



STUDY GUIDE 2023-2024



School of Political Sciences, 12 V. Irakleiou Street



**Gerasimos Vokos Conference Room,
12 V. Irakleiou Street**



**Georgios Paschos Conference Room,
12 V. Irakleiou Street**

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A. INTRODUCTION: THE SCHOOL OF POLITICAL SCIENCES AT THE ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI

The University: profile

The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is the largest university in Greece. The main campus is in the centre of the city of Thessaloniki and covers an area of about 33.4 hectares. It comprises 10 faculties which consist of 40 schools and 1 single-School Faculty. Some educational and administrative facilities are located off-campus for practical and operational reasons. A number of these facilities are located outside the city of Thessaloniki or even in other cities.

About 74.000 students are currently studying at the Aristotle University (apr. 65.000 in undergraduate programmes and 9,000 in postgraduate programmes, of which 4.000 at doctoral level). There are more than 2.000 faculty members, as well as several teaching assistants, research fellows, members of the Special Laboratory Teaching Personnel (S.L.T.P.) and foreign language teachers and instructors. Faculty members are also assisted by more than 200 members of the Special Technical Laboratory Personnel (S.T.L.P.). Administrative services consist of apr. 400 permanent employees 500 employees under private law contract of indefinite duration and about 600 persons people employed by third parties who provide services at the university.



School of Political Sciences, Aristotle University campus

The University: Brief history

Eleftherios Venizelos was the first politician who started efforts to establish a university in Thessaloniki at a time when Northern Greece had just been liberated and when reinforcing the “New Territories,” as the newly liberated areas were then called, emerged as a national need. Plans provided also for founding a university in Smyrna. However, the Asia Minor Disaster thwarted these plans. Eventually, it was due to the initiative taken by the government of Alexandros Papanastasiou that the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki was founded in 1925. After considerable discussions, the founding act of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (no. 3341/14-6-25) was signed and ratified on 5 June 1925 by the constitutional assembly of the time and was published in the Government Gazette on 22 June 1925. Problems continued to exist, however, after the enactment of the act, because of the political upheaval of the time. Thus, the Aristotle

University first opened its doors a year later, in 1926. Georgios Chatzidakis was the first Head of the university, while the second one was Christos Tsountas.

To meet the needs and demands of the time, special emphasis was placed on the development of the humanities. Thus, the Faculty of Philosophy was the first to open its doors in 1926. At first, it was housed in the “Allatini” building, which now hosts the Prefecture of Thessaloniki services. Soon, however, the location proved to be problematic, and, in October 1927, the Faculty of Philosophy was transferred to a mansion in Ethnikis Amyntis street, which previously housed the 2nd Military Hospital. The building was repaired, and a third floor was added a little later. Today, it is the most historic building of the university and houses part of the Faculty of Philosophy.

The Faculty of Physics and Mathematics opened its doors in 1927. Much later, one of its schools, the School of Forestry, along with the School of Agriculture became part of the newly created Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry which opened its doors in 1937. The Faculty of Law and Economics opened its doors in 1928, whereas the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Theology were founded later, in 1941. The School of Veterinary Medicine was founded in 1950, the Institute of Foreign Languages in 1951, the Faculty of Engineering in 1955, and the School of Dentistry in 1959 as part of the Faculty of Medicine (it acquired its present status as an independent School in 1971). In 1982, Law no. 1268 providing for the structure and operation of Greek Higher Educational Institutions brought about a complete restructuring of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, since it promoted the school as the basic academic unit, a restructuring of faculties and the organization of schools into new faculties: the Faculty of Theology, the Faculty of Philosophy, the Faculty of Sciences, the Faculty of Law and Economics, the Faculty of Geotechnical Sciences, the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the Faculty of Engineering.



The Faculty of Education was founded in 1983, the Faculty of Fine Arts in 1984, the independent school of Physical Education and Sports Sciences in 1983 and the independent School of Journalism and Mass Media in 1991. The School of Education in Florina was founded in 1993 and is now part of the University of Western Macedonia. New schools were added in the already existing faculties, such as the School of Political Sciences in the Faculty of Law, Economics and Political Sciences, the School of Psychology in the Faculty of Philosophy, and the School of Informatics in the Faculty of Sciences. Among the newer schools are the following independent schools: the School of Energy Resources Management Engineering in Kozani (1999), the School of Balkan Studies (1999) and the School of Education (1993) in Florina, which are part of the University of Western Macedonia as of 1 January 2004 (Senate meeting 2753/28-8-2003). Two new schools

were founded in 2004: the School of Film Studies, part of the Faculty of Fine Arts, and the School of Urban-Regional Planning and Development Engineering (in Veroia), part of the Faculty of Engineering.

The School: Overview

The School of Political Sciences was founded in 1999; it admitted its first undergraduate students in 2000 and its first postgraduate students in 2006. Since 2013, the School is part of the Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences together with the School of Economics and the School of Journalism & Mass Communications.

The number of undergraduates admitted per year to the School of Political Sciences, as well as the criteria for their admittance (linked to a central examinations system), are set by the existing Greek laws and regulations of student admittance into all state higher education institutions and is currently set at 120 plus students of special categories and transfer students. The number of postgraduate students is set each year by the School itself following the entry examinations held yearly in January and cannot exceed a total number of 80 (20 for each study area).

Through its study programmes (undergraduate and postgraduate) and its multiple research activities, the School of Political Sciences focuses on the study of politics and policy-making: on political institutions, structures, processes, and antagonisms. Its main goal is to cultivate and disseminate the theoretical and empirical tools necessary for the scientific analysis of the structure of, and relationships between, collective and individual identities within organized society.

