

Doc. Number: 300.1.1

**Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in
Higher Education**

Republic of Cyprus

**External Evaluation Report
Program of Study**

**Institution: NEAPOLIS UNIVERSITY PAFOS
SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS**

**Program of Study:
MSc Accounting and Finance**

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INSTRUCTIONS:

The present document has been prepared within the framework of the authority and competencies of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education, according to the provisions of the “Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws of 2015 to 2016” [N. 136 (I)/2015].

The document is duly completed by the External Evaluation Committee for each program of study. The ANNEX (Doc. Number 300.1) constitutes an integral part of the external evaluation report for the external evaluation accreditation of a program of study.

EXTERNAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

NAME	TITLE	UNIVERSITY / INSTITUTION
Yannis Georgellis (chair)	Prof of Management	University of Kent UK
Georgios Voulgaris	Ass.Prof Accounting	Warwick Business School
Christos Ioannidis	Prof of Finance	Aston Business School
Maria Yiapati	Student Acc.	University of Cyprus

INTRODUCTION:

I. The External Evaluation procedure

- Short description of the documents that have been studied, of the on-site visit meetings, and of the on-site visit to the infrastructures.

The site visit at the Neapolis University premises took place on October 9th, 2017. The Committee met with the Dean of the School of Economics and Business (Prof. S. Vliamos), members of the academic and administration staff and students from one of the current programs.

The documents provided and examined included the Application for the MSc in Accounting and Finance to be delivered by the School. Power point materials regarding the School and the University were presented by Prof. Vliamos followed by an outline of the proposed MSc program.

Furthermore, the committee interviewed members of the faculty teaching staff, administrative personnel responsible for quality assurance, library facilities, and IT support. Finally, School facilities were visited, namely all facilities used for teaching, library, meeting rooms, and staff offices.

II. The Internal Evaluation procedure

- Comments concerning the quality and the completeness of the application submitted by the institution of higher education (Doc. Number 200.1), as well as concerning the overall acceptance of and participation in the quality assurance procedures, by the institution in general and by the program of study under evaluation in particular.

The internal evaluation 'Application', which was submitted by the School and examined by us, although informative, it lacked sufficient detail, was repetitive in places and did not convey that adequate attention has been paid to the process. We find that the visit was well organized and the discussions were helpful.

FINDINGS:

1. EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHING WORK – AVAILABLE RESOURCES

- **Organization of Teaching Work**
- **Teaching**
- **Teaching personnel**

Overall, all these aspects are satisfactory. The educational procedure is effective and includes various learning tools and modules partly suitable to the learning process (e.g. material and textbooks). Units of assessment involve several aspects in each module (final exam and presentation, mid-term assessment/ project, case studies etc.). By and large, staff have the know-how to effectively deliver the Program.

The teaching staff and aspects of infrastructure of the School support the teaching effort in line with the stated objectives. Staff can effectively deliver the Program and module level learning outcomes. They are enthusiastic and committed to achieve the program's objectives.

2. PROGRAM OF STUDY AND HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS

- **Purpose and Objectives and learning outcomes of the Program of Study**
- **Structure and Content of the Program of studies**
- **Quality Assurance of the Program of studies**
- **Management of the Program of Study**
- **International Dimension of the Program of Study**
- **Connection with the labor market and the society**

The purpose and objectives are outlined in the submitted documents and they are broadly appropriate and consistent with the mission statement of the School. However we have some reservations regarding whether the learning outcomes are adequate for an MSc level program in Accounting and Finance.

The structure and content of the program requires careful reconsideration regarding the compulsory modules. We recommend that the program offers separate modules on Financial and Managerial Accounting and that there is an element of Business Valuation included in the curriculum.

The quality assurance appears satisfactory as there are teaching methods and experience drawn from other programs of the University. Both the Management Team of the program and Course director are capable, experienced and committed to their roles. The intended student composition is expected to be about 80% domestic to 20% international students. It is further anticipated that this Program will suit the needs of labor markets in Cyprus, particularly in Pafos, and the international students' home countries.

