



AUTH.ECTS/DS

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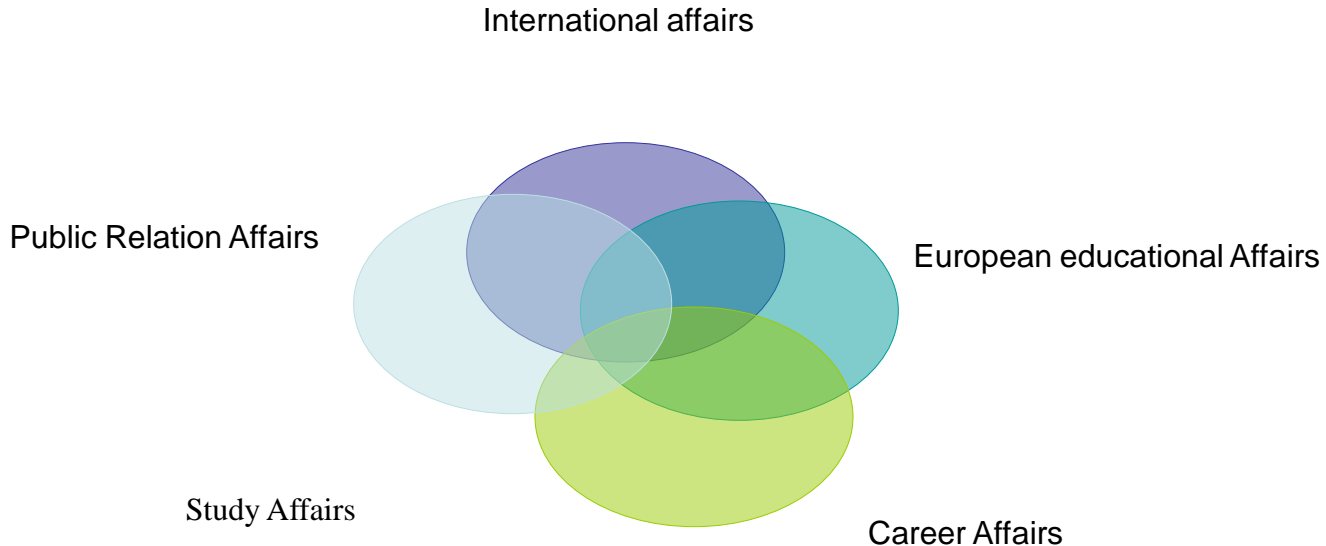
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Directorate of Coordination of Academic Affairs



Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (A.U.Th.) due to its authority and intense presence in the international scientific and broader academic world, exhibits throughout its long history remarkable results in the domain of international relations. **AUTh has internationally cooperated with 1,080 partners** (Universities, research centers and companies) in the past three years within the 5th Support Framework. **At least 250 labs have participated in EU projects**, covering the entire range of scientific activity.

Department of European Educational Programmes

It concerns the sectoral activity of the European Programme "Life Long Learning" 2007-2013 which has to do with the European cooperation in Higher Education, by encouraging the establishment of bilateral inter-university agreements and the increase of the European mobility of students, teaching staff and administrative personnel. More precisely, it contains:

- Student mobility for an accredited Study period or / and Placement.
- The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).
- The Diploma Supplement (DS).
- Mobility of the academic staff for teaching purposes.
- Mobility of the administrative and teaching staff for training.
- Linguistic preparation for incoming and outgoing students (EILC).
- Intensive short duration teaching programmes (IP).
- Programmes of university cooperation on topics of mutual interest (Thematic Networks).

Since 1987, more than 7.500 foreign students have been attending courses at various A.U.Th. faculties and schools. The [School of Modern Greek Language](#) has been offering a variety of courses helping foreign students find their way in the fascinating landscape of Greek language and culture.

European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)

- ECTS is part of the ERASMUS Programme (European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students)
- It was first used in the academic year 1992-93, and it enables students to recognize the part of their studies that was realized in universities abroad.
- It aims at promoting the processes of recognition of study among cooperating institutes in Europe.
- ECTS is a system for the transfer of credits among European Universities through the support of transparency in their study programmes and student achievements.
- ECTS reflects the content, structure, equivalence and correspondence of academic programmes defined in such a way as to create appropriate conditions for cooperation agreements.

