

Regulation of English-taught intensive Postgraduate Programme at the Department of Communication and Media Studies of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), “MSc In Media and Refugee/Migration Flows”.

ARTICLE 1. OBJECTIVE-GOALS

1.1 The objective of the Postgraduate Programme “MSc in Media and refugee/migration flows” is to train journalists and general experts in the field of Communication, Media, and culture, who will be able to cover cross-border events of refugee/migration flows in Greece, and in the countries of South-eastern, Central, and Northern Europe. The advent of refugees and migrants in many cases causes various social, political, and cultural tensions and conflicts on many levels. The role of the Media is especially important in this instant, in terms of the way they present the phenomenon of migration. The situation is aggravated by new media (especially social media), the role of national and international Non-Governmental Organisations, the multiculturalism of the phenomenon (flows from Syria, Pakistan, Afghanistan, from countries in Asia and Africa etc.), or the political extensions of the phenomenon in the internal life of countries, that require a comprehensive and objective communicational approach and management. Greece, as a country of first entry into Europe and as a passage for refugee flows, and even as a destination country now, is required to offer comprehensive, well-rounded, and valid information to Greek and European Citizens, as well as to the citizens of the countries of origin of the refugee flows. The matters that need to be covered are related to the views of the public opinion, the national, European, and international policies for managing the phenomenon, the role of NGOs, as well as the communicational management of these flows by executives that will be working in competent authorities of the public, private and community sectors. Students that complete the first specialisation are trained on objectively covering the refugee and migration issue, in searching and utilizing the adequate sources for it, in finding ways to harness information from the refugees and migrants themselves, from the authorities and agencies of the country or other European countries, from Greek and European citizens and so on, aiming at fully and objectively informing citizens and any interested parties. The second specialisation of the MSc trains executives who will work in Newsrooms abroad or in Greece, national or international organisations, public agencies, or other agencies that deal with the communicational presentation of the management of refugees/migrants by national and international organisations, NGOs and other agencies. The third specialisation concerns the training of Cultural Mediators. In all three specialisations there will be close collaboration with international organisations like the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Greece and the International Organisation of Migration (UNHCR_Greece and IOM_Greece), as well as legitimate Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that are active in Greece or other EU countries. For the third specialisation, there will be close collaboration with the NKUA’s Foreign Language Teaching Centre. Memoranda of Cooperation have been signed with all the aforementioned entities, defining the cooperation of the Department of Communication and Media Studies (DCMS) with these entities.

1.2 The Postgraduate Programme will award a Master's Degree in "Media and refugee/migration flows", after the successful completion of studies, with the following specialisations:

1. "News media of refugee flows",
2. "Communication management of refugee/migration flows", and
3. "Cultural mediators".

The subject matter of the Postgraduate Programme is a further specialisation pertinent to the subject matter of the undergraduate programme of the Department of Communication and Media Studies of the NKUA. The Department falls within the field of social, political and historical sciences. For the implementation of the curriculum of the Postgraduate Programme and with the adequate training of students in mind, the MSc in Media and refugee/migration flows can cooperate, according to current law, with Greek or foreign universities and research centres, that are pertinent to the subject matter of this Postgraduate Programme, as well as with international organisations and legitimate and accredited NGOs that are active or have branches in Mytilene-Lesbos or other islands in the Eastern Aegean Sea or in other areas in the Greek mainland, that are points of first entry for refugees and migrants, where the original and systemic management of refugee and migrant flows takes place. In these cases, student training takes place under the supervision of the Postgraduate Programme's academic staff.

1.3 MSc titles are awarded by the Department of Communication and Media Studies of the School of Economics and Political Sciences of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

1.4 Educational results and qualifications acquired with the successful completion of the Postgraduate Programme:

After the successful completion of the programme, it is expected that students will:

- understand the causes, forms and processes of creation and movement of modern refugee and migration flows, specifically towards Greece and the European Union,
- develop abilities and skills of communicational constitution and presentation of modern refugee/migration flows,
- acquire knowledge, abilities and skills that will make them able to adequately and comprehensively cover the refugee phenomenon and report it to the public sphere, and be able to approach different groups of refugees (children, women, people with disabilities, etc.), and deal with issues of discrimination, racism, and xenophobia,
- become more aware of the work of international organisations and NGOs through their internships in such entities, as stipulated in this regulation,

- develop skills of understanding international messages and reporting media, the situation in new hotspots, the difficulties and crises created in the land and sea routes of refugee/migration flows,
- develop a positive stance and behaviour toward this vulnerable group of people, knowledgeably handle dilemmas and political messages, decipher images and messages from national, European, and international media covering the refugee issue,
- harness all forms of expression, art (painting, cinema, theatre, etc.), and culture to transform stereotypical perspectives and distorted news regarding the issue,
- manage the information regarding refugee populations in points of concentration (hotspots etc.), with educational visits to selected facilities in Attica and the place where they will complete their internship, or other areas that host such facilities,
- apprehend the needs of refugee/migration flows populations, understand the cross-cultural dimension of the phenomenon, and adjust their actions accordingly, acquire skills of creating and managing digital applications for the more effective management of information on refugee/migration flows,
- mediate between refugees/migrants and the public or other authorities in the country of first reception,
- understand and correlate the meanings and processes of the culture of the refugees' and migrants' country of origin with their equivalent in the destination countries.

ARTICLE 2. STRUCTURE AND BODIES OF THE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

Competent bodies for the operation of the Postgraduate Programme, according to law 4957/2022, are:

2.1 At University level, competent bodies are the Committee of Postgraduate Studies and the Senate.

2.2 At Department level, competent bodies are:

2.2.1 The **Department Assembly**. The Assembly is responsible for:

- expressing the need for the establishment or amendment of Postgraduate Programmes, as well as for the extension of the duration of a Postgraduate Programme to the Senate through the Committee of Postgraduate Programmes,
- designating the Director and the members of the Coordinating Committee of each Postgraduate Programme offered by the Department,
- forming Committees for the assessment of postgraduate candidates' applications and approving their registration to the Postgraduate Programme,
- assigning the instructional work among Postgraduate Programme faculty members and being able to assign auxiliary instructional work at Postgraduate Programmes to PhD candidates of the Department, under the supervision of a member of the teaching and

research staff of the Postgraduate Programme, upon the proposal of the Coordinating Committee (C.E.),

f. forming assessing committees for the assessment of postgraduate student dissertations and designating supervisors for each dissertation,

g. establishing the successful completion of studies and awarding the MSc title,

h. approving the Postgraduate Programme budget, upon proposal by the Coordinating Committee (C.E.),

i. assigning auxiliary instructional work in undergraduate curricula of the Department to postgraduate students,

j. exercising any other legal responsibility.