3. RESEARCH WORK AND SYNERGIES WITH TEACHING

- Research Teaching Synergies

In general, this is the area whereby significant progress can be made. There are some efforts to currently undertake a number of research activities and to publish research output. However this output is relatively weak especially as to the quality of publications in academic journals (especially in the area of Accounting). There is also weak evidence of synergy between research and teaching. The committee believes that there is a need for staff to further engage in higher quality research activity, which can have beneficial effects on teaching and the reputation of this Program and the University.

4. ADMINISTRATION SERVICES, STUDENT WELFARE AND SUPPORT OF TEACHING WORK

- **Administrative Mechanisms**
- **Infrastructures / Support**
- **Financial Resources**

Overall, there are satisfactory areas of infrastructure and good processes in place. The capital infrastructure linked to this Program (i.e. classrooms, library and common areas) is very suitable. Yet, access to accounting and financial databases (e.g. Datastream, Fame, Orbis etc) is an essential element for such a program and substantial improvement is required. Administrative and support staff are committed to the satisfaction of the students. The financial resources should adjust, to be properly allocated and ensure the longer-term viability of the Program. The enthusiasm and personal commitment of the School management and other faculty members are strong factors to its viability.

5. DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS

NA

6. DOCTORAL PROGRAMS OF STUDY

NA

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE¹

- The present situation of the program, good practices, weaknesses that have been detected during the external evaluation procedure by the external evaluation committee, suggestions for improvement.

We were welcomed to the University premises and had the opportunity to meet with the main stakeholders of the program. Some of the issues of concern were clarified during our discussions and it remains to be fully addressed. The leadership team and staff of the Program possess the experience, enthusiasm and commitment to deliver the MSc program at the appropriate standards. As mentioned above, there were issues with the information content of the submitted documentation.

The teaching staff can deliver and support the effective implementation of the program. The quality assurance of the learning process is satisfactory. The staff and students of Neapolis University who we interviewed expressed positive opinions regarding the quality of teaching and learning.

In short, the Committee believe that the Program that is intended to be run has some positive aspects, but also thought that areas for improvement include:

1. A revision in particular aspects of the core modules of the program is strongly advised. We recommend that the program offers separate modules on Financial and Managerial Accounting and that there is an element of Business Valuation included in the curriculum.
2. The program requires that the University acquires at least one of the necessary databases, which are essential for the achievement of the stated aims and objectives of the course.
3. Research output and quality of journal articles (especially in the area of Accounting) need to significantly improve. To this end, time and provision of resources and incentives for research to resident staff would need to be enhanced (and have to be included clearly in the work allocation model). This would increase the research-led teaching dimension of the program and the research profile of the whole institution.
4. We welcome the information regarding future appointments in the relevant areas in the planning of the University regarding the strategic development of the School.
5. The existing collaboration with an established educational provider (EKPA) appears to be a prudent idea and could potentially provide necessary expertise and systems needed to move Neapolis University higher up in its quality of services provided. Further international collaborations are strongly encouraged.
6. We expect a significant improvement in the quality of the submitted documentation.

¹ It is highlighted, at this point, that the External Evaluation Committee is expected to justify its findings and its suggestions on the basis of the Document num.: 300.1. The External Evaluation Committee is not expected to submit a suggestion for the approval or the rejection of the program of study under evaluation. This decision falls under the competencies of the Council of the Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation of higher education.

Doc. Number: 300.1

Quality Standards and Indicators

External Evaluation of a Program of Study

Institution: Neapolis University Pafos-School of Economics and Business

Program of Study: MSc Accounting and Finance

Duration of the Program of Study: 18 months

Evaluation Date: 9-Oct-2017

The present document has been prepared within the framework of the authority and competencies of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education, according to the provisions of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws of 2015 to 2016".

The document describes the quality standards and indicators, which will be applied for the external evaluation of programs of study of institutions of higher education, by the External Evaluation Committee.

DIRECTIONS: Note what is applicable for each quality standard/indicator.