The study programmes of the School combine theoretical and empirical analysis so as to achieve a rigorous and multi-layered approach towards political action and political structures. The School aims at producing graduates capable of describing and analyzing identities, relations, ideologies and policies, as well of supporting decision-making processes in the public sphere. Above all, it serves and encourages the exercise of critical thought in the spirit of academic freedom that characterizes a democratic institution like a public university.

The School awards an undergraduate degree (ptychion), a postgraduate degree and a doctoral degree. To qualify for the first degree a student must attend a minimum of eight semesters (four years); and for the postgraduate degree, a minimum of three semesters (one and a half years). The minimum time required for the completion of a PhD thesis is three years, while the maximum time is six years.

The School was evaluated in 2014 by an External Evaluation Committee of International Experts. The Committee concluded that: *'the faculty maintains an ambitious research agenda, which compares favorably with those of their counterparts in major American and European universities. [...] Despite inadequate resources, the faculty manages to publish rather extensively. It appears that a good number of faculty is research active, with many publications in foreign language refereed journals, mainly English and French. Many faculty are leading and/or participating in national and international research projects and research collaborations. Faculty attend and present in professional association conferences, such as those of IPSA, APSA and ECPR. [...] Although this is a relatively new Department, it enjoys a strong reputation in the country and could be considered a leader in the fields of political theory/political philosophy and political analysis. Faculty members appear to get along and the Departmental environment is amicable and student-friendly. Students feel well served and have a close rapport with the faculty. The research record of the faculty is strong, and well established, faculty are well-engrained and active in civil discourse and public life. These attributes significantly contribute to the enhancement of the School's standing and student fulfillment'*.

The accreditation of the School's Undergraduate Studies Program took place in 2021. The accreditation underlined the "sincere dedication of the academic staff to the well-being of the student population" and the "firm orientation of the School towards student-centered teaching". According to the final accreditation report, the School maintains, among other things, a strong course program, a dedicated teaching staff and a collegial academic environment.

B. PREMISES AND CONTACTS

School Administration

Chair: Professor Yannis Papageorgiou

Vice-Chair: Associate Professor Alexandros Kiouпкиolis

Secretary: Ms. Marina Giarenti

ECTS, Erasmus and international cooperation coordinator: Assistant Professor Eftichia Teperoglou

Erasmus+ Studies , Erasmus+ International coordinators: Assistant Professor Eftichia Teperoglou and Assistant Professor Kostas Papastathis

Erasmus+ Placement coordinator: Assistant Professor George Andreou

EPICUR coordinators: Assistant Professor Eftichia Teperoglou and Professor Yannis Papageorgiou

Foreign students' advisor: Assistant Professor Vemund Aarbakke

Technical-administrative staff:

Dimitra Karaïskou

Eufrosyni Papadopoulou

Giota Gaitanidou (librarian)

Dimitris Milosis (computer lab)

Location

The School Office, where undergraduate and postgraduate secretaries are based, the auditoriums where most undergraduate teaching is conducted, as well as the School library, are located in the building of the Faculty of Law, Economics and Political Sciences (LEPS) at the main campus of the Aristotle University. Staff offices, postgraduate teaching rooms and IT facilities are located in a separate building at the city centre – on 12 Vasileos Irakleiou Street – within walking distance from the main campus.

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School facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PoliticalScienceAuth/>

Aristotle University ERASMUS website: <http://www.eurep.auth.gr/>

Aristotle University Library website: <http://www.lib.auth.gr/>

C. ACADEMIC STAFF

During the academic year 2023-2024, courses are taught by eighteen (18) regular Teaching and Research Staff Members, four (4) Specialized Teaching Staff Members, one (1) Specialized Technical Staff Member, academics from other Schools of the Aristotle University. Furthermore, each academic year, the School supplements its teaching personnel with adjunct lecturers under the “Acquiring teaching experience” programme (2 for the current academic year), as well as with adjunct lecturers under contract (three for the current academic year).


Teaching and Research Academic Staff

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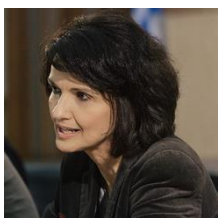
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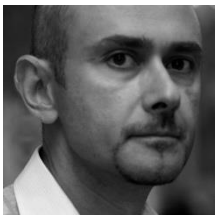
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Giorgos Paschos +
Gerasimos Vokos +

Retired Professors

Demosthenes Dodos +
Giorgos Dourakis
Giorgos Margaritis

D. UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

General information: The Degree in Political Sciences

In order to receive the Degree in Political Sciences, students are required to follow and pass the examinations of the required number of courses from the undergraduate studies program (core courses, elective courses, exchange).

The minimum duration of the undergraduate study programme is eight full-study semesters corresponding to at least 240 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) units. Each academic year begins on 1 September and ends on 31 August. Instruction work for each academic year is divided into two semesters. Each semester lasts for at least thirteen (13) weeks of full-time teaching, covering a minimum number of ECTS credits. Specifically, a full academic year is equivalent to 60 ECTS units and each semester to 30 ECTS units (1 ECTS unit = 27.5 hours of student engagement and workload: teaching hours, examinations, homework, essay writing, etc.).

The precise method of assessment for each course is determined by the faculty member responsible for teaching, and may be based on written or oral examinations, on students' assignments, or on a combination of the above. Course grading follows the scale of full numbers from zero (0) to ten (10). Five is set as the pass grade. In case of failure in a core course, students are required to repeat it in subsequent semesters. In case of failure in an elective course, students are required either to repeat the course in subsequent semesters or change it with another elective course.