2.2.2 The Coordinating Committee (C.E.)

The C.R consists of the Director of the Postgraduate Programme and four (4) members of the teaching and research staff of the Department, or possibly professors emeritus with a subject area pertinent to that of the Postgraduate Programme, who take on instructional work at the Postgraduate Programme. The members of the C.E. are appointed with a resolution by the Department Assembly. The C.E. is responsible for monitoring and coordinating the operation of the programme and more specifically:

a. compiling the initial yearly budget of the Postgraduate Programme and its amendments, provided the Postgraduate Programme has available resources, and proposing its approval to the Inquiry Committee of the Special Account for Research Grants (ELKE) of the NKUA,

b. compiling the yearly report of the programme and proposing its approval to the Department Assembly,

c. approving the Postgraduate Programme expenditure,

d. approving the granting of scholarships, compensatory or not, according to the provisions of the resolution of establishment of the Postgraduate Programme and the Regulation of postgraduate and PhD studies,

e. proposing the distribution of the instructional work, as well as the assignment of the instructional work to the Department Assembly,

f. proposing the invitation of visiting faculty for covering instructional needs of the Postgraduate Programme to the Department Assembly,

g. drafting a plan for the amendment of the curriculum, which it submits to the Department Assembly,

h. proposing the re-distribution of courses among academic semesters to the Department Assembly, as well as issues that are pertinent to the quality improvement of the curriculum,

forming assessing committees for the assessment of postgraduate students' dissertations and appointing dissertation supervisors.

2.2.3 The **Director** of the Postgraduate Programme.

The Director of the Postgraduate Programme is a member of the teaching and research staff of the Department by professor or substitute professor rank and is appointed by resolution of the Department Assembly for a two-year term and can be re-appointed unconditionally.

The Director of the Postgraduate Programme is responsible for:

- a. presiding the C.E., drafting the agenda and convening its meetings,
- b. proposing issues regarding the organisation and operation of the Postgraduate Programme to the Department Assembly,
- c. proposing issues regarding the effective operation of the Postgraduate Programme to the C.E. and the other bodies of the Postgraduate Programme and the University,
- d. being the Scientific Coordinator of the programme and exercising relevant duties,
- e. monitoring the implementation of resolutions by the bodies of the Postgraduate Programme and the Regulations of the Postgraduate Programmes, as well monitoring the Postgraduate Programme budget implementation,
- f. exercising any other duties stipulated in the resolution of establishment of the Postgraduate Programme.

The Director of the Postgraduate Programme, as well as the members of the C.E., are not entitled to a fee or any other compensation for exercising the responsibilities assigned to them and are pertinent to the execution of their duties.

2.3 **Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme.**

- a. The Secretariat of the Department is responsible for the secretarial and administrative support of the Postgraduate Programme.
- b. The Secretary of the Department appoints the employee or employees – depending on the number of Postgraduate Programmes and the workload – as responsible for the Postgraduate Programmes of each School of the Department.
- c. In case the Postgraduate Programme has its own resources, it can employ, according to current legislation, contractors for the secretarial and administrative support, who are also under the supervision of the Department Secretariat.

ARTICLE 3. CATEGORIES AND NUMBER OF ADMITTED STUDENTS

3.1 The Postgraduate Programme will select by priority candidates who possess a degree for undergraduate studies from the Departments of Communication, Journalism, Media Studies, Public Relations, and other relevant Departments of Greek and foreign Universities of the same level recognised by the Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Centre (DOATAP), candidates who possess a degree in social and political sciences, legal and economic studies, history and other relevant social sciences and humanities. Eligible are also candidates who possess an undergraduate degree by any other University Department or Department of a former Technological Higher Education Institution that show an interest in the subject matter of the Postgraduate Programme. The selection of students pertaining to this category requires a justified proposal by the Coordinating Committee to the Assembly. of the DCMS.

3.2 The maximum number of selected candidates that are admitted to the Postgraduate Programme is twenty (20) per specialisation, sixty (60) in total. The maximum number of admitted candidates is defined based on the number of faculty members of the Postgraduate Programme and the proportion of students and professors, the logistic infrastructures, the classrooms, and the absorption of graduates by the job market.

3.3 Members of the categories Special Teaching Staff, Laboratory Teaching Staff, and Special Technical Laboratory Staff are accepted outside the list and only one per year, as long as their work at the University is relevant to the subject matter of the Postgraduate Programme.

3.4 Holders of scholarships by the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY), foreigners holding scholarships by the Greek state, for the same or relevant subject matter of the Postgraduate Programme, are admitted without exams.

ARTICLE 4. ADMISSIONS

4.1. The selection of students is made according to the current legislation, the Regulation for Postgraduate and PhD Studies of the NKUA and the provisions of this Regulation.

4.2. In the beginning of March of each year or later, by decision of the Coordinating Committee (C.E.) of the MSc in “Media and refugee/migration flows”, which is approved by the Assembly of the Department of Communication and Media Studies, an official invitation for the admittance of postgraduate students for the next academic year is issued. This invites candidates from member-states of the European Union and the European Economic Area to submit their applications to the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme by the end of August of the current year, while candidates from outside the EU and EEA will have to submit their applications by the end of the first week of August. If necessary, the Coordinating Committee can propose the extension of the candidate application deadline up to the 20th of September for the candidates of the first category and up to the end of the first week of September for the candidates of the second category to the Department Assembly. Interested candidates electronically submit their application and all required documents in digital form to the Secretariat of the DCMS. In case the candidates are selected, in order to enrol, they will need to present a certified printed form of these documents.

The invitation is posted on the website of the Postgraduate Programme (<https://www.migromedia.gr>), on the website of the DCMS (<https://www.media.uoa.gr>), on the website of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) (<https://www.uoa.gr>), as well as on other appropriate platforms, websites, and communication media. It includes information on the programme, the maximum number of selected candidates, the required documents, the candidate selection process, and the application deadline.

4.3 The Department Assembly assigns the candidate selection process to the C.E. or forms a committee for the selection of candidates which consists of at least three members of the teaching and research staff that provide instructional work at the Postgraduate Programme.

4.4 Candidates need to submit the following documents:

- a. Candidate application.
- b. Detailed Curriculum Vitae with a photograph.
- c. A simple photocopy of a degree for undergraduate studies at a University in Greece or a recognised same-level institution of another country.
- d. A simple photocopy of their transcript.
- d. A simple photocopy of a Greek ID or Passport (for Greek and foreign students).
- e. Certification of knowledge of English of level C1 (simple photocopy), which is proven by the acquirement of a Language Certificate (C1), or by completed undergraduate, postgraduate or doctoral studies in an English-taught educational institution that can be proven by relevant documents, or by certifying professional experience in an English-speaking environment for at least a year that can be proven by a relevant valid document or by providing documents that prove that English is the candidates' native language, or by the examination conducted by a Special Committee appointed by the Coordinating Committee. The same language certificates are also required for proving the knowledge of a second, third, etc. foreign language.
- f. At least two letters of recommendation, one of which needs to be academic. In exceptional cases and by a justified decision of the Assembly, only professional letters of recommendation can be accepted.
- g. A copy of a dissertation or the title and abstract of a dissertation, if it has not been completed, or proof that a dissertation is not required at the Department where the candidate studied, which is submitted in digital form.
- h. Papers published in scientific journals or in transcripts of international conferences.
- i. Any other element that can help the candidate be selected, according to their judgement (volunteering etc.).

The Department Assembly appoints a committee responsible for establishing if a foreign institution or a form of foreign institution degree is recognised.

For a degree to be recognised the following is required:

- The institution that awards the degree needs to be included in the list of foreign institutions held and updated by DOATAP.

