

ANNEX A11 Internal Operating Regulation of the Master of Science "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health)

Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)

Regulation of the "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health) of the Medical School of NKUA

#### DECISION

# Establishment of a Postgraduate Program by the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens titled "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health)

#### THE SENATE OF THE NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

Taking into account:

- The provisions of Law 4957/22 "New Horizons in Higher Education Institutions: Enhancing quality, functionality, and connection of HEIs with society and other provisions" (Government Gazette A' 141), particularly Articles 79 to 88, as amended and currently in force,
- The circular no. 135557/Z1/1-11-2022 from the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs: "Implementation of the provisions of Law 4957/2022 'New Horizons in Higher Education Institutions' (A'141) for the organization and operation of postgraduate study programs and other issues",
- 3. The Joint Ministerial Decision no. 18137/Z1/16-02-2023: "Determination of the conditions and procedure for organizing postgraduate study programs via distance learning methods in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)" (Government Gazette B'1079),
- 4. The provisions of Law 4386/2016 "Regulations for research and other provisions" (A'83), as amended and currently in force,
- 5. Presidential Decree 85/31-5-2013 "Establishment, renaming, reorganization of Schools and establishment of a Department at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens" (A'124),
- The provisions of Law 3374/2005, especially Articles 14 and 15, "Quality assurance in higher education. Credit transfer and accumulation system – Diploma Supplement" (A'189), as amended and currently in force,
- 7. Ministerial decision no. Φ5/89656/B3/13-8-2007 "Implementation of the Credit Transfer and Accumulation System" (Government Gazette B'1466),
- The provisions of Law 4589/2019 "Collaborations of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Agricultural University of Athens, University of Thessaly with the Technological Educational Institutes of Thessaly and Central Greece, Pallimniak Fund and other provisions" (A'13),
- 9. Decision no. 1432/20-01-2023 of the Senate of NKUA, which approved the Regulation of Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies of NKUA (Government Gazette B'392),
- 10. The excerpt of the proceedings of the General Assembly of the Medical School of NKUA (meeting 29/08/2024),
- 11. The excerpt of the proceedings of the Postgraduate Studies Committee of NKUA (meeting),
- 12. The excerpt of the proceedings of the Senate of NKUA (meeting ),
- 13. The fact that this decision does not entail any expenditure from the state budget,

#### decides:

The establishment and operation of the Postgraduate Program of the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens titled:

"Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health), starting from the academic year 2024–2025, as follows:

# **ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The Department of the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) will organize and operate, starting from the academic year 2024–2025, a Postgraduate Program (PMS) titled **"Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health)**, in accordance with the provisions of this decision and current legislation.

#### **ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVE – PURPOSE**

2.1 The PMS "Women's Health" aims to provide high-level postgraduate education in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of women's diseases beyond the reproductive process.

2.2 The purpose of the PMS "Women's Health" is to educate both physicians and other health professionals in medical conditions, beyond reproduction, which present differently in women, with a primary focus on prevention and quality of life. Key areas of interest include: gynecological endocrinology, gynecological cardiology, management of menopause and premature ovarian insufficiency, osteoporosis, and women's mental health. Additionally, the PMS aims to train healthcare professionals working with women in primary and secondary prevention using non-medical interventions, such as lifestyle management.

2.3 Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will be equipped to apply specialized knowledge in managing diseases and clinical needs of women (excluding reproduction), and may continue with doctoral studies at NKUA.

2.4 The PMS leads to the awarding of a **Postgraduate Diploma in "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health)** upon full and successful completion of the curriculum.

2.5 The degree is awarded by the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

# **ARTICLE 3. STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE OF THE PMS**

The responsible bodies for the operation of the PMS, in accordance with Law 4957/2022, are:

3.1 At the University level:

- The Postgraduate Studies Committee and
- The Senate.

3.2 At the Medical School level:

3.2.1 The General Assembly of the Medical School. Its responsibilities include:

a) Proposing to the Senate through the Postgraduate Studies Committee the need to establish/modify the PMS, as well as extending its duration,

b) Appointing the Director and the members of the Coordination Committee of each PMS of the Medical School,

 c) proposes representatives for the establishment of the Study Program Committees of the Interdepartmental Postgraduate Programs (IPPs) in which the Medical School participates,
 d) establishes Committees for evaluating the applications of prospective postgraduate students and

approves their enrollment in the Postgraduate Program (PP), e) assigns teaching duties among the instructors of the PP and may assign auxiliary teaching duties in the PP to PhD candidates of the Medical School, under the supervision of a PP instructor,

**f)** establishes examination committees for the evaluation of postgraduate students' theses and appoints a supervisor for each thesis,

g) verifies the successful completion of studies and awards the Postgraduate Diploma,

h) approves the PP's report, following the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee (C.C.),

i) assigns postgraduate students auxiliary teaching duties in undergraduate programs of the Medical School,

j) exercises any other legal competence.

By decision of the Assembly of the Medical School, the responsibilities mentioned in (d) and (f) may be delegated to the C.C. of the PP.

# 3.1.1 The Coordinating Committee (C.C.)

The C.C. consists of the Director of the PP and four (4) faculty members of the Medical School and emeritus professors who have expertise relevant to the subject of the PP and undertake teaching duties within the program. The members of the C.C. are appointed by decision of the Assembly of the Medical School. The C.C. is responsible for monitoring and coordinating the operation of the program and in particular: **a)** prepares the initial annual budget of the PP and any amendments, provided the PP has resources, and recommends its approval to the Research Committee of the Special Account for Research Funds (ELKE),

b) prepares the program's report and recommends its approval to the Assembly of the Medical School,c) approves the execution of expenditures of the PP,

**d)** approves the awarding of scholarships, whether compensatory or not, in accordance with the founding decision of the PP and the Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies Regulation,

e) proposes to the Assembly of the Medical School the allocation of teaching duties and teaching assignments,

**f)** proposes to the Assembly of the Medical School the invitation of Visiting Professors to cover the PP's teaching needs,

**g)** drafts a plan for the modification of the study program, which is submitted to the Assembly of the Medical School,

**h)** proposes to the Assembly of the Medical School the reallocation of courses among academic semesters, as well as matters related to the qualitative enhancement of the study program.

# 3.1.2 The Director of the Postgraduate Program (PP)

The Director of the PP is selected from among the faculty members of the Medical School, preferably of the rank of Professor or Associate Professor, and is appointed by decision of the Assembly of the Medical School for a two-year term, renewable indefinitely.

The Director has the following responsibilities:

a) chairs the C.C., prepares the agenda, and convenes its meetings,

**b)** submits proposals to the Assembly of the Medical School on matters related to the organization and operation of the PP,

**c)** submits proposals to the C.C. and other bodies of the PP and the University regarding the effective operation of the PP,

d) acts as the Scientific Supervisor of the program and exercises the corresponding duties,

e) monitors the implementation of decisions made by the governing bodies of the PP and the Internal Regulation of Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies, as well as the execution of the PP's budget,

f) exercises any other responsibility set out in the founding decision of the PP.

The Director of the PP, as well as the members of the C.C., are not entitled to any remuneration or compensation for the performance of their assigned duties related to the program.

# 3.2 Administrative Support of the PP

a) The Secretariat of the Medical School is responsible for the administrative and clerical support of the PP.
b) The PP may hire, in accordance with current legislation, external collaborators for administrative and clerical support, who remain under the supervision of the Medical School's Secretariat.

#### **ARTICLE 4: CATEGORIES AND NUMBER OF ADMITTED STUDENTS**

**4.1** Eligible for admission to the Postgraduate Program (PP) are graduates of university departments/schools in the following fields:

- 1. Medicine
- 2. Nutrition-Dietetics
- 3. Psychology
- 4. Biomedical Sciences
- 5. Nursing
- 6. Midwifery
- 7. Physiotherapy
- 8. Molecular Biology
- 9. Physical Education
- 10. Public Health

as well as graduates of related departments from domestic institutions or equivalent recognized institutions abroad, and graduates of Technological Educational Institutes (T.E.I.) in a relevant field.

**4.2** The maximum number of students admitted to the Postgraduate Program is set at forty (40) in total. This number is determined based on the number of teaching staff involved in the PP and the student-teacher ratio, the available infrastructure and classrooms, and the ability of the labor market to absorb the program's graduates.

**4.3** In addition to the above number, one (1) member annually from the E.E.P. (Special Teaching Staff), E.DI.P. (Special Laboratory Teaching Staff), and E.T.E.P. (Special Technical Laboratory Staff) categories may be admitted, provided that their work at the institution is relevant to the PP's subject area.

**4.4** IKY (State Scholarships Foundation) scholars and foreign scholars of the Greek state, for the same or a related subject field as the PP, are admitted without examinations.

# **ARTICLE 5: ADMISSION PROCESS**

**5.1** The selection of students is conducted in accordance with current legislation, the Regulations for Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), and the provisions of this Regulation.

**5.2** Every February, a call for applications for admission to the PP is issued by decision of the Assembly of the Medical School of NKUA and is published on the websites of the Medical School and the University. Applications and required documents are submitted to the Secretariat of the Medical School within a deadline specified in the announcement, which may be extended by decision of the Assembly of the Medical School.

**5.3** The Assembly of the Medical School assigns the student selection process to the Coordinating Committee (C.C.).

**5.4** Required documents include:

• Application form

- Curriculum vitae
- Photocopy (both sides) of ID card
- Copy of degree or certificate of completion of studies
- Transcript of undergraduate courses
- Certificate of English language proficiency (B2 level)
- Letters of recommendation
- Scientific publications, if any
- Evidence of professional or research activity, if any
- Certificate of Greek language proficiency or sufficient knowledge of the Greek language (as assessed by the PP's Admissions Committee) for foreign applicants
- Recognition of foreign academic degrees by DOATAP (Hellenic NARIC)

**5.5** For students from foreign institutions who do not provide a DOATAP recognition certificate, the following process applies:

The Assembly of the Medical School appoints a committee responsible for determining whether a foreign institution or type of foreign degree is recognized.

The committee checks whether the institution or degree is included in the DOATAP's official register of recognized foreign institutions.

If the institution is listed under Article 307 of Law 4957/2022, the candidate must provide a "certificate of place of study," issued and sent by the foreign university.

If the certificate confirms that the place of study (or part of it) was in Greece, the degree is not recognized unless the part of studies in Greece took place at a public Higher Education Institution.

