

M.Sc.

Precision Medicine in the
Development of Mental Health

Study Guide

2027-2028



Department of Medicine – School of Health Sciences
Democritus University of Thrace



ΔΗΜΟΚΡΙΤΕΙΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΘΡΑΚΗΣ | DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE



Table of Content

General Information _____	1
Master's Degree Program _____	10
Learning outcomes _____	13
Admission and Enrolment _____	14
Duration and Modes of Study _____	18
Academic Structure and Curriculum _____	22
Student Rights, Obligations and Support _____	29
Financial Provisions _____	33
Award of the Degree _____	34
M.Sc. Instructors _____	35
Infrastructure _____	40
Master Dissertation _____	42
Evaluation System and Quality Assurance Policy _____	45
Complaint Management Policy _____	47
Student Welfare and Support Services _____	49
Scholarships and Awards _____	53

«Προτιμότερον
εἶναι γιννώσκειν τίς
ἐστὶν ὁ ἄνθρωπος
ὁ νοσῶν, ἢ τί ἐστὶν
ἡ νόσος ἣν ἔχει.»

Hippocrates

*"It is more
important to know
what sort of person
has a disease than
to know what sort
of disease a
person has."*

Hippocrates

General Information

Alexandroupolis - Greece

From the Neolithic era to the present day, the territory of the Municipality of Alexandroupolis has been a site of flourishing cities and unique cultural development. This land, once inhabited by the Ancient Cicones and home to diverse types of megalithic monuments (fortified citadels, open-air solar and stellar sanctuaries, anthropomorphic rock carvings), was subsequently settled by colonists from Samothrace who founded the Samothracian Peraia, establishing significant cities such as Mesembria, Zone, and Sale.

The city of Sale is identified with modern-day Alexandroupolis. During the Roman period, the region served as a strategic station for rest and horse changing. Its proximity to Constantinople rendered the area of paramount importance. For reasons yet to be fully determined, the cities of Sale, Zone, Drys, and Serreio were eventually destroyed and vanished from historical records, leaving the landscape to transform into an extensive oak forest. Known to local inhabitants as Dede-Agach, this forest was controlled by Ottoman landowners.

Following the Russo-Turkish War, fishermen from Ainos, Makri, and Maroneia established a small settlement, which evolved into modern Alexandroupolis. The town's rapid development was catalyzed by the construction of the railway in the 1850s. In subsequent decades, under Russian influence, a city plan was developed for the coastal area, extending from the central avenue to the sea.

During the Balkan Wars, Dede-Agach transitioned from Ottoman to Bulgarian control. However, following the Treaty of Neuilly and a period of temporary Inter-Allied Administration, the region was officially integrated into Greece on May 14, 1920. In the aftermath of the Asia Minor Catastrophe and the subsequent population exchange, the area became a refuge for many Greeks from Northern Thrace (Eastern Rumelia), Eastern Thrace, and Asia Minor. During the Second World War, Alexandroupolis remained under Bulgarian occupation for three years (1941–1944). The end of the war marked the beginning of the city's economic, demographic, and cultural renaissance.

Today, Alexandroupolis experiences rapid economic growth, bolstered by its strategic location and infrastructure, including the Egnatia Odos motorway, the international airport, the seaport, and the railway station. The city currently offers a high quality of life, characterized by environmental equilibrium and vibrant cultural activity.

In 2011, under the Kallikratis Program, the former Municipalities of Alexandroupolis, Traianoupolis, and Feres were merged to form the new Municipality of Alexandroupolis, covering an area of 1,217 sq. km., with Alexandroupolis as its seat and Feres as its historical seat.

The University

The Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH) was established by Legislative Decree No. 87 on July 27, 1973, and commenced its operation during the academic year 1974-1975 with the admission of students to the Department of Civil Engineering in Xanthi and the Department of Law in Komotini. It was named "Democritus" in honor of the ancient Greek philosopher Democritus, who hailed from the city of Abdera in the Prefecture of Xanthi. The administrative headquarters of the University are located in Komotini, the capital of the Administrative Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, while administrative services are provided across all **four** of its primary host cities.

Since its inception, DUTH has been the first Greek regional multi-campus (polycentric) University, the necessity of which extended beyond purely educational goals. Operating through its multi-campus structure—initially in the cities of Xanthi and Komotini, followed by Alexandroupolis and Orestiada, and now extending to Kavala and Didymoteicho—the University has acted as a vital catalyst for the economic development of the Thrace region, alongside its educational and research activities. Simultaneously, it has contributed significantly to strengthening the national and cultural identity of the broader Thrace area and enhancing the social and living standards of the local population through both direct and indirect initiatives.

Democritus University of Thrace is among the largest universities in Greece in terms of active student population. Geographically distributed throughout Thrace, DUTH comprises 10 Schools and 28 Departments, offering a multitude of Postgraduate Programs. With a student population of approximately 32,000 (undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral candidates) and a research and teaching staff exceeding 700 members, it remains the sole university institution in the Region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace.

The structure of its Study Programs covers the majority of modern scientific fields through the following Schools:

DUTH Schools	Locations
Agricultural and Forestry Sciences	Orestiada & Drama
Health Sciences	Alexandroupolis
Education Sciences	Alexandroupolis & Didymoteicho
Law	Komotini
Humanities	Komotini
Social, Political and Economic Sciences	Komotini

Physical Education, Sport Science and Occupational Therapy	Komotini
Engineering (Polytechnic)	Xanthi
Science	Kavala
Administrative Science and Accounting	Kavala

This structure highlights the multi-thematic nature of both the education provided and the research conducted. Furthermore, the international academic dimension of DUTH and the long-standing commitment of its staff to the quality of educational services have established a dominant footprint in the academic affairs of Greece and the wider geographical region.

In a rapidly changing environment, DUTH continues to strive for both educational and research excellence while building upon the challenges and requirements of the future. It reorienting its research strategy based on innovation, entrepreneurship, technology, the new digital era, large-scale development, and the attraction of funding from domestic and international bodies. The hallmark of DUTH today is defined by its innovative, internationally-oriented undergraduate and postgraduate programs, as well as initiatives that allow it to transcend modern bureaucracy and geographical isolation.

DUTH continuously strengthens its research profile through collaborations and projects that maintain its position as one of the leading research institutions in Greece and the Balkans.

School of Health Sciences – Department of Medicine

Located at the Dragana Campus, within modern and functional facilities adjacent to the University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis, the School of Health Sciences comprises three (3) Departments:

1. Department of Medicine (est. 1985)
2. Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics (est. 2000)
3. Department of Nursing (est. 2024)

Additionally, the newly established Department of Veterinary Medicine is scheduled to commence operations and will be integrated into the School of Health Sciences.

The DUTH Department of Medicine was established in 1977 (Law 641/1977) and began its operation in the academic year 1984-1985 (Presidential Decree 573/1982) in Alexandroupolis, Thrace. Despite the challenges inherent in its location as a frontier University, it has achieved an impressive trajectory. Today, it offers a comprehensive

curriculum that meets the highest standards for undergraduate education and high-level postgraduate specialization. Its research output is internationally recognized with a significant presence in high-impact scientific journals, while it provides superior healthcare services to the population of the broader region.

Through continuous scientific and technological upgrades, the Department has become a hub for prestigious scientists from Greece and abroad. Collaborations with domestic and international research and academic institutions are steadily increasing, as is participation in funded research and development programs. The Department also organizes a substantial number of conferences and seminars, contributing significantly to scientific research, education, and the cultural life of the local community. The Department's educational, research, and administrative needs are supported by 134 Faculty members (DEP), 27 Laboratory Technical Staff members (ETEP), and 11 administrative staff members.

With a strong focus on emerging developments and the modernization of the educational process, the Department offers an attractive undergraduate program for the thorough training and practice of students in all fields of medical science, alongside significant specialized postgraduate programs.

The quality of healthcare services provided has fostered a sense of security among the local population in this vital frontier region, while successfully attracting patients from other parts of Greece. This success is further bolstered by the excellent infrastructure of the University Hospital in Alexandroupolis (Dragana area), which provides the necessary conditions for high-level medical care.

Finally, the Department's contribution to the cultural and intellectual life of the region is noteworthy, with its members actively participating in local cultural associations and events, enjoying wide recognition and support from the local community.

Structure and Administration of the Department of Medicine

The School of Health Sciences (SHS) aims to promote education and research in health, improve the prevention and treatment of human diseases, and advance education and research in the field of Biosciences.

The Deanery of the SHS serves as the collective body and administrative institution responsible for coordinating the broader activities of its constituent Departments. Beyond its supervisory and auditing roles, the Deanery establishes objectives that extend to the following areas:

Strategic Objectives of the SHS Deanery

- Continuous upgrading of the study programs across its departments.