Since the academic year 2010-2011, several elective courses in English have been integrated to the undergraduate study programme in order to support visiting students under the Erasmus program and to enhance the English language skills of all interested students. In addition, since 2014-2015, a special course on the methodology of academic research and academic work has been added to the program.

Learning outcomes

Upon graduating from the undergraduate program of the School of Political Sciences, graduates are equipped with:

- The necessary knowledge (theoretical, conceptual and analytical) allowing to map and understand political phenomena: political institutions, processes and antagonisms, as they unfold at the local, national and international levels.
- The required tools and methods, originating from various (quantitative and qualitative) research traditions in political science and related disciplines, permitting to analyze relations between collective and individual subjects within the framework of organized society.
- The intellectual/critical skills allowing to describe and interpret identities, relationships, ideologies and policies, and to support decision-making processes in a democratic public sphere.
- The practical skills necessary for the successful collection and evaluation of evidence, the processing and synthesis of information from a variety of sources (conventional and electronic), the scientific questioning and development of arguments in written and oral discourse, the tackling of multiple challenges in a comprehensive way, the efficient completion of individual and group assignments, as well as for participating in the design and implementation of research and professional projects with a feeling of social, democratic and ethical responsibility.

In terms of career opportunities available, the aforementioned skills and competences confer on the graduates of the School of Political Sciences the ability to perform a variety of professional duties in the public sector (from local councils and the civil service to the educational sector and the diplomatic service), the private sector (from the media to consulting and advertising enterprises) as well as in Non-Governmental Organizations and International and Regional Organizations.

Registration

Students register for courses during the first weeks of each semester. The School operates an electronic system of on-line course registration. There is a maximum number of students enrolled for each elective course. Student enrolment for elective courses is determined by priority.

New technologies

The use of new applications is becoming more widespread in all courses (through the usage of E-learning platforms, special Facebook groups etc.). All students have access to an interactive environment containing learning material and providing opportunities for communication with the instructors. Access takes place through the digital platform of the Aristotle University:

<https://elearning.auth.gr>

In order to remain informed about all aspects of the School's activity, students are encouraged to visit regularly its webpage and its group on Facebook:

<http://www.polsci.auth.gr>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/PoliticalScienceAuth/>



Research Dissemination Centre, Aristotle University campus

List of undergraduate courses

Core (Compulsory) courses

Core courses are identified by the letters KY.

Course code	Title	ECTS credits
KY0000	Introduction to Academic Research in Political Sciences	2
KY0101	Introduction to Political Science	5
KY0102	Political Philosophy in Ancient Greece	5
KY0103	Modern Greek Political History (1821-1909)	5
KY0104	Contemporary political Philosophy	5
KY0105	International Relations	5
KY0106	Contemporary European History	5
KY0201	Comparative Politics and Political Systems	5
KY0203	Contemporary Greek Political History (1910-1974)	5
KY0204	Political Philosophy: 19th century	5
KY0205	Constitutional and Administrative Formation of the State	5
KY0206	Mathematics in Political Science: An Introduction	5
KY0208	Political Behaviour	5
KY0301	Political Sociology	5
KY0302	Contemporary Political Philosophy	5
KY0303	Enlightenment and the Formation of Political Ideologies in Greece	5
KY0304	Political System and Party formations in Contemporary Greece (1946-1974)	5
KY0305	Statistics for the Social Sciences	5
KY0401	The Greek System of Governance	5
KY0402	Classical Social Theory	5
KY0403	History and Institutions of the European Integration	5
KY0404	Introduction to Political Economy	5
KY0405	Methods of Analysis in the Social Sciences	5
KY0501	The Political System of the European Union	5
KY0502	The State, Institutions and Public Policies	5
KY0503	Greek Foreign Policy (after the Second World War)	5
KY0504	Political Discourse Analysis	5
KY0602	Contemporary Political Theories	5
KY0604	Anti-parliamentarianism, Dictatorships and the Far Right	5
KY0606	Theories of the Social Contract	5
KY0607	Minorities and Politics in the Balkans	5
KY0701	Contemporary Social Theory	5
KY0702	Social and Electoral Geography of Greece	5
KY0705	International Political Economy and Development	5
KY0706	War and Politics	5
KY0804	Civil Wars in the Modern World	5
KY0805	Greek Political Parties since 1974	5
KY0806	New Social Movements	5

Elective courses

Winter Semester

Course code	Title	ECTS credits
ER000	Greece Today * * only for incoming Erasmus students – taught in English	4
KE0E01	State and Society in Modern Greece	4
KE0X03	The Mass Media in Contemporary Greece	4
KE0X11	Issues of Applied Political Analysis	4
KE0E19	Politics and Religions	4
KE0E22	Solidarity and Cohesion in the European Union * * taught in English	4
KE0E28	China: Society, Politics, and International Role	4
KE0X31	Topics in Contemporary International Politics	4
KE0X32	Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust in the Contemporary Era	4
KE0X33	Topics in Comparative Politics: The Political Systems of the USA and Russia	4
KE0E33	Models of Electoral Behaviour Analysis	4
KE0X39	Greek Politics * * taught in English	4
KE0E42	Contemporary Issues of Democracy	4
KE0E45	Populism and democracy	4
KE0X46	Didactics of civic education	4
KE0X48	Energy Resources and Politics: From the 19th to the 21st century	4
KE0X49	Education Practices and Policy	4
KE0E54	The Concept of “National-Mindedness”: History, Ideology and Political Practice	4
KE0X56	Ancient Greek Political Societies	4
KE0X60	Literature and Politics	4
KEΣ001	Students’ Vocational Training (seminar)	4