**5.6** Candidates are evaluated and selected based on the following criteria:

- Degree grade (5%)
- Grades in undergraduate courses related to the PP's subject area (5%)
- Relevance of the degree and the candidate's knowledge to the PP's subject area (5%)
- Certified knowledge of the English language (5%)
- Scientific publications, participation in conferences (5%)
- Letters of recommendation (5%)
- Related research or professional experience (5%)

- Possession of a postgraduate or doctoral degree (5%)
- Oral interview before a three-member committee appointed by the Coordinating Committee (60%)

Based on the overall criteria, the Coordinating Committee prepares the student evaluation list and submits it for approval to the General Assembly.

Successful candidates must enroll at the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Program (P.P.S.) within thirty (30) days from the decision of the Assembly.

In case of a tie (with mathematical rounding to the nearest whole number on the 100-point scale), the tied candidates are admitted in a proportion not exceeding 10% of the maximum number of admitted students.

If one or more students do not register, alternate candidates (if any) will be invited to register for the P.P.S. according to their ranking on the approved evaluation list.

# **ARTICLE 6. DURATION OF STUDIES**

6.1 The duration of studies in the P.P.S. leading to the award of a Postgraduate Diploma (P.D.S.) is set at four (4) academic semesters, including the time required for the preparation of the master's thesis.

6.2 An extension may be granted following a justified request by the student and approval by the Assembly of the Medical School. The extension may not exceed two (2) academic semesters. Thus, the maximum allowable time to complete the program is six (6) academic semesters.

6.3 Students who have not exceeded the maximum duration of study may interrupt their studies for a period not exceeding two (2) consecutive semesters, upon submitting a justified request to the Assembly of the Medical School. A suspension of studies is granted for serious reasons (military service, illness, maternity, stay abroad, etc.).

The application must be justified and accompanied by all relevant official documentation from competent public authorities or organizations proving the reasons for suspension. The student status is suspended during this period, and participation in any academic activity is not allowed. The semesters of suspension are not counted toward the maximum duration of study.

At least two weeks before the end of the suspension period, the student must re-enroll in the program in order to resume studies with full rights and responsibilities of an active student. Students may request to terminate the suspension and return to the Program early only if the suspension was initially granted for two consecutive academic semesters. The request to terminate the suspension must be submitted no later than two weeks before the start of the second semester of the suspension.

6.4 The duration of suspension or extension of studies is discussed and approved on a case-by-case basis by the Coordinating Committee, which submits a recommendation to the Assembly of the Medical School.

# ARTICLE 7. CURRICULUM

7.1 The P.P.S. begins in the winter semester of each academic year.

7.2 To obtain the P.P.S. diploma, a total of one hundred and twenty (120) ECTS credits are required. All courses are taught weekly and may include lectures, practical training, and seminars as appropriate.

7.3 The language of instruction is Greek, and in exceptional cases, English (e.g., lectures by foreign speakers). The master's thesis may be written in either Greek or English.

7.4 During their studies, postgraduate students are required to attend and pass postgraduate courses, engage in research activities and scientific writing, participate in practical training, and complete a master's thesis.

7.5 The thesis is carried out during the fourth (4th) semester and is credited with thirty (30) ECTS.

7.6 Instruction is primarily conducted in person. Some components may be delivered synchronously or asynchronously online for educational reasons, in accordance with applicable legislation.

7.7 The indicative course schedule is as follows:

#### 1st Semester: CLINICAL TRAINING-1

Compulsory Courses | Teaching hours/week | ECTS RESEARCH METHODOLOGY – STATISTICS | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 6 GYNECOLOGICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 MENOPAUSE – CLIMACTERIC | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 WOMEN'S SKELETAL HEALTH | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 Total | 156 hours | 30 ECTS

#### 2nd Semester: CLINICAL TRAINING-2

#### Compulsory Courses | Teaching hours/week | ECTS

METABOLIC DISORDERS AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES IN WOMEN | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 UROGENITAL SYNDROME – SEXUAL HEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH – NEUROLOGICAL AND COGNITIVE DISORDERS – DERMATOLOGICAL PATHOLOGIES IN WOMEN | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 PREVENTION OF BREAST AND GYNECOLOGICAL CANCERS | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 WOMEN'S QUALITY OF LIFE (NUTRITION – SUPPLEMENTS – WEIGHT MANAGEMENT – PHYSICAL EXERCISE – FALL AND SARCOPENIA PREVENTION) | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 6 **Total** | 156 hours | 30 ECTS

#### **3rd Semester: CLINICAL PRACTICE**

#### Compulsory Courses | Teaching hours/week | ECTS

CASES: CLIMACTERIC – MENOPAUSE – PREMATURE OVARIAN INSUFFICIENCY CLINIC / PRACTICAL TRAINING | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 CASES: OSTEOPOROSIS CLINIC / PRACTICAL TRAINING | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 CASES: CARDIOVASCULAR AND METABOLIC HEALTH CLINIC / PRACTICAL TRAINING | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8 CASES: UROGYNECOLOGICAL CLINIC / MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC / BREAST CLINIC / PRACTICAL TRAINING | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 13 hours | 6 **Total** | 156 hours | 30 ECTS

#### 4th Semester: FOCUSED RESEARCH

MASTER'S THESIS PREPARATION | 30 ECTS Total | 30 ECTS

#### 7.8. Course Content/Description

#### 1st Semester: CLINICAL TRAINING-1

#### **Compulsory Courses**

#### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY – STATISTICS**

- Evidence-Based Medicine
- Literature Review Using Computers
- Introduction to Biostatistics
- Definition of Statistics
- Descriptive Statistics
- T-Test
- Chi-square Test
- Non-parametric Tests
- Correlation Coefficients
- Simple Linear Regression
- ANOVA
- Multiple Linear Regression
- Logarithmic Dependence
- Evaluation of Laboratory Findings
- Types of Medical Research
- Sampling Method
- Repeated Measures

#### **GYNECOLOGICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY**

- Hypothalamus–Pituitary–Thyroid Axis
- Hypothalamus–Pituitary–Ovary–Uterus Axis
- Hormone Biosynthesis–Release
- Hormone Transport–Action
- Hormone Metabolism–Control Mechanisms
- Dynamic Hormonal Tests in Female Reproduction
- Ovulatory Disorders
- Hyperandrogenism
- Menstrual Disorders
- Contraception
- Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia
- Infertility
- Pituitary Adenomas–Hypogonadism
- Hypoparathyroidism Etiopathogenesis Diagnosis Management

#### CLIMACTERIC PERIOD-MENOPAUSE

- Physiology of Climacteric and Menopause
- Premature Menopause
- Primary Ovarian Insufficiency
- Surgical Menopause
- Drug-Induced Menopause
- Acute Climacteric Syndrome
- Short-Term Effects
- Long-Term Effects
- Diagnosis of Climacteric–Menopause
- Hormone Therapy in Menopause

- Continuous Combined Hormone Therapy
- Cyclical Hormone Therapy
- Systemic Hormone Therapy
- o Transdermal Hormone Therapy
- Local Hormone Therapy
- Hormone Therapy, Tibolone, and SERMs in the Prevention–Treatment of Postmenopausal Osteoporosis
- Hormone Therapy in Autoimmune Diseases

#### WOMEN'S SKELETAL HEALTH

- Anatomy–Physiology–Pathology of Joints
- Bone Biology
- Bone Remodeling
- Genetics of Osteoporosis
- Endocrine Signaling Hormones Mechanism of Hormonal Action Hormone Receptors Endocrine Axes and Target Organs
- Measurement of Ca, P, Mg
- Vitamin D Parathyroid Hormone
- Inflammatory Musculoskeletal Diseases
- Autoimmune Diseases and Osteoclastogenesis
- Metabolic Bone Diseases Differential Diagnosis
- Imaging Methods for Skeletal Assessment:
  - o Plain Radiography
  - Bone Densitometry: Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA), pQCT
- Clinical Evaluation of Bone Densitometry
- Osteoporosis and Corticosteroids
- Osteoporosis Treatment:
  - o Bisphosphonates
  - o Teriparatide
  - o Denosumab
  - Strontium Ranelate
  - Dental Implants and Osteoporosis Treatment
- Thyroid Calcium and Bones
- MEN 1 Syndrome and Bones
- Skeletal Manifestations of Turner Syndrome
- Bone Effects of TSH and Related Disorders
- Male Osteoporosis
- Bone Effects of Androgen Deprivation in Prostate Cancer Patients

# 2nd Semester: CLINICAL TRAINING-2

# **Compulsory Courses**

# METABOLIC DISORDERS AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES IN WOMEN

- Metabolic Syndrome Obesity
- Insulin Resistance
- Prediabetic Conditions Type II Diabetes During Menopausal Transition
- Lipid Profile Disorders During Menopausal Transition
- Cardiovascular Impact of Premature Ovarian Failure
- Cardiovascular Effects of Early Ovarian Insufficiency–Menopause
- Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in Postmenopausal Women
- Effects of Hormone Therapy on Lipid Profile
- Effects of Hormone Therapy on Insulin Resistance–Prediabetes–Diabetes

- Role of Hormone Therapy in Preventing Cardiovascular Diseases
- Reducing Cardiovascular Risk with Non-Hormonal Therapy
- Hormone Therapy and Cardiovascular Risk

#### GENITOURINARY SYNDROME – SEXUAL HEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH – NEUROLOGICAL AND COGNITIVE DISORDERS – DERMATOLOGICAL PATHOLOGY IN WOMEN

- Skin and Mucosal Atrophy
- Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause (GSM)
- Hormonal Treatment of GSM
- Non-Hormonal Treatment of GSM
- Decreased Sexual Desire
- Menopause and Mental Health: Research and Perspectives
- Psychoemotional Instability
- Neurological Disorders
- Cognitive Disorders
- Depression
- Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease
- Tools for Addressing Cognitive and Psychoemotional Disorders
- Pharmaceutical Treatment of Cognitive Disorders
- Pharmaceutical Treatment of Psychoemotional Disorders

#### **BREAST AND GYNECOLOGICAL CANCER PREVENTION**

- Preventive Laboratory and Imaging Screening of the Breast
- Preventive Laboratory and Imaging Screening of the Gynecological System
- Therapeutic Management of Breast Cancer in Menopause
- Therapeutic Management of Endometrial Cancer in Menopause
- Therapeutic Management of Cervical Cancer in Menopause
- Therapeutic Management of Ovarian Cancer in Menopause
- Therapeutic Management of Vaginal Cancer in Menopause
- Therapeutic Management of Vulvar Cancer in Menopause
- Hormone Therapy and Breast Cancer Risk in the Pre-/Postmenopausal Period
- Hormone Therapy and Risk of Gynecological Cancer in the Pre-/Postmenopausal Period
- Hormone Therapy and Risk of Other Cancers in the Pre-/Postmenopausal Period