- Consolidation of national and international collaborations to advance science and research.
- Acquisition and management of financial resources for the renovation and maintenance of building facilities and scientific equipment.
- Attraction of young scientists and researchers. Improvement of educational quality (at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels) to ensure the excellent training of new scientists.
- Support and promotion of scientific research, focusing on infrastructure and technology development to enhance international competitiveness.
-

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Educational and Research Infrastructure

The **Department of Medicine** is organized into seven (7) academic Divisions:

1. Functional – Clinical-Laboratory Division
2. Morphological – Clinical-Laboratory Division
3. General Pathology Division
4. Internal Medicine Division
5. Surgery Division
6. Neurology, Psychiatry & Sensory Organs Division
7. Child Health Division

These seven divisions oversee a total of 52 officially established Laboratories and 33 Clinics. A detailed list of the laboratories and clinics for the first three divisions follows:

Functional – Clinical Laboratory Division	Morphological – Clinical Laboratory Division	General Pathology Division
Laboratory of Biology	Laboratory of Medical Physics	1 st University Clinic of Internal Medicine
Laboratory of Genetics	Laboratory of Anatomy	Hematology Clinic
Laboratory of Biochemistry	Laboratory of Histology – Embryology	Nephrology Clinic
Laboratory of Physiology	Laboratory of Pathological Anatomy	Laboratory for the study of the Gastrointestinal System & Liver
Laboratory of Pharmacology	Laboratory of Diagnostic & Interventional Radiology	Laboratory of Hematology – Immunoematology
Laboratory of Microbiology	Laboratory of Forensic Science – Human Toxicology & Insurance Medicine	Laboratory of Molecular Hematology
Laboratory of Medical Statistics	Laboratory of Nuclear Medicine	Laboratory of Immunohistochemistry & Renal Histocompatibility
Laboratory of Neurophysiology	Laboratory of Clinical Anatomy	Laboratory of Renal Pathophysiology – Metabolic Diseases
Laboratory of Social Medicine & Sociology	Laboratory of Immunohistochemistry	
Laboratory of Hygiene & Environmental Protection	Laboratory of Cytology	

Laboratory of Clinical Microbiology	Laboratory of Immunohistochemistry - immunobiology	
Laboratory of Reproductive Physiology & Artificial Insemination		
Internal Medicine Division	Neurology, Psychiatry & Sensory Organs Division	Child Health Division
2 nd University Clinic of Internal Medicine	Dermatology Clinic	Pediatric Clinic
Cardiology Clinic	Neurology Clinic	Neonatology Clinic
Pulmonology Clinic	Ophthalmology Clinic	
Endocrinology Clinic	Psychiatry Clinic	
Immunology – Allergy Clinic	Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Clinic	
Oncology Clinic	Laboratory of Clinical Neurophysiology	
Rheumatology Clinic	Laboratory of Psychopathology & Medical Psychology	
Laboratory of Clinical Immunology	Laboratory of Speech & Language Disorders	
Laboratory of Allergology	Laboratory of Psychoanalysis	
Laboratory of Immunodiagnosics of Infections		
Laboratory of Clinical Pharmacology		
Laboratory of Respiratory Failure		
Laboratory of Atherosclerosis Research		
Surgery Division		
1 st University Clinic of Surgery		

2nd University Clinic of Surgery

Urology Clinic

Orthopaedic Clinic

Anesthesiology Clinic

Intensive Care Unit (ICU)

Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic

Neurosurgery Clinic

Cardiothoracic Surgery Clinic

Vascular Surgery Clinic

Pediatric Surgery Clinic

Otorhinolaryngology Clinic

Plastic Surgery and Burns Clinic

Laboratory of Experimental Surgery & Surgical Research

Laboratory of Endoscopy

Laboratory of Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgery & Virtual Reality Surgical Procedures

Laboratory of Image Management and Telemedicine

Laboratory of Andrology

Laboratory of in Vitro Fertilization

Laboratory of Family Planning

Laboratory of Gynecological Cytology

Laboratory of Audiology

Laboratory for the Study of Sleep, Sleep Apnea & Snoring

Laboratory of Bioethics

University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis

The Hospital of Alexandroupolis was established in 1939 under the name "State Hospital of Alexandroupolis." Its first organizational charter was published in the Government Gazette (FEK 344/29-8-1939, Issue A).

According to its initial structure, the Hospital was divided into two services: Medical and Administrative. The Medical service included the clinics, outpatient departments, nursing services, and the pharmacy. The Administrative service comprised the secretariat and the financial department. At that time, the staff consisted of 26 individuals: 13 administrative employees, 5 scientific staff members, and 8 nursing staff.

From its founding until 1990, the initial charter underwent 19 amendments. In September 2002, with the publication of Presidential Decree 225, the merger of the University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis and the General Hospital of Alexandroupolis

was completed, forming a single unit under the official name "University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis."

Objectives of the Hospital:

- **Provision of Healthcare:** To provide all levels of healthcare, primarily tertiary care, to the population of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, as well as to patients referred from the entire 4th Health Region of Macedonia and Thrace. Healthcare is provided equitably to every individual, regardless of financial, social, or professional status, in accordance with the regulations of the National Health System (ESY).
- **Medical Education:** The clinical training of students from the Department of Medicine of the Democritus University of Thrace, as well as students from other related departments.
- **Specialization and Professional Training:** To provide medical residency training, continuous education, and professional development for physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals through the development and implementation of specialized educational programs.
- **Research and Development:** The promotion of research in the field of health. In this direction, the Hospital implements research programs and collaborates with related domestic entities, international organizations, and scientific research centers.
- **Regional Cooperation:** Collaboration with other hospitals and health units within the health region to upgrade overall healthcare delivery. This includes the implementation of joint educational programs and specialized studies regarding health issues in the 4th Health Region, as mandated by the legal framework for scientific and operational interconnection.
- **Innovation in Care:** The application of new medical methods and innovative forms of treatment to effectively promote public health.
- **Strategic Alignment:** The development of procedures that facilitate the strategic goals set by the Ministry of Health, the 4th Health Region of Macedonia & Thrace, and the Hospital's Board of Directors.



Master's Degree Program

The Department of Medicine of the Democritus University of Thrace has organized and operates, as of the academic year 2027–2028, a Postgraduate Program (M.Sc.) titled «Precision Medicine in the Development of Mental Health», in accordance with the provisions of this decision and the provisions of Law 4957/2022 (Government Gazette A' 141), as amended and currently in force. The program is offered within the framework of a Joint International Cooperation Dual Master's Degree Program with Columbia University (USA), and is governed by the approved Special Protocol of Cooperation between the two Institutions."

Subject

The subject of the Postgraduate Program (M.Sc.) titled " PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH" of the Department of Medicine, School of Health Science of Democritus University of Thrace, is postgraduate instruction through interdisciplinary approaches and clinical training in the design and implementation of modern, personalized approaches for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental disorders across all stages of life. The Program aims to provide specialized knowledge and skills that integrate data from genetics, neuroscience, biostatistics, psychopathology, and clinical practice, with an emphasis on the development and utilization of biomarkers, multi-omics data, and digital technologies.

Language of Institution and Assessment

The English language is designated as the language of instruction for the courses, as well as for the writing of the Master's Thesis. It is possible to designate another language by decision of the General Assembly, and this may vary at the individual course level.

Duration of Operation

The M.Sc. program will remain in operation until the academic year 2037 – 2038.

Credit Units

The total number of ECTS Credit Units required for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma (M.Sc.) amounts to ninety (90).

Purpose

The present M.Sc. aims to highlight, support, and provide in-depth training to health professionals in the multi-level familiarity and thorough knowledge of the spectrum of mental disorders, from birth to adulthood, through a developmental approach. It further provides modern updates on research developments and the utilization of innovative tools related to biomarkers, clinical and imaging techniques, as well as biological and molecular analysis techniques, with the goal of *integrating Precision Psychiatry into clinical practice for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of developmental mental disorders*.

In the context of the joint cooperation agreement between the two Institutions and for the purpose of academic convergence, the program has been designed in collaboration with the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for Precision Psychiatry & Mental Health <https://www.snfghi.org/en/pillars/mental-health/snf-center-for-precision-psychiatry-and-mental-health-at-columbia-university/> of the Department of Medicine of Columbia University <https://www.vagelos.columbia.edu/departments-and-centers>. Furthermore, specific educational modules correspond to the Center's certified educational program and will be delivered by Professors and faculty members of Columbia University. This academic alignment is reflected in the structure and content of the present Program's curriculum.

Objectives

The primary objectives are:

- (a) To provide extensive and in-depth knowledge in the field of Precision Medicine in child and adolescent mental health;
- (b) To apply clinical skills to advance clinical practice in Mental Health, focusing on developmental and other mental illnesses throughout the lifespan;
- (c) To apply research skills and "acquire a toolkit" to advance the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of mental health disorders; and
- (d) To build an interdisciplinary foundation in the clinical application of Precision Medicine.

Additionally, the program seeks to establish a framework of cooperation with neuroscientists and health science researchers from Greek and international Academic Institutions, and to promote and disseminate its thematic focus and corresponding research work at scientific events with international participation.

The M.Sc. "PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH" has been designed in collaboration with Columbia University. Guided by the principle of academic convergence and within the framework of the Special Protocol of Cooperation (SPC), selected educational modules already in use at Columbia University have been integrated, ensuring a substantial alignment of learning outcomes.

The Postgraduate Study Programme (PSP) of the Department of Medicine, School of Health Sciences, Democritus University of Thrace, entitled “PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (ΙΑΤΡΙΚΗ ΑΚΡΙΒΕΙΑΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΗ ΤΗΣ ΨΥΧΙΚΗΣ ΥΓΕΙΑΣ)”, is part of a joint Double Master's Degree Programme of international collaboration with Columbia University.

This collaboration also includes the MSc programme “Genetic Counseling” offered by Columbia University. The MSc in Genetic Counseling at Columbia University focuses on the science of genetic counseling, a field that constitutes a key component of precision medicine, with a particularly important role in psychiatry and the development of mental health. In this way, although the two postgraduate programmes address distinct scientific fields, they are interconnected and offer participants a unique opportunity, opening new academic pathways.

The Columbia's programme also links genetic counseling with issues involving the individual, society, and bioethics, aiming to guide the provision of services through precision medicine in clinical investigation. Upon completion of the programme, students acquire focused and comprehensive knowledge in genetic counseling and the related services provided to patients and the community.