1. Applicable to a minimum degree
2. Applicable to a non-satisfactory degree
3. Applicable to a satisfactory degree
4. Applicable to a very satisfactory degree
5. It applies and it constitutes a good practice

It is pointed out that, in the case of standards and indicators that cannot be applied due to the status of the institution and/or of the program of study, N/A (= Not Applicable) should be noted and a detailed explanation should be provided on the institution's corresponding policy regarding the specific quality standard or indicator.

Members of the External Evaluation Committee

NAME	TITLE	UNIVERSITY / INSTITUTION
Yannis Georgellis (chair)	Prof of Management	University of Kent UK
Georgios Voulgaris	Ass.Prof Accounting	Warwick Business School
Christos Ioannidis	Prof of Finance	Aston Business School
Maria Yiapati	Student Acc.	University of Cyprus

Date and Time of the On-Site Visit: ...Oct 9th 2017

Duration of the On-Site Visit: 10.00 -17.00

1. EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHING WORK – AVAILABLE RESOURCES						
1.1	Organization of teaching work		1	2	3	4 5
1.1.1	The student admission requirements to the program of study, are based on specific regulations which are adhered to in a consistent manner.					X
1.1.2	The number of students in each class allows for constructive teaching and communication, and it compares positively to the current international standards and/or practices.					X
1.1.3	The organization of the educational process safeguards the quality implementation of the program's purpose and objectives and the achievement of the learning outcomes. Particularly, the following are taken into consideration:					
	1.1.3.1	The implementation of a specific academic calendar and its timely publication.				X
	1.1.3.2	The disclosure of the program's curricula to the students, and their implementation by the teaching personnel			X	
	1.1.3.3	The course web-pages, updated with the relevant supplementary material			NA	
	1.1.3.4	The procedures for the fulfillment of undergraduate and postgraduate assignments / practical training			NA	
	1.1.3.5	The procedures for the conduct and the format of the examinations and for student assessment			NA	
	1.1.3.6	The effective provision of information to the students and the enhancement of their participation in the procedures for the improvement of the educational process.			X	
1.1.4	Adequate and modern learning resources, are available to the students, including the following:					
	1.1.4.1	facilities				X
	1.1.4.2	library				X
	1.1.4.3	infrastructure		X		

	1.1.4.4	student welfare				X	
	1.1.4.5	academic mentoring				X	
1.1.5	A policy for regular and effective communication, between the teaching personnel and the students, is applied.					X	
1.1.6	The teaching personnel, for each course, provide timely and effective feedback to the students.						X
1.1.7	Statutory mechanisms, for the support of students and the communication with the teaching personnel, are effective.						X
1.1.8	Control mechanisms for student performance are effective.						X
1.1.9	Support mechanisms for students with problematic academic performance are effective.						X
1.1.10	Academic mentoring processes are transparent and effective for undergraduate and postgraduate programs and are taken into consideration for the calculation of academic work load.				NA		
1.1.11	The program of study applies an effective policy for the prevention and detection of plagiarism.						X
1.1.12	The program of study provides satisfactory mechanisms for complaint management and for dispute resolution.						X

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

NA: The committee felt that there was not sufficient information to reach a conclusion for this aspect of the provision. However we highlight that students need to have clear information on assessment and course content.

This is because the module descriptors and the documents presented to the committee contained inconsistent information regarding components of assessment and content.

2: The absence of financial and accounting data bases (Fame, DataStream, Orbis etc.) because such facilities constitute an essential part of the teaching and research infrastructure necessary to run effectively this program.

Note, additionally:

α) the expected number/proportion of Cypriot and International Students in the program of study. The expected % of Cypriots and International students in the program of study to be 80% and 20% respectively

β) the countries of origin of the majority of students.