If the foreign university is in the university list of Article 307 of Law 4957/2022, the student needs to submit a certificate for the Place of Study, which is issued and sent by the foreign university. If the place of study or part of it is within the Greek territory, the degree is not recognised, unless the place of studies within the Greek territory is a public Higher Education Institution.

4.6 The assessment of candidates and the selection of admitted students is based on the following criteria:

- Grade of degree at 20%.
- Competence in any foreign language apart from English at 15%.
- Possession of second degree and/or other postgraduate degree from a Greek Higher Education Institution or a recognised same-level foreign institution recognised by DOATAP, relevant to the subject matter of the Postgraduate Programme, or publications at 15%.
- Research activity and/or professional experience relevant to the specialisation field of the Postgraduate Programme (participation in conferences, participation in research or educational programmes), at 20%.
- Oral interview at 30%. The interview is conducted in person or online by the Coordinating Committee, aiming to ascertain the academic experience, performance, and interests of the candidates, and is graded on a scale of 1 to 10.

After the end of the evaluation, the Three-member Selection and Application Examination Committee draws up a list of the selected candidates and runners-up, resulting from the calculation of points each candidate has obtained. The first candidates in the list up to the maximum number of selected candidates or the minimum sufficient points (50% of the maximum number of points) is reached are the selected candidates and are validated by the Coordinating Committee, with the limitation that in case there are candidates with the same number of points at the last place of the list, all candidates with the same points are accepted at a percentage not higher than 10% of the maximum number of selected candidates. The list of selected candidates is validated by the Department Assembly and posted on the website of the Postgraduate Programme.

In case the selected candidates are less than ten (10), the Postgraduate Programme can suspend its operation for the current academic year, by a justified resolution of the Department Assembly.

The selected candidates must enrol at the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme within five (5) business days from the validation of the selected candidate list by the Assembly and its notification to the selected candidates. In case they do not enrol within the

aforementioned deadline, the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme invites the 1st, 2nd, etc. runners-up by ranking to enrol.

Members of the categories Special Teaching Staff, Laboratory Teaching Staff, and Special Technical Laboratory Staff are accepted outside the list and only one per year, as long as they possess a degree relevant to the subject matter of the Postgraduate Programme and as long as they meet the admission criteria.

Candidates with the same number of points are accepted up to 10% of the maximum number of selected candidates.

4.7 Based on all the criteria, the C.E. or the candidate selection committee drafts the list of evaluated candidates and submits it to the Assembly for approval.

The selected candidates must enrol at the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme within five (5) business days from the validation of the selected candidate list by the Assembly and its notification to the selected candidates. In case they do not enrol within the aforementioned deadline, the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme invites the 1st, 2nd, etc. runners-up by ranking to enrol.

Candidates with the same number of points are accepted up to 10% of the maximum number of selected candidates.

ARTICLE 5. DURATION OF STUDIES

5.1 The duration of studies at the Postgraduate Programme that leads to obtaining a Master's Degree is:

- a) two (2) semesters without student breaks for completing one specialisation (75 ECTS)
- b) three (3) semesters without student breaks to complete a double specialisation (105 ECTS),
- c) four (4) semesters without student breaks for a triple specialisation (135 ECTS).

5.2 Postgraduate students can apply to the Department Assembly to extend the duration of their studies to up to two semesters. The maximum duration of studies, including a possible extension, is four semesters for a single specialisation, five semesters for double specialisation and six semesters for triple specialisation. The first semester of the extended studies is free, while for the second semester of the extension, students are required to pay fees. The tuition fees students are required to pay for the extension of an extra semester, after the free extension, is 1,600€ per semester for students from an EU or EEA member-state and 3,500€ for students from countries outside the EU or the EEA.

5.3 Students that have not exceeded the maximum duration of studies have the right to ask with a justified application for their studies to be suspended due to force majeure up to one (1) calendar year or two full consecutive semesters, at any point during their studies. The suspension of studies is granted for serious reasons (military service, illness, maternity, absence abroad, etc.). The application has to be justified and accompanied by all relevant

documents from competent public authorities or organisations, which will prove the reasons for the suspension of studies.

During the suspension of studies, student status is revoked and participation at any educational process is prohibited.

The suspension is valid from the date of receiving the relevant decision by the Department Assembly.

At least two weeks before the end of the suspension, students are obliged to re-enrol in the programme in order to continue their studies with the rights and obligations of active students.

Students can apply for the cessation of the suspension of studies and return to the Programme only in case they have applied for the suspension of studies for two consecutive academic semesters. The application for cessation of the suspension of studies has to be submitted at the latest two weeks before the beginning of the second semester of the suspension.

The duration of suspension or extension of studies is discussed and approved on a case-by-case basis by the C.E., which submits its proposal to the Department Assembly.

After their return and concerning the duration of their studies, what is stipulated in this Regulation stands. The suspension is granted once, and the time period of the suspension is not calculated in the maximum duration of studies, nor is it calculated for the tuition fee sum paid for the regular duration of studies.

5.4 There is a possibility for part-time studies, after a justified application by students and its approval by the Department Assembly.

Those who are entitled to apply for part-time studies are the following:

- a. Students that can prove they work at least twenty (20) hours per week.
- b. Students with disabilities and special educational needs.
- c. Students who are athletes and at the time of their studies are members of sports clubs registered in the electronic record of sports clubs, pertinent to Article 142 of L. 4714/2020 (GG A148) held by the General Secretariat for Sports, under the following terms:
 - c1. for the years they rank in the 1st till 8th place in Greek championships in individual sports with the participation of at least twelve (12) athletes and eight (8) sports clubs, or are members of sports teams of the two (2) superior leagues in team sports, or participate as members of national teams in European championships, world championships, or other international events under the aegis of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, or
 - c2. participate even once, during their studies at the programme for which they request the part-time studies status, in the Olympics, Paralympics, or Deaflympics. These students can enrol as part-time students, after their application is approved by the School Deanship.

The duration of part-time studies cannot exceed double the duration of full-time studies. In this case the maximum duration of studies also applies.

Students entitled to and selecting part-time studies are obliged to attend the compulsory courses of the programme, complete internships, as well as Summer Schools, as do the full-time students. The tuition fees for part-time students are paid each semester, as is for full-time students. The same stands in case they apply for an extension of their studies.

5.5 Unjustified non-completion of studies beyond this timeframe leads to a request for the termination of the postgraduate student from the programme, which is proposed by the Coordinating Committee and decided upon by the Department Assembly.

5.6 The duration of part-time studies cannot exceed double the duration of full-time studies. In this case the maximum duration of studies also applies.

ARTICLE 6. CURRICULUM

6.1 The Postgraduate Programme starts at the beginning of the fall semester. However, by decision of the Department Assembly, after a justified proposal by the C.E., the Postgraduate Programme can start at the beginning of the spring semester.