# WOMEN'S QUALITY OF LIFE (NUTRITION – DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS – WEIGHT MANAGEMENT – PHYSICAL EXERCISE – FALL AND SARCOPENIA PREVENTION)

- Parameters for Ensuring Quality of Life in Postmenopausal Women
- Exercise & Metabolism
- Muscle Atrophy
- Sarcopenia
- Muscle Strengthening Methods for Measuring Muscle Strength
- Exercise in the Elderly Training Programs
- Identifying Patients at High Risk of Falls
- Weight Management During Menopausal Transition
- Obesity Body Fat Measurement Nutritional Management
- Nutrition During Menopausal Transition
- Dietary Supplements During Menopausal Transition
- Calcium, Vitamin D and Analogues in the Prevention–Treatment of Osteoporosis
- Smoking Stress Sedentary Lifestyle and Osteoporosis

#### **Fourth Semester**

Mandatory completion of the postgraduate thesis (ECTS: 30)

#### **Article 8. Distance Learning**

8.1 The program's planning includes in-person attendance as the main teaching method. The use of distance learning is considered as a supplementary tool to in-person education, facilitating the invitation and participation of distinguished scientists from abroad in the educational process. Furthermore, the use of modern distance learning techniques enables the participation of students outside Athens in lectures and clinical case presentations. Specifically, the lectures and clinical case presentations of the first two semesters may be conducted using modern distance learning methods. The proposed teaching materials are available in digital form and will be accessible as part of asynchronous distance learning. The third semester includes practical training courses, and students' physical presence is required. During the fourth semester, when each student collaborates with the supervisor to complete the thesis, the collaboration can be done through distance learning methods or with physical presence in the supervisors' workspaces.

8.2 Student evaluation is conducted in person. Digital evaluation methods are provided only as a supplementary tool. There is also the possibility of presenting assignments or theses using distance techniques.

8.3 In order to participate in distance learning, each student must have access to a computer connected to the internet and must have a remote communication platform – videoconferencing – on their personal computers.

#### Article 9. Examinations and Evaluation of Postgraduate Students

9.1 The educational work of each academic year is divided into two semesters: the winter and spring semesters, each of which includes at least thirteen (13) weeks of teaching and three (3) weeks of exams. The courses of the winter and spring semesters are re-examined during the September period.

9.2 In case a course cannot be conducted, it will be rescheduled. The date and time of the rescheduled course will be posted on the program's website.

9.3 Attendance in classes/laboratories, etc., is mandatory. A postgraduate student is considered to have attended a course (and thus has the right to participate in exams) only if they have attended at least 90% of the course hours. Otherwise, the student is required to retake the course in the next academic year. If a student's absence rate exceeds 10% of the total courses, the issue of their expulsion is raised. This issue is examined by the Academic Senate, which provides its opinion to the Medical School Assembly.

9.4 The evaluation of postgraduate students and their performance in the courses they are required to attend as part of the program is conducted at the end of each semester through written or oral exams or by completing assignments throughout the semester, or a combination of all of the above. The method of evaluation is determined by the instructor of each course. During written or oral exams, the integrity of the process is ensured. Grading is on a scale of 1-10. The exam results are announced by the instructor and sent to the program's secretariat and the Medical School Secretariat within four (4) weeks at the latest from the exam date. If there is a repeated delay beyond this timeframe by an instructor, the program's director informs the Medical School Assembly.

9.5 In case of emergencies or conditions arising from force majeure, alternative evaluation methods may be applied, such as conducting written or oral exams using electronic means, provided that the integrity of the evaluation process is ensured.

9.6 Alternative methods of evaluation may be applied to students with disabilities and special educational needs following a decision by the Academic Senate and the recommendation of the Department's Disabilities Committee, taking into account the relevant guidelines of the Student Accessibility Unit for Students with Disabilities.

9.7 Evaluation of students in programs conducted through distance learning methods can be done through distance exams, provided that the integrity of the evaluation process is ensured.

9.8 In cases of illness or recovery from a serious illness, it is recommended that the instructor facilitates the student in whatever way they deem appropriate, such as through an oral distance exam. During oral exams, the instructor ensures that they are not alone with the examined student.

9.9 Courses in which a student did not obtain a passing grade must be retaken. However, laboratory or practical sessions that are graded separately are considered as passed and do not need to be repeated if the student's attendance was deemed successful.

9.10 Grade correction is allowed if a clear clerical or cumulative error has occurred, following a document from the relevant instructor and a decision by the Medical School Assembly.

9.11 If a student fails the same course more than three (3) times, the procedure prescribed by applicable law is followed.

9.12 The written exams are stored for two (2) years with the responsible course coordinator. After this period, the exams are no longer valid, and a relevant protocol is drafted by the Medical School Assembly for their destruction, unless a related criminal, disciplinary, or other administrative process is pending.

9.13 To calculate the degree grade, the weight of each course in the curriculum is considered, expressed in credit units (ECTS). The number of ECTS for each course also represents the weight of the course. The degree grade is calculated by multiplying the grade of each course by the corresponding number of credit units and dividing the total sum of the individual products by the total number of credit units required for the degree. The calculation is as follows:

 $\begin{array}{l} B \alpha \theta \mu \acute{o} \varsigma \ \pi \tau \upsilon \chi \acute{i} \upsilon \upsilon / \delta \iota \pi \lambda \acute{\omega} \mu \alpha \tau \sigma \varsigma = (\sum_{k=1}^{N} B M_{\kappa}^{/\Sigma E} \widehat{\Pi} M_{\kappa}) \\ \text{where:} \\ \text{N = number of courses required to obtain the respective degree} \\ \text{BMk = grade of course k} \\ \text{PMk = credit units of course k} \\ \text{Total Credit Units = total credit units required for the degree} \end{array}$ 

To obtain the degree, each postgraduate student must attend and pass all mandatory courses and the required number of elective courses from the program's offerings and complete a thesis, accumulating a total of one hundred and twenty (120) ECTS.

#### Article 10. Completion of the Postgraduate Thesis

10.1 The assignment of the postgraduate thesis (PGT) occurs after the completion of all program courses and successful exams in them.

10.2 The PGT must be individual, original, research-oriented, or a review and must be written according to the writing guidelines posted on the program's website.

10.3 After a student's request, which includes the proposed title of the thesis, the supervisor, and a summary of the proposed work, the Coordinating Committee assigns the supervisor and forms the three-member examining committee for the approval of the thesis, one of whom is the supervisor. The language of the thesis can be either English or Greek, and it is determined together with the assignment of the topic.

10.4 The title of the thesis can be finalized upon the student's request and the supervisor's agreement with the Coordinating Committee of the program. The request should include a brief justification for the change.

10.5 To approve the thesis, the student must defend it before the three-member examining committee.

10.6 The supervisor and the members of the three-member examining committee for the postgraduate thesis are assigned from the categories that have teaching duties in the program.

a) Members of the Teaching and Research Staff (D.E.P.), Special Educational Staff (E.E.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.D.I.P.), and Special Technical Laboratory Staff (E.T.E.P.) of the Department or other Departments of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (E.K.P.A.) or other Higher Education Institutions (A.E.I.) or Higher Military Educational Institutions (A.S.E.I.), with additional duties beyond their legal obligations, if the Master's Program (M.S.) has tuition fees.

**b)** Emeritus Professors or retired members of D.E.P. from the Department or other Departments of E.K.P.A. or another A.E.I.

c) Collaborating professors.

**d)** Appointed instructors.

e) Visiting professors or visiting researchers.

**f)** Researchers and specialized functional scientists from research and technological organizations as per Article 13A of Law 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centers and institutes, domestic or international.

By decision of the Coordinating Committee, the supervision of diploma theses may also be assigned to members of D.E.P., E.E.P., E.T.E.P., and E.D.I.P. of the Department who have not taken on teaching duties in the M.S.

**10.1** Master's theses, once approved by the examination committee, must be posted in the Digital Repository "PERGAMOS," according to the decisions of the Senate of E.K.P.A.

**10.2** If the Master's thesis contains unpublished original results, upon request from the supervisor, which is co-signed by the student, only the abstracts may be published on the website, with the full text being published later.

# ARTICLE 11. OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

**11.1** Postgraduate students have all the rights and benefits provided to first-cycle students until the end of any granted extension of studies, except for the right to receive free teaching materials.

**11.2** The institution ensures accessibility to proposed teaching materials and teaching for students with disabilities or special educational needs (<u>https://access.uoa.gr/</u>).

**11.3** The Career Office of E.K.P.A. provides advisory support to students on matters of studies and career development (<u>https://www.career.uoa.gr/ypiresies/</u>).

**11.4** Postgraduate students are encouraged to participate in and attend seminars of research groups, literature discussions, laboratory visits, conferences/symposia related to the M.S. subject, lectures, or other scientific events of the M.S.

**11.5** The Assembly of the Medical School, upon recommendation from the Coordinating Committee, may decide to expel postgraduate students if they:

- Exceed the maximum allowed absences.
- Fail in the examination of a course or courses and have not completed the program successfully, as stipulated in this decision.

- Exceed the maximum study period for the M.S. as defined in this decision.
- Violate the relevant provisions regarding disciplinary misconduct as handled by the appropriate disciplinary bodies.
- Fail to pay the required tuition fees.
- Submit a request for expulsion themselves.

**11.6** If a postgraduate student is expelled from the M.S., they may request a certificate for the courses they have successfully completed.

**11.7** Students can participate in international student exchange programs, such as ERASMUS+ or CIVIS, according to current legislation. In this case, the maximum number of ECTS credits they can transfer is thirty (30). This opportunity is available after their first semester. Students must apply to the Coordinating Committee and follow the program's terms.

Postgraduate students from international exchange programs, like ERASMUS+, can also attend the M.S. according to established collaborations.

**11.8** Postgraduate students of E.K.P.A. can enroll in M.S. programs of the same or other domestic or international A.E.I.s as part of educational or research cooperation programs according to current legislation.