ECTS Key Features

- **ECTS credits**
 - • **Student workload**
 - • **Learning outcomes and competences**
 - • **ECTS grading scale**
 - • **ECTS for lifelong learning**

Workload of ECTS

- ECTS credits of each course reflect or correspond to the workload (theory, 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 (1 ECTS= 25-30 hours).
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.

How to allocate credits?

- Credit may be allocated to all types of study programmes, irrespective of their length, composition or nature. Programmes may consist of year-long courses or shorter modules. They may cover work placements and research. They may be first, second or third cycle. Credits can also be used for stand-alone courses, such as modules offered to learners not engaged in a full cycle programme of study.
- Base the allocation of credits to the different components of a study year on a realistic estimation of the student workload required for the average student to achieve the learning outcomes established for each of the components. Make sure that the total number of credits for one academic year is 60. Subsequently, check the original allocation of credits on a regular basis by gathering and analysing bottom-up information on actual student workload.
- One wrong way: linking credits to contact hours.
- Another wrong way: linking credits to status or prestige.

Obligations towards the exchanging students.

- 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.
- In Aristotle University of Thessaloniki the ECTS is applied to all schools.

For more information:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/socrates/ects_en.html

Learning outcomes and competences

- As stated above, learning outcomes are sets of competences, expressing what the student will know, understand or be able to do after completion of a process of learning, whether long or short.
- They can refer to a period of studies, for example to a first or a second cycle programme, or to a single course unit or module. Learning outcomes specify the requirements for award of credit.
- They are formulated by academic staff. The actual competences acquired by the individual learner may of course go beyond the stated learning outcomes.
- Competences represent a dynamic combination of attributes, abilities and attitudes. They can be subject specific or generic. Fostering competences is the object of educational programmes; they will be formed in various modules/course units and assessed at different stages.
- Study programmes are divided into blocks or clusters of units, which should correspond to specified learning outcomes (knowledge, skills and understanding).

Examples of Learning outcomes and competences

In the field of History:

At the end of the course unit/module the learner is expected to demonstrate his/her ability to comment and annotate texts and documents correctly according to the critical canons of the discipline.

In the field of Physics:

At the end of the course unit/module the learner is expected to be able to describe and explain the function of the basic devices of optoelectronics; optical fibres; liquid crystal displays; bi-polar and surface field effect transistors and MOS light emitting diodes.

A generic competence:

At the end of the course unit/module the learner is expected to be able to demonstrate the use of information-retrieval skills effectively, in relation to primary and secondary information sources, including information retrieval through on-line computer searches.

ECTS grading system

- The ECTS grading scale is based on the rank of a student in a given assessment, that is how he/she performed relative to other students. The ECTS system classifies students into broad groups and thus makes interpretation of ranking simpler. It is this grouping that lies at the heart of the ECTS grading system.
- The ECTS system initially divides students between pass and fail groups, and then assesses the performance of these two groups separately.
- Those obtaining passing grades are divided into five subgroups: the best 10% are awarded an A-grade, the next 25% a B-grade, the following 30% a C-grade, the following 25% a D-grade and the final 10% an E-grade.

The ECTS grading scale can be represented in tabular fashion:

ECTS Grade	% of successful students normally achieving the grade	Comment
A	10	The use of words like “excellent” or “good” is no longer recommended as they do not fit with percentage based ranking of the ECTS Grade Transfer Scale.
B	25	
C	30	
D	25	
E	10	
FX	--	Fail – some work required to pass
F	--	FAIL – considerable further work required

- the distribution of marks over a five-year period is likely to produce a balanced result.
- the marks over several course units/modules of similar level often follow a similar distribution.
- decisions must be made according to the distribution pattern of local grades trying to **avoid injustice to students**.

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ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI

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THE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION LIFE IN AUTH

Home :: THE UNIVERSITY

AUTH in the World - international



Studies

Cooperation Agreements

Academic Networks

- International Agreements
- Erasmus Bilateral

AUTH is the largest comprehensive University in Greece. It is widely recognized as a vibrant center of learning which draws its inspiration from a long tradition of academic achievement. This can be underpinned, among others, by the fact that so much in science, as in the arts and divinity, medicine and technology, it prides itself in its international outlook. Most of its academic personnel have been trained in reputable Universities in Europe, the United States and as far afield as Australia and Japan. It has been actively participating in Erasmus Programme, since 1987, accounting approximately one fourth of the total Erasmus mobility in Greece.