6.2 For obtaining the Master's degree students are required: a) to participate in all educational and research activities of the Programme, more specifically defined in the Curriculum and the present Regulation in articles 5.1 and 5.5, b) to be successfully examined in all courses of the first and second semester, as defined in the circular curriculum, c) to successfully complete the internship and the summer school, d) to successfully submit the master dissertation, e) to collect 75 ECTS, f) to pay the full amount of the tuition fees, and g) to cover any obligations toward the Student Affairs Office and the Library of the Institution or any other NKUA agencies. Students are required to attend each semester courses that amount for 30 ECTS in the first semester and 45 ECTS in the second semester, including summer break, and be successful in all course exams. The examination in specialisation courses is in the form of written or oral exams, paper submission, or all the above combined. More specifically, to obtain the Master's Degree, students are required to attend two semesters and collect 75 ECTS. In case the Postgraduate Programme organises a national or international conference in a subject matter studied in the Programme, students are required to attend. After the end of each course and each exam, instructors distribute a course evaluation form to the students, prepared by the Coordination Committee. Students are required to fill in the evaluation form distributed by the course instructor and submit it to the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme, or if it does not exist, to the Secretariat of the Department.

6.3 Courses are taught in English, and the postgraduate dissertation is drafted in English.

6.4 During their studies, postgraduate students are obliged to attend postgraduate courses and be successfully examined in them, participate in research projects and scientific papers, as well as submit their postgraduate dissertation.

6.5 The dissertation is drafted during the last semester of studies and is credited with 15 ECTS.

6.6 For obtaining the Master's degree students are required: a) to participate in all educational and research activities of the Programme, more specifically defined in the Curriculum and the present Regulation in articles 5.1 and 5.5, b) to be successfully examined in all courses of the first and second semester, as defined in the circular curriculum, c) to successfully complete the internship and the summer school, d) to successfully submit the master dissertation, e) to collect 75 ECTS, f) to pay the full amount of the tuition fees, and g) to cover any obligations toward the Student Affairs Office and the Library of the Institution or any other NKUA agencies. Students are required to attend each semester courses that amount for 30 ECTS in the first semester and 45 ECTS in the second semester, including summer break, and be successful in all course exams. The examination in specialisation courses is in the form of written or oral exams, paper submission, or all the above combined. More specifically, to obtain the Master's Degree, students are required to attend two semesters and collect 75 ECTS. In case the Postgraduate Programme organises a national or international conference in a subject matter studied in the Programme, students are required to attend. After the end of each course and each exam, instructors distribute a course evaluation form to the students, prepared by the Coordination Committee. Students are required to fill in the evaluation form distributed by the course instructor and submit it to the Secretariat of the Postgraduate Programme, or if it does not exist, to the Secretariat of the Department.

6.7 Courses take place in person or remotely, according to the legal framework in force at the time and Article 7 of this Regulation.

6.8 The indicative curriculum for each specialisation is as follows:

1st Semester		
Core Courses	Hours/week	ECTS
1. Forced Migration	3	7.5
2. International, European and National Law on Refugee/Migration Flows	3	7.5
3. Refugee/Migration Flows – Old and New Media	3	7.5
4. Methodology of Quantitative and Qualitative Social Research	3	7.5
Total	12	30
2nd Semester and summer		
Specialisation 1: “News Media of Refugee Flows”		
5. Digital Journalism and Refugee/Migration Flows	3	7.5
6. Investigative Journalism and Refugee/Migration Flows	3	7.5
Total		15
Specialisation 2: “Communication management of		

refugee/migration flows”		
7. Strategic Communication and Utilisation of European Integration Resources	3	7.5
8. Public Relations and Perception Management of the Refugee/Migration Issue	3	7.5
Total		15
Specialisation 3: “Cultural mediators”		
9. Theory and Practice of Cultural Mediation	3	7.5
10. Comparative Analysis of cultures in Western Europe, Eastern Mediterranean, and Eastern Europe	3	7.5
<p>*Cultural mediators will be required to take classes in Arabic, Albanian, Bulgarian, Georgian, French, Farsi, Dari, Kurdish, Spanish, Portuguese, Lingala, Swahili, Bengali, Pashtun, Somalian, Ukrainian, Russian, or another common language in the origin countries where the main volume of refugees and migrants arriving in Europe come from, at the Foreign Language Teaching Centre of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, if they have no certified prior knowledge included in their CV.</p> <p>Successful completion of courses in the foreign language is a requirement for obtaining the Master’s Degree.</p>	-	
Total		15
Common Actions		
11. Summer School “Field actions: management of refugee and migration flows, media coverage, public relations and cultural mediation”	70 HOURS (7h/day)	10
12. Internship of at least 120 (one hundred and twenty) hours		5
13. MA Dissertation		15
Total		30

Course syllabi, description of internship and summer school.

Courses are organised in academic semesters, consisting of thirteen (13) weeks each, which take place weekly and are taught in English.

Core courses, mandatory for all three specialisations.

Forced Migration

In this course, issues of sociological analysis of the concept of identities, cultural differences, and the processes of transformation and coexistence in a multicultural environment will be

presented. Issues of reception, management, refugee/migrant pushback into origin countries, issues of social integration, rehabilitation, and the role of international, European, and national Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) regarding this issue will also be presented. The course focuses on the causes of violent refugee/migration flows (wars, unemployment, climate change, etc.), on issues of health and social policies at a European and national level and in international agreements in force regarding public health, human rights, policies on language and general integration and how all this is presented by the old and new media. The course will also approach the refugee/migration issue from its sociological aspect, the transposition of populations, the flows, the causes and effects on individuals, societies, and economies. It also analyses the refugee/migration issue in relevance to the European demographic problem.

International, European and National Law on Refugee/Migration Flows

In this course, issues concerning the fundamental rights of refugees and migrants will be presented and there will be an informed reference to the main binding texts on rights – the Geneva Convention -, to the European policies and projections, as well as to the national and international agreements on the management of this issue. It will also examine in depth the policy of international organisations (UN High Commissioner for Refugees, World Health Organisation, etc.) and the limitations due to the conflict of interests based on political communicational analyses of the member-states.

Refugee/Migration Flows – Old and New Media

In this course, issues concerning the journalistic coverage of the refugee/migration issue at an international, European, national, and local level will be presented, approaching the presentation of the image of refugees/migrants in old and new media as intruders or as a problem, by highlighting comparative data, case studies, and analysis of relevant journalistic articles. The issue of poverty, social inequalities, and applied social policies, as well as the method and techniques of presentation and communication of relevant issues with the utilisation of new technologies will be approached. At the same time, the journalistic approach based on gender, the image of women and children based on educational, cultural and religious characteristics, as well as issues of journalistic coverage and criminality will be analysed.

Methodology of Quantitative and Qualitative Social Research

The content of the course is comprised by two parts, one theoretical and one applied:

In the theoretical part, there will be a brief revision of the methodology of research in the following thematic units: theoretical epistemological methodology approaches, research structural components, main means of collecting data, fundamental stages of research, description of research methods of quantitative and qualitative research: design, pros and cons, applications in the research on Communication and Media. Also, qualitative methods and strategies of social research (in-depth interviews, participation observation, content

analysis, critical analysis of speech, case studies), as well as issues regarding the access and experience of the researcher on the field.

The applied part is an introduction to the use of the statistics package SPSS, and includes the following thematic units: SPSS environment, data entry, data checks and correction, data processing, analysis with methods of descriptive statistics and statistical inference for evaluating parameters and testing hypotheses with real data.