**11.9** It is possible to attend both an undergraduate program and a postgraduate program simultaneously or two M.S. programs from the same or another department, from the same or another A.E.I.

**11.10** At the end of each semester, the evaluation of each course and instructor is carried out by the postgraduate students (see Article 17).

**11.11** Postgraduate students can request the issuance of a diploma supplement in both Greek and English.

**11.12** For their participation in the M.S. "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health), postgraduate students pay tuition fees amounting to one thousand euros (1,000 euros) per semester. The payment is made at the beginning of each semester.

# **ARTICLE 12. EXEMPTION FROM TUITION FEES**

**12.1** Postgraduate students who meet financial or social criteria and excellence conditions during their first cycle of studies, according to current legislation, are exempt from tuition fees. This exemption is provided for participation in only one M.S. In any case, exempt students do not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total number of students admitted to the M.S. per academic year.

**12.2** The application for exemption from tuition fees is submitted after the student selection process for the M.S. is complete. A candidate's financial situation is never a reason for non-selection for the M.S.

**12.3** Those receiving scholarships from other sources or citizens from non-E.U. countries are not eligible for exemption.

**12.4** The assessment of the criteria for exemption from tuition fees is carried out by the Assembly of the Medical School, and a justified decision is issued regarding the acceptance or rejection of the request.

**12.5** If the current legislation sets an age criterion, it is recommended, for the sake of good administration and equal treatment, to consider the date of birth of the students as December 31st of the birth year.

12.6 Members of E.E.P., E.D.I.P., and E.T.E.P. who are accepted as excess students according to provision

4.3 of this decision are exempt from tuition fees.

**12.7** If members of the same family (up to the second degree of kinship, by blood or marriage) are enrolled simultaneously in the M.S. program at the institution, a 50% reduction in tuition fees may be provided.

## ARTICLE 13. INFRASTRUCTURE AND FUNDING OF THE M.S.

**13.1** For the smooth operation of the M.S., teaching and seminar rooms, auditoriums equipped with audiovisual equipment, and laboratories of the Medical School are available.

**13.2** The administrative and secretarial support for the M.S. is provided by the Secretariat of the Medical School.

**13.3** The funding of the M.S. can come from:

- Tuition fees
- Donations, grants, and all kinds of financial support
- Bequests
- Funds from research projects or programs
- Own resources of the Higher Education Institution (A.E.I.)
- The state budget or public investment program
- Any other legal source.

**13.4** The payment of tuition fees is made by the student themselves or by a third party, whether a natural or legal person, on behalf of the student, if provided in the decision to establish the M.S.

**13.5** The management of the M.S. funds is carried out by the Special Account for Research Funds (E.L.K.E.) of E.K.P.A.

**13.6** The M.S. funds are distributed as follows:

- A portion equivalent to thirty percent (30%) of the total income from tuition fees is withheld by E.L.K.E. This amount includes the retention percentage for E.L.K.E. for the financial management of the M.S. When the M.S. income comes from donations, grants, and any other financial support, bequests, or funds from research projects or programs, the retention for E.L.K.E. applicable to income from such sources is carried out.
- The remaining portion of the M.S. income is allocated to cover the operating expenses of the M.S.

# ARTICLE 14. ASSIGNMENT OF TEACHING/LECTURERS IN THE M.Sc. PROGRAM

14.1 The teaching duties of the Master's Programs (M.Sc.) are assigned, following a decision by the Assembly, to the following categories of lecturers:

a) members of the Faculty of Teaching and Research Staff (D.E.P.), Special Teaching Staff (E.E.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.D.I.P.), and Special Technical Laboratory Staff (E.T.E.P.) from the Department or other Departments of the University of Athens (UoA) or other Higher Education Institutions (A.E.I.) or Higher Military Educational Institutions (A.S.E.I.), with additional employment beyond their legal obligations, if the M.Sc. program has tuition fees,

b) emeritus professors or retired members of the D.E.P. from the Department or other Departments of UoA or other A.E.I.,

c) cooperating professors,

d) appointed lecturers,

e) visiting professors or visiting researchers,

f) researchers and specialized functional scientists from research and technological bodies of Article 13A of Law 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centers and institutes, domestic or foreign,

g) scientists of recognized standing who possess specialized knowledge and relevant experience in the field of the M.Sc. program.

14.2 All categories of lecturers may be compensated exclusively from the resources of the M.Sc. program. Payment from the state budget or the public investment program is not allowed. The Assembly of the Medical School decides the amount of payment for each lecturer. Specifically, lecturers with the status of D.E.P. members may be additionally compensated for work they provide to the M.Sc. program, provided they fulfill their minimum legal obligations, as stipulated in paragraph 2 of Article 155 of Law 4957/2022. The last paragraph applies similarly to members of E.E.P., E.D.I.P., and E.T.E.P., provided they fulfill their minimum legal obligations.

14.3 By decision of the Assembly of the Medical School, additional teaching duties may be assigned to Ph.D. candidates of the Medical School, under the supervision of a lecturer from the M.Sc. program.

14.4 The assignment of teaching duties for the M.Sc. program is carried out by decision of the Assembly of the Medical School, following the recommendation of the M.Sc. Coordinating Committee.

The decisions of the Assembly of the Medical School for the distribution of teaching duties must include the following elements:

a) the name of the lecturer,

b) their status (e.g., D.E.P. member, E.E.P., E.D.I.P., E.T.E.P., etc.),

c) the type of teaching work assigned to each lecturer (course, seminar, or laboratory),

d) the number of teaching hours per course, seminar, or laboratory.

14.5 The distribution of teaching duties is carried out before the start of the academic year for both the winter and spring semesters. If the distribution of teaching duties cannot be done simultaneously for both academic semesters, the decision will be made before the start of each academic semester. By a justified decision of the Assembly, the assignment of teaching duties may be modified during the academic year. 14.6 Lecturers, during the period they are on educational leave or suspension of duties, may provide teaching services to the M.Sc. program if they deem their schedule permits, provided it is practically feasible under the current circumstances, which must be assessed appropriately on a case-by-case basis.

# ARTICLE 15. AWARDING OF THE MASTER'S DEGREE

15.1 The student completes the studies for the award of a Master's Degree (M.Sc.) by completing the required number of courses and credits needed for the M.Sc. degree, as well as successfully completing the Master's thesis. The Assembly of the Medical School certifies the completion of the studies in order to award the M.Sc. degree.

15.2 Upon completion of the above procedure, the student is awarded a certificate of completion of studies, loses their student status, and ceases participation in the collective governing bodies of the University.

15.3 The M.Sc. certifies the successful completion of the studies and includes a grade with two decimal places according to the following scale: Excellent (8.5 to 10), Very Good (6.5 to 8.5, not including), and Good (5 to 6.5, not including).

15.4 The format of the M.Sc. degree for each type of M.Sc. program is common for all Departments and Schools of UoA and is included in the Regulation for Graduate and Doctoral Studies of the Institution.

15.5 Within the framework of the M.Sc. program, the degree of Master of Science in "Women's Health" (M.Sc. in Women's Health) is awarded.

# **ARTICLE 16. GRADUATION CEREMONY**

16.1 The graduation ceremony is not a mandatory requirement for the successful completion of studies but is a necessary prerequisite for the award of the degree. The ceremony takes place within the framework of the Assembly of the Medical School and in a space of the School, in the presence of the Director of the M.Sc. program, the President of the School, or their Deputy, and, if possible, a representative of the Rector. 16.2 A request for a graduation ceremony for graduate students in the Great Ceremony Hall of the Central Building is examined on a case-by-case basis by the Rector, based on an assessment of the available capabilities and the number of graduates to be announced by the M.Sc. Secretariat to the Directorate of Education and Research.

16.3 Graduate students who have successfully completed the M.Sc. program may, in exceptional cases (studies, residence, or work abroad, health reasons, etc.), request an exemption from the obligation to participate in the graduation ceremony from the Secretariat of the Medical School. The exemption is approved by the President of the Medical School and the Vice-Rector of Academic Affairs, International Relations, and Extroversion.

# ARTICLE 17. EVALUATION OF THE M.Sc. PROGRAM

17.1 Evaluation by the National Authority for Higher Education

The M.Sc. program is evaluated as part of the periodic evaluation/certification of the Department organized by the National Authority for Higher Education (E.Th.A.A.E.). As part of this, the overall assessment of the work performed by each M.Sc. program is evaluated, the degree of fulfillment of the objectives set during its establishment, its sustainability, the absorption of graduates into the labor market, its contribution to research, internal evaluation by graduate students, the justification for extending its operation, and other elements related to the quality of the work produced and its contribution to the national strategy for higher education.

If during its evaluation, the M.Sc. program is deemed not to meet the conditions for continuing its operation, it will continue to operate until the graduation of currently enrolled students according to the founding decision and the regulation for graduate and doctoral programs of study.

# 17.2 Internal evaluation

The internal evaluation of M.Sc. programs is carried out annually by the Quality Assurance Unit (M.O.D.I.P.) of the Institution. All those involved in the implementation of the actions and activities of the M.Sc. program participate in the internal evaluation process, specifically the students, faculty members,

administrative and technical support staff, and members of the M.Sc. Coordinating Committee.

The internal evaluation process is carried out in accordance with the applicable legislation, the Institution's Internal Quality Assurance System, and the guidelines and standards of E.Th.A.A.E.

The internal evaluation of M.Sc. programs includes the assessment of the teaching work, as well as all academic functions and activities of the program.

Specifically, the following are evaluated:

a) the content of the Study Program according to the most recent research in the specific field of the M.Sc., ensuring the contemporary character of the program,

b) the workload of the courses, as well as the progress and completion of the graduate studies by students,c) the degree of satisfaction of students' expectations from the Study Program, the provided study support services, and the learning environment,

d) the courses of the Program on a semester basis through questionnaires completed by the M.Sc. students.

The use of evaluation results and their dissemination aims at the sustainability of the program, a high level of studies, improving its offerings, and the effectiveness of its lecturers.

In summary, at the end of each year of graduate studies, the Coordinating Committee, under the responsibility of the Director of the M.Sc. program, prepares an Evaluation Report of the Program, which is submitted to the Assembly of the Medical School.

# Regulation of the Master's Program "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health) at the Medical School of NKUA

# Article 1. Subject and Purpose

1.1 The purpose of the Master's Program "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health) is the education of both doctors and all healthcare professionals in all pathological conditions, beyond reproduction, that have a different natural course in women, with a primary goal of prevention and quality of life. Key areas of interest include gynecological endocrinology, gynecological cardiology, menopause management, early ovarian insufficiency, osteoporosis, and women's mental health. Additionally, the program aims to educate healthcare professionals involved with women's primary and secondary prevention through non-medical interventions, such as lifestyle management.

