

# DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE



ΔΗΜΟΚΡΙΤΕΙΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΘΡΑΚΗΣ | DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE

Civil Engineering Department

## Quality Policy for the distance learning PSP Hydraulic Engineering and Environment

May 2026

**QUALITY POLICY**  
**OF THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY PROGRAMME:**  
**“HYDRAULIC ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENT”**

The Department of Civil Engineering, in cooperation with the Quality Assurance Unit (QAU) of Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH) and the competent administrative services of the University, has aligned the Quality Policy governing the Postgraduate Programme “Hydraulic Engineering and Environment” with the institutional Quality Policy and the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of DUTH.

The Postgraduate Programme “Hydraulic Engineering and Environment” forms part of the strategic planning of DUTH, aiming to advance knowledge, promote research and innovation, and respond to educational, scientific, social, and developmental needs at national and international level. Within this framework, the Programme provides advanced postgraduate education and specialisation in the field of hydraulic engineering and environment, building upon the academic foundations of first-cycle studies and responding to contemporary developments in the discipline.

The Programme is delivered mainly through distance learning methodologies and is committed to implementing a comprehensive Quality Policy that safeguards its academic identity and orientation, supports its academic objectives and learning outcomes, ensures the effective achievement of its strategic goals, and promotes continuous improvement across all aspects of its operation.

**The Postgraduate Programme “Hydraulic Engineering and Environment”:**

**Programme Design and Learning Outcomes**

- Designs, reviews, and continuously improves its curriculum through transparent procedures and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, ensuring that it:
  - Addresses current scientific, professional, and societal developments in the field of hydraulic engineering and environment.
  - Achieves clearly defined learning outcomes and qualifications, as specified in the course descriptions, aligned with the European Qualifications Framework for Higher Education.
  - Promotes advanced knowledge, research, and critical thinking on hydraulic engineering and environment.

- Provides students with a coherent and comprehensive understanding of **methods and technologies applied in integrated water resources and aquatic systems management**, appropriate to postgraduate level study.

#### **Quality Assurance of Teaching and Learning (Distance Learning)**

- Implements quality assurance procedures in full alignment with the Quality Policy of the Department and the University by:
  - Selecting teaching staff in accordance with applicable legislation and academic criteria relevant to hydraulic engineering and environment, and with proven experience or training in delivering high-quality online and blended learning.
  - Systematically evaluating teaching through semester-based student feedback.
  - Participating in internal evaluation processes coordinated by the QAU-DUTH.
  - Employing a variety of distance learning pedagogical approaches and digital teaching methods, with emphasis on student-centred learning, interaction, and active engagement.
  - Utilizing digital platforms and tools, including learning management systems (LMS), virtual laboratories, collaborative software, simulation tools, and online assessment platforms.
  - Ensuring accessibility of digital resources, supporting students with disabilities, and promoting inclusive learning.
  - Monitoring student progress and providing academic and pedagogical support throughout the duration of studies.
  - Encouraging student engagement in research dissemination activities relevant to hydraulic engineering and environment, including publications and conference presentations.
  - Implementing academic advising mechanisms to support students academically and administratively.
  - Promoting a culture of respect, cooperation, transparency, and inclusiveness, while applying established procedures for student complaints and objections management.

#### **Research, Academic Development, and Staff Support**

- Supports the quality and impact of academic and research activities by:
  - Encouraging collaboration within the University and with external academic and research organisations in the field of hydraulic engineering and environment, nationally and internationally.
  - Supporting participation in national and international conferences, research projects, and academic networks relevant to the Programme.
  - Promoting academic mobility and professional development of teaching staff.
  - Encouraging high-quality research output with international visibility and recognition.
  - Facilitating the integration of research activities into distance learning modules to provide students with hands-on experience and applied knowledge.

#### **Student Services and Learning Support**

- Ensures students have equitable access to academic supervision, mentoring, and feedback comparable to on-campus students.
- Provides access to digital libraries, databases, and specialised software tools relevant to the Programme's discipline.
- Promotes student well-being and engagement through online orientation and regular communication from faculty and administrative staff.

#### **Integration, Employability, and Capacity Planning**

- Promotes the integration of teaching and research within the academic scope of the Programme.
- Monitors graduate employability and disseminates career-related information relevant to the job market of their home countries, the international labor market, and their successful professional careers.
- Determines student intake in accordance with available academic staff, digital infrastructure, and support services, ensuring the provision of high-quality distance education.

#### **Transparency, Information, and Continuous Improvement**

- Ensures quality across all levels of Programme operation and undertakes systematic actions for continuous enhancement.

- Publishes the Programme’s Quality Policy on its official website and communicates it to all relevant stakeholders.
- Maintains and regularly updates the Programme website as a reliable source of information for current and prospective students.
- Reviews digital tools, teaching practices, and student feedback regularly to improve distance learning effectiveness, engagement, and accessibility.

The Quality Policy of the Postgraduate Programme “hydraulic engineering and environment” is publicly available at: <https://pms.civil.duth.gr/hee/regulations/>