Spring Semester

Course code	Title	ECTS credits
ER000	Greece Today * * only for incoming Erasmus students – taught in English	4
KE0E02	The Cyprus Question	4
KE0E03	Introduction to Public Finance	4
KE0E04	Political Systems in the Balkans * * taught in English	4
KE0E20	Philosophies of Freedom	4

KE0E21	Gender and Politics	4
KE0E24	Tradition and Modernization in Post-war Greece	4
KE0E25	Introduction to Political Communication	4
KE0E30	Space and Electoral Analysis	4
KE0X30	The Administrative Organization of the Greek State	4
KE0E31	European Union Policies	4
KE0X34	Political Web Surveys	4
KE0E38	The Reconstruction of Europe after WWII	4
KE0X40	Refugees and Immigrants in the Contemporary World	4
KE0E40	Game Theory and Decision Making	4
KE0X45	Evidence About the Greek Workers' Movement	4
KE0X46	Didactics of civic education	4
KE0X47	The Middle East Today	4
KE0E47	Eastern Mediterranean: Contemporary Diplomacy and Politics	4
KE0E50	Russian Revolution and Soviet Power	4
KE0E51	Youth Political Action and Schools	4
KE0E52	International Organizations	4
KE0X53	Qualitative Research Methods In the Digital Age	4
KE0E56	Politics and Government in Southern Europe. A Comparative Analysis * * taught in English	4
KE0E58	Latin America. Politics, Society and International Relations	4
KE0E59	Topics in Social Philosophy	4
KE0X59	Practices of Political Protest	4
KE0E62	Economy, Society and Politics in the Post-Cold War World	4
KE0E64	Electoral Systems: Theory and Practice	4
KE0E67	Introduction to Political Marketing	4
KE0E68	Military Occupations	4
KE0E69	Europe and Political Competition	4
KE0E70	Religion and Politics * * taught in English	4
KE0E71	Digital Governance	4
KEΣ001	Students' Vocational Training (seminar)	4

Language Courses and Information Technology

Foreign Languages and IT are free elective courses.

E. POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

Subject areas

Since the academic year 2018-2019, the postgraduate studies programme of the School of Political Sciences has been thoroughly revised. The School of Political Sciences is currently offering three independent postgraduate studies programmes plus three interdisciplinary postgraduate studies programmes in cooperation with other Schools. More specifically, the programmes on offer are the following:

(a) Political theory

Covering the history of ideas from antiquity up until late modernity, this orientation focuses on modern and contemporary political theory and philosophy including the study of ideologies and political discourses. It endorses a multi-dimensional methodological perspective in order to encourage critical and independent thinking and to provide the necessary skills for a reflexive analysis of political ideas and projects.

(b) Political analysis

This programme purports to study political antagonism in its various dimensions. Emphasis is placed in the agency of individual and collective actors (including parties, movements, pressure groups, etc.), the effects of institutional settings and opportunity structures (electoral systems, participation, etc.) and political identification. Survey methods, content analysis and quantitative research form the methodological kernel of this subject area.

(c) Political history

In this programme, the focus is on examining (global and local) political and geopolitical issues predominantly from a historical perspective. The comparative aspect also plays a central role, while special emphasis is given to the place of Greece within the broader historical, cultural and political framework.

(d) Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme “Art and the public sphere”

This interdisciplinary programme is jointly organized by the School of Visual and Applied Arts and the School of Political Sciences of the Aristotle University. Its aim is to enrich, deepen and extend: a) research on artistic practices in the framework of social and political sciences, b) the role of visual creation in the public sphere from the viewpoint of Visual and Applied Arts and c) the dynamic combination of the two aforementioned dimensions.

(e) Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme “Governance – Regional Development”

Students attending this programme are familiarized with the national and international framing of institutional systems, the different levels (local, regional, etc.) of state functioning, the various types of public administration models, as well as with issues of strategic design, policy-making and policy implementation. They are also encouraged to interact – through participant observation – with the institutions under examination.

(f) Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme “European Studies” (taught in English)

The European Studies Double Degree Master Program (ESIS) is the result of the cooperation between the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece) and the University of Torino (Italy). The Program pursues a comprehensive knowledge of Europe as a political, economic, social, and cultural space, and of the European Union as a model of regional integration and as a global actor. It is intended for highly motivated students who want to pursue a career in the European institutions or in those private and public entities interacting with the European Union. It also provides a first-rate learning opportunity to those students from non-EU countries who are interested in studying European history, society, law, institutions, and policies

List of postgraduate courses

(a) Postgraduate studies programme “Political Theory”

SEMESTER 1

Compulsory courses

Code	Course title	ECTS
ΠΘ101	Modern political theory and philosophy	10
ΠΘ102	Contemporary political theory	10
ΠΘ103	Theories of social movements	10

SEMESTER 2

Compulsory courses

Code	Course title	ECTS
ΠΘ201	Classical political theory and philosophy	10
ΠΘ202	Ideology critique and political discourse analysis	10
ΠΘ203	Political and moral philosophy	10

SEMESTER 3

Diploma Thesis (30 ECTS)

(b) Postgraduate studies programme “Political analysis”

SEMESTER 1

Compulsory courses

Code	Course title	ECTS
ΠΑΥ11	Political science methodology	10
ΠΑΥ12	Comparative politics	10
ΠΑΕ13	Decision-making theory and policy formulation	10

SEMESTER 2

Compulsory courses

Code	Course title	ECTS
ΠΑΥ21	Electoral analysis	10
ΠΑΥ22	Electoral sociology	10
ΠΑΥ23	Parties and political organizations	10