γ) the maximum planned number of students per class-section. (30)

1.2	Teaching	1	2	3	4	5
1.2.1	The methodology utilized in each course is suitable for achieving the course's purpose and objectives and those of the individual modules.			x		
1.2.2	The methodology of each course is suitable for adults.			x		
1.2.3	Continuous-formative assessment and feedback are provided to the students regularly.				x	
1.2.4	The assessment system and criteria regarding student course performance, are clear, adequate, and known to the students.			NA		
1.2.5	Educational activities which encourage students' active participation in the learning process, are implemented.				x	
1.2.6	Teaching incorporates the use of modern educational technologies that are consistent with international standards, including a platform for the electronic support of learning.					x
1.2.7	Teaching materials (books, manuals, journals, databases, and teaching notes) meet the requirements set by the methodology of the program's individual courses, and are updated regularly.		x			

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

2: As above, the committee is concerned about the absence of financial and

accounting data bases (Fame, DataStream, Orbis etc.) because such facilities constitute an essential part of the teaching and research infrastructure necessary to run effectively this program.					
1.3	Teaching Personnel	1	2	3	4 5
1.3.1	The number of full-time academic personnel, occupied exclusively at the institution, and their fields of expertise, adequately support the program of study.			x	
1.3.2	The members of teaching personnel for each course have the relevant formal and fundamental qualifications for teaching the course, as described by the legislation, including the following:				
1.3.2.1	Subject specialization, preferably with a doctorate, in the discipline.			x	
1.3.2.2	Publications within the discipline.			x	
1.3.3	The specializations of Visiting Professors adequately support the program of study.			na	
1.3.4	Special Teaching Personnel and Special Scientists have the necessary qualifications, adequate work experience and specialization to teach a limited number of courses in the program of study.			na	
1.3.5	In every program of study the Special Teaching Personnel does not exceed 30% of the Teaching Research Personnel.			na	
1.3.6	The teaching personnel of each private institution of tertiary education, to a percentage of at least 70%, has recognized academic qualification, by one level higher than that of the program of study in which he/she teaches.				x
1.3.7	In the program of study, the ratio of the number of courses taught by full-time personnel, occupied exclusively at the institution, to the number of courses taught by part-time personnel, ensures the quality of the program of study.				x
1.3.8	The ratio of the number of students to the total number of				x

	teaching personnel is adequate for the support and safeguarding of the program's quality.					
1.3.9	The academic personnel's teaching load does not limit the conduct of research, writing, and contribution to the society.			X		
1.3.10	Future redundancies / retirements, expected recruitment and promotions of academic personnel safeguard the unimpeded implementation of the program of study within a five-year span.				X	
1.3.11	The program's Coordinator has the qualifications and experience to efficiently coordinate the program of study.				X	
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>NA: From the program description there is no evidence of visiting academics and special teaching personnel contributing to the program.</p>						

2. PROGRAM OF STUDY AND HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS					
2.1	Purpose and Objectives and learning outcomes of the Program of Study	1	2	3	4 5
2.1.1	The purpose and objectives of the program of study are formulated in terms of expected learning outcomes and are consistent with the mission and the strategy of the institution.				x
2.1.2	The purpose and objectives of the program and the learning outcomes are utilized as a guide for the design of the program of study.				x
2.1.3	The higher education qualification and the program of study, conform to the provisions of their corresponding Professional and Vocational Bodies for the purpose of registration to these bodies.				x
2.1.4	The program's content, the methods of assessment, the teaching materials and the equipment, lead to the achievement of the program's purpose and objectives and ensure the expected learning outcomes.		x		
2.1.5	The expected learning outcomes of the program are known to the students and to the members of the academic and teaching personnel.				x
2.1.6	The learning process is properly designed to achieve the expected learning outcomes.				x
2.1.7	The higher education qualification awarded to the students, corresponds to the purpose and objectives and the learning outcomes of the program.				x
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>2: The Committee is concerned that there is ambiguity and lack of information regarding assessment methods and databases. There are also reservations about the content of the program, especially the inadequate distinction in delivering separate module for Financial and Managerial Accounting. The Committee also felt that a module in Financial Statement Analysis is necessary for such program.</p> <p>We wish to point out that the above concerns are due to the nature of the documentation submitted. This is because, it does not provide sufficient evidence that the program content and design is consistent with the postgraduate (MSc) level bench-marking guidelines.</p>					

