

ANSWERS TO THE COMMENTS
INCLUDED IN THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT
OF DL MA in MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY HISTORY

Comment 1

“Perhaps the introduction of more optional and specialized courses might contribute to the enhancement the integration of students from the field of History and strengthen the programme’s identity” (p. 7).

Answer

It has been accomplished through the introduction of an additional optional course in the 2nd semester of studies (HIST610: History of European Integration). See the complete Study Guide of the course in Annex 1.

Comment 2

“The title ‘Modern and Contemporary History’ suggests a broader subject than is actually the case. A more precise title, which the EEC proposes, would be ‘Modern and Contemporary Greek and European History’. The actual focus of the Curriculum should be reflected in the MA title” (p. 7).

Answer

The MA Program is renamed according to the suggestion of the External Evaluation Committee. The new title is the following: MA in Modern and Contemporary Greek and European History.

Comment 3

“The internationalization of the Neapolis University Pafos in the field of History needs to be improved” (p. 7)

Answer

It has been accomplished through a) existing agreements (see Annex 2) and b) communication with University Departments and University Research Centres focusing on Modern and Contemporary History for the establishment of cooperation (see Annex 3).

Comment 4

“The EEC strongly recommends the introduction of clearly defined admissions criteria” (p. 7).

Answer

It has been accomplished through the introduction of special provisions in the Program’s Guide of Studies (see the relevant extract from the Guide of Studies in Annex 4, additions are highlighted).

Comment 5

“A clear definition of the applied mechanism and procedures regarding administrative support and process” (p. 8)

Answer

It has been accomplished through a) the adoption of a Framework for the Implementation of Distance Learning Programs (see Annex 5), b) the development of a Manual for the users WizIQ online class (see Annex 6), and c) instructions for the submission of assignments in the online platform (see Annex 7).

Comment 6

“Increase of the administrative staff supporting students, teachers, and infrastructures”
(p. 8)

Answer

It has been accomplished. An additional member of the personnel has been transferred to the Distance Learning Unit of Neapolis University in order to facilitate the support of students, tutors and infrastructure (see Annex 8)

Comment 7

“Regarding the DL infrastructure, the University needs to invest in order to develop a high quality studio for video productions and web teleconferencing” (p. 8).

Answer

It has been accomplished through the buying of state of the art digital equipment which covers all the needs described in the External Evaluation Report (see the relevant invoice in Annex 9).

Comment 8

“The involved Academic Staff in the projected MA programme assessed would be much supported in its teaching tasks via the provision of an advanced Teacher Training and continuous support Programme on DL approaches and activities” (p. 8).

Answer

It has been accomplished through the introduction of a Training Seminar for Distance Learning Tutors of Neapolis University (see Annex 10).

Comment 9

“The need to increase human academic and administrative resources” (p. 10).

Answer

As far as human administrative resources are concerned, see our answer in comment 6 above. The need to increase human academic resources is covered through the announcement of a position of Assistant Professor in Diplomatic History (see the announcement in the University’s website: <http://www.nup.ac.cy/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Announcement-of-a-position-of-Assistant-Professor-in-Diplomatic-History.pdf>, and in Annex 11). After the appointment of the new Assistant Professor, out of the total 7 (seven) members of the Program’s teaching staff, 5 (five) will be members of the full-time Teaching Research Personnel and only 2 (two) will be members of the Special Teaching Staff, as the following table demonstrates:

Rank	Number
Professors	2
Assistant Professors	2
Lecturers	1
Special Teaching Staff	2

As a result, the full-time Teaching Research Personnel exceeds 70% of the total teaching staff of the Program. This answers to question 1.3.5 (p. 17) of the External Evaluation Report.

Comment 10

“Regarding question no. 2.1.5, the EEC notes that learning outcomes should also include the development of competences such as writing, research, presentation etc.” (p. 19)

Answer

It has been accomplished through the inclusion of relevant topics in the course HIST601: Historical Studies. Theory and Methodology of History (see the Study Guide of the course in Annex 12).

Comment 11

“The quality assurance mechanism is under review. In the text of the application, as well as during the presentations, the Institution have presented some good ideas about the new quality assurance mechanism, however this is not yet fully developed” (p. 21).

Answer

It has been accomplished through specific provisions in the University’s Internal Quality Assurance System (see Annex 13).