SEMESTER 3

Diploma Thesis (30 ECTS)

(c) Postgraduate studies programme “Political history”

SEMESTER 1

Compulsory courses

Code	Course title	ECTS
ΠΙ101	States and inter-state relations: Greece, Balkans, Turkey	10
ΠΙ102	War, state and economy	10
ΠΙ103	The issue of the formation of the Greek State: 19 th and 20 th century	10

SEMESTER 2

Compulsory courses

Code	Course title	ECTS
ΠΙ201	Exclusions and discriminations in states	10
ΠΙ202	History of political ideologies	10
ΠΙ203	Politics and religion in modernity	10

SEMESTER 3

Diploma Thesis (30 ECTS)

(d) Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme “Art and the public sphere”
Orientation “Artistic actions and practices”

SEMESTER 1

Course title	ECTS
Sociology and political economy of art	10
Traditions and paradigms in the history of art	10
Visual laboratory	10

SEMESTER 2

Course title	ECTS
Law and art	10
Art institutions and institutional critique	10
Interventionist acts (laboratory)	10

SEMESTER 3

Course title	ECTS
Seminar «Art and the public sphere» - compulsory	10
<i>Plus two of the following:</i>	
Live Art (laboratory)	10
net.art (laboratory)	10
Cultural studies	10
New social movements and modern artistic strategies	10

SEMESTER 3

Postgraduate Diploma Thesis (30 ECTS)

Orientation «Historical, cultural and hermeneutic investigation of art»

SEMESTER 1

Course title	ECTS
Sociology and political economy of art	10
Compulsory orientation course	10
Compulsory orientation course	10

SEMESTER 2

Course title	ECTS
Law and art	10
Art institutions and institutional critique	10
Philosophy, aesthetics and interpretation of art	10

SEMESTER 3

Course title	ECTS
Seminar «Art and the public sphere» - compulsory	10
<i>Plus two of the following :</i>	
Anthropology of art	10
Art and the structure of publicity: Seminar on the freedom of expression	10
Cultural studies	10
New social movements and modern artistic strategies	10

SEMESTER 4

Postgraduate Diploma Thesis (30 ECTS)

(f) Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme: “Governance – Regional Development”

SEMESTER 1

Code	Course title	ECTS
ΔIY11	Methodology of social sciences	10
ΔIY12	Introduction to governance	10
ΔIY13	Regional and local government	10

SEMESTER 2

Code	Course title	ECTS
ΔIE21	European politics and international relations	10
ΔIE22	Political marketing	10
ΔIE24	Economic and development projects	10

SEMESTER 3

Students select the following courses:

Code	Course Title	ECTS
ΔIE23	The state and public policies	10
ΔIE13	Decision-making theory and policy formulation	10
ΔIE14	International political economy	10

Alternatively, they complete a Postgraduate Diploma Thesis (30 ECTS)

(f) Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme: “European Studies” (double degree in English)

First year: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Compulsory courses

Course title	ECTS
Constitutional Law of the EU	10
History and Institutions of European Integration	10
Euroscepticism: Parties, Policies, and People	10
EU Area of Freedom, Security, and Justice	10
EU Governance and Policies	10

Elective courses (2 out of 4)

Course title	ECTS
Politics and Government in Southern Europe: A Comparative Analysis	5
Fundamental Rights in Europe	5
Political Systems in the Balkans	5
EU-Africa Relations	5

Second year: University of Torino

Compulsory courses

Course title	ECTS
Region Europe Lab	6
The Economics of European Integration	9
The International Role of the European Union	9
Global Political Economy: Regions and Networks	9
Comparative European Societies	9
Foreign language (elective):	9
• Arabic (basic or advanced)	
• Chinese for Economics and International Relations (basic, intermediate or advanced)	
• Stratégies Discursives en Français Contemporain	
Master’s thesis preparation and defense	9

Learning outcomes

Upon graduating from the postgraduate programmes of the School of Political Sciences, graduates are equipped with:

- The knowledge pertaining to their chosen specialization, allowing them to map and understand political phenomena with advanced analytical/theoretical competence.
- The required tools and methods, originating from various analytical/ philosophical research traditions in political science and related disciplines, permitting them to arrive at consistent and innovative accounts of political life.
- The intellectual/critical skills allowing them to act with scientific integrity, creativity and confidence in complex academic and professional contexts.
- The practical skills necessary for the successful collection and evaluation of complex evidence, the systematic processing and synthesis of information from a variety of sources (conventional and electronic), the sustained scientific questioning and development of arguments in written and oral discourse in both Greek and a foreign language, the intelligent tackling of multiple challenges in a comprehensive way, the efficient completion of individual and group assignments, as well as for participating in the design and implementation of research and professional projects with an advanced feeling of social and democratic responsibility.

*** IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR INTERESTED STUDENTS FROM ABROAD:**

Information on entry requirements and other basic issues is also provided here:

https://www.polsci.auth.gr/en/basic_page_polsci/the-postgraduate-degree-of-specialization/

If or when you hold a first degree from a recognized university, you can submit an application and take part in the entry examinations. For foreign students, good knowledge of Greek is required – can you meet this requirement?

At any rate, information about learning Greek is accessible from here:

<https://smg.web.auth.gr/may2019b/en/>

The doctoral degree

Eligible for registering as PhD candidates at the School are holders of a postgraduate degree in Political Science or another relevant field of study. PhD candidates are registered for a minimum of three years. Beyond this period, extensions are allowed on a yearly basis and cannot exceed a maximum of six years.