Courses of Specialisation A:

Digital Journalism and Refugee/Migration Flows

In this course, new forms of journalism and, in general, the association of new technologies to journalism in relation to the refugee/migration issue will be analysed. The consequences of changes in the Media and communication sector for the coverage and communicational management of refugee and migration flows will be examined. The course will delve deeper into the use of the internet and social networks, and the developments connected to the refugee/migration sector that regard political, social, cultural, and economic aspects of the issue. New techniques and new forms of digital message analysis and formulation and data analysis that the modern journalist covering the refugee/migration issue needs to know will be examined. The course will focus on the journalistic coverage of digital journalism and fake news, on the mechanisms and practices of the prevalence of the fake news phenomenon and on the ways of dealing with it. Information search online, information exchange technologies (RSS-XML), the creation of websites and blogs, interactive communication forms and other topics will also be approached in a laboratory format.

Investigative Journalism and Refugee/Migration Flows

In this course, selected topics regarding the formulation of European and national policies on social integration, the utilisation of social networks by international organisations, reception and origin countries, the utilisation of social networks by the target group of refugee/migrants, the methods of ITC utilisation by both sides (reception and origin countries), human networks and their influences, social solidarity networks and various movements at a national and European level and the way they are active and are presented by mass media at a national, European, and international level, will be analysed. In the context of the same course, the methods and practices of investigative journalism, the means of obtaining information from public, private, and non-governmental entities and organisations, Think Tanks, and other international organisations will be emphasised. Students will practice techniques of developing audio-visual products for refugees/migrants (e.g., text, content visualisation, etc.) in order to combat stereotypical and xenophobic views and behaviours.

Courses of Specialisation B:

Strategic Communication and Utilisation of European Resources

In this course, issues regarding the formulation of European and national policies on the socio-economic integration of refugees/migrants and their presentation on mass media, the capabilities of resource utilisation by the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund, the Emergency Assistance, the Emergency Support to Integration and Accommodation Programme (ESTIA), the disposal of resources to international organisations by the EU and other sponsors for the integration of refugees/migrants will be presented. The techniques of presentation and strategic communicational management of the aforementioned issues and the presentation of good practices of resource utilisation and presentation at a national, European, and international level will also be discussed.

Public Relations and Perception Management of the Refugee/Migration Issue

In this course, issues of public relations and mutual communication and relation development between organisations and the public (refugees/migrants) will be approached. The communicational management of problems and hinderances in the integration or pushback in the cases it is deemed necessary and the methods and techniques of approaching these issues will also be analysed. Good practices for strategies and operational communicational plans for the communicational management of the refugee/migration issue will be presented, and students will be trained on the implementation of strategic communicational plans with the utilisation of old and new media. The combination of tools and communicational functions in the thematic field of the refugee and migration issue in Europe and internationally, the communicational crisis management, and the public and international relations on the issue will be approached through specific lectures.

Courses of Specialisation C:

Theory and Practice of Cultural Mediation

In this course, issues regarding the theoretical approaches and models of integrational and inclusive action, promotion of mutual understanding and trust building between locals and refugees/migrants with different cultural/religious backgrounds will be presented. The theory of culture and intercultural relations, the similarities and differences of national, regional, and intercultural education policies in the modern world will be emphasised. Issues of politics and identities, policies of conversation between various cultures, the history of cultural flows and intercultural relations in the modern world will also be discussed in the course.

Comparative Analysis of Cultures in Western Europe, Eastern Europe and the countries of the Eastern Mediterranean

In this course, the theory and practice of intercultural mediation, multicultural awareness and communicational skills, the transformation of stereotypical perspectives and dysfunctional views with critical reflection and empathy will be presented. There will be reference to social and universal values, to the modern Greek and European culture and to

the national and European educational policies that promote inclusion, understanding and acceptance, taking into consideration the difference of customs and various ritualistic practices. The communication techniques for managing conflicts and harmonizing relations of refugees/migrants with the citizens, the employees in public or private agencies at a national or local administration level will be emphasised. There will also be reference to aspects of cultural mediation and professional ethics and code of conduct. It is also noted that for the specialisation of Cultural Mediators students will optionally attend a selective course in one of the languages of the origin countries of refugees/migrants that are offered by the Foreign Language Teaching Centre of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, if they have no certified previous knowledge included in their CV.

Common Actions

Summer School: “Field Actions: management of refugee and migration flows, media coverage, public relations and cultural mediation”

The Summer School taking place in Mytilene-Lesbos or any other place in the country appropriate for the objectives of the summer school the Assembly decides upon, after a proposal by the Coordinating Committee, of a duration of 70 hours, combines theoretical presentations, experiential workshops, and educational visits to hotspots and refugee and migrant hosting facilities, facilities of international and national organisations, healthcare or education facilities and any other facilities that take part in the management of refugee and migrant flows.

The presentations will regard issues concerning the presence and management of media in the case of refugee/migration flows, the utilisation of new media and the changes these have brought to the level of production and consumption of journalistic content regarding national, European, and international policies, the profile of refugees/migrants, and the role of citizens of the reception country, international and European conventions on the rights and obligations of media, and presentation methods of relevant matters by the media. They also concern the ways of approaching and using social media to cover the refugee/migration phenomenon, as well as the consequences of their use in journalism and publicity. The issue of fake news in regard to the refugee/migration phenomenon, as well as storytelling as a method of intercultural approach, issues of English and Greek terminology on integration and battling racism and xenophobia, and issues regarding the socio-economic integration of those requesting asylum or those long-term residing in the reception country will be a focus point. Other innovative initiatives regarding educational techniques and the encouragement of initiatives and participation of students in the organisation of a relevant photo exhibition or other audio-visual applications will also take place during the Summer School. Students will also have the opportunity to prepare the research part of their dissertation with the support of the professors. Students will be evaluated in the Summer School by two assignments of 2,500 words each. The topics of the two assignments will be pertinent to the topics of the two weeks of the Summer School. The first assignment will regard the management of refugee and migrant flows by international and Greek organisations, Greek and foreign certified NGOs and other legitimate entities, while the second one will regard the coverage of refugee and migrant flows by local, national, and international media and

social media, or, depending on the specialisation selected by the students, the cultural mediation with Greek authorities or certified entities in Greece or abroad. In case a student is exempt from the Summer School, what is stipulated in article 4.9 of the present Regulation stands.

Internship

After a proposal by the competent faculty member and approval by the Coordinating Committee students are placed in a two-month part-time internship, which lasts at least 120 (one hundred and twenty) hours and takes place from March until the end of June of each year. In order to secure internship positions, the Department of Communication and Media Studies and the Director of the programme sign memoranda of cooperation with the entities (Ministry of Migration and Asylum, international organisations like the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Organisation for Migration, and other NGOs) to which the students will be assigned for their internships. The internship is mainly educational, it is evaluated by a relevant assignment and there can be a compensation or another incentive, as long as it can be covered by the entity. The entity where the internship takes place issues a certificate that is submitted to the Secretariat of the MSc, and the student submits a file with the assignment(s) they have completed during the internship. The internship is evaluated by the faculty member in charge of the internship, based a) on the report drafted by the entity where the student did their internship and b) the assessment of the relevant report submitted by the student.