The MS in Genetic Counseling programme is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling. More detailed information is available at the following link of the Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons:

<https://www.vagelos.columbia.edu/education/academic-programs/program-genetic-counseling/ms-genetic-counseling>



Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the M.Sc. " PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH ", students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a profound understanding of the fundamental principles of Precision Medicine and their application in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of mental disorders across the lifespan.
- Analyze and interpret genetic and genomic data, integrating them with clinical and phenotypic information to facilitate evidence-based decision-making.
- Interpret the neurobiological basis of mental disorders and evaluate data derived from modern methods in translational neuroscience and precision psychiatry.
- Recognize the heterogeneity of mental disorders and implement personalized assessment and intervention approaches, accounting for biological, psychological, and social factors.
- Comprehend the principles of developmental psychopathology and evaluate the dynamic progression of mental disorders from childhood through adulthood.
- Utilize biomarkers, neuroimaging, and neurophysiological techniques, as well as digital tools and technologies, for the diagnosis, monitoring, and prognosis of mental disorders.
- Design, implement, and evaluate research protocols in the field of mental health, applying appropriate study methodologies, statistical analysis, and bioethical standards.
- Manage complex, multi-level data (genetic, clinical, developmental, environmental) and integrate them into clinical and research decision-making models.
- Apply principles of genetic counseling within psychiatric and neurodevelopmental contexts, considering ethical, social, and psychological dimensions.
- Evaluate and manage neuropsychiatric manifestations in patients with physical and neurological diseases within the framework of a holistic clinical approach.
- Develop critical thinking skills, scientific documentation capabilities, and the capacity to generate new knowledge in the field of Precision Medicine in Mental Health.
- Communicate scientific data and clinical findings effectively, both orally and in writing, to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Collaborate effectively in interdisciplinary and international environments, promoting innovation and the knowledge transfer into clinical practice.
- Independently design and conduct high-level research work, contributing to the advancement of scientific knowledge in the mental health sector.
- Exhibit professionalism and ethical responsibility in the management of sensitive health data and patient care, in accordance with the principles of bioethics.



Admission and Enrolment

Number of Admissions

The maximum number of students admitted to the Postgraduate Program (M.Sc.) is set at fifty (50) per academic cycle. The minimum number of admitted postgraduate students is set at ten (10), including those entitled to a tuition fee waiver.

Admission Criteria

The Postgraduate Program (M.Sc.) "PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH" admits graduates from Schools and Departments of Medicine, Biology, Molecular Biology, Pharmacy, Psychology, and other Neurosciences, originating from national Universities or recognized equivalent foreign institutions, as well as graduates from Technical Educational Institutes (TEI) in a relevant field of study.

The Department Secretariat verifies whether the foreign degree-awarding institution is included in the National Registry of Recognized Foreign Academic Institutions and whether the degree type is listed in the National Registry of Degree Types of Recognized Foreign Institutions, as maintained on the Hellenic NARIC/DOATAP (Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center) website.

Within the framework of the Joint Program, graduates of the "Columbia University MS in Genetic Counseling" program are also admitted to the "PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH" M.Sc. under the reciprocal academic pathway defined in the joint cooperation agreement between the two Institutions. This agreement specifies the requirements for student admission to both programs for the purpose of awarding a dual degree.

Submission of Application for Admission

Democritus University of Thrace, by applying the principles of equal opportunities and supporting inclusivity, grants the right of participation in the Postgraduate Programs to any interested party who meets the necessary requirements.

By decision of the Department Assembly, a Call for Applications for the admission of postgraduate students is published and posted on the Department's website. The Call specifies all relevant details (dates and location of application submission, required supporting documents, etc.). The requirements and selection criteria for candidates are specific, quantitative and/or qualitative, and are made known to the candidates through the Call for Applications. In cases where admission requires a written or oral examination, the procedure, the syllabus, the examination dates, and the grading method must be defined.

Applications, along with the required supporting documents, are submitted to the Department Secretariat within the deadline set by the Call, which may be extended by decision of the Department Assembly or the Coordinating Committee (CC). Candidates must carefully follow the instructions to ensure the application file is submitted in full and on time. Supplementary, incomplete, or overdue documents will not be accepted.

The required supporting documents to be submitted by each candidate are as follows:

- Application form for the selection process (electronic) (Template A.1 in the Appendix).
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) with detailing studies, teaching experience, and scientific and social activities.
- Copy of the undergraduate degree or a certificate of completion of studies from national Higher Education Institutions or recognized equivalent foreign Institutions (the awarding foreign institution must be included in the National Registry of Recognized Foreign Academic Institutions and the degree type must be listed in the National Registry of Degree Types of Recognized Foreign Institutions, as maintained on the Hellenic NARIC/DOATAP website).
- Diploma Supplement or official transcript of records, which also indicates the final degree grade.
- Photocopy of both sides of the identity card or passport.
- English language proficiency certificate at level B2 (foreign candidates who are native speakers or graduates of undergraduate programs taught in English are exempt). If no language certificate is provided, a written English language examination will be conducted under the responsibility of the Program's Steering Committee.
- Publications and any type of scientific/research writing activity (if applicable).
- Evidence of other activities and qualifications (e.g., certified computer skills, second foreign language, letters of recommendation, etc.).
- Statutory Declaration (Law 1599/1986), digitally signed or certified by a Citizens' Service Center (KEP) or other competent authority, stating that the documents submitted in the candidate's file are true and accurate.
- Up to two (2) letter(s) of recommendation.

The Academic Regulations of the Postgraduate Programs of the DUTH Departments govern specific matters regarding the requirements for submitting an enrollment application, the evaluation of candidates, and the admission of those ranking equally with the last successful candidate as supernumerary (over-the-limit) students.

Evaluation of Application for Admission

The method of application evaluation and the specific scoring for each documented qualification fall under the jurisdiction of the Department Assembly or the Program Committee; these are determined following a proposal by the Steering Committee (SC) and must be described in detail in the Call for Expression of Interest.

The selection of students is conducted by a three-member Committee consisting of faculty members (DEP) of the Department involved in postgraduate work. This committee is established by decision of the Assembly or the Program Committee in the case of inter-departmental, inter-institutional, or joint programs.

The selection of students for DUTH Postgraduate Programs is conducted in accordance with the current legal provisions and the regulations of the present Document.

The Program Secretariat compiles a full list of candidates and forwards it to the Admission Selection Committee (ASC), which:

- a. Rejects candidates who do not meet the requirements.
- b. Grades and ranks the candidates.
- c. Invites candidates to an online oral interview.
- d. Proceeds with the pre-publication of the provisional selection list and announces the period for filing appeals.
- e. Following the examination of appeals and based on the final scores, compiles the final selection list in order of merit.

After examining the applications and based on each candidate's final score, the ASC compiles the final ranking list in descending order. The list identifies the successful candidates and the runners-up (waitlisted). The list is ratified by the Assembly or the Program Committee and is posted. The posting is carried out on the Program's website and the Department's notice boards in accordance with personal data protection (GDPR) regulations.

The Department Secretariat posts the evaluation results on the Department's website according to current data protection provisions, notifies the candidates, enrolls the successful candidates in the Register of Postgraduate Students of the Department and DUTH, and provides them with the Operating Regulations of the Program and the Institution, the Internal Regulations, the Code of Academic Ethics, and any other informational document deemed necessary.

Successful candidates are required to respond in writing within a strictly defined period of ten (10) days, stating whether they accept: a) their enrollment in the Program and b) the Regulations and terms of operation provided to them. Overdue responses will not be accepted. Successful candidates submit the relevant documents in person, by mail, or electronically. Enrollment is considered complete once all required documents have been submitted.

Vacancies resulting from successful candidates who do not enroll on time are filled by candidates from the waitlist based on their ranking order

Postgraduate students may be remunerated through resources from funded national and international research programs, co-funded projects (e.g., NSRF), private funds, or internal funds. They may also receive scholarships from national or international bodies, co-funded programs (e.g., NSRF), private or internal resources, in accordance with the specific regulatory framework of the funding body.

Postgraduate students may enter into scholarship contracts through the DUTH Special Account for Research Funds (ELKE), as defined by current legislation and the DUTH ELKE Funding and Management Guide.



Duration and Modes of Study

Duration of Studies

The standard duration of the Postgraduate Program leading to the award of the Postgraduate Diploma (Master's Degree - M.Sc.) is set at a minimum of three (3) semesters (90 ECTS credits), which includes the time required for the completion and submission for examination of the Postgraduate Dissertation (Master's Thesis). The Curriculum includes a dissertation with a minimum duration of one semester, corresponding to thirty (30) ECTS credits.

Enrollment in the Program is considered concluded upon:

- Completion of the minimum required duration of studies.
- Successful completion of all educational activities and Master's Thesis.

Regarding the maximum duration of studies, postgraduate students are required to complete their studies within twice the standard duration of the Program.

Exceptional extension of the maximum duration of studies:

a. A postgraduate student may request an exceptional extension of the maximum duration of studies for serious health reasons pertaining to themselves, a first-degree relative by blood, a spouse, or a person with whom the student has entered into a civil partnership. The application, addressed to the Steering Committee (SC), must be submitted to the Department Secretariat before the expiration of the maximum study duration, accompanied by documents supporting the health issues of:

- The postgraduate student.
- A first-degree relative by blood, a spouse, or a person with whom the student has entered into a civil partnership. Serious health reasons must be evidenced by documentation from a public hospital or a competent special committee of a public hospital.

b. To prove the cited health reasons, the application must be accompanied by a recent Certificate of Family Status (if the health reasons do not pertain to the student personally) and a certificate from a Health Committee or a medical report from a Public Hospital, bearing the signature and stamp of the Director of an NHS (ESY) Clinic, Laboratory, or University Department. The competent University service may request any additional documentation deemed necessary to review the application. For international students, equivalent documents are required.

c. The Secretariat forwards the applications to the Assembly, which decides on the approval or rejection of the request, as well as the duration of the additional enrollment. Further extension beyond the maximum duration may be re-approved following the

procedures described for part-time enrollment and suspension of studies, provided that the conditions set by the relevant provisions and this decision continue to be met.

