

*Lab of Forest  
Management and  
Remote Sensing, Aristotle  
University of Thessaloniki*

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Qualifications  
Framework –  
Occupational  
Standards

Foresters with  
specialisation in  
Remote Sensing and  
GIS



General Information

After the BSc degree

Occupational Standards

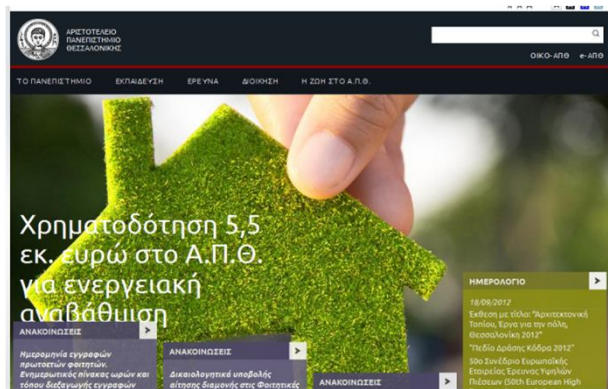


# AUTh



- Founded in 1926, the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTh) is the largest university in Greece, consisting of over 40 departments, faculties and schools plus a central administration.
- AUTh offers graduate and post-graduate education and carries out both basic and applied research in a wide range of fields, including remote sensing and environmental management.

# AUTh



- Up until now, AUTh has been involved in more than 80000 research projects, all of which have been conducted in close collaboration with Greek and other European academic and research institutions.
- Many projects are financed by the Commission of the European Communities, ESA and other organisations.
- <http://www.auth.gr>

# The AUTH Forestry faculty



- was established in Athens in 1917 as a part of the National Technical University of Athens
- was moved in Thessaloniki in 1927 as the second faculty of the newly (at the time) established Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.



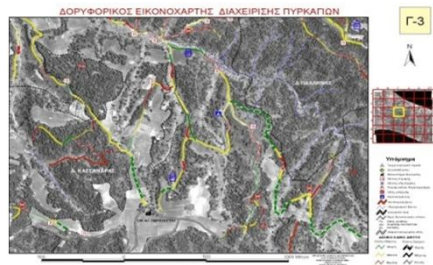
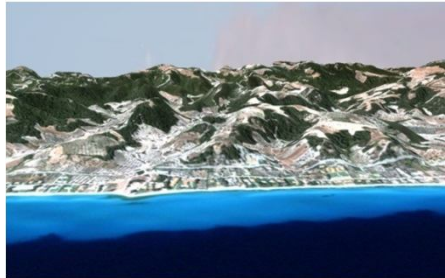
# The AUTh Forestry faculty



Today the school of Forestry and Natural Environment has five departments:

- Collection and Technology of Wood Products
- Grassland and Wildlife Management
- Forest Engineering
- Planning and Development of natural resources
- Forest Production & protection of forests and the natural environment

# Our Research Team



The Laboratory currently **employs**  
**17 people:**

3 - Permanent Academic Staff

1 - Permanent Researcher

1 - Secretary

4 - Research Associates and

8 - Post-graduate students (PhD, MSc)

# Our unit activities

- Research
  - Remote Sensing, Land cover/use – Forest mapping, Forest Fires, Forest Management, Soil erosion, Landscape Ecology
- Education
  - graduate and postgraduate courses
- Dissemination of knowledge to the society
  - operational applications, lectures, seminars, national and international conferences, networks





After the BSc degree

# Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Careers Service

- Responsible for helping 'Foresters' with a degree from the AUTh to find jobs in Greece, and the EU
- Since two years ago to the rest of the world (special agreement of Greece with Canada and Australia) is the AUTh Careers Service



# Professional Rights

- Consolidation of professional rights
  - Is done through the Geotechnical Chamber of Greece (GEOTEE)
  - Ensures the occupation of the forestry degree holders in a number of professions both in the public as well as private sector



# Occupation

- Holders of a BSc, MSc and PhD degree from the School of Forestry and Natural Environment with a specialisation in **GIS/RS** can be occupied in any unit/group of the public or private sector that uses Geographic Information Systems and Remote Sensing
  - Especially in the **land use planning**, in the **landscape management**, and in the **protection and monitoring of the environment and natural resources**
  - Competences are described every time in the relevant calls (launched by the public or private sector).



# Occupation in the public sector

- Fire Service (fleet management with GIS, fuel mapping, fire risk mapping)
- Forest Service (update of existing maps with the use of RS and GIS, creation of maps for the forest management plans, burned area mapping)
- Local and Regional Government (park management, civil protection)
- Management Authorities of Areas with rich biodiversity and rare natural habitats (e.g. NATURA). These are multi-disciplinary organisations.



# Occupation in the private sector

- SMEs specialised in forestry (e.g. creation of forest management plans, declassification of forests, forest mapping, creation of forest maps for KTHMATOLOGIO SA)
- SMEs specialised in Survey Engineering (e.g. forest mapping, Land Information System, creation of forest maps for KTHMATOLOGIO SA)



## Other

- NGOs (WWF, IUCN, etc.)
- ΚΤΙΜΑΤΟΛΟΓΙΟ (National Cadastral Survey)





# Occupational Standards

# Occupational Standards

- Occupational Standards define individual competence in performance terms.
- They are concerned with **what people can do, not just what they know.**
- They promote industry best practice, and have been developed by industry practitioners covering all industry sectors.

## Certification of Occupational Standards

- Apart from the relevant degrees the main qualification is **experience** which is certified by contracts with one of the following:
  - University Research Committees,
  - public organisations (e.g. forest service departments, local authorities), and
  - private enterprises active in GIS and Remote Sensing



## Getting a job at the public sector

- The occupation in the public sector implies the participation of the applicant in national exams run by the Supreme Council for Civil Personnel Selection (ASEP - <http://www.asep.gr>)
- ASEP was established by Law (2190/1994) as an independent authority responsible for verifying the faithful implementation of the provisions on civil service staff employment.

## Occupation Potential Job Title and description (mainly private sector)

- Occupation Title: Forester with expertise on GIS and Remote Sensing
- Potential Job Description: Manage public and private forested lands. Apply remote sensing principles and methods to analyse data and solve problems related to natural resource management
- Potential Job Titles: Forester, Remote Sensing Analyst, Remote Sensing Scientist, GIS expert

## Example (private sector)

- The following qualifications are needed in order to work as an expert in photo-interpretation, RS and forest inventory:
  - A degree in Forestry
  - A license from GEOTEE
  - Certified experience on the relevant subjects (e.g. ECTS, Seminars, workshops)
- Since there is no Occupational Standards the selection is based on the CV of the applicant as well as on an interview which includes demonstration of practical skills (software etc.).

## Example (public sector)

- The following qualifications are needed in order to work as an expert in air photo-interpretation, RS and forest inventory:
  - A degree in Forestry (BSc)
  - A license from GEOTEE
  - Participation in ASEP exams
- A Certificate/diploma (MSc, PhD) in GIS, air-photo interpretation, Remote Sensing is considered as an extra but it affects the salary of the employee.

Thank you for your attention !!!

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