1.2 The Master's Program leads to the award of the Master's Degree in "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health) upon the complete and successful completion of studies according to the curriculum.
1.3 The degree is awarded by the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.
1.4 Learning outcomes and qualifications gained from successful completion of the Master's Program: Prospective application of specialized knowledge in managing diseases and clinical needs of women (beyond reproduction), teaching courses in the Master's Program, and pursuing doctoral studies at NKUA.

# Article 2. Structure and Bodies of the Master's Program

The competent bodies for the operation of the Master's Program according to Law 4957/2022 are: 2.1 At the institutional level, the competent bodies are the Graduate Studies Committee and the Senate.

2.2 At the level of the Medical School, the competent bodies are:

2.2.1 The Assembly of the School. The Assembly is responsible for:

a) suggesting to the Senate via the Graduate Studies Committee the need for the

establishment/amendment of a Master's Program, as well as the extension of the program's duration, b) appointing the Director and the members of the Coordinating Committee of each Master's Program of the Medical School,

c) suggesting representatives for the designation of the Program Committees for the Graduate Programs in which the Medical School participates,

d) forming committees to evaluate applications from prospective graduate students and approve their enrollment in the Master's Program,

e) assigning teaching duties among the instructors of the Master's Program and may assign supplementary teaching duties to PhD candidates of the department or school, under the supervision of a faculty member of the program,

f) forming examination committees for the evaluation of the Master's thesis and appointing a supervisor for each thesis,

g) determining the successful completion of studies and awarding the Master's Degree,

h) approving the program's annual report following the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee,i) assigning graduate students to undertake supplementary teaching duties in undergraduate programs of

the department,

j) exercising any other legal duties.

By decision of the Department's Assembly, the responsibilities in points d) and f) may be delegated to the Coordinating Committee of the Master's Program.

2.2.2 The Coordinating Committee (C.C.)

The Coordinating Committee consists of the Director of the Master's Program and four (4) faculty members of the Medical School and emeritus professors with relevant expertise, who undertake teaching duties in the program. The members of the Coordinating Committee are appointed by the decision of the Medical School's Assembly. The C.C. is responsible for monitoring and coordinating the operation of the program, including:

a) preparing the initial annual budget of the program and any amendments to it, if the program has resources, and recommending its approval to the Research Committee of the Special Account for Research Funds (E.L.K.E.),

b) preparing the program's report and recommending its approval to the Medical School's Assembly, c) approving expenditures for the program,

d) approving the granting of scholarships, whether compensatory or not, according to the Master's Program establishment decision and the Graduate and Doctoral Studies Regulations,

e) proposing the allocation of teaching duties and assigning teaching tasks to the Medical School's Assembly,

f) recommending the invitation of Visiting Professors for the program's teaching needs,

g) preparing a proposal for amending the curriculum, which is submitted to the Medical School's Assembly, h) recommending the reallocation of courses between academic semesters, as well as issues related to the quality enhancement of the curriculum.

2.2.3 The Director of the Master's Program

The Director of the Master's Program is selected from among the faculty members of the Medical School, preferably at the rank of professor or associate professor, and is appointed by the Medical School's Assembly for a two-year term, renewable without limitation.

The Director has the following responsibilities:

a) presiding over the Coordinating Committee, preparing the agenda, and calling meetings,

b) presenting matters related to the organization and operation of the Master's Program to the Medical School's Assembly,

c) proposing matters to the Coordinating Committee and other bodies of the Master's Program and the institution concerning the program's effective operation,

d) being the scientific responsible for the program and exercising the corresponding responsibilities,

e) monitoring the implementation of decisions by the program's bodies and the internal regulations for graduate and doctoral studies, as well as overseeing the program's budget implementation,

f) exercising any other responsibility defined in the Master's Program establishment decision. The Director and the members of the Coordinating Committee do not receive payment or any compensation for performing their duties related to the execution of their responsibilities.

#### Article 3. Categories and Number of Admitted Students

3.1 The Master's Program accepts graduates from universities of the following faculties/departments:

1. Medicine, 2) Nutrition-Dietetics, 3) Psychology, 4) Biomedical Sciences, 5) Nursing, 6) Midwifery, 7) Physiotherapy, 8) Molecular Biology, 9) Physical Education, 10) Public Health, and any related undergraduate programs from domestic or recognized foreign institutions, as well as graduates from relevant TEI (Technological Educational Institutes).

3.2 The maximum number of students admitted to the Master's Program is set at 40 in total. The maximum number is determined according to the number of faculty members and the student-to-teacher ratio, available facilities, teaching rooms, and the absorption of graduates in the labor market.

**3.1** In addition to the number of students admitted, one (1) member from the categories of E.E.P., E.DI.P., and E.T.E.P. is accepted per year, provided that their work at the Institution is related to the subject area of the Postgraduate Program (P.M.S.).

# **ARTICLE 4. ADMISSION PROCEDURE**

**4.1** The selection of students is carried out in accordance with the applicable legislation, the Regulation of Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies of the University of Athens (E.K.P.A.), and the provisions of this Regulation.

**4.2** Every February, by decision of the Assembly of the Medical School of the University of Athens (E.K.P.A.), an announcement for the admission of postgraduate students to the P.M.S. is published and posted on the Medical School's and the Institution's website. The relevant applications, along with the necessary supporting documents, are submitted to the Secretariat of the P.M.S., within the deadline specified in the announcement, which may be extended by a decision of the Assembly of the Medical School.

**4.3** The Assembly of the Medical School assigns the selection process to the Selection Committee (S.E.) or appoints an admission selection committee, which consists of at least three faculty members (D.E.P.) who have teaching responsibilities in the P.M.S.

**4.4** Necessary documents are:

- Application for participation
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Photocopy of both sides of the identity card
- Copy of degree or completion certificate
- Transcript of undergraduate courses
- English language proficiency certificate or examinations
- Recommendation letters
- Scientific publications, if any
- Proof of professional or research activity, if any
- Certificate of Greek language proficiency, or adequate Greek language proficiency certified by the Selection Committee for foreign applicants wishing to participate in a P.M.S. conducted in Greek.
- Recognition of foreign academic qualifications.

**4.5** For students from foreign institutions who do not provide a certificate of academic degree recognition by D.O.A.T.A.P., the following procedure is followed:

The Assembly of the Medical School appoints a committee to determine whether a foreign institution or degree type is recognized. To recognize a degree, the following requirements must be met:

- The institution awarding the degree must be included in the list of foreign institutions maintained and updated by D.O.A.T.A.P.
- The student must provide a certification of the place of study, which is issued and sent by the foreign university. If the place of study or part of it is certified as located in Greece, the degree is not recognized unless the studies were conducted in a public higher education institution in Greece.

**4.6** The evaluation of applicants and the selection of admitted students is based on the following criteria:

- Degree grade (5%)
- Grade in undergraduate courses related to the subject area of the P.M.S. (5%)
- Relevance of the degree and knowledge of the applicant to the subject area of the P.M.S. (5%)
- Certified English language proficiency (5%)
- Scientific publications, conference participation (5%)
- Recommendation letters (5%)

- Relevant research or professional activity (5%)
- Possession of a postgraduate or doctoral degree (5%)
- Oral interview by a three-member committee appointed by the S.E. (60%)

**4.7** Based on the overall criteria, the S.E. or the admission selection committee prepares a ranking list of students and submits it for approval to the Assembly.

Successful candidates must register at the Secretariat of the P.M.S. within thirty (30) days of the Assembly's decision.

In the case of a tie (rounded to the nearest whole number on the 100-point scale), tied candidates are admitted, up to a maximum of 10% of the highest number of admitted students.

If one or more students fail to register, alternate candidates (if available) will be invited to register based on their position in the approved ranking list.

# **ARTICLE 5. DURATION OF STUDY**

**5.1** The duration of study in the P.M.S. leading to a Master's Degree (M.D.S.) is set at 4 academic semesters, including the time for the preparation of the thesis.

**5.2** There is an option for part-time study and an extension of studies upon a justified request from the student and approval by the Assembly of the Medical School. The extension does not exceed two (2) academic semesters. Thus, the maximum allowed time for completing the studies is set at six (6) academic semesters.

Students who can apply for part-time study include:

a) Students who work at least twenty (20) hours per week,

b) Students with disabilities and special educational needs,

c) Athletes who are members of sports clubs registered in the electronic registry of sports clubs as defined in Article 142 of Law 4714/2020, under the following conditions:

ga) For years in which they achieve a ranking from 1st to 8th place in national individual sports championships with at least twelve (12) athletes and eight (8) clubs, or compete in teams of the two (2) highest categories in team sports, or are members of national teams in European or World Championships or other international events under the Greek Olympic Committee, or

gb) They participate at least once during their studies in the Olympic, Paralympic Games, or Deaflympics. These students may register as part-time students, after their request is approved by the School's Dean's office.

The duration of part-time study does not exceed double the regular study period. The maximum duration for completion applies in this case as well.

**5.3** An extension may be granted upon a justified request from the student and approval by the Assembly of the Medical School. The extension does not exceed two (2) academic semesters. Thus, the maximum allowed time for completion is set at six (6) academic semesters.

**5.4** Students who have not exceeded the maximum duration of study, upon a justified request to the Assembly of the Medical School, may interrupt their studies for a period not exceeding two (2) consecutive semesters. Study interruption is granted for serious reasons (military service, illness, maternity, study abroad, etc.).

The request must be justified and accompanied by all relevant documentation from the appropriate public authorities or organizations confirming the reasons for the interruption. Student status is suspended during the interruption, and participation in any educational process is not allowed.

The semesters of study interruption do not count towards the maximum duration of regular study. At least two weeks before the end of the interruption, the student must re-enroll in the program to continue their studies as an active student.

Students may request to discontinue their interruption and return to the Program only if they have requested an interruption for two consecutive academic semesters. The request must be submitted no later than two weeks before the start of the second semester of the interruption.

**5.5** The duration of suspension or extension of study time is discussed and approved on a case-by-case basis by the S.E., which then recommends it to the Assembly of the School/Department.