Part-time Enrollment

DUTH postgraduate students are entitled to part-time enrollment, the duration of which may not exceed twice the standard duration of the program.

The following categories of postgraduate students are eligible to apply for part-time enrollment:

- Students who can prove they work at least twenty (20) hours per week.
- Students with disabilities and special educational needs.
- Students who are also athletes in sports clubs registered in the electronic registry of sports clubs of Article 142 of Law 4714/2020 (A' 148), maintained by the General Secretariat of Sports, under the following conditions:
 - a) For those years they achieve a 1st to 8th place ranking in national individual sports championships with the participation of at least twelve (12) athletes and eight (8) clubs, or compete in teams of the two (2) highest categories in team sports, or participate as members of national teams in European or World championships or other international competitions under the Hellenic Olympic Committee; or
 - b) If they participate at least once during their studies in the Olympic, Paralympic, or Deaflympic Games. Such students may, upon application submitted (electronically, via an authorized representative, by mail, or in person via a Citizens' Service Center - KEP) to the Department Secretariat, be enrolled as part-time students or be placed under part-time status.

The application (Template A.2 in the Appendix), together with the supporting documents proving the conditions for part-time enrollment, must be submitted electronically or in person to the aforementioned Secretariats no later than the end of the course registration period of the Department. The Department Secretariat forwards the applications to the Deanery of the School for approval. Applications are submitted during the registration renewal period, as defined by a relevant announcement from the Secretariat.

Supporting documents proving the eligibility for part-time enrollment must be submitted along with the application. Specifically:

- Working Students: Those working at least twenty (20) hours per week must provide a recent employment contract or employer's certificate, as well as proof of social security contributions (stamps) for private-sector employees.
- Students with Disabilities: Must provide a certificate from a Disability Certification Center (KEPA) or a seven-member medical committee of a public hospital. Students

already registered under the disability category are not required to provide additional documents.

- Special Educational Needs: Must provide a certificate of diagnosis from the competent authorities.
- Athletes: Must provide a certificate from the General Secretariat of Sports, the Olympic Committee, or the Sports Club registered in the General Secretariat of Sports registry (indicating the GGS registry number and the club's athletic recognition number). Certificates for cases (a) and (d) must be resubmitted at the beginning of each academic year to verify that the eligibility criteria are still met.
- The SC may request any additional documentation deemed necessary for the review of the application.

The decision to approve or reject the application is issued by the Department Assembly, following a recommendation by the Steering Committee (SC).

Για την έγκριση ή την απόρριψη της αίτησης εκδίδεται, μετά από εισήγηση της ΣΕ με συνημμένη σε αυτήν την υποβληθείσα αίτηση και τα προβλεπόμενα κατά περίπτωση δικαιολογητικά τεκμηρίωσης, απόφαση της Συνέλευσης.

For students under part-time status, each academic semester is counted as half an academic semester. Part-time students have the right to select the courses they wish to attend and be examined in. Part-time students may return to full-time status at any time by submitting an application to the Department Secretariat, without requiring additional documentation. A declaratory act is issued by the relevant Deanery for the return to full-time status and is communicated to the applicant's Department.

Certificates issued to postgraduate students under part-time status shall mention the relevant decision of the Assembly. In the case of an inter-departmental, inter-institutional, or joint program, the application is forwarded by the Program Committee to the Assembly of the Administering Department.

Suspension of Studies

In exceptional cases, postgraduate students may be granted a temporary suspension of studies upon submission of a reasoned application. This suspension may not exceed two (2) consecutive semesters. The application must specify the requested period of interruption and the reasons (including but not limited to: health, force majeure, personal, family, or financial reasons). The application must be accompanied by all relevant supporting documents from competent public authorities or organizations, proving the cited reasons (e.g., health issues of the applicant or relatives up to the second degree by blood, military service, or serious financial reasons). In cases of force majeure or personal reasons, a

Statutory Declaration (Law 1599/1986) describing the circumstances is sufficient, and no additional documentation is required.

The application is forwarded by the Steering Committee (SC) to the Department Assembly for approval. In exceptional circumstances involving force majeure, the application may be submitted even after the enrollment period has ended. Academic semesters during which a student is under suspended status are not counted toward the maximum duration of studies.

The suspension is granted by decision of the Assembly, following a recommendation by the SC, or, in the case of inter-departmental, inter-institutional, or joint programs, by the Program Committee. During the suspension period, the student loses their student status. The duration of the suspension is not calculated as part of the maximum standard duration of studies. Upon returning to their studies, the student remains subject to the regulatory framework and enrollment status that was in effect at the time of their initial registration.



Academic Structure and Curriculum

Curriculum

The total number of ECTS credits required to obtain the Postgraduate Program (M.Sc.) degree is ninety (90), with a duration of three (3) semesters. The eight (8) offered courses correspond to sixty (60) ECTS credits and are distributed over the first two (2) semesters (1st and 2nd), while the writing, public presentation, and positive evaluation of the Master's Thesis, which corresponds to thirty (30) ECTS credits, take place in the 3rd semester.

Each mandatory course per semester consists of thirty-nine (39) teaching hours. Twenty-three percent (23%) of the courses each semester are conducted in-person, sixty-two percent (62%) are conducted via synchronous distance learning, and fifteen percent (15%) via asynchronous distance learning.

The detailed curriculum of the Postgraduate Program is structured as follows:

1st Semester

Course Code	Course Title	Type	In-Person Teaching Hours	Synchronous Distance Learning Hours	Asynchronous Distance Learning Hours	ECTS
P101	Developmental Psychopathology	Compulsory	9	24	6	7.5
P102	Adult Psychopathology	Compulsory	9	24	6	7.5
P103	Fundamental of Genetics Analysis – Hereditary Neurodevelopmental Disorders	Compulsory	9	24	6	7.5
P104	Neuropsychiatric manifestations in Medical and Neurological Disorders	Compulsory	9	24	6	7.5
Total ECTS						30

2nd Semester

Course Code	Course Title	Type	In-Person Teaching Hours	Synchronous Distance Learning Hours	Asynchronous Distance Learning Hours	ECTS
P201	Study Design, Medical Statistics and Bioethics	Compulsory	9	24	6	7.5
P202	Principles of Genetic Counseling and Clinical Practice	Compulsory	9	24	6	7.5
P203	Biomarkers, digital tools and devices	Compulsory	9	24	6	7.5
P204	Translational Neuroscience & Precision Psychiatry	Compulsory	9	24	6	7.5
Total ECTS						30

3rd Semester

Course Code	Course Title	Type	In-Person Teaching Hours	Synchronous Distance Learning Hours	Asynchronous Distance Learning Hours	ECTS
P301	Master's Thesis	Compulsory	-	-	-	30
Total ECTS						30

Syllabus

Course Title	Developmental Psychopathology
Semester	1 st
Course Content & Purpose	The course focuses on the study of mental health and psychiatric disorders throughout the developmental process, from infancy to adolescence. Its objective is to provide an understanding of both typical and atypical developmental trajectories, as well as the biological, psychological, and environmental factors that influence them. Particular emphasis is placed on early identification, diagnostic assessment, and the integration of theory with clinical practice within the framework of precision medicine and personalized mental health care.
Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English Assessment methods: Midterm examinations, final written examinations, and a written assignment (term paper).
Course Title	Adult Psychopathology
Semester	1 st
Course Content & Purpose	The course focuses on the understanding, assessment, and diagnosis of major psychiatric disorders in adulthood. Its primary aim is to develop clinical evaluation skills through psychiatric interviewing and mental status examination, while promoting an understanding of heterogeneity and individualized approaches to care. The course integrates biological, psychological, and social factors, strengthening diagnostic reasoning, differential diagnosis, and the application of precision medicine principles in adult mental health.
Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English Assessment methods: Midterm examinations, final written examinations at the end of the semester, and a written assignment (term paper).
Course Title	Fundamental of Genetics Analysis – Hereditary Neurodevelopmental Disorders
Semester	1 st
Course Content & Purpose	The course focuses on the fundamental principles of genetic analysis and the role of genetics in the diagnosis and understanding of hereditary neurodevelopmental disorders. Its aim is to familiarize students with modern laboratory and computational techniques (e.g., NGS, multi-omics), as well as to develop skills in the interpretation of genetic data and genotype–phenotype correlation. Emphasis is also placed on the clinical application of genetic knowledge, personalized therapeutic approaches, and the principles of precision medicine in mental health.

Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English Assessment methods: Midterm examinations, final written examinations at the end of the semester, and a written assignment (term paper).
Course Title	Neuropsychiatric manifestation in Medical and Neurological Disorders
Semester	1 st
Course Content & Purpose	The course examines neuropsychiatric manifestations that occur within the context of neurological and medical disorders, highlighting the link between brain function and psychiatric symptoms. Its aim is to understand the underlying pathophysiological mechanisms, recognize psychiatric symptoms in complex medical settings, and develop skills in clinical assessment and differential diagnosis. The course promotes an interdisciplinary approach and the application of biopsychosocial models for holistic and personalized patient care.
Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English Assessment methods: Midterm examinations, final written examinations at the end of the semester, and a written assignment (term paper).
Course Title	Study Design, Medical Statistics and Bioethics
Semester	2 nd
Course Content & Purpose	The course integrates the fundamental principles of research design, medical statistics, and bioethics, providing the necessary tools for the proper conduct and evaluation of scientific studies. Its aim is to develop skills in formulating research questions, selecting appropriate study designs, and performing statistical data analysis. Simultaneously, emphasis is placed on the critical appraisal of literature and adherence to bioethical principles, including data protection and research integrity, within the framework of modern and precision medicine.
Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English Assessment methods: Midterm examinations, final written examinations at the end of the semester, and a written assignment (term paper).
Course Title	Principles of genetic Counseling and Clinical Practice
Semester	2 nd

Course Content & Purpose	The course focuses on the fundamental principles of genetic counseling and their application across various clinical settings, including reproductive medicine, pediatrics, neurogenetics, and psychiatry. Its aim is to develop skills in communication, genetic risk assessment, and the interpretation of genomic data in conjunction with clinical history. Simultaneously, emphasis is placed on managing uncertainty, as well as on the ethical and psychosocial dimensions of genetic counseling, particularly in the field of psychiatric and neurodevelopmental disorders.
Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English Assessment methods: Midterm examinations, final written examinations at the end of the semester, and a written assignment (term paper).

Course Title	Biomarkers, digital tools and devices
Semester	2 nd
Course Content & Purpose	The course examines the fundamental principles, methods, and clinical applications of biomarkers and digital technologies in neuroscience and psychiatry. Its aim is to understand and evaluate neurophysiological, imaging, and digital biomarkers, as well as to utilize modern tools such as EEG, neuroimaging, and wearable devices. Emphasis is placed on data collection and analysis, as well as on their integration into multidimensional precision medicine models, with the goal of improving the diagnosis, prognosis, and monitoring of psychiatric disorders.
Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English Assessment methods: Midterm examinations, final written examinations at the end of the semester, and a written assignment (term paper).

Course Title	Translational Neuroscience & Precision Psychiatry
Semester	2 nd
Course Content & Purpose	The course focuses on bridging basic neuroscience research with clinical applications in psychiatry within the framework of precision medicine. Its aim is to provide an understanding of the mechanisms underlying psychiatric disorders through modern approaches such as genetic models, stem cells, neuroimaging, and artificial intelligence. Simultaneously, it highlights the translation of this knowledge into personalized diagnostic and therapeutic strategies. The course promotes interdisciplinary thinking and the development of innovative research approaches in psychiatry.
Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English

Assessment methods: Midterm examinations, final written examinations at the end of the semester, and a written assignment (term paper).

Course Title	Master's Thesis
Semester	3 rd
Course Content & Purpose	The Master's Thesis represents the culmination of the program and aims to apply the knowledge and skills acquired to an independent research project in the field of precision medicine in mental health. Students design and implement a research protocol, analyze data, and interpret findings, integrating genetic, clinical, and biological information. The aim is to develop scientific thinking, research autonomy, and skills in scientific writing and presentation, contributing to the generation of new knowledge in the field of precision psychiatry.
Mode of Delivery	Blended learning (In-person & Distance education)
Student Assessment	Language of assessment: English Assessment methods: Written thesis (dissertation) & oral examination (defense).

The topic of the Master's Thesis must fall within the scope of the Postgraduate Program and should utilize the knowledge, abilities, attitudes, and skills acquired throughout the program's coursework.

Within the framework of the Joint Cooperation Agreement between the two Institutions and with the aim of academic convergence, the program has been designed in collaboration with the SNF of the School Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for Precision Psychiatry & Mental Health <https://www.snfghi.org/en/pillars/mental-health/snf-center-for-precision-psychiatry-and-mental-health-at-columbia-university/> of Medicine at Columbia University <https://www.vagos.columbia.edu/departments-and-centers>. Furthermore, specific educational modules (P202, P204) correspond to the Center's educational program and will be delivered by Professors and faculty members of Columbia University.

Optional In-Person Clinical and Laboratory Practice

Within the framework of the courses and throughout the program, the opportunity for optional practice is provided, both during scheduled sessions and through in-person attendance following a specific arrangement. This practice may be conducted under the supervision of the respective course instructors within the Clinics or Laboratories of the School of Medicine and the Alexandroupoli's University General Hospital.

Indicatively, this may include clinical rotations/attendance at University Clinics (Child Psychiatry, Psychiatry, Neurology, Pediatrics) and Laboratories (e.g., observing offline image processing and the use of specialized software for functional and computational neuroimaging methods at the Medical Physics Laboratory; attendance at the Laboratories of Genetics, Biology, Pharmacology, and Medical Statistics; monitoring research protocols at the Biomechanics Laboratory, etc.).

Postgraduate students may remain at the Clinics or Laboratories as research associates for short- or long-term periods and participate fully in the activities. The aforementioned optional practice is offered to students of both affiliated programs.



Student Rights, Obligations and Support

Rights and Obligations

Postgraduate students (PGS) enroll and participate in the Program under the terms and conditions provided by the Institution's Internal Regulations, the Program Regulations, and the Department's Regulations. Acceptance of the above constitutes a fundamental prerequisite for acquiring and maintaining student status.

Postgraduate students enjoy the same rights as students in the first (undergraduate) and third (doctoral) cycles of study, as well as any other right defined by the Postgraduate Studies Regulations. Specifically, students:

- Are entitled to use the DUTH email services upon request.
- Have the right of access to DUTH libraries and, through their institutional accounts, to electronic journal subscriptions and other resources.
- Have the right, for the purpose of coursework and thesis preparation, to use the technical infrastructure of the Laboratory, the Department, and DUTH, in coordination with their supervisor and with the consent of the Head of the respective unit.
- Are entitled to participate in collective governing bodies, as provided by current legislation.
- May provide teaching and other services to the Department (such as conducting laboratories, tutorials, etc.), with the consent of their supervisor and the relevant decisions of the Department Assembly.
- May participate in DUTH research projects and receive scholarships within the framework of co-funded, self-funded, or other projects for the financial support of research.
- May participate in mobility programs through ERASMUS+ or other mobility actions (e.g., through project participation or other scholarships).

The Department actively ensures equal access for persons with disabilities and special educational needs. It guarantees accessibility to the proposed programs and provides other facilities or adjustments to assist in the attendance of the educational process and the completion of studies.

Postgraduate students are obliged to:

- Attend the courses of the curriculum.
- Submit required assignments within the specified deadlines.
- Attend all scheduled examinations.

- Adhere to established principles of academic integrity, respect and protect DUTH facilities and equipment, maintain cleanliness and order, and inform their supervisor or the Department Head of any related issues.
- Stay informed of and comply with the Code of Academic Ethics, the DUTH Internal Regulations, the Institution's individual operating regulations, and the decisions of the Program, Department, and University bodies.
- Be informed about the Program's structure, the academic calendar, and the educational process.
- Be familiar with the structure and responsibilities of the administrative services of DUTH and the Department.
- Fully fulfill their obligations toward DUTH and promote the Institution's image through their academic activities.
- Pursue active participation in the international academic community by attending conferences and seminars.
- Participate in seminars or conferences organized by the Department/School and cite the Department/School as their academic affiliation in every publication, speech, or announcement resulting from their work in the Program. For programs with tuition, students must pay the fees as specified in these Regulations.

In the event that a student fails to meet their obligations, the Program Director shall issue a written reminder, copied to the Steering Committee (SC). If, after a reasonable period, the student continues to be non-compliant, the Assembly may decide to remove them from the Postgraduate Student Registry.

Infrastructure and Equipment

The Department of Medicine at the Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH) provides the necessary infrastructure and equipment for the comprehensive and seamless operation of the M.Sc. "PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH". Existing clinical and laboratory structures, combined with integration into research projects, ensure access to high-tech specialized equipment, such as latest-generation CT and MRI scanners, neuroimaging systems, and specialized software for the analysis of biomedical and imaging data.

Collaboration with other clinics and laboratories, both within and outside the Department, further enhances the educational and research capacity of the program, ensuring students' exposure to a broad range of subjects related to Precision Medicine in Mental Health.

Teaching facilities include lecture halls at the University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis (PGNA), which are fully equipped with modern audiovisual tools (projection systems, interactive boards, computers) and meet the requirements for hybrid and distance learning. Furthermore, specially designed spaces of the University Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Clinic are utilized, supporting both instruction and practical/clinical training.

Particular care is taken regarding the accessibility of students with disabilities and/or special educational needs. Classrooms are accessible via elevators that meet regulatory standards, while access to digital educational material is also guaranteed. Corresponding criteria are met for the use of conference facilities during scientific events (seminars, conferences).

The Department of Medicine possesses sufficient and specialized teaching staff, as well as developed clinical and laboratory infrastructure to support the Program. The scientific and organizational responsibility of the program is undertaken by the University Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Clinic, which belongs to the Division of Neurology, Psychiatry, and Sensory Organs, as well as the Clinics and Laboratories from which the teaching staff originates.

The aforementioned laboratories provide access to specialized techniques and methods, such as neurophysiological recordings (EEG, EPs, TMS), neuro-ultrasound and biomechanical measurements, neuroimaging assessments (MRI, PET), advanced computational neuroimaging analysis, neuropsychological evaluations, and specific tools for the study of behavior and psychopathology (indicatively: WISC, WPPSI, ADOS, Achenbach).