Dissertation

The dissertation is produced after the approval of the suggested title for the dissertation and the appointment of the supervisor by the Coordinating Committee. The dissertation is to be no shorter than 15,000 words, and 10,000 words in case it is accompanied by audio-visual material and includes a theoretical and research part. The research stage can be conducted during the Summer School in Mytilene-Lesbos or another area where the Summer School takes place. All faculty members teaching at the Postgraduate Programme can be dissertation supervisors.

ARTICLE 7. DISTANCE LEARNING

The courses of the MSc “Media and refugee/migration flows” are offered to students from Greece and abroad in a hybrid format, combining both in-person and remote teaching. The organisation of courses and other educational activities using modern distance learning methods applies exclusively to courses and activities that can naturally be supported by such methods and do not involve practical, laboratory, or clinical training, which require the physical presence of students.

7.1 Each course in the programme may include distance learning, with the selection of

technology made in a way that best serves the educational process.

7.2 Distance learning cannot exceed 40% of the total teaching hours for each course unless a different percentage is justifiably decided by the Postgraduate Programme's Coordinating Committee.

7.3 This percentage can be used for distance learning but is not mandatory. Its application depends on current conditions for the execution of teaching work, including both internal and external factors.

7.4 The percentage applies to the teaching hours of each individual course and is not calculated as a whole across all courses. This means that no course can be attended entirely online while others are attended entirely in person.

7.5 The permitted portion of distance learning mentioned above applies only to theoretical courses. Mandatory educational activities of a laboratory nature, such as the internship and the Summer School, are conducted exclusively in person, regardless of which method provided in the present resolution is followed. Similarly, optional hands-on activities (e.g., visits to refugee facilities, media headquarters, etc.) are also conducted in person.

7.6 Distance learning is conducted using live-streaming technology installed in a dedicated classroom at the Gryparion Hall building. The installation and maintenance of this infrastructure are managed by the competent office of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA). The MSc Director or another member of the Coordinating Committee or the DCMS's administration is responsible for keeping the competent office informed.

7.7 These technical means may also be used for conducting exams or defending a dissertation, especially for foreign students who must remain in their home countries due to serious reasons. However, the use of these technical means for conducting exams requires a special decision from the MSc's Coordinating Committee.

7.8 The aforementioned technical means are not used for posting exercises, lecture notes, etc., but solely for remote lectures. They may also be used as an auxiliary tool for distributing educational material for distance-learning courses. Otherwise, educational materials are distributed either directly by instructors directly to students or via the e-class platform, as is the case for other undergraduate and graduate courses at the NKUA.

7.9 The option of utilising the permitted proportion of distance learning in terms of teaching hours is available to both instructors and students.

7.10 Asynchronous Distance Learning. Asynchronous distance learning may be used as a supplementary method. The NKUA maintains an accessible electronic platform, including features for students with disabilities, which provides asynchronous distance learning services. Educational materials for each course may be uploaded to this platform and they may include lecture notes, presentations, exercises, sample solutions, and recorded lectures, provided that data protection legislation is observed. All educational materials are intended solely for student use and are protected by Law 2121/1993 (A' 25), provided that the relevant conditions are met.

ARTICLE 8. EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT OF POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

8.1 The academic year is divided into two semesters, fall and spring, each consisting of at least thirteen (13) weeks of teaching and three (3) weeks of examinations. Courses from both semesters are re-examined during the September exam period.

8.2 In cases where a course session cannot take place, a replacement session is scheduled. The date and time of the replacement session are posted on the MSc website.

8.3 Attendance at courses, workshops, etc., is compulsory. A postgraduate student is considered to have attended a course (and thus has the right to participate in examinations) only if they have attended at least 70% of the course hours. Otherwise, they must retake the course in the following academic year. This issue is reviewed by the Coordinating Committee, which provides recommendations to the School or Department Assembly.

8.4 Postgraduate students and their performance in each course they are obliged to attend in this Postgraduate Programme are assessed at the end of each semester through written or oral examinations, assignments throughout the semester, or through midterms, written assignments, exercises, or a combination of these methods. The instructor of each course determines the assessment method. During written or oral exams, when used as assessment methods, the integrity of the examination process must be ensured. Grading is on a scale of 0 to 10. Examination results are announced by the instructor and submitted to the MSc Secretariat within four (4) weeks after the examination at the latest. If an instructor repeatedly exceeds this deadline, the MSc Director informs the School or Department Assembly accordingly.

8.5 In cases of emergency or force majeure, alternative assessment methods, such as online written or oral examinations, may be implemented, provided that the integrity of the assessment process is ensured.

8.6 Alternative assessment methods may be applied for students with disabilities or special educational needs, upon a decision by the Coordinating Committee and recommendations from the University Accessibility Committee, while taking into consideration the relevant guidelines provided by the Unit for the Accessibility of Students with disabilities.

8.7 The assessment of students in Postgraduate Programmes that are organised with distance learning methods can be examined remotely, provided the integrity of the assessment process is ensured.

8.8 In cases of illness or recovery from serious illness, instructors are encouraged to facilitate students as appropriate, such as by allowing oral remote examinations. During oral examinations, the instructor ensures they are not alone with the examinee.

8.9 If a student fails a course, they must retake it. However, successfully completed laboratory or practical exercises are retained and do not need to be repeated.

8.10 Grade adjustments are permitted in cases of obvious miscalculations or numerical errors, subject to a written request from the instructor and approval by the Department Assembly.

8.11 If a student fails the same course more than three (3) times, the procedure defined by the applicable legislation is followed.

8.12 The written examination papers must be kept under the responsibility of the course instructor for two (2) years. After this period, the papers cease to be valid, and with the responsibility of the Assembly, a relevant protocol is drawn up, and the papers are destroyed—unless there is an ongoing legal, disciplinary, or other administrative procedure.

8.13 To calculate the final degree, the weight of each course in the curriculum is taken into account, expressed in terms of the number of ECTS credit units. The number of ECTS units assigned to a course also serves as its weighing factor. The final grade is calculated by multiplying the grade of each course by the corresponding number of ECTS units for that course. The total sum of these weighted products is then divided by the total number of ECTS units required for the degree. This calculation is expressed by the following formula:

$$\text{Degree grade} = (\sum_{k=1}^N \text{CG}_k * \text{CU}_k) / \text{CUT}$$

where:

N = number of courses required for obtaining the degree

CG_k = grade of course k

CU_k = credit units (ECTS) of course k

CUT = total credit units (ECTS) required for obtaining the degree

For obtaining the Master's degree, each student has to attend and successfully be examined in all compulsory courses and the required selective courses offered by the Postgraduate Programme and submit their dissertation, thus collecting fifteen (15) ECTS.

ARTICLE 9. POSTGRADUATE DISSERTATION

9.1. The dissertation can be assigned after all programme courses have been completed and successfully examined.

9.2 The dissertation must be individual, original, of a research nature and written in accordance with the writing guidelines posted on the website of each Postgraduate Programme.