Prospective candidates are expected to contact a member of the academic staff of the School who is to be their main supervisor and who undertakes to consult them on their research proposal, support their application in writing, and propose the other two members of the consultative academic committee of their thesis.

*** IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR INTERESTED STUDENTS FROM ABROAD:**

Entry requirements are also mentioned here:

https://www.polsci.auth.gr/en/basic_page_polsci/the-doctoral-degree/

If or when you hold a postgraduate degree from a recognized university, you can contact a member of staff whose work is close to your research interests and discuss with her/him the possibility of PhD supervision as well as the process of finalizing and submitting a proposal.

Brief CVs of staff members and their research interests are listed here:

<https://www.polsci.auth.gr/en/academic-staff/>

PhD theses can be written in Greek or English.



F. THE ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

The Erasmus+ programme (which now covers the Erasmus+ Studies, the Erasmus+ Placement and the Erasmus+ International segments) offers the opportunity to undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as to doctoral students to fulfill an integral part of their studies or complete a period of traineeship in other countries of the European Union and the Erasmus+ associated countries (and, for the Erasmus international, in partner universities all over the world). Furthermore, members of academic staff also have the opportunity to carry out mobility for teaching or training, while administrative personnel can also realize training mobility through the same programme.

The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki accepts students and staff from a wide variety of partner universities (within the European Union and worldwide). Students can obtain information regarding bilateral agreements with the Aristotle University by contacting the Erasmus or International Relations Office of their host universities. At any rate, the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki has developed a variety of cooperation programmes with a notable number of European Institutions of Higher Education. In particular, the School of Political Sciences currently has bilateral agreements with a growing number of universities, including Frankfurt, Strasbourg, Maastricht, Wroclaw, Cyprus, ISCTE-Lisbon University Institute, Bogazici, Tallinn University of Technology, Metropolitan University of Prague, Hacettepe, Sciences Po-Paris etc. The full list of Erasmus+ bilateral agreements of the School of Political Sciences is available on its website https://www.polsci.auth.gr/basic_page_polsci/συμφωνίες-συνεργασίας-erasmus/

General language requirements

In preparing for studies at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki within the framework of an Erasmus+ bilateral agreement, students should keep in mind the following: Courses at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki are normally taught in Greek. However, there are courses in other languages too (usually English) and there are also special arrangements for Erasmus students allowing them to enroll in most courses and seminars through the organization of tutorials with small groups of students conducted in English. Erasmus students are also given the opportunity to submit essays written in English with the use of international bibliography.

Detailed information can be provided by the Department of European Educational Programmes of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki:

<https://eurep.auth.gr/en>

Incoming students who wish to take Modern Greek language courses may find information in the following web address of the School of Modern Greek Language of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki:

<https://smg.web.auth.gr/may2019b/en/>

Courses taught in English in the School of Political Sciences

In most cases, students who do not speak or understand Greek must follow a tutorial with the relevant member of staff for each chosen course. In this context, the student shall study from a selected English-language bibliography under the supervision of the responsible instructor and shall either sit special exams or prepare a paper in agreement with the instructor.

In addition to ad hoc tutorials as per above, the School provides each year the following courses in English.

Winter semester

Code	Course Title	ECTS
KEOX39	Greek Politics	4
KEOE22	Solidarity and Cohesion in the European Union	4

Spring semester

Code	Course Title	ECTS
KEOE04	Political Systems in the Balkans	4
KEOE56	Politics and Government in Southern Europe. A Comparative Analysis	4
KEOE70	Religion and Politics	4
ER000	<i>Greece today is provided both in winter and spring semesters Furthermore, students may register for the following courses taught in the School under the Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Programme "European Studies".</i>	4

Course title	ECTS
Constitutional Law of the EU	10
History and Institutions of European Integration	10
Euro-scepticism: Parties, Policies, and People	10
EU Area of Freedom, Security, and Justice	10
EU Governance and Policies	10
Fundamental Rights in Europe	5
EU-Africa Relations	5

"Greece Today": An introduction to Politics, Society and Economy in Contemporary Greece *(taught in both Winter and Spring semesters)*

This is a course comprising a series of lectures by staff members as well as doctoral and post-doctoral students from the School of Political Sciences and other Departments of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Its objective is to provide Erasmus+ and exchange students with an insight into – and an understanding of the underlying causes of – the political, economic, and social profile of Greece today. The lectures aim to introduce students to the most important aspects of Greek politics and society, as well as to offer them relevant information on the history and evolution of Thessaloniki, the city they currently inhabit.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ERASMUS+ STUDENTS:

"Greece Today" is an open-enrollment course, accessible to all Erasmus and exchange students in the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; successful candidates receive four (4) ECTS credits.

Students of the School may also attend the English or other-language courses provided by the Law School, the School of Journalism and the School of Economics.

Important dates

The academic year at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is divided into two semesters:

- **Winter semester** runs from the first week of October to the end of February.

- **Spring semester** runs from the first week of March to the end of June.

Exams periods: February (for the winter semester) and June (for the spring semester).

There is a two-week break for Christmas holidays (starting generally around 23 December and ending on 7 January) and a two-week holiday around Orthodox Easter (the latter is a moveable holiday that usually does not coincide with the Catholic Easter).

Official holidays: 26/10, 28/10, 17/11, 30/1, 25/3, 1/5 and Ash Monday (which also varies in conjunction with Easter date).

Summer holidays: July and August.