2.2	Structure and Content of the Program of Study	1	2	3	4 5
2.2.1	The course curricula clearly define the expected learning outcomes, the content, the teaching and learning approaches and the method of assessing student performance.			x	
2.2.2	The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) is applied and there is true correspondence between credits and workload per course and per semester for the student either he / she studies in a specific program or he/she is registered and studies simultaneously in additional programs of studies according to the European practice in higher education institutions.				x
2.2.3	The program of study is structured in a consistent manner and in sequence, so that concepts operating as preconditions precede the teaching of other, more complex and cognitively more demanding, concepts.				x
2.2.4	The higher education qualification awarded, the learning outcomes and the content of the program are consistent.			x	
2.2.5	The program, in addition to the courses focusing on the specific discipline, includes an adequate number of general education courses.				x
2.2.6	The content of courses and modules, and the corresponding educational activities are suitable for achieving the desired learning outcomes with regards to the knowledge, skills, and abilities which should be acquired by students.		x		
2.2.7	The number and the content of the program's courses are sufficient for the achievement of learning outcomes.		x		
2.2.8	The content of the program's courses reflects the latest achievements / developments in science, arts, research and technology.			x	
2.2.9	Flexible options / adaptable to the personal needs or to the needs of students with special needs, are provided.				x

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

Note the expected number of students who will be studying simultaneously at another academic institution, based on your experience so far, regarding students who study simultaneously in the programs of your institution.

Regarding the module structure of the course we wish to repeat that the merging of the two accounting streams into a single module is detrimental the stated academic aims of the program. This issue must be addressed.

From the submitted evidence we were not able to establish any indication of research-led teaching in accounting modules, which is desirable at the MSc level.

2.3	Quality Assurance of the Program of Study	1	2	3	4	5
2.3.1	The arrangements regarding the program's quality assurance define clear competencies and procedures.					x
2.3.2	Participation in the processes of the system of quality assurance of the program, is ensured for					x
	2.3.2.1 the members of the academic personnel					x
	2.3.2.2 the members of the administrative personnel					x
	2.3.2.3 the students.					x
2.3.3	The guide and / or the regulations for quality assurance, provide detailed information and data for the support and management of the program of study.					x
2.3.4	The quality assurance process constitutes an academic process and it is not restricted by non-academic factors.					x

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

2.4	Management of the Program of Study	1	2	3	4	5
2.4.1	Effective management of the program of study with regard to its design, its approval, its monitoring and its review, is in place.			X		
2.4.2	It is ensured that learning outcomes may be achieved within the specified timeframe.				X	
2.4.3	It is ensured that the program's management and development process is an academic process which operates without any non-academic interventions.				X	
2.4.4	The academic hierarchy of the institution, (Rector, Vice-Rectors, Deans, Chairs and Programs' Coordinators, academic personnel) have the sole responsibility for academic excellence and the development of the programs of study.				X	
2.4.5	Information relating to the program of study are posted publicly and include:			NA		
2.4.5.1	The provisions regarding unit credits					
2.4.5.2	The expected learning outcomes					
2.4.5.3	The methodology					
2.4.5.4	Course descriptions					
2.4.5.5	The program's structure					
2.4.5.6	The admission requirements					
2.4.5.7	The format and the procedures for student assessment					
2.4.6	The award of the higher education qualification is accompanied by the Diploma Supplement which is in line with the European and international standards.			NA		
2.4.7	The effectiveness of the program's evaluation mechanism, by the students, is ensured.					X
2.4.8	The recognition and transfer of credit units from previous studies is regulated by procedures and regulations which ensure that the majority of credit units is awarded by the institution which awards the higher education qualification.			NA		

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may

have on each standard / indicator.

NA: As the program is not yet approved there is no public documentation. The evidence submitted does not provide sufficient and detailed information.