9.3. Following an application by the candidate, in which the proposed title of the dissertation, the supervisor and an abstract of the proposed dissertation are indicated, the Assembly appoints the supervisor of the dissertation and forms the three-member examination committee for the approval of the dissertation, one of whose members is the supervisor. The language of the postgraduate dissertation may be English or Greek and shall be specified along with the definition of the topic.

9.4 The title of the dissertation may be finalised upon application by the student and the agreement of the supervisor to the Coordinating Committee of the MSc. The application must also include a justification for this change.

9.5 In order for the dissertation 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 postgraduate dissertation are appointed from the categories below who have undertaken instructional work in the MSc:

- a) members of teaching and research staff, of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or another Higher Educational Institution or a Higher Military Educational Institution, with additional employment beyond their legal obligations, if the Postgraduate Programme has tuition fees,
- b) Professors Emeritus or retired members of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or other Higher Education Institutions,
- c) associate professors,
- d) appointed instructors,
- e) visiting professors or visiting researchers,
- f) researchers and special functional scientists of research and technological institutions mentioned in Article 13A of Law No. 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centres and institutes of the country or abroad.

By decision of the Assembly, the supervision of dissertations may also be assigned to members of Teaching and Research Staff, of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff, who have not undertaken teaching work in the Postgraduate Programme.

9.7. Postgraduate dissertations, after they are approved by the examination committee, must be posted on the Digital Repository “PERGAMOS”, according to the decisions of the NKUA’s Senate.

9.8 If the postgraduate dissertation contains original results that have not been published, only the abstracts may be published on the website upon request of the supervisor, which is co-signed by the postgraduate student, and the full text may be published later.

ARTICLE 10. POSTGRADUATE STUDENT RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

10.1 Postgraduate students are entitled to all rights and benefits provided for undergraduate students until the end of a possible granted extension of studies, apart from the right to obtain course books free of charge.

10.2 The Institution secures accessibility to suggested course books and teaching to students with disabilities and/or special educational needs (<https://access.uoa.gr/>).

10.3 The NKUA's Career Office offers advisory support to students in terms of studies and employment opportunities (<https://www.career.uoa.gr/ypiresies/>).

10.4 Postgraduate students are expected to participate in and attend seminars by research groups, discussions on information on literature, laboratory visits, conferences/meetings on subject matters relevant to the subject of the Postgraduate Programme, lectures, or other scientific events and activities organised by the Postgraduate Programme, etc.

10.5 The Assembly of the Department of Communication and Media Studies, after the suggestion of the Coordinating Committee, can decide to terminate a postgraduate student, if:

- they exceed the maximum allowed absences,
- they have failed the exam of a course or courses and have not successfully completed the programme, according to what is stipulated in the Programme Regulation,
- they exceed the maximum duration of studies at the Postgraduate Programme, as stipulated in the present Regulation,
- they have violated the provisions in force, concerning the handling of disciplinary offences by the competent disciplinary bodies,
- they do not pay the tuition fees,
- they submit a request for their termination themselves,
- they have violated the Code of Research Ethics, which is posted in the MSc website.

10.6 In case a postgraduate student is terminated from the Postgraduate Programme, they can apply for receiving a certification for the courses they have successfully completed.

10.7 NKUA postgraduate students can enrol in a Postgraduate Programme of the same or another Higher Education Institution in Greece or abroad, in the framework of educational or research cooperation programmes, according to the legal framework in force.

10.8 Students can simultaneously attend an undergraduate programme and a Postgraduate Programme or two (2) Postgraduate Programmes of the same or different Department of the same or different Higher Education Institution.

10.9 At the end of each semester each course and each teaching professor is evaluated by the students (see Article 19).

10.10 Postgraduate students can apply for a diploma supplement both in Greek and English.

10.11 For their participation in MSc “Media and refugee/migration flows” postgraduate students are required to pay tuition fees, which are 1,600 euros for EU and EEA member-states and 3,500 euros per semester for candidates from countries outside the EU and the EEA. Tuition fees are paid at the beginning of each semester.

ARTICLE 11. EXEMPTION FROM TUITION FEES

11.1. Postgraduate students can be exempt from tuition fees if they are eligible based on financial or social criteria and excellence requirements during their undergraduate studies, according to the legal framework in force. They can only be exempt for their participation in one Postgraduate Programme. In any case, the exempted students shall not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total number of students admitted to the MSc per academic year.

11.2 The application for exemption from tuition fees shall be submitted after the completion of the selection process of the students of the MSc. The financial status of a candidate shall in no case be a reason for not being selected for a Postgraduate Programme.

11.3 Those who receive a scholarship from another source are not entitled to exemption, nor are citizens of countries outside the EU.

11.4 The examination of the criteria for exemption from tuition fees is carried out by the Departmental Assembly and a justified decision is issued on the acceptance or rejection of the application.

11.5 If the current legislation sets an age criterion, it is recommended, for reasons of good administration and equal treatment, that the date of birth of students be considered as the 31st of December of the year of birth.

11.6 Members of the categories of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff, who are admitted as on top of the maximum number of students in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of this decision, shall be exempted from payment of tuition fees.

11.7 In the event that members of the same family (up to relatives of the second degree) or by blood or affinity study simultaneously in a Postgraduate Programme of the Institution, there is the possibility to provide a 50% reduction in the tuition fees.

ARTICLE 12. SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Scholarships may be awarded for student enrolment by sponsors of the MSc under the following conditions:

- a. the proposed student meets the selection criteria in accordance with this Decision,
- b. the amount of the sponsorship to the MSc must be equal to the amount of the tuition fees payable for the student's country of origin plus 50% to cover the costs of the Summer School.

Otherwise, the terms and conditions set out in the Regulations for Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies of the NKUA apply.

ARTICLE 13. INFRASTRUCTURE AND FINANCING OF THE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

13.1 For the proper operation of the MSc, classrooms and seminar rooms, auditoriums equipped with audiovisual equipment and laboratories of the Department of Communication and Media Studies are available.

13.2 The administrative and secretarial support of the MSc is provided by the Secretariat of the Department of Communication and Media Studies.

13.3 Funding for the MSc may come from:

- a) tuition fees,
- b) donations, sponsorships and financial aid of any kind,
- c) bequests,
- d) resources from research projects or programmes,
- e) the Higher Education Institution's (HEI) own resources,
- f) the state budget or the public investment programme,
- g) any other legal source.

13.4 The payment of tuition fees shall be made by the students themselves or by a third natural or legal person on behalf of the student, if this is provided for in the decision establishing the MSc.

13.5 The management of the resources of the Postgraduate Programmes of the Institution is carried out by the Special Account for Research Grants (ELKE).

13.6 The resources of the MSc shall be distributed as follows:

- (a) an amount corresponding to thirty percent (30%) of the total income from tuition fees shall be retained by the ELKE. This amount includes the percentage of retention in favour of the ELKE for the financial management of the Postgraduate Programmes. Where the income of the MSc comes from donations, sponsorships and financial aid of any kind, bequests or funds from research projects or programmes, the deduction for the benefit of the ELKE shall be the same as for income from the corresponding funding sources,
- (b) the remaining amount of the total revenue of the MSc shall be allocated to cover the operating costs of the MSc.

