	COURSE TITLE	COURSE TYPE	ECTS
1.	Restoration Methods - Forest Works and Maintenance of Soil Resources in Disturbed Ecosystems	Compulsory	7,5
2.	Forest Handling and Rectification of Forest Ecosystems	Compulsory	7,5
3.	Management Measures for the Maintenance and Evolution of Ecosystems, Restoration Studies and Maintenance Plans	Compulsory	7,5
4.	Soils Restoration and Vegetation Re-installing in Disturbed Areas	Compulsory	7,5
TOTAL OF CREDIT UNITS FOR 2ND SEMESTER			30

3RD SEMESTER		
CODE	Course Title	ECTS
1.	POSTGRADUATE DISSERTATION	30
TOTAL OF CREDIT UNITS FOR 3RD SEMESTER		30