Locations

The School and its library are located in the University Campus at the building of the Faculty of Economics and Political Sciences. Most lectures take place in conference rooms A and B on the ground floor of this building. In addition, some lectures are held in a separate building around 20 minutes' walk from the main University Campus (on 12 Vasileos Irakleiou Street). and most of the staff offices are located there. For further contact and information see the following web address:

<https://www.polsci.auth.gr/en/>

The School and the University provide for a system of ERASMUS "buddies", which incoming students may ask for.

Institutional Account / Academic ID

Upon arrival at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, all students must register with the Erasmus Office (Department of European Educational Programmes), located at the first floor of the Administration Building at the University Campus, where they obtain their 'Erasmus ID' Card. With this card they must then register in the Secretariat of the School where they will study during their Erasmus+ Period. Moreover, all incoming students need to obtain an Academic ID ('Passo').

Library and Information Centre

The Library and Information Centre of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is an independent university unit which consists of the Central Library and its branches (Specialized Academic Libraries and Departmental Libraries). Further information is available here:

<https://www.lib.auth.gr/en/b001>

University Student Club

Up to 15.000 meals are served free of charge to all members of the university community on a daily basis by the University Student Club. Further information is available from here:

https://www.auth.gr/en/university_unit/pfl-en/

Accommodation

In order to help incoming Erasmus+ and Erasmus Mundus students to find accommodation, the Department of European Educational Programmes has added in its website a link showing flat and/or room advertisements from independent landlords:

<https://eurep.auth.gr/en/accommodation-list>

The Greek Student members of the **ESN (Erasmus Student Network)** are also available for queries concerning your contact with the proprietors.

You can also find a list of real estate agents here:

<http://www.xo.gr/dir-az/R/Real-Estate-Agencies/Thessaloniki/?lang=en>

Student Health Services/ Insurance/ Special needs

All Aristotle University students, including foreigner visitors, have equal rights regarding their possible needs for health care. Further information is available from here:

<https://www.auth.gr/en/services-en/>

School of Modern Greek Language

The School of Modern Greek Language of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki has been offering Greek language and culture courses to foreigners and Greeks living abroad since 1970. It operates under the supervision of the faculty members of the Faculty of Philosophy. The School also offers tailor-made courses for specific purposes, as well as training seminars for teachers of Greek. It participates in research and educational programmes conducted in collaboration with domestic and external agencies. It also organizes exams for the Certificate of Attainment in Greek, a prerequisite for foreign students to enroll in a Greek university. The teaching personnel of the School is experienced, highly qualified and involved in the production of teaching material.

Its role is not limited to teaching Greek. The School also focuses on various activities and cultural events, and hosts hundreds of students from all over the world, thus creating a multicultural environment. Hence, students get acquainted with the Greek way of life and enjoy contact with different people in the warm and lively atmosphere. Further information is available from here:

<https://smg.web.auth.gr/may2019b/en/>

Centre for Foreign Language Teaching

The Centre for Foreign Language Teaching is an Academic Unit of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and offers courses in Languages for Specific Purposes (LSP). The main languages taught are English, German, French, and Italian. Further information is available from here:

https://www.auth.gr/en/university_unit/lance-en/

University Gym

The University Gym of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki provides the students and personnel of the university with a wide range of sports programmes and activities. Further information is available from here:

https://www.auth.gr/en/university_unit/gym-en/

Getting to Thessaloniki

The city of Thessaloniki may be reached by plane, train or bus.

By plane:

The easiest way to get to Thessaloniki is by a direct fly to the city's airport called "Makedonia International Airport":

<http://www.thessalonikiairport.com/>

The airport serves both international and domestic flights. Most major airline companies have direct flights to Thessaloniki or flights via Athens. Thessaloniki airport (SKG) is the second biggest airport in Greece and is located 14km east of the city center.

By train:

The National Railway Company is called "OSE": <https://ose.gr/en/home/>

Thessaloniki's Railway Station is centrally located (28 Monastiriou Str.) and is conveniently connected with the rest of the city via public transportation.

By bus:

All long-distance buses are operated by regional collectives known as "KTEL": <https://ktelthes.gr/en/>

If you are coming to Thessaloniki via Athens, it is a 511km (approximately 6 hours) journey. In order to travel by bus to Thessaloniki or from Thessaloniki to any destination in Greece you may find all the necessary information by contacting the "Makedonia Intercity Bus Station (KTEL) of Thessaloniki: <https://ktelmacedonia.gr/en/home/list/>

By ship:

Thessaloniki's port is connected by sea with other major ports and islands: <https://www.thpa.gr/index.php/en/>



APPENDIX: THE EUROPEAN CREDIT TRANSFER SYSTEM

What is ECTS?

ECTS is part of the ERASMUS Programme (European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students) and its aim is to promote the processes of recognition of study among cooperating institutions in Europe. It was first introduced in the academic year 1992-93, and it enables students to recognize the part of their studies that was realized in universities abroad.

More specifically, ECTS is a system for the transfer of credits among European Universities. This is achieved through the support of transparency in their study programmes and student achievements. ECTS reflects the content, structure, equivalence and correspondence of academic programmes, utilizing quality criteria for University Institutes participating in the programme and defined by the latter in such a way as to create appropriate conditions for cooperation agreements.

ECTS credits

ECTS credits are numerical values allocated to course units to describe the student's workload required to complete them. ECTS credits for each course reflect or correspond to the workload (lectures, laboratories, seminars, projects, examinations) required from the student for the successful completion of the course. That is, ECTS is based on the total workload of the student, and is not limited to course hours.

More specifically, ECTS provides a way of measuring and comparing learning achievements, and then 'transferring' them from one EU institution to another. ECTS is based on the principle of mutual trust and confidence between the participating higher education institutions.