In the case of practical training, note: (NA)

- The number of credit units for courses and the number of credits for practical training
- In which semester does practical training takes place?
- Note if practical training is taking place in a country other than the home-country of the institution which awards the higher education qualification

2.5	International Dimension of the Program of Study	1	2	3	4	5
2.5.1	The program's collaborations with other institutions are compared positively with corresponding collaborations of other departments / programs of study in Europe and internationally.			x		
2.5.2	The program attracts Visiting professors of recognized academic standing.			x		
2.5.3	Students participate in exchange programs.			na		
2.5.4	The academic profile of the program of study is compatible with corresponding programs of study in Cyprus and internationally.			x		

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

Also, comment on the degree the program compares positively with corresponding programs operating in Cyprus and abroad in higher education institutions of the same rank.

2.6	Connection with the labor market and the society	1	2	3	4	5
2.6.1	The procedures applied, so that the program conforms to the scientific and professional activities of the graduates, are adequate and effective.			x		

2.6.2	According to the feasibility study, indicators for the employability of graduates are satisfactory.				X	
2.6.3	Benefits, for the society, deriving from the program are significant.				X	
Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.						

3. RESEARCH WORK AND SYNERGIES WITH TEACHING						
3.1	Research - Teaching Synergies	1	2	3	4	5
3.1.1	It is ensured that teaching and learning have been adequately enlightened by research.			X		
3.1.2	New research results are embodied in the content of the program of study.			X		
3.1.3	Adequate and sufficient facilities and equipment are provided to support the research component of the program of study, which are available and accessible to the personnel and the students.		X			
3.1.4	The results of the academic personnel's research activity are published in international journals with the peer-reviewing system, in international conferences, conference minutes, publications etc.			X		
3.1.5	External, non-governmental, funding for the academic personnel's research activities, is compared positively to the funding of other institutions in Cyprus and abroad.			NA		
3.1.6	Internal funding, of the academic personnel's research activities, is compared positively to the funding of other institutions in Cyprus and abroad.					X
3.1.7	The policy for, indirect or direct, internal funding of the academic personnel's research activity is satisfactory.					X
3.1.8	The participation of students, academic, teaching and administrative personnel of the program in research				X	

	activities and projects is satisfactory.					
3.1.9	Student training in the research process is sufficient.				x	
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>Refer to the lack of databases</p>						
4. ADMINISTRATION SERVICES, STUDENT WELFARE AND SUPPORT OF TEACHING WORK						
4.1	Administrative Mechanisms	1	2	3	4	5
4.1.1	There is a Student Welfare Service that supports students with regards to academic and personal problems and difficulties.					x
4.1.2	Statutory administrative mechanisms for monitoring and supporting students are sufficient.					x
4.1.3	The efficiency of these mechanisms is assessed on the basis of specific criteria.					x
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p>						
4.2	Infrastructure / Support	1	2	3	4	5
4.2.1	There are suitable books and reputable journals supporting the program.					x
4.2.2	There is a supportive internal communication platform.					x

4.2.3	The facilities are adequate in number and size.					x
4.2.4	The equipment used in teaching and learning (laboratory and electronic equipment, consumables etc.) are quantitatively and qualitatively adequate.					x
4.2.5	Teaching materials (books, manuals, scientific journals, databases) are adequate and accessible to students.		x			
4.2.6	Teaching materials (books, manuals, scientific journals, databases) are updated regularly with the most recent publications.			x		
4.2.7	The teaching personnel are provided with training opportunities in teaching method, in adult education, and in new technologies on the basis of a structured learning framework.			x		
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>2: The lack of relevant accounting and financial databases is the main short coming regarding the provision of adequate teaching and research resources for this program.</p>						
4.3	Financial Resources	1	2	3	4	5
4.3.1	The management and allocation of the financial resources of the program of study, allow for the development of the program and of the academic / teaching personnel.				x	
4.3.2	The allocation of financial resources as regards to academic matters, is the responsibility of the relevant academic departments.				x	
4.3.3	The remuneration of academic and other personnel is analogous to the remuneration of academic and other personnel of the respective institutions in Cyprus.			NA		
4.3.4	Student tuition and fees are consistent to the tuition and fees of other respective institutions.				x	
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may</p>						

have on each standard / indicator.

The following criterion applies additionally for distance learning programs of study.