Additionally, the M.Sc. utilizes modern digital infrastructure, including asynchronous and synchronous e-learning platforms, statistical analysis software (e.g., R, SPSS, Python), bioinformatics tools, and access to international scientific databases, thereby enhancing the educational and research experience of the students.

In conclusion, the existing technical infrastructure, equipment, and building facilities of the Department of Medicine at DUTH, combined with strategic collaborations and digital capabilities, ensure the high quality and sustainability of the proposed Postgraduate Program.

Library Resources and Service

A core service supporting learning and academic activity is the University's library network, with particular reference to the Library of the School of Health Sciences. The University's Central Library monitors international literature and is responsible for recording and classifying material in the respective databases. It also manages interlibrary loans from other domestic and international libraries upon request from individual branches. Furthermore, it is responsible for managing the HEAL-Link system, which provides users with access to international electronic library databases relevant to their scientific field.

To serve educational and research needs, the Democritus University of Thrace operates a unified, decentralized, and autonomous Central Library Unit named "DUTH Library and Information Center. " By decision of the University administration, the Central Library (<https://lib.duth.gr/>) is headquartered in Komotini. Due to the geographical distribution of the University across seven cities, the Central Library has administratively developed a branch library at Alexandroupoli, the Library of the School of Health Sciences.

Through the Central Library's website (https://opac.seab.gr/search~S4*gre), every student can search for material (books, journals, etc.) and identify its location within the aforementioned branches for borrowing purposes.



Financial Provisions

Tuition Fees

The maximum tuition fee for the Postgraduate Program is set at five thousand five hundred euros (€5,500) for Greek nationals and nine thousand five hundred euros (€9,500) for international students (non-Greek nationals). The exact amount of tuition fees for the entire duration of the program is specified in the Government Gazette (FEK) regarding the establishment of the Program.

Tuition fees are paid to the Special Account for Research Funds (ELKE) of DUTH, which is responsible for their management. Exemptions from tuition fees are provided in accordance with current legislation. Furthermore, the option for installment-based payment is available, as defined in the Internal Regulations of the Postgraduate Programs.



Award of the Degree

Master's Degree

Within the framework of the Double Master's Degree Program, two distinct degrees are awarded:

a. Master of Science (M.Sc.) in "PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH" from the Postgraduate Program (M.Sc.) titled "PRECISION MEDICINE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH" of the Department of Medicine, School of Health Sciences, of Democritus University of Thrace, and

b. Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Genetic Counselling upon successful completion of the M.Sc. program "Genetic Counselling" of the Vagelos College of Physicians & Surgeons, Columbia University.

Students may choose to receive one or both degrees, provided that they successfully complete the full curriculum of the program.

M.Sc. Instructors

Categories of Teaching Staff The teaching duties of the M.Sc. are assigned, by decision of its competent body, to the following categories of instructors:

- Members of the Teaching and Research Staff (DEP), as well as Laboratory Teaching Staff (EDIP), Special Technical Laboratory Staff (ETEP), and Special Educational Staff (EEP) of the Department, other Departments of DUTH, or other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) domestically or abroad, and Higher Military Educational Institutions (ASEI). Additional employment is permitted beyond their legal obligations if the M.Sc. has tuition fees
- Emeritus Professors or retired faculty members of the Department, other DUTH Departments, or other Higher Education Institutions
- Collaborating Professors
- Appointed Lecturers or faculty from other Higher Education Institutions
- Visiting Professors or Visiting Researchers.
- Researchers and expert operational scientists from research and technological entities (under Art. 13A of Law 4310/2014) or other research centers and institutes domestically or abroad.
- Scientists of recognized standing, possessing specialized knowledge and relevant experience in the subject area of the M.Sc.

By decision of the Departmental Assembly, auxiliary teaching duties may be assigned to Doctoral Candidates of the Department or School, under the supervision of an M.Sc. instructor. The assignment of teaching duties is finalized by the competent body following a recommendation by the M.Sc. Coordinating Committee (or the Director for Inter-departmental/Inter-institutional programs). Specific conditions regarding teaching assignments may be defined in the M.Sc. Establishment Decree.

The right to supervise Master's theses is granted to instructors in categories (a) through (f) of paragraph 1, provided they hold a Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.). By decision of the competent body, the supervision of theses may also be assigned to members of the DEP, EEP, and EDIP of the Department who have not undertaken primary teaching duties within the M.Sc.

Remuneration and Obligations

- **a) Funding Sources:** All categories of instructors may be remunerated exclusively from M.Sc. resources. No remuneration or benefits shall be paid from the state budget or the public investment program. Remuneration levels are determined by the competent body.
- **b) Faculty Remuneration:** DEP, EEP, EDIP, and ETEP members may receive additional remuneration for their services to the M.Sc., provided they fulfill their minimum legal obligations as defined in the DUTH Internal Regulations.

- **c) Supervision Fees:** The supervision of theses and internships may be remunerated if the hours involved exceed the instructors' legal obligations.
- **d) Prerequisites:** Employment in the M.Sc. is strictly conditional upon the fulfillment of minimum teaching obligations in accordance with current legislation and the University's internal rules.

List of Instructors

Full Name	Academic Position	Institution	Subject Area
STEVEN KUSHNER	Professor	Columbia University	Psychiatry
JOSEPH GOGOS	Professor	Columbia University	Physiology, Cellular Biophysics and Neuroscience
ASPASIA SERDARI	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
MARIA SAMAKOURI	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Psychiatry
NIKOLAOS MARINAKIS	Assistant Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Genetics
EVANGELOS MANOLOPOULOS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Pharmacology, Pharmacogenomics and Precision Medicine
GEORGE KOLIOS	Emeritus Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Pharmacology
NIKOLAOS GRIGORIADIS	Professor	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	Neurology
KONSTANTINOS VADIKOLIAS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Neurology
DIMITRIOS TSIPTSIOS	Assistant Professor	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	Neurology & Neurophysiology
IOANNIS KARAKIS	Associate Professor	University of Crete	Neurology & Neurophysiology

ANTONIOS VOUTETAKIS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Pediatrics
IOANNIS MAVRIDIS	Assistant Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Neurosurgery and Pediatric Neurosurgery
GREGORIOS TRYPSIANIS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Medical Statistics
ARISTEIDIS KATSANOS	Associate Professor	McMaster University	Neurology
SPYROS KOLLIAS	Professor	University of Zurich,	Neuroradiology
EFSTRATIOS KARAVASILIS	Associate Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Medical Physic
MARIA KOFFA	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Molecular Biology and Genetics
NIKOLAOS PAPANAS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Internal Medicine and Diabetes Melitus
PANAGIOTIS SKENDROS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Internal Medicine, Immunology
IOANNIS MITROULIS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Internal Medicine, Translation Medicine
AIKATERINI ARVANITI	Associate Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Psychiatry
THEOFANIS VORVOLAKOS	Associate Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Psychiatry
AIKATERINI TERZOUDI	Associate Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Neurology
LEONIDAS PANOS	Assistant Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Neurology and Cerebrovascular Diseases
MAGDALINI KATSIKIDOU	Assistant Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Psychiatry
HARRIET PROIOS	Professor	Adelphi University	Communication Sciences and Disorders
JOHN HELIOPOULOS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Neurology, Neuroimmunology

NIKOLAOS AGGELOUSIS	Professor	Democritus University of Thrace	Biomechanics
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Auxiliary Teaching Work

a. Participation of Master's Students and Doctoral Candidates

By decision of the Departmental Assembly, a call for expressions of interest may be issued to Master's Students (M.S.) and Doctoral Candidates (Ph.D.C.) of DUTH to provide auxiliary teaching work within the Undergraduate Study Program (USP) of the Department or School. Applications must be accompanied by the opinion of the M.Sc. Director (for Master's students) or the respective Supervisor (for Doctoral candidates). These are submitted to the Secretariat of the relevant Department for review and final approval by the Assembly. Further details are governed by the Department's Internal Regulations.

b. Supervision and Selection Process

Auxiliary teaching work may be assigned to M.S. and Ph.D.C. under the supervision of the instructor in charge of a specific undergraduate course.

1. **Call for Interest:** Following a proposal by the course instructor and approval by the Assembly, a call is issued specifying the subject of the auxiliary work.
2. **Evaluation:** Applications are examined and evaluated by the course instructor, who then submits a recommendation to the Departmental Assembly for the final assignment.

c. Auxiliary Work within the M.Sc. Program

Specifically for the Postgraduate Study Program (M.Sc.), auxiliary teaching duties may be assigned to Doctoral Candidates under the supervision of an M.Sc. instructor.

- **Procedure:** Upon recommendation by the M.Sc. Coordinating Committee (CC) and decision by the Departmental Assembly, a call is issued to Ph.D. candidates.
- **Approval:** The Coordinating Committee evaluates the applications and submits its recommendation to the Assembly (or the Special Inter-departmental Committee in the case of joint programs) for the final assignment.

d. Compensatory Scholarships and Remuneration

- **Scholarships:** DUTH may grant compensatory scholarships to Master's students and Doctoral candidates, tied to the obligation of supporting the educational process and providing auxiliary teaching work.

- **Remuneration:** The maximum hourly rate for auxiliary teaching work, which is funded exclusively through private, internal, or international resources of DUTH, is defined by the current DUTH Regulations on Teaching Remuneration.
- **Regulation Details:** The specific regulations of each Study Program define the selection criteria for auxiliary teaching staff, the maximum annual amount of the compensatory scholarship per student/candidate, the maximum weekly workload hours, and other operational details.