## ARTICLE 6. STUDY PROGRAM

**6.1** The P.M.S. starts in the winter semester of each academic year.

**6.2** To obtain the diploma of the P.M.S., a total of 120 ECTS credits are required. All courses are taught weekly and may include laboratory exercises, seminars, or practical training, as appropriate.

**6.3** The language of instruction and writing of the postgraduate thesis is Greek or English.

**6.4** During their studies, postgraduate students are required to attend and pass postgraduate courses, engage in research work, clinical practice, write or present scientific papers, and prepare a postgraduate thesis.

**6.5** The thesis is prepared in the 4th semester and is credited with 30 ECTS.

**6.1** There is an opportunity for practical training in the collaborating clinical units to acquire the required practical experience, under the supervision/collaboration of the supervising academic staff member. The practical training lasts for the 1st semester and is credited with 30 ECTS; it is mandatory.

**6.2** The teaching of courses is primarily conducted in person. It may, to some extent (not exceeding 10% of the total teaching), take place as synchronous and/or asynchronous distance learning, for educational purposes, in accordance with current legislation. In exceptional cases, teaching may be conducted remotely beyond the aforementioned percentage if determined by the current health guidelines of the Senate of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) and/or the President of the Medical School.

**6.3** The indicative course schedule is as follows:

#### 1st Semester: CLINICAL EDUCATION-1

Compulsory Courses | Weekly Teaching Hours | ECTS

- RESEARCH METHODOLOGY-STATISTICS | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 6
- GYNECOLOGICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
- MENOPAUSE-PERIMENOPAUSE | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
- SKELETAL HEALTH OF WOMEN | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
   Total: 156 hours | 30 ECTS

# 2nd Semester: CLINICAL EDUCATION-2

Compulsory Courses | Weekly Teaching Hours | ECTS

- METABOLIC DISORDERS AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES IN WOMEN | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
- UROGENITAL SYNDROME-SEXUAL HEALTH-MENTAL HEALTH-NEUROLOGICAL AND COGNITIVE DISORDERS-DERMATOLOGY OF WOMEN | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
- BREAST CANCER AND GYNECOLOGICAL CANCER PREVENTION | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
- QUALITY OF LIFE IN WOMEN (DIET-NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS-WEIGHT MANAGEMENT-PHYSICAL EXERCISE-FALL PREVENTION AND SARCOPENIA) | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 6 Total: 156 hours | 30 ECTS

# **3rd Semester: CLINICAL PRACTICE**

Compulsory Courses | Weekly Teaching Hours | ECTS

- CASES: MENOPAUSE CLINIC AND EARLY OVARIAN INSUFFICIENCY/PRACTICAL TRAINING | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
- CASES: OSTEOPOROSIS CLINIC/PRACTICAL TRAINING | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
- CASES: CARDIOVASCULAR AND METABOLIC HEALTH CLINIC/PRACTICAL TRAINING | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 8
- CASES: UROGYNECOLOGICAL CLINIC/MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC/BREAST CLINIC/PRACTICAL TRAINING | 3 hours \* 13 weeks = 39 hours | 6 Total: 156 hours | 30 ECTS

#### 4th Semester: FOCUSED RESEARCH

Completion of the Master's Thesis | 30 ECTS Total: 30 ECTS

**B.** Course Content/Description

**Compulsory Courses:** 

- **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY-STATISTICS** • Evidence-based medicine Literature Review Using Computers Introduction to Biostatistics **Definition of Statistics Descriptive Statistics** T-Test, Chi-Square Test Non-parametric tests **Correlation Coefficients** Simple Linear Regression ANOVA **Multiple Linear Regression** Logarithmic dependence Evaluation of laboratory findings Types of medical research Sampling Method **Repeated Measures** GYNECOLOGICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Thyroid Axis Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Ovary-Uterus Axis Hormones: biosynthesis-release Hormones: transport-action Hormones: metabolism-control mechanisms Dynamic hormone tests in female reproduction **Ovulation disorders** Hyperandrogenism Menstrual disorders
  - Contraception **Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia** Infertility Pituitary adenomas-hypogonadism Hypoparathyroidism-Etiopathogenesis-Diagnosis-Treatment

# **MENOPAUSE-PERIMENOPAUSE**

- Physiology of Menopause Early Menopause Premature Ovarian Insufficiency Surgical Menopause Pharmacological Menopause Acute Climacteric Syndrome Short-Term Effects Long-Term Effects **Diagnosis and Treatment of Menopause** Hormone Therapy: Continuous Combined Hormone Therapy Cyclic Hormone Therapy Systemic Hormone Therapy **Transdermal Hormone Therapy** Local Hormone Therapy Hormone Therapy, Tibolone, and SERMS in postmenopausal osteoporosis prevention and treatment Hormone Therapy in Autoimmune Diseases **SKELETAL HEALTH OF WOMEN** Anatomy-Physiology-Pathology of joints
  - Bone biology Bone reconstruction

Genetics of osteoporosis Endocrine message transmission – Hormones – Hormone action mechanisms – Hormone receptors Endocrine axes and target organs Measurement of Ca, P, Mg Vitamin D - Parathyroid Hormone Inflammatory diseases of the musculoskeletal system Autoimmune diseases and osteoclastogenesis Metabolic bone diseases-Differential Diagnosis Imaging methods for skeletal assessment: X-ray Bone Densitometry: Dual-energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) - pQCT Clinical assessment of Bone Densitometry Osteoporosis and corticosteroids **Treatment of Osteoporosis - Bisphosphonates** Osteoporosis Treatment with Teriparatide Osteoporosis Treatment with Denosumab Osteoporosis Treatment with Ranelic Strontium Dental Implants and Osteoporosis Treatment Ca thyroid and bones MEN 1 syndrome and bones Skeletal manifestations of Turner syndrome Effects of thyroid-stimulating hormone and its disorders on bones Male osteoporosis Effects of androgen blockade in prostate cancer patients

#### 2nd Semester: CLINICAL EDUCATION-2

**Compulsory Courses:** 

- METABOLIC DISORDERS AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES IN WOMEN Metabolic syndrome-obesity Insulin resistance Pre-diabetic conditions - Type II diabetes during menopause Dyslipidemia during menopause Cardiovascular effects of early ovarian insufficiency Cardiovascular effects of premature ovarian insufficiency-menopause Prevention of cardiovascular diseases in postmenopausal women Effects of Hormone Therapy on lipid profile Hormone Therapy in insulin resistance-pre-diabetes-diabetes The role of Hormone Therapy in preventing cardiovascular diseases Reduction of cardiovascular risk with non-Hormonal Therapy Hormone Therapy and cardiovascular risk
   UROGENITAL SYNDROME-SEXUAL HEALTH-MENTAL HEALTH-NEUROLOGICAL AND COGNITIVE DISORDERS-DERMATCH OGY OF WOMEN
- UROGENITAL SYNDROME-SEXUAL HEALTH-MENTAL HEALTH-NEUROLOGICAL AND COGNITIVE DISORDERS-DERMATOLOGY OF WOMEN
   Skin and mucosal atrophy
   Urogenital Syndrome of Menopause (GSM)

#### Hormone Therapy GSM

Non-hormonal Therapy GSM **Decreased Sexual Desire** Menopause and Mental Health. Research and Prospects. Psychosocial Instability Neurological Disorders Cognitive Disorders Depression Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease Tools for Managing Cognitive and Psychosocial Disorders Pharmaceutical Management of Cognitive Disorders Pharmaceutical Management of Psychosocial Disorders **BREAST CANCER AND GYNECOLOGICAL CANCER PREVENTION** Preventive Laboratory and Radiological Breast Screening Preventive Laboratory and Radiological Gynecological System Screening Therapeutic Management of Women with Breast Cancer in Menopause Therapeutic Management of Women with Endometrial Cancer in Menopause Therapeutic Management of Women with Cervical Cancer in Menopause Therapeutic Management of Women with Ovarian Cancer in Menopause Therapeutic Management of Women with Vaginal Cancer in Menopause Therapeutic Management of Women with Vulvar Cancer in Menopause Hormone Therapy and the Incidence of Breast Cancer in the Pre-/Perimenopausal Period Hormone Therapy and the Incidence of Gynecological Cancer in the Pre-/Perimenopausal Period Hormone Therapy and the Incidence of Other Cancers in the Pre-/Perimenopausal Period QUALITY OF LIFE OF WOMEN (NUTRITION-SUPPLEMENTS-WEIGHT MANAGEMENT-PHYSICAL ACTIVITY-FALL PREVENTION AND SARCOPENIA) Factors Ensuring Quality of Life in Postmenopausal Women Exercise & Metabolism Muscle Atrophy Sarcopenia Muscle Strengthening - Methods of Measuring Muscle Strength **Exercise in Old Age - Programs** 

Identifying Patients at Increased Risk for Falls

Weight Management During the Transition to Menopause

Obesity - Body Fat Measurement - Nutritional Management

Nutrition During the Transition to Menopause

Dietary Supplements During the Transition to Menopause

Calcium, Vitamin D, and Derivatives in the Prevention/Treatment of Osteoporosis

Smoking - Stress - Sedentary Lifestyle and Osteoporosis

#### **ARTICLE 7. DISTANCE LEARNING**

7.1 The program of the Master's degree includes in-person presence as the main teaching method. The use of distance learning is prioritized as a complementary tool to in-person teaching, which facilitates the invitation and participation of distinguished foreign scientists in the educational process. Furthermore, the use of modern distance learning techniques facilitates the participation of students from outside Athens in lectures and clinical case presentations. Specifically, lectures and clinical case presentations during the first two semesters may be conducted using modern distance learning methods. The proposed teaching materials are available in digital format and will be provided as part of asynchronous distance learning. The third semester includes practical training courses, and physical presence of students is mandatory. In the fourth semester, during which each student collaborates with a supervisor for the preparation of the thesis, cooperation may take place both through distance learning methods and with physical presence in the workplaces of supervising faculty members.

7.2 Student assessment is conducted in person. Digital assessment methods are foreseen only as a supplementary tool. There is also the possibility of presenting assignments, including theses, using distance techniques.

7.3 To participate in distance learning, each student must have access to a computer connected to the internet and must have remote communication/video conferencing software installed on their personal computers.

#### **ARTICLE 8. EXAMS AND EVALUATION OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS**

8.1 The academic work of each academic year is structured into two semesters, the winter and the spring semester, each of which includes at least thirteen (13) weeks of teaching and three (3) weeks of exams. The courses of the winter and spring semesters are re-examined during the September period.8.2 In case of a class cancellation, make-up classes will be scheduled. The date and time of the make-up class will be posted on the Master's program website.