Nevertheless, mindful of rapid change and progress, we aim to improve our strategy, policies and everyday practices, in order to meet contemporary local and global demands. By assessing our experience, we have been able to determine our strengths and weaknesses, and we have adopted a holistic internationalization strategy, whose main objectives can be briefly described as follows:

- Strengthen our role in the European and international knowledge community, by building upon collective and personal academic achievements.
- Enhance our visibility among the traditionally prestigious academic institutions all over the world, by establishing long-term cooperation schemes at research, education and training level.
- Reinforce our traditional presence as leading education and research institution in Southeastern Europe and Eastern Mediterranean, by building focused strategic partnerships in the area.
- Play a decisive role in academic exchange, good practices dissemination, and knowledge diffusion.
- Support multicultural co-existence, social and cultural cohesion, and sustainable regional development.
- Make multilateral rather than unilateral approach a core aspect of our work -at education, research and administrative level.
- Enhance and reinforce our relation with Greek society.
- Make our graduates able to think and act across traditional academic boundaries and across national borders. Properly equip them, so that they may benefit from international knowledge and experience, and support national and local dynamic development.

Vision - Mission - Strategic Objectives

Rectorate Authorities

Facilities

University Units

Quality Assurance Unit

PDIMC AUTH

AUTH In the world

History

AUTH In the World - International

Diploma Supplement

ECTS

Undergraduate studies

Postgraduate studies

European Educational Programmes - Erasmus

International Relations

Academic Networks

School of Modern Greek Language

Centre for Foreign Language Teaching

Internship

Lifelong Learning

Student Services

<http://www.auth.gr/en/international>

Vision - Mission - Strategic
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Language

Centre for Foreign Language
Teaching

Internship

Lifelong Learning

Student Services

<http://www.auth.gr/en/faculties>

School of Rural and Surveying Engineering

- <http://www.topo.auth.gr/main/index.php/en/studies-atm-2/undergraduate-studies>

Core					2nd semester 7 classes
Code	Title	Units	ECTS	Type	
A02	ENGINEERING SURVEYS	1	5	COM	
A06	STATISTICS AND DATA ANALYSIS	1	4	COM	
A08	REFERENCE SYSTEMS AND TIME	1	4	COM	
B22	COMPUTER GRAPHICS	1	4	COM	
Y10	PHYSICS II	1	4	COM	
Y33	GEOINFORMATION II	1	5	COM	
Y34	MATHEMATICS	1	4	COM	

ΣΥΣΤΗΜΑΤΑ ΑΝΑΦΟΡΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΧΡΟΝΟΥ / REFERENCE SYSTEMS AND TIME

- <http://www.topo.auth.gr/main/index.php/en/studies-atm-2/undergraduate-studies>

Diploma Supplement Label

- In 2012 the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki was awarded the Diploma Supplement Label from the the European Commission.
- The Diploma Supplement is another important transparency tool, closely linked to ECTS.
- The Diploma Supplement is a personal document attached to a higher education degree, in order to make it easier for third persons – particularly persons in another country – to understand what the diploma means in terms of knowledge and competences acquired by its holder.
- The Diploma Supplement was designed by UNESCO and the Council of Europe and was adopted by the European Parliament in 2004 (Decision No 2241/2004/EC on a single Community framework for the transparency of qualifications and competences).
The Diploma Supplement is a document which provides information on the nature, level, context, content and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed by the individual who holds the original degree to which the DS is attached. It is free from any value judgements, equivalence statements or suggestions about recognition.

The DS does not :

- The Diploma Supplement does not replace the original degree;
- does not give any entitlement to formal recognition of the original diploma by academic authorities of other countries.
- The Diploma Supplement was established in article 15 of Law 3374 (Government Gazette A 189/02.08.2005) on “Quality Assurance in Higher Education – Transfer and Accreditation System – Diploma Supplement”.
- The Diploma Supplement is issued automatically by all AUTH Faculties and Schools upon completion of a course of studies, free of charge, in both Greek and English.
- **Documents:**
 - [Diploma Supplement - School of Biology](#)
 - [Diploma Supplement - School Geology](#)
 - [Diploma Supplement - School Political Studies](#)
 - [Diploma Supplement - School of Psychology](#)