Infrastructure

Facilities and Equipment

The Department of Medicine at DUTH provides the necessary technical infrastructure and high-end equipment for the seamless operation of the M.Sc. "Precision Medicine in the Development of Mental Health". Existing clinical and laboratory structures, in synergy with active research projects, ensure access to cutting-edge specialized equipment, including:

- ➔ **Advanced Imaging:** Latest generation CT and MRI scanners, neuroimaging systems, and specialized software for biomedical and imaging data analysis.
- ➔ **Specialized Techniques:** Neurophysiological recordings (EEG, EPs, TMS), neuro-ultrasound, biomechanical measurements, neuroimaging assessment (PET, MRI) and advanced computational neuroimaging analysis.
- ➔ **Clinical Assessment Tools:** Neuropsychological evaluations and standardized behavioral/psychopathology study tools (e.g., WISC, WPPSI, ADOS, Achenbach).

Teaching takes place in the facilities of the University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis (PGNA), which are fully equipped with modern audiovisual aids (projection systems, interactive whiteboards, PCs) meeting the requirements for hybrid and distance learning. Additionally, specifically designed areas of the University Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Clinic support both theoretical instruction and clinical/practical training.

The Department places high priority on accessibility for students with disabilities or special educational needs. All classrooms are accessible via compliant elevators, and access to digital educational material is guaranteed.

ICT Services and Library Facilities

The University's library network, specifically the Medical School Library, is a cornerstone of academic support. The DUTH Library and Information Center (headquartered in Komotini: <https://lib.duth.gr/>) manages the registration and classification of material in international databases.

- **Services:** Inter-library loans (domestic and international) and management of the HEAL-Link system for access to global electronic library databases and scientific journals.
- **Online Catalog:** Students can search for material (books, journals, etc.) via the online OPAC system (https://opac.seab.gr/search~S4*gre).

Electronic Course Support (e-class)

Education is supported by the Open eClass DUTH platform (<https://eclass.duth.gr/>). Each course has a dedicated digital classroom where instructors post:

- Instructional materials and bibliography.
- Announcements and group assignments for each semester.
- Interactive tools for instructor-student communication. Access requires institutional credentials provided upon enrollment.

Additional Digital Provisions

Upon registration, postgraduate students receive a Personal Institutional Account (username/password), which grants access to:

- **Institutional Email:** A personal DUTH email account.
- **Academic ID Card:** Application for the official student ID (pass).
- **Network Connectivity:** A modern data network (wired and wireless/Wi-Fi) available across all university grounds and dormitories.
- **Eduroam:** Participation in the international Wi-Fi roaming service, allowing free access to Wi-Fi in participating educational institutions across 42 countries.
- **VPN (Virtual Private Network):** Secure remote access to the DUTH network, allowing students to access subscription-based scientific content and journals from off-campus locations.
- **Synchronous Education:** Utilization of the MS Teams platform to support real-time distance learning and virtual meetings.



Master Dissertation

The postgraduate student is required to conduct and successfully defend a Master's Dissertation (M.D.), which is assigned during the 3rd semester of study. The Master's Dissertation represents the pinnacle of the studies and aims at applying the knowledge and skills acquired through an independent research project in the field of Precision Medicine in Mental Health. The subject of the dissertation must fall within the scope of the M.Sc. program and utilize the knowledge gained from the courses and specific applications.

Regarding the selection, execution, and defense of the Dissertation, the following apply:

Application and Subject Submission

Postgraduate students have the right to submit a dissertation subject upon successful completion of the course modules up to the second (2nd) semester of study. Following a call for interest by the Coordinating Committee (CC) or the Special Inter-departmental Committee, the student submits an application to the M.Sc. Secretariat, specifying:

- The proposed title of the dissertation.
- The proposed supervisor.
- All relevant supporting documents. Students who fail to submit their application within the specified deadline will, at their own responsibility, defer the commencement of their dissertation by at least one semester.

Supervision of the Master's Dissertation

The Coordinating Committee examines the student's application and forwards it to the Departmental Assembly or the Special Inter-departmental Committee, which appoints the Supervisor and establishes the Three-Member Examination Committee (including the Supervisor).

Eligible Supervisors include:

1. Members of the Teaching and Research Staff (DEP), EEP, ETEP, and EDIP of the Department or other Departments of DUTH, or other domestic/foreign Higher Education Institutions or Higher Military Educational Institutions (ASEI). Additional employment is permitted if the M.Sc. has tuition fees.
2. Emeritus Professors or retired faculty members of the Department, other DUTH Departments, or other domestic/foreign Higher Education Institutions.
3. Collaborating Professors.
4. Appointed Lecturers.
5. Visiting Professors or Visiting Researchers.

6. Researchers and expert operational scientists from research and technological entities (under Art. 13A of Law 4310/2014) or other domestic/foreign research centers/institutes, provided they hold a Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.).

By decision of the competent M.Sc. body, supervision may also be assigned to DEP, EEP, and EDIP members of the Department who have not undertaken teaching duties in the M.Sc. In exceptional cases of objective inability or significant cause, the Supervisor or a member of the Committee may be replaced by decision of the Assembly. The members of the Committee must have the same or a related scientific specialty to the subject area of the M.Sc.

Writing the Master's Dissertation

Students are provided with a Dissertation Writing Guide, which defines the length, font, writing style, and structure.

- **Language:** The dissertation is written in the English language.
- **Format:** The dissertation may be a research project (prospective or retrospective) or a review, and must contain recognizable elements of originality and contribution to scientific knowledge.
- **Content:** The text must adhere to the structure of a scientific paper, including: Introduction, Methodology, Results, Discussion, Bibliography, and any necessary supporting material (figures, diagrams, photographs, images, etc.).

Presentation and Completion

Upon completion, the student submits copies of the final dissertation to the three members of the Committee.

- **Plagiarism Check:** In coordination with the Supervisor, the student must submit evidence of a plagiarism check (using specialized software such as Turnitin) to the Committee and the University Central Library.
- **Declaration of Authorship:** The student must provide a formal declaration stating that the dissertation is a product of their own original work and not a result of plagiarism.
- **Defense:** The Three-Member Committee, after reviewing the work, sets the date for the public defense/evaluation.
- **Grading:** After the defense, the Committee submits the grade and the student's declaration to the Secretariat. In the event of a negative evaluation, the student has the right to change the subject and supervisor in the following academic year.
- **Final Submission:** A complete final copy in electronic format is submitted to the DUTH Library and the Departmental Archive.

Intellectual Property

The intellectual property rights of the Master's Dissertation belong to the candidate. The candidate grants to DUTH, for the entire duration of the work's protection, a non-exclusive license for non-commercial use of all economic rights over the work, for purposes of research and teaching.



Evaluation System and Quality Assurance Policy

Intellectual Property

The continuous evaluation and oversight of the Postgraduate Study Program (M.Sc.) allow for ongoing improvements aimed at providing high-quality education and research. Investing in high-level faculty and advanced technical infrastructure contributes to the developmental vision of the Department of Medicine, which is fully aligned with the strategic vision of the DUTH Administration.

Quality assurance is achieved through the clear definition of curriculum goals and the Department's strategy, following internal quality assurance procedures. The Quality Assurance Policy and its implementation strategy are supervised by the Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP) of DUTH, in accordance with the current legal framework.

Focal Points of Quality Policy

The quality policy focuses on:

- The academic profile and orientation of the M.Sc. program.
- Learning outcomes and intended qualifications in accordance with the National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education.
- The structure and organization of the program across the second and third cycles of study.
- The quality and effectiveness of teaching, as documented specifically by student and researcher evaluations.
- The establishment of clear goals for the continuous improvement of curricula and institutional support services.
- Policy-making processes, effective organization, and decision-making for quality enhancement.
- The implementation process of the continuous quality improvement policy.
- Documentation regarding quality improvement.

Evaluation and Accreditation Framework

M.Sc. programs undergo periodic accreditation (under Art. 8 of Law 4653/2020) as part of the evaluation of their respective academic unit.

- **Internal Evaluation:** An annual internal evaluation is conducted in collaboration with MODIP-DUTH, following the institution's Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS).

- **External Evaluation:** External evaluation is carried out in collaboration with MODIP-DUTH, following the procedures prescribed by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE/ΕΘΑΑΕ).
- **Periodic Review:** Under Art. 87 of Law 4957/2022, the program is assessed on its overall performance, the fulfillment of its founding goals, sustainability, graduate employability, research contribution, student feedback, and its alignment with the national strategy for higher education.

If an M.Sc. is judged not to meet the requirements for continued operation during evaluation, it will conclude its cycle upon the graduation of currently enrolled students.

Academic Accountability and Reporting

Under the responsibility of the M.Sc. Director, workshops are organized to discuss course content and ensure the program remains connected to scientific progress, the labor market, and societal needs. At the end of the Coordinating Committee's term, the outgoing Director compiles a comprehensive annual report detailing the program's research and educational output. This report aims at:

- Upgrading the quality of studies.
- Optimizing the utilization of human resources and existing infrastructure.
- Ensuring the socially beneficial use of available resources. The report is submitted to the Departmental Assembly.



Complaint Management Policy

Academic issues

For complaints and appeals related to academic matters (such as teaching quality or course grading), students should initially consult the course instructor. They may also seek guidance from their Academic Advisor. If the matter remains unresolved, students may escalate the issue to the M.Sc. Director or the Scientific Supervisor.

Depending on the nature of the issue, students may also contact other competent bodies of DUTH for further action, including:

- The Committee for Student Affairs and Mentoring.
- The Student Advocate (Ombudsman).
- The Dean of the School.
- The DUTH Research Ethics and Integrity Committee.
- The DUTH Legal Service and the Rectorate Authorities.