8.3 Attendance in classes/laboratories, etc., is mandatory. A postgraduate student is considered to have attended a course (and thus has the right to participate in exams) only if they have attended at least 90% of the course hours. If this is not the case, the student is required to retake the course in the next academic year. If a student's absence exceeds 10% of the total number of courses, the issue of their removal is raised. This issue will be examined by the School's Council, which will advise the Assembly of the Medical School. 8.4 The evaluation of postgraduate students and their performance in the courses they are required to attend within the Master's program is conducted at the end of each semester through written or oral exams, the completion of assignments during the semester, or progress exams, written work, laboratory or clinical exercises, or a combination of all of the above. The method of evaluation is defined by the instructor of each course. During written or oral exams, the impartiality of the process must be ensured. Grading is done on a scale of 1-10. The exam results will be announced by the instructor and sent to the Secretariat of the Master's program and the Department within four (4) weeks at the latest after the exam. If repeated delays are noticed from the instructor, the Program Director informs the Assembly of the School/Department.

8.5 The percentage of participation in laboratory exercises, assignments, and seminars in the final grade of each course is determined for each course separately, following a proposal from the instructor of the course and is listed in the Master's Program Study Guide.

8.6 In order to address urgent needs or circumstances arising from force majeure, alternative evaluation methods may be applied, such as conducting written or oral exams using electronic means, provided the impartiality of the evaluation process is ensured.

8.7 Alternative evaluation methods may be applied for students with disabilities or special educational needs, following a decision from the Program's Council and a recommendation from the Department's Disability Committee, in consideration of the guidelines from the Disability Student Accessibility Unit. 8.8 The evaluation of postgraduate students in programs that are organized through distance learning methods may be carried out via distance exams, provided the impartiality of the evaluation process is ensured.

8.9 In cases of illness or recovery from a serious illness, it is recommended that the instructor facilitates, in any appropriate manner, the student (e.g., oral remote examination). During oral exams, the instructor ensures that they will not be alone with the student being examined.

8.10 For courses in which a student did not obtain a passing grade, they are required to retake them. However, the laboratory or exercise that is graded separately is considered completed and does not need to be repeated, provided that attendance was deemed successful.

8.11 Correction of grades is allowed if a clear mistake or summation error occurred, following a request from the responsible instructor and a decision from the Assembly of the Medical School.

8.12 If the student fails more than three (3) times in the same course, the procedure defined by the current legislation is followed.

8.13 Written exams are kept for two (2) years under the responsibility of the course instructor.

8.14 To calculate the degree grade, the weight of each course in the study program is taken into account, which is expressed by the number of credit units (ECTS). The number of credit units (ECTS) for the course is also the weight coefficient.

**Course Grade Calculation:** To calculate the grade for the degree, the grade of each course is multiplied by the corresponding number of credits (of the course), and the total sum of the individual products is divided by the total number of credits required to obtain the degree. This calculation is expressed by the following mathematical formula:

 $\Sigma \Pi M$  where: N = number of courses required for obtaining the corresponding degree BM $\kappa$  = grade of course k  $\Pi M \kappa$  = credits of course k  $\Sigma \Pi M$  = total credits required for obtaining the corresponding degree.

To obtain a Master's degree (MSc), each postgraduate student must attend and successfully pass all compulsory courses and the required number of elective courses offered by the program and submit a Master's thesis, thereby accumulating 120 ECTS.

Article 9. Master's Thesis 9.1 The assignment of the Master's Thesis (M.D.E.) takes place after the completion of all courses in the study program and successful examination in these courses. 9.2 The M.D.E. must be individual, original, have a research character, or be a review, and must be written according to the writing guidelines published on the website of each Master's program. 9.3 Upon the candidate's request, which includes the proposed title of the thesis, the supervisor, and a summary of the proposed work, the Coordinating Committee designates the supervisor and forms the three-member examination committee to approve the work, one of whom is the supervisor. The language of writing for the thesis may be either English or Greek and is determined along with the assignment of the topic. 9.4 The title of the thesis may be finalized upon the request of the student and the agreement of the supervisor to the Coordinating Committee of the program. The request must include a brief justification for the change. 9.5 For the work to be approved, the student must defend it before the three-member examination committee. 9.6 The supervisor and the members of the three-member examination committee for the Master's Thesis are selected from the following categories of individuals who have teaching duties in the program: a) Faculty members (D.E.P.), Special Educational Staff (E.E.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.DI.P.), and Special Technical Laboratory Staff (E.T.E.P.) from the Department or other Departments of EKPA or other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), or Higher Military Educational Institutions (ASEI), with additional work beyond their legal obligations, if the program has tuition fees, b) Emeritus Professors or retired faculty members of the Department or other Departments of EKPA or other HEIs, c) Collaborating professors, d) Adjunct faculty members, e) Visiting professors or visiting researchers, f) Researchers and special operational scientists from research and technological institutions as per article 13A of Law 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centers and institutes in Greece or abroad. The Coordinating Committee may assign supervision of theses to faculty members (D.E.P.), E.E.P., E.T.E.P., and E.DI.P. from the Department who do not have teaching duties in the program. 9.7 Once approved by the examination committee, Master's theses are compulsorily uploaded to the Digital Repository "PERGAMOS," in accordance with decisions by the Senate of EKPA. 9.8 If the M.D.E. contains unpublished original results, it may, upon request by the supervisor, co-signed by the student, have only the abstracts published on the website, with the full text to be published later.

Article 10. Obligations and Rights of Postgraduate Students 10.1 Postgraduate students have all the rights and benefits provided to undergraduate students, up until the expiration of any granted extension of studies, excluding the right to free textbooks. 10.2 The institution ensures access to proposed textbooks and teaching for students with disabilities or special educational needs (<u>https://access.uoa.gr/</u>). 13.3 The Career Office of EKPA provides counseling support for students on academic and career issues (<u>https://www.career.uoa.gr/ypiresies/</u>). 10.4 Postgraduate students are encouraged to participate in and attend seminars, research group meetings, bibliographic update discussions, laboratory visits, conferences/symposia relevant to the program, lectures, or other scientific events organized by the program. 10.5 The Faculty Assembly of the Medical School of EKPA, upon the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee, may decide to expel postgraduate students if they:

- Exceed the maximum absence limit,
- Fail exams or courses and have not successfully completed the program as defined in this regulation,
- Exceed the maximum duration of studies in the program as defined in this regulation,
- Violate applicable rules regarding disciplinary offenses,

- Fail to pay the required tuition fees,
- Submit a request for expulsion themselves. 10.6 If a postgraduate student is expelled from the program, they may request a certificate for the courses in which they have been successfully examined. 10.7 Students can participate in international student exchange programs, such as the ERASMUS+ or CIVIS program, according to current legislation. In such cases, the maximum number of ECTS that can be recognized is thirty (30). This option is available after the first semester of studies. Students must apply to the Coordinating Committee and follow the terms of the program. The program can also be attended by students from international exchange programs, such as ERASMUS+, according to the established agreements. 10.8 Students may undertake internships as part of postgraduate programs related to women's health. The internship earns thirty (30) ECTS, which count towards the total of one hundred and twenty (120) ECTS for the regular program. Internships can also be done through exchange programs like Erasmus+, according to current legislation. 10.10 Postgraduate students at EKPA may enroll in Master's programs at the same or other HEIs in Greece or abroad as part of educational or research cooperation programs in accordance with applicable legislation. 10.11 It is possible to study concurrently in an undergraduate and a postgraduate program or in two (2) Master's programs from the same or different Department, from the same or different HEI. 10.12 At the end of each semester, an evaluation of each course and instructor is conducted by postgraduate students (see Article 19). 10.13 Postgraduate students may request the issuance of a diploma supplement in both Greek and English. 10.14 For their participation in the MSc program "Women's Health," postgraduate students pay tuition fees of 1,000 euros per semester. Payment is made at the beginning of each semester.

Article 11. Tuition Fee Exemption 11.1 Students in the Master's program who meet the financial or social criteria and excellence requirements from their undergraduate studies are exempt from tuition fees according to applicable legislation. This exemption is provided for participation in only one Master's program. In any case, exempt students do not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total number of students admitted to the program each academic year. 11.2 The application for exemption from tuition fees is submitted after the completion of the selection process for the Master's students. The financial situation of the candidate does not constitute grounds for non-selection in the program. 11.3 Exemption is not granted to those who receive scholarships from other sources, nor to citizens of non-EU countries. 11.4 The examination of the criteria for exemption from tuition fees is conducted by the Faculty/Department Assembly, and a reasoned decision is issued regarding the acceptance or rejection of the request. 11.5 If the applicable legislation sets an age criterion, it is recommended, for reasons of good administration and equal treatment, that the birth date of students be considered as December 31 of the year of birth. 11.6 Members of the categories E.E.P., E.DI.P., E.T.E.P., who are admitted as excess candidates according to section 9.5c of this regulation, are exempt from tuition fees. 11.7 In the case where members of the same family up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are simultaneously enrolled in the Master's program, a 50% reduction in the tuition fees may be offered.

Article 12. Scholarships and Awards Students cannot receive scholarships and awards for their studies.

**Article 13. Infrastructure and Funding of the Program** 13.1 To ensure the smooth operation of the Master's program, teaching and seminar rooms, auditoriums equipped with audiovisual equipment, and laboratories from the Medical School are available. 13.2 Administrative and secretarial support for the program is provided by the Secretariat of the Medical School. 13.3 The program may be funded by: a) tuition fees, b) donations, sponsorships, and all kinds of financial assistance, c) legacies, d) funds from research projects or programs, e) internal funds from the Higher Education Institution (HEI), f) the state budget or public investment programs, g) any other legal source. 13.4 Tuition fees are paid by the student or a third party on behalf of the student, as specified in the program's founding decision. 13.5 The management of the program's funds is carried out by the Special Account for Research Funds (E.L.K.E.) of EKPA. 13.6 Program funds are allocated as follows: a) An amount equal to thirty percent (30%) of the total revenue from tuition fees is withheld by E.L.K.E. This amount includes the withholding percentage for financial assistance, legacies, or research funds, the withholding applicable to these funding sources is also applied.

b) The remaining amount of the total revenues of the M.Sc. Program is allocated to cover the operational expenses of the M.Sc. Program.

