



ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI

School of Physics

Program of Postgraduate Studies “Physics of Atmospheric Environment and Global Change”

Regulation of the Postgraduate Diploma Thesis

26 February 2024

According to the Decision of the Senate of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki No. 78656/23.06.2023 "Approval of the Regulation of Postgraduate Studies Programs of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH)" (Government Gazette 4084/B-23.06.2023) the following has been defined:

Article 9 – Curriculum – Evaluation (Diploma Thesis)

For the preparation of a Diploma Thesis (DT), The Coordinating Committee of MSc., following an application by the candidate, in which a proposed title and supervisor of the Thesis is indicated and a summary of the proposed thesis is attached, appoints its supervisor. Also, at the request of the candidate, it establishes a three-member Examination Committee for the approval of the thesis, one member of which is the supervisor.

Supervisors of diploma theses are members of the teaching staff within the following categories, as described in the article 83 of Law 4957/2022:

- a) members of Teaching Research Staff (D.E.P.), Special Educational Staff (E.E.P.), Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.D.I.P.) and Specialized Technical Laboratory Staff (E.T.E.P.) of the School or other Schools of the same or another Higher Educational Institution (A.E.I.) or Higher Military Educational Institution (A.S.E.I.), with additional employment beyond their legal obligations, if the P.P.S. has tuition fees,
- b) emeritus Professors or retired members of the Faculty of Education of the Department or other Departments of the same or another Universities (A.E.I.),
- c) collaboration instructors,
- d) appointed instructors,
- e) visiting professors or visiting researchers,
- f) researchers and special scientists of research and technological institutions according to article 13A of Law 4310/2014 (A' 258) or other research centers and institutes of the country or abroad.

The members of the Three-member Examining Committee must have the same or related scientific specialty as the scientific field of the P.P.S.

The preparation of the Diploma Thesis (DT) is governed by the Code of Academic Ethics of AUTH. Every creator or co-creator of any intellectual work is entitled to be mentioned and recognized as such, enjoying both the property and moral rights deriving from the specific work. In the case where the original intellectual creation ("work") is the final output of a paid research project, which has been commissioned by an entity outside AUTH, the property rights of the creator or co-creators may be limited based on the terms of the contract with which the research project is assigned, while the moral rights remain in the creator(s), subject to the necessary - for making use of the produced intellectual creation - contractual restrictions.

To proceed with the public presentation of the Diploma Thesis, a positive recommendation from the Three-Member Examining Committee is required. For the public defense of the Diploma Thesis, a specific date and place is set by the Coordinating Committee of the P.P.S.

After the defense of the Diploma Thesis, minutes are drawn up in which the individual grade of each member of the Three-Member Examining Committee, the average score as well as any comments or remarks are mentioned. Following its approval by the Committee, it is compulsorily posted on the Faculty website. If the evaluation of the Diploma Thesis is negative, the graduate student can submit his work incorporating the

remarks for its improvement within a period of time set by the Three-member Examining Committee. In case the second evaluation is negative, the postgraduate student can not be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma.

In exceptional cases, when an objective weakness or other important reason arises, it is possible to replace the supervisor or a member of the Three-Member Examining Committee or change the subject of the Diploma Thesis following a decision of the Assembly of the relevant School.

In the relevant Regulation of Postgraduate Studies, the type of the Diploma Thesis is defined (i.e., theoretical, applied, experimental) among other details such as the length, the font, the writing style, the number of necessary copies of the diploma thesis to be submitted and everything related to its structure as well as the timetable for its evaluation process.

The grade of the Diploma Thesis results from the weighted average of the P.P.S. courses and of the Diploma Thesis (the weighting is made by the credit units of the courses and the DT.) and is calculated, with an accuracy of two decimal places, in the following way:

The grade of each course and the Diploma Thesis (where provided) is multiplied by the corresponding number of credits (ECTS) and the sum of the products is divided by the minimum number of credits required to receive the Postgraduate Diploma PD.

The mathematical formula is as follows:

$$\text{PD Grade} = (\text{Course grade 1} \times \text{ECTS of course 1} + \text{Grade of course 2} \times \text{ECTS of course 2} + \dots + \text{Grade of the diploma thesis} \times \text{ECTS of diploma thesis}) / \text{Total number of ECTS}$$

Article 28 – Plagiarism

By submitting any master thesis, the postgraduate student is required to reference the work and views of others used in how work. Copying is considered a serious academic misconduct. Plagiarism is defined as using another's work, published or not, without proper reference. Quoting any documentary material, even from the candidate's own work, without a relevant reference, may justify a decision of the Assembly of the School to reject it. In the above cases - and after a reasoned proposition from the supervising professor - the Assembly of the relevant School may decide to expel him/her from the Postgraduate Program. Any misconduct or violation of academic ethics is referred to the Coordination Committee of the P.P.S. for examination, in order to recommend solutions to address the problem at the School Assembly. The offenses of copying, plagiarism and any violation of the provisions on intellectual property by a postgraduate student, stand for all writing assignments in the context of courses as well as the preparation of the postgraduate diploma thesis

It is noted that the terms "student", "students", "professor", "professors" refer to all genders.

All processes related to the writing of the postgraduate diploma thesis (DT) are described in detail in paragraph C of article 8 of the Internal Regulation for the Operation of Postgraduate Studies of the PPS "Physics of the Atmospheric Environment and Global Changes" (see Appendix A11). They specifically mention:

- the application process for initiating the thesis, defining the topic and the supervisor of the DT,
- the process for appointing the Three-Member Examining Committee,
- guidelines on the writing language, recommended formatting, and the minimum allowable page length
- guidelines for the presentation and rating of the DT.

On the website of the Postgraduate Program, (<http://msc-env2024.physics.auth.gr/programma-spoudon/diplomatikes-ergasies/>), students can find a schedule of the necessary processes, templates for the application documents that should be submitted, a detailed template for writing the DT in Greek and English, as well as additional guidelines for the citation and proper use of bibliographic references.