The program is not delivered by distance learning mode:

5.	DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS	1	2	3	4	5
5.1	Feedback processes for teaching personnel with regards to the evaluation of their teaching work, by the students, are satisfactory.					
5.2	The process and the conditions for the recruitment of academic / teaching personnel, ensure that candidates have the necessary skills and experience for long distance education.					
5.3	Through established procedures, appropriate training, guidance and support, are provided to teaching personnel, to enable it to efficiently support the educational process.					
5.4	Student performance monitoring mechanisms are satisfactory.					
5.5	Adequate mentoring by the teaching personnel, is provided to students, through established procedures.					
5.6	The unimpeded long distance communication between the teaching personnel and the students, is ensured to a satisfactory degree.					
5.7	Assessment consistency, its equivalent application to all students, and the compliance with predefined procedures, are ensured.					

5.8	Teaching materials (books, manuals, scientific journals, databases) comply with the requirements provided by the long distance education methodology and are updated regularly.									
5.9	The program of study has the appropriate and adequate infrastructure for the support of learning.									
5.10	The supporting infrastructures are easily accessible.									
5.11	Students are informed and trained with regards to the available educational infrastructure.									
5.12	The procedures for systematic control and improvement of the supportive services are regular and effective.									
5.13	Infrastructure for distance education is comparable to university infrastructure in the European Union and internationally.									
5.14	Electronic library services are provided according to international practice in order to support the needs of the students and of the teaching personnel.									
5.15	The students and the teaching personnel have access to the necessary electronic sources of information, relevant to the program, the level, and the method of teaching.									
5.16	The percentage of teaching personnel who holds a doctorate, in a program of study which is offered long distance, is not less than 75%.									
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>If the following apply, note “√” in the appropriate space next to each statement. In case the following statements do not apply, note what is applicable:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>The maximum number of students per class-section, should not exceed 30 students.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>The conduct of written examinations with the physical presence of the students, under the supervision of the institution or under the supervision of reliable agencies which operate in the countries of the students, is compulsory.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>							The maximum number of students per class-section, should not exceed 30 students.		The conduct of written examinations with the physical presence of the students, under the supervision of the institution or under the supervision of reliable agencies which operate in the countries of the students, is compulsory.	
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The number of long distance classes taught by the academic personnel does not exceed the number of courses taught by the teaching personnel in conventional programs of study.	
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The following criterion applies additionally for doctoral programs of study.

This is not a doctoral program. It is delivered at taught Master's level.

6.	DOCTORAL PROGRAMS OF STUDY	1	2	3	4	5
6.1	The provision of quality doctoral studies is ensured through Doctoral Studies Regulations.					
6.2	The structure and the content of a doctoral program of study are satisfactory and they ensure the quality provision of doctoral studies.					
6.3	The number of academic personnel, which is going to support the doctoral program of study, is adequate.					
6.4	The doctoral studies' supervisors have the necessary academic qualifications and experience for the supervision of the specific dissertations.					
6.5	The degree of accessibility of all interested parties to the Doctoral Studies Regulations is satisfactory.					
6.6	The number of doctoral students, under the supervision of a member of the academic personnel, is apt for the continuous and effective feedback provided to the students and it complies with the European and international standards.					
6.7	The research interests of academic advisors and supervisors are satisfactory and they adequately cover the					

	thematic areas of research conducted by the doctoral students of the program.						
Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.							
Note the number of doctoral students under the supervision of each member of the academic personnel of the program and the academic rank of the supervisor.							

Please note your final remarks and suggestions for the program of study and/or regarding particular aspects of the program.

The Program's proposal overall is welcome and we can clearly see its scope. The University's existing programs, and existing know-how and standards can effectively enhance the pedagogical experience of students. Areas of improvement are clearly identified above (See 'Conclusions and Suggestions of the External Evaluation Committee'). Elements of the Program content and structure, and the provision of informational resources need to be improved. Effort is also required to enhance research quality and research-led teaching.

Names and Signatures of the Chair and the Members of the External Evaluation Committee:

Name:
Yannis Georgellis (chair)
Georgios Voulgaris
Christos Ioannidis
Maria Yiapati

Date: October 11th, 2017

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