ECTS principles

The basic ECTS principles are as follows:

- Credits are distributed to courses in such a way as the workload of one academic year corresponds to 60 credits.
- 60 ECTS credits equal studies of two semesters (30+30) or three quarters (20+20+20).
- Universities have to organize a full course programme offered to foreign students, including the number of credits corresponding to each course.
- Before departure of the outgoing student for a foreign country, the home institution will have to sign a "learning agreement" with the host university and the student. The agreement will clearly describe the student's programme of study abroad and will be accompanied by a Transcript of Records, which will document the academic performance of the student.
- The host university will provide the student with a Transcript of Records for all courses they attended successfully abroad, which will also record the credits for each course.
- The home institution will have to recognize the courses and corresponding credits gained by students during their stay at the cooperating foreign institutions, so that these credits replace the credits gained from the home university during an equal period of study.

To conclude: ECTS and Erasmus exchange students

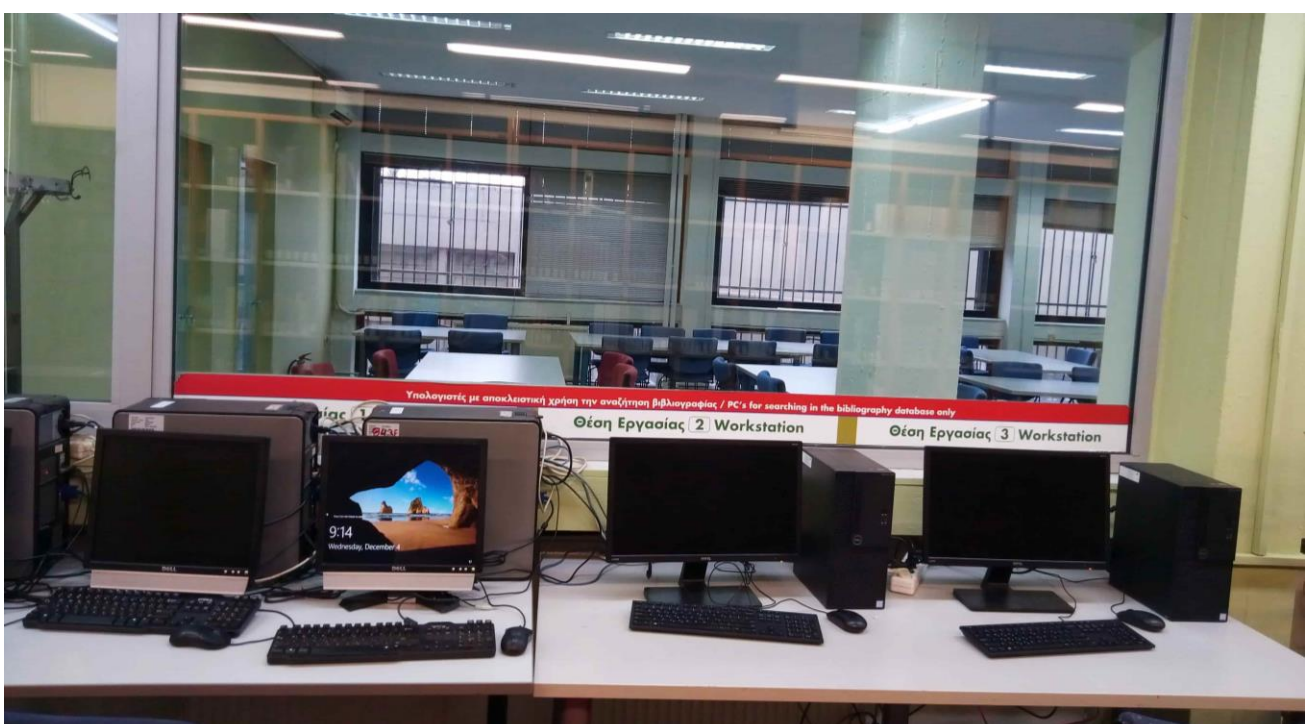
Students participating in Erasmus+ studies and students of Erasmus+ International will receive a transcript providing full credit for all academic work successfully carried out at any of the Erasmus+ partner institutions and will be able to transfer these academic credits from one participating institution to another on the basis of prior agreement. All students of the participating departments who are willing to take part in the Erasmus+ scheme may do so if the institutions agree and within the limit of available places. Students participating in ECTS will travel to a host institution in another EU member state to study for a limited period of time and then return to their home institution.

Erasmus+ students will be required to comply with the legal and institutional requirements of the country and institution where their degree will be awarded. When the student has successfully completed the study programme previously agreed between sending and receiving institutions and returns to the home university, credits obtained at the receiving institution will be transferred and the student will continue the study course at the home institution without any loss of time or credit. Students selected to participate in the Erasmus+ exchange programmes are awarded a student mobility grant if they fulfill the general conditions of eligibility following the Commission's instructions and specific eligibility criteria established by the relevant universities.

At present, all courses offered by the School of Political Sciences, whether core or elective ones, are designed as in-class lectures. Each core course corresponds to 5 ECTS, while elective courses correspond to 4 ECTS. Students are required to attend enough courses per semester to cover the regular number of 30 ECTS per semester (or 60 ECTS per academic year). Incoming and outgoing students are required to agree their study plan with the competent ECTS (Erasmus+) Coordinators of the School of Political Sciences.



2016: The Aristotle University celebrates its 90th anniversary





SCHOOL OF
**POLITICAL
SCIENCES**
FACULTY OF SOCIAL &
ECONOMIC SCIENCES **A.U.TH.**

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