For serious issues regarding their studies, students may submit a written petition (individual or collective) to the Departmental Assembly. If they deem the response unsatisfactory, they may appeal to the Student Advocate, the Dean, or the Rectorate.

Administrative and Infrastructure Issues

For complaints regarding administrative processes and services (e.g., timetables, classrooms, library, ICT systems), students may contact:

- The competent administrative services.
- The Departmental Committees (Education Office, Student Affairs Committee).
- The Student Advocate. Most administrative services at DUTH maintain their own internal grievance mechanisms as specified in their respective regulations.

Electronic Submission and Handling Procedure

Complaints submitted electronically through the M.Sc. Program website are handled as follows:

1. The M.Sc. Secretariat receives the complaint and immediately forwards it to the M.Sc. Director.
2. The Director contacts the parties involved, ensuring strict confidentiality, privacy, and data protection, to propose solutions.
3. If necessary, the Director informs the student's Academic Advisor.
4. If no solution is found, the Director may convene an *ad-hoc* meeting with the Academic Advisor and other faculty members based on their expertise.

5. Following the meeting, the Director proposes specific resolution methods.
6. If a resolution is still not reached, the request is referred to the Departmental Assembly.
7. In cases of severe complaints that remain unresolved, the Director may inform the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs and Student Welfare or the Student Advocate. The program aims to resolve all grievances within twenty (20) working days.

Personal Data Protection

The Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH) manages all information regarding the personal data of students in full compliance with the current legislation (GDPR) and the national legal framework.



Student Welfare and Support Services

Catering Services (Meals)

The University Restaurant (Student Club) is located in the Nea Chili area. It operates daily, including weekends, except during official academic holidays (Christmas, Easter, and Summer). Free meals are provided to students who meet specific financial and social criteria as defined by law. This right extends for the normal duration of studies plus two additional years ($N+2$).

Required Documents for Free Meals:

- Tax clearance certificate (Ekkatharistiko) or certified copy of the Tax Return.
- Family Status Certificate (issued within the last six months).
- Certificate from the Departmental Secretariat confirming the date of enrollment and current year of study.
- Formal Declaration (Law 1599/86) stating the parents' permanent residence.
- Certified copy of Identity Card or Birth Certificate.
- Health Certificate (from a Primary Health Committee) for those invoking health reasons.
- Multi-Children Family Status (from the Supreme Confederation of Multi-child parents of Greece - ASPE) where applicable.

Transportation

The Department's facilities are located at the Dragana University Campus. Transportation from the city center is managed via urban buses:

- **Regular Routes:** From the city to the Hospital; students pay 50% of the fare upon presentation of their Academic ID (Student Pass).
- **Special University Routes:** These are free of charge for students upon presentation of their Academic ID. Detailed schedules are posted on the Department's website.

Tuition Fee Waivers for Postgraduate Programs

Enrolled students in M.Sc. programs at DUTH may attend free of charge, if tuition fees are provided, provided they meet the financial or social criteria herein. A prerequisite for granting the right to free tuition due to financial or social criteria is the fulfillment of excellence requirements during the first cycle of studies, corresponding to a minimum grade equal to or higher than seven and a half out of ten (7.5/10), provided that the assessment of the basic degree submitted for admission to the M.Sc. was carried out according to the ten-

point scale of domestic HEIs; otherwise, this criterion is applied proportionally according to the respective grading scale if the submitted degree was awarded by a foreign institution.

The total number of students attending free of charge cannot exceed thirty percent (30%) of the total enrolled students per academic year. If the calculation results in a decimal number, it is rounded to the nearest whole unit. If the number of eligible applicants exceeds this percentage, they are selected in descending order of ranking. Applications for free tuition are submitted after the completion of the student admission process to the M.Sc.

A student is eligible for free tuition if they meet the aforementioned prerequisite and the following criteria:

- **a)** The average of the sum of the taxable income of the last two (2) fiscal years of all family members (applicant, parents, and unmarried siblings up to 26 years old with taxable income) does not exceed 70% of the national median disposable equivalent income, according to the most recent ELSTAT data (for applicants under 26 who are single).
- **b)** The average individual taxable income of the last two (2) fiscal years does not exceed 100% of the national median disposable equivalent income (for applicants over 26).
- **c)** The average sum of the taxable income of the last two (2) fiscal years of the applicant and their spouse/partner does not exceed 100% of the national median disposable equivalent income.

Applicants under 26 who are children of families with three or more children, children of single parents, orphans, persons with disabilities, or members of households with persons with disabilities may apply for a 50% reduction in tuition fees if the average in case (a) exceeds 70% but does not exceed 100% of the national median income. The evaluation is conducted by the Departmental Assembly or the Special Inter-departmental Committee, and a reasoned decision is issued. This right applies exclusively to one (1) M.Sc. organized by DUTH and does not apply to non-Greek citizens.

Student Counseling and Accessibility Unit

The Student Counseling and Accessibility Unit (DoSyP) operates at DUTH with two departments: the Counseling and Psychosocial Support Department and the Accessibility Department. It consists of the Central Service in Komotini and branches in Orestiada, Alexandroupolis, and Xanthi. DoSyP supports students by aiming for equal access to educational activities, personal development, and psychosocial support.

- **Accessibility Department:** Supports students with disabilities or access difficulties through digital means for textbook accessibility and building infrastructure.

- **Counseling and Psychosocial Support Department:** Offers individual/group counseling, experiential workshops, volunteer network organization, and awareness events. The staff is bound by confidentiality and GDPR compliance. The Alexandroupolis branch is located at the Old Hospital (19 Dimitras St., next to the Molecular Biology amphitheater), staffed by a psychologist and a social worker. **Contact:** 25310-39050, 25310-39163 | **Alexandroupolis Branch:** 25510-23478 | **Email:** dosyp@duth.gr | **Website:** www.dosyp.duth.gr

Other Services and Provisions

Academic Studies Advisor: The institution of the Academic Studies Advisor (ASA) is implemented at the postgraduate level, through the extension of the relevant Regulations to include postgraduate studies. The advisory support provided by the Department's faculty to postgraduate students encompasses matters related to:

- Academic life and integration into the university community.
- The student's progress towards the completion of their studies.
- Professional prospects and career orientation.
- Future doctoral studies and research opportunities.

Throughout the duration of their studies, postgraduate students maintain constant communication and interaction with the teaching staff.

Student Advocate: The "Student Advocate" is an institution provided for by Law 4009/2011 and was established at DUTH by Government Gazette 98/issue B/24-01-2019. The purpose of this institution is:

- To mediate between students and faculty members or administrative services of the University.
- To ensure legality within the framework of academic freedom.
- To address phenomena of maladministration.
- To safeguard the orderly operation of the Institution.

The Student Advocate, who heads the office of the same name without remuneration, can be a Professor or an Emeritus Professor of DUTH and is appointed by the Senate, following the opinion of the Student Welfare Council. The findings of the Student Advocate, as well as an annual activity report, are published on the University's website, subject to the provisions of Law 2472/1997 (A' 50), as currently in force.

Interested students of all levels can submit their requests:

- By using the special form found on the University's website:
<https://duth.gr/Υπηρεσίες/Δομές/Γραφείο-Συνήγορου-του-Φοιτητή>
- Via email at: synigoros@duth.gr

- In person or by mail (identifiably or anonymously) at the following address:
Democritus University of Thrace, Office of the Student Advocate, Administration Building (Rectorate), University Campus, 69100 Komotini.

Employment and Career Structure (DASTA): Through the Employment and Career Structure (DASTA) (<https://duth.gr/Υπηρεσίες/Δομές/Δομή-Απασχόλησης-και-Σταδιοδρομίας>), students of all levels and recent graduates are offered the opportunity to familiarize themselves with their future professional career environment. Simultaneously, they can acquire the knowledge and skills that will enable them to claim their position in the professional arena under better terms.



Scholarships and Awards

It is possible to grant scholarships or excellence awards to postgraduate students (M.S.) following a decision by the Special Inter-departmental Committee (E.P.S.). Scholarships or excellence awards are granted based on objective criteria specified in the M.Sc. Regulations, along with the respective weighting for each criterion and the required supporting documents.

Scholarship Criteria

Indicative criteria that may be utilized for scholarships include:

Academic Criteria:

- Completion of studies within the prescribed duration.
- Grade Point Average (GPA) of one or more semesters.
- The grade of the first-cycle degree (Bachelor's).
- Recent academic achievements (awards and honorary distinctions).

Financial Criteria:

- Annual taxable income.

Social Criteria:

- Divorced status with protected members (children).
- Student with special needs/disabilities.
- Single-parent family.
- Orphaned by both parents (for students under 25 years of age).
- Member of a large family (polyteknoi).
- Having siblings who are also active students.

Excellence Awards

Excellence awards are granted exclusively based on academic criteria (indicatively: graduation grade, publications, poster presentations, etc.).

Procedure

The process is defined as follows:

1. **Call for Applications:** Following a recommendation by the M.Sc. Coordinating Committee (S.E.), a call for applications for scholarships or excellence awards is announced.
2. **Submission:** Candidates complete all mandatory fields of the application and submit the required documentation to the Departmental Secretariat within the

deadlines specified in the Call. The application serves as a **Formal Declaration** (under Law 1599/1986).

3. **Evaluation:** The Coordinating Committee evaluates and ranks the candidates based on the criteria defined in the Internal Regulations and proposes the list of names to the Departmental Assembly or the E.P.S.

The maximum number of scholarships and awards for each M.Sc. is set at 30% of the admitted students per semester.