ARTICLE 14. ASSIGNMENT OF TEACHING WORK/MSc INSTRUCTORS

14.1 The teaching work in Postgraduate Programmes is assigned, upon decision by the Assembly, to the following categories of instructors:

- a) members of teaching and research staff, of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or another Higher Educational Institution or a Higher Military Educational Institution, with additional employment beyond their legal obligations, if the Postgraduate Programme has tuition fees,
- b) Professors Emeritus or retired members of the Department or other Departments of the NKUA or other Higher Education Institutions,
- c) associate professors,
- d) appointed instructors,
- e) visiting professors or visiting researchers,
- f) researchers and special functional scientists of research and technological institutions mentioned in Article 13A of Law No. 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centres and institutes of the country or abroad.

14.2 All instructor categories can be compensated exclusively by the MSc own resources. The compensation or provision of any benefits by the state budget or the state investment programme is not allowed. Upon decision by the Department Assembly, the amount due to each instructor is determined. Specifically, instructors who are members of the Teaching and Research Staff can be also compensated for work they provide to the MSc, as long as they fulfill the minimum obligations provided by law, as stipulated in Paragraph 2 of Article 155 of Law 4957/2022. The last passage is applied in proportion for members of Special Teaching Staff, of Laboratory Teaching Staff and Special Technical Laboratory Staff, as long as they fulfill the minimum obligations provided by law.

14.3 By decision of the Assembly of the Department, doctoral candidates of the Department may be assigned auxiliary teaching work under the supervision of an instructor of the MSc.

14.4 The assignment of the teaching work of the MSc is carried out by decision of the Assembly of the Department, following the recommendation of the Coordination Committee of the MSc.

The decisions of the Department Assembly on the allocation of the teaching work must include the following elements:

- a) the full name of the instructor,
- b) the title of the instructor (e.g., member of Teaching and Research Staff, Special Teaching Staff, Laboratory Teaching Staff, Special Technical Laboratory Staff, etc.)
- (c) the type of teaching assignment per instructor (course, seminar or workshop),
- (d) the number of teaching hours per course, seminar or workshop.

14.5 The allocation of teaching work shall be carried out before the beginning of the academic year for both the fall and spring semesters. If the allocation of teaching work cannot be carried out simultaneously for both academic semesters, the decision will be taken before the beginning of each academic semester. By a justified decision of the Department Assembly, the assignment of teaching work may be modified during the academic year.

14.6 Instructors may, during the period of their sabbatical leave or suspension, provide teaching work for the MSc, if they consider that their schedule allows it, provided of course that under the circumstances this is essentially and practically feasible, a matter to be decided by the competent bodies on a case-by-case basis.

ARTICLE 15. AWARD OF MASTER’S DEGREE

15.1 The student completes the studies for the award of the Master’s Degree by completing the minimum number of courses and credits required for the award of the MSc, as well as the successful completion of the postgraduate dissertation. The Assembly determines the completion of the studies in order to award the Master's Degree.

15.2 Upon completion of the above procedure, the postgraduate student is issued a certificate of completion of studies, loses their student status and ceases to participate in the collective bodies of the University's administration.

15.3 The Master's degree certifies the successful completion of studies and indicates a grade, up to two decimal places, according to the following scale: Excellent (8.5 to 10), Very Good (6.5 to 8.49) and Good (5 to 6.49).

15.4 The type of the Master’s Degree by Postgraduate Programme is common for all Departments and Schools of the NKUA and is included in the Regulation for Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies of the Institution.

15.5 The Postgraduate Programme leads to the award of the Master's Degree with the title "MSc in Media and refugee /migration flows" in the following specialisations:

1. “News media of refugee flows”,
2. “Communication management of refugee/migration flows”, and
3. “Cultural mediators”.

ARTICLE 16. GRADUATION CEREMONY

16.1 The graduation oath ceremony is not a constituent element of successful completion of the course of study, but it is a necessary condition for the award of the degree. The ceremony takes place at the Communication and Media Studies Department Assembly and in the presence of the Director of the MSc, the Chair of the Department or their Deputy and, where possible, a representative of the Rector.

16.2 A request for a postgraduate student graduation ceremony in the Great Ceremonial Hall of the Main Building shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Rector, based on an assessment of the capabilities and the number of those to be sworn in, to be declared by the Secretariat of the MSc to the Directorate of Education and Research.

16.3 Postgraduate students who have successfully completed the MSc, in exceptional cases (studies, residence or work abroad, health reasons, etc.), may apply to the School/Department Secretariat for an exemption from the obligation to take part in the ceremony. Exemption from the obligation to participate in the ceremony is approved by the President of the School/Department and the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Student Affairs.

ARTICLE 17. EVALUATION OF THE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

17.1 Evaluation by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education

The Postgraduate Programme is evaluated as part of the periodic evaluation/certification of the Department organised by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE). In this context, the overall assessment of the work performed by each Postgraduate Programme is evaluated, the degree of fulfilment of the objectives set at the time of its establishment, its sustainability, the absorption of graduates in the job market, the degree of its contribution to research, its internal evaluation by postgraduate students, the feasibility of extending its operation, as well as other elements relating to the quality of the work produced and its contribution to the national strategy for higher education.

If, at the stage of its evaluation, the Postgraduate Programme is deemed not to meet the conditions for its continued operation, it shall continue to operate until the graduation of the students already enrolled in accordance with the resolution for its establishment and the regulations for postgraduate and doctoral programmes.

17.2 Internal evaluation

The internal evaluation of the Postgraduate Programmes is carried out on an annual basis by the Quality Assurance Unit (QAU) of the Institution. All those involved in the implementation of the actions and activities of the Postgraduate Programme participate in the internal evaluation process, and more specifically, the students, the members of the teaching staff, the administrative and technical support staff, and the members of the Coordinating Committee of the Postgraduate Programme.

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

The internal evaluation of the Postgraduate Programmes includes the assessment of the teaching work, as well as all academic functions and activities of the MSc.

More specifically, the following are evaluated:

- (a) the content of the Curriculum in accordance with the most recent research in the specific subject area of the Postgraduate Programme, in order to ensure the contemporary character of the Postgraduate Programme,
- b) the course workload, as well as the progress and completion of postgraduate studies by the students,
- (c) the degree to which students' expectations of the programme of study, the study support services offered, and the learning environment are satisfied,
- d) the courses of the Programme per semester through questionnaires completed by the students of the Postgraduate Programme.

The results of the evaluation are communicated to the Department Assembly and aim at the sustainability of the Programme, the high level of studies, the improvement of its services and the efficiency of its instructors. The Coordinating Committee examines and analyses the results of the internal evaluation of the courses and takes the necessary corrective actions to improve the level of studies.

ARTICLE 18. DURATION OF THE OPERATION OF THE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME

The Postgraduate Programme will operate until the academic year 2035-36 provided that it meets the criteria of internal and external evaluation, in accordance with the legislation in force.

ARTICLE 19. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Students already enrolled shall complete their studies in accordance with the regulations in force in the year of their admission to the Postgraduate Programme. They shall otherwise complete their studies in accordance with this Regulation.

For issues not defined in the applicable legislation, in the Regulations for Postgraduate and Doctoral Dissertations of the NKUA, or in this Regulation, the bodies of the Postgraduate Programme are competent to decide.