**ARTICLE 14. ASSIGNMENT OF TEACHING/TEACHERS IN THE M.Sc. PROGRAM** 14.1 The teaching duties of the M.Sc. Programs (M.Sc.P.) are assigned, following a decision by the Assembly, to the following categories of teachers: a) Members of the Teaching and Research Staff (D.E.P.), Special Teaching Staff (E.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.D.I.P.), and Special Technical Laboratory Staff (E.T.E.P.) from the Department or other Departments of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) or other Higher Education Institutions (HEI) or Higher Military Educational Institutions (A.S.E.I.), with additional duties beyond their legal obligations, if the M.Sc.P. has tuition fees. b) Emeritus professors or retired members of the Teaching and Research Staff (D.E.P.) of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or other HEIs. c) Collaborating professors. d) Specially appointed teachers. e) Visiting professors or visiting researchers. f) Researchers and specialized functional scientists from research and technological organizations under article 13A of Law 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centers and institutes, both domestic and foreign. g) Renowned scientists who possess specialized knowledge and relevant experience in the M.Sc. Program's subject area.

14.2 All categories of teachers may be paid exclusively from the M.Sc.P. funds. Payments or other benefits from the state budget or the public investment program are not allowed. The Assembly of the Medical School, based on the proposal of the M.Sc.P. Coordinating Committee, determines the salary for each teacher. Specifically, teachers who are members of D.E.P. may be additionally compensated for work done for the M.Sc.P., as long as they meet their minimum legal obligations as outlined in paragraph 2 of article 155 of Law 4957/2022. This provision applies similarly to members of E.E.P., E.D.I.P., and E.T.E.P. who fulfill their minimum legal obligations.

14.3 By decision of the Assembly of the Medical School, auxiliary teaching duties may be assigned to doctoral candidates of the Medical School, under the supervision of a teacher of the M.Sc.P.

14.5 The assignment of teaching duties in the M.Sc.P. is carried out by the decision of the Assembly of the Medical School of NKUA, following a recommendation from the M.Sc.P. Coordinating Committee. The decisions of the Assembly regarding the distribution of teaching duties must include the following elements: a) The name of the teacher. b) Their position (e.g., D.E.P. member, E.E.P., E.D.I.P., E.T.E.P., etc.). c) The type of teaching duties assigned to each teacher (lecture, seminar, or lab). d) The number of teaching hours per course, seminar, or lab.

14.6 The distribution of teaching duties is done before the beginning of the academic year for both the fall and spring semesters. If the distribution cannot be done simultaneously for both academic semesters, the decision will be made before the beginning of each semester. The Assembly of the Medical School may, with a justified decision, modify the assignment of teaching duties during the academic year.

14.7 Teachers, during the period of educational leave or suspension, may still provide teaching duties to the M.Sc.P. if their schedule permits, under the condition that it is practically feasible, and this must be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the relevant authorities.

**ARTICLE 15. AWARDING OF THE MASTER'S DEGREE** 15.1 A student completes their studies for the awarding of the Master's Degree (M.Sc.) by completing the minimum number of courses and credit units required to obtain the M.Sc., and successfully completing the Master's thesis. The Assembly of the Medical School certifies the completion of studies to award the M.Sc. degree.

15.2 Upon completion of the above process, the student is issued a certificate of completion, loses their student status, and ceases participation in the university's collective administration bodies.

15.3 The M.Sc. certifies the successful completion of studies and records a grade with two decimal points, following the scale: Excellent (8.5 to 10), Very Good (6.5 to 8.5, excluding), and Good (5 to 6.5, excluding).

15.4 The form of the M.Sc. for each type of M.Sc.P. is common for all departments and schools of NKUA and is included in the University's Regulations for Graduate and Doctoral Studies.

15.5 The M.Sc. in Women's Health (MSc in Women's Health) is awarded within the framework of the M.Sc.P.

**ARTICLE 16. GRADUATION CEREMONY** 16.1 The graduation ceremony is not a mandatory component of the successful completion of studies, but it is a necessary requirement for the issuance of the diploma document. The ceremony takes place within the framework of the Assembly of the Medical School and in a space of the School, with the presence of the Program Director, the President of the School, the Dean, or the Vice Dean, and, if possible, a representative of the Rector.

16.2 A request for a graduation ceremony in the Great Hall of the Central building is reviewed case by case by the Rector, based on the available facilities and the number of graduates as declared by the M.Sc.P. Secretariat to the Education and Research Directorate.

16.3 Graduates who have successfully completed the M.Sc.P., under exceptional circumstances (study, residence, or work abroad, health reasons, etc.), may request an exemption from the graduation ceremony through the Medical School Secretariat. The exemption is approved by the President of the Medical School and the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Student Welfare.

**ARTICLE 17. EVALUATION OF THE M.Sc.P.** 17.1 Evaluation by the National Authority for Higher Education The M.Sc.P. is evaluated as part of the periodic evaluation/certification of the Department organized by the National Authority for Higher Education (E.T.A.A.E.). This evaluation assesses the overall performance of the M.Sc.P., the extent to which the initial objectives were met, its sustainability, the employment rate of graduates, its contribution to research, its internal evaluation by the students, the justification for extending its operation, and other elements related to the quality of work produced and its contribution to the national strategy for higher education.

If the M.Sc.P. is found to not meet the conditions for continuing its operation, it will continue to function until the graduation of the enrolled students according to the establishment decision and the graduate and doctoral program regulations.

17.2 Internal Evaluation Internal evaluation of the M.Sc.P. is conducted annually by the Quality Assurance Unit (MO.DI.P.) of the institution. The process involves all stakeholders, including students, teaching staff, administrative and technical support staff, and members of the M.Sc.P. Coordinating Committee. The internal evaluation follows the applicable laws, the institution's internal quality assurance system, E.T.A.A.E.'s guidelines, and the specific characteristics of the M.Sc.P.

The internal evaluation includes assessing the program's content, the workload of courses, and the students' progress in completing their studies. It also evaluates student satisfaction with the program, services, and learning environment.

**ARTICLE 18. DURATION OF THE M.Sc.P.** The M.Sc.P. will operate until the academic year 2034, provided it meets the criteria of internal and external evaluation, according to applicable laws.

**ARTICLE 19. FINAL PROVISIONS** For matters not defined by the current legislation, the Graduate and Doctoral Studies Regulations of NKUA, or this Regulation, decisions are made by the M.Sc.P. bodies.

#### **REPORT ON DISTANCE LEARNING IN THE M.Sc.P.**

M.Sc. "Women's Health" (MSc in Women's Health) ATHENS 2024

1. Documentation on the feasibility and suitability of organizing the M.Sc.P. using distance learning methods.

The organization of the educational process involves theoretical training and hands-on practical experience based on the acquired theoretical knowledge. The first two semesters involve

theoretical lectures and clinical case presentations with interaction between teachers and students. Therefore, these courses can be effectively conducted using modern distance learning methods as they do not involve practical, laboratory, or clinical training that requires physical presence. The use of a remote communication platform (videoconferencing) is required, and NKUA provides the necessary videoconferencing programs for the M.Sc.P. Secretariat will organize and support the distance learning process.

2. Analysis of the proposed methods of organizing the educational process (in-person, synchronous, asynchronous, hybrid) per educational activity and the distribution of teaching hours for each method, as well as the percentage of asynchronous distance learning per activity and overall. The M.Sc.P. primarily involves in-person presence as the main teaching method, while distance learning serves as a complementary tool, facilitating the participation of distinguished scientists from abroad. Further, the use of distance teaching techniques is feasible and highly desirable

This specific Master's program will facilitate the participation of students from outside Athens in lectures and clinical case presentations. Specifically, as mentioned in the previous paragraph, in the Master's program "Women's Health" («MSc in Women's Health»), the lectures and clinical case presentations during the first two semesters can be conducted using distance learning methods. The third semester will include practical training courses, and physical presence of the students will be required. In the fourth semester, during which each student will collaborate with their supervisor for the preparation of the thesis, the collaboration can take place both using distance learning methods and with physical presence at the supervisor's workspace.

# 1. Documentation regarding the infrastructure of the Higher Education Institution (HEI) and especially the suitability and adequacy of digital infrastructure for organizing the Master's program with distance learning methods.

The use of distance learning methods is feasible, and there is relevant experience and infrastructure at the B University Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic as well as collaborating University Clinics of EKPA. The B University Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic organizes various conferences and clinical workshops annually, where distance learning techniques are regularly used.

The integrated distance learning system for modern remote education includes the following features:

- Real-time audio and visual communication using appropriate equipment (computers, cameras, microphones, speakers, headphones, high-speed networking, and video conferencing software) so that instructors and students can communicate visually and verbally while being in different locations.
- The ability to share applications and documents.
- The use of an electronic board.
- The possibility of accessing discussion areas (chat rooms) both between instructors and students and among students for possible collaboration, exchanging views, and working on joint projects.
- 2. Documentation regarding the digital skills and expertise of the teaching staff in using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

The B Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic and the Medical School have the necessary infrastructure and technical support for conducting distance education. All selected teaching staff possess the digital knowledge and ability to use ICT, enabling the implementation of distance learning. In the courses conducted using distance learning methods, a system for tracking student attendance will be maintained, which will pertain to online participation.

# 3. Digital educational materials.

The proposed teaching materials will be available in digital format and accessible for download on the "Women's Health" Master's program website. Most international textbooks related to the subject of this Master's program are already available in digital form. Additionally, educational materials provided by medical societies are available in digital form on relevant websites (e.g., European Menopause and Andropause Society, European Society of Endocrinology, etc.). The Master's program website, in addition to the proposed teaching materials, will provide links to educational websites.

# 4. Any methods of digital assessment of students.

Methods of digital assessment are foreseen only as a supplementary tool. There will also be the possibility of presenting assignments and thesis work using remote techniques.

The processing of personal data during the remote examination process is carried out in a manner that ensures an appropriate level of security against risks such as accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorized disclosure, or access to personal data that has been transmitted, stored, or otherwise processed. The teaching staff, invigilators, and individuals providing technical and/or administrative support (such as the platform administrator) are bound by confidentiality obligations. The choice of the electronic platform for conducting the examination using remote methods is made based on

the reliability and assurance of personal data protection.

At the end of the assessment process, students are informed of their grades either through an anonymized posting of results in a specific field of the integrated distance learning system mentioned in Article 3 or by other appropriate electronic means.