20 Μαΐου 2019

Φορέας Διασφάλισης και Πιστοποίησης της Ποιότητας της Ανώτερης Εκπαίδευσης (ΔΠΑΕ)
Λεωφόρος Λεμεσού 5
2112 Λευκωσία

Παρακαλώ βρείτε συνημμένη την απάντηση του Τμήματος στις παρατηρήσεις / εισηγήσεις της Εξωτερικής Επιτροπής Αξιολόγησης του Διδακτορικού και Μεταπτυχιακού Προγράμματος Ευρωπαϊκών Σπουδών με την 23 Φεβρουαρίου 2019.

Αναπληρωτής Καθηγητής Παναγιώτης Χριστάκης
Πρόεδρος Τμήματος Γαλλικών και Ευρωπαϊκών Σπουδών
Higher Education Institution’s response

- Higher education institution:
  UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS

- Town: NICOSIA

- Program of study (Name, ECTS, duration, cycle)
  In Greek: ΜΕΤΑΠΤΥΧΙΑΚΟ ΣΤΙΣ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΙΚΕΣ ΣΠΟΥΔΕΣ
  In English: MASTER IN EUROPEAN STUDIES

- Languages of instruction: English
- Program’s status

New program:
Currently operating: ✔
A. Guidelines on content and structure of the report

- The Higher Education Institution based on the External Evaluation Committee’s evaluation report (Doc.300.1.1) must justify whether actions have been taken in improving the quality of the program of study in each assessment area.

1. Study program and study program’s design and development (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.8, 1.9)

   **Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**
   (p. 12 § d, p. 18 § 1.3.1, p. 19 and p. 30 § d): the program should be reinforced by hiring professors specialized in European Studies

   **Response of the Department of French and European Studies**
   See below, response to B. Conclusions and final remarks

   **Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**
   (p. 11 § b, p. 23 § 2.5 and p. 30 § b): The 3 semesters MA is not compatible with programs abroad.

   **Response of the Department of French and European Studies**
   See below, response to B. Conclusions and final remarks
Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
(p. 18 § 1.3.10): as two professors will retire during the five next years, it is very important to guarantee they will be replaced immediately.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
The Evaluation Committee’s recommendations are all sent to the Higher Governing Bodies of the University, which are vested with the power to implement such general policy rules. This fact has already been taken into account by the University medium-term hiring programme. Excerpt of relative document below.

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
(p. 12 § d, p. 19 § 2 and p. 30 § d) The program is much more a program in Studies of European Cultures than in European Studies. Professors of law, political sciences, sociology should be present in this program. Another solution could be recruiting a European Studies.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
See below, response to B. Conclusions and final remarks

2. Teaching, learning and student assessment (ESG 1.3)

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
3. Teaching Staff *(ESG 1.5)*

**Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**

(p. 11) *Academic qualities of the staff and personal involvement and engagement are very high.*

4. Students *(ESG 1.4, 1.6, 1.7)*

**Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**

(p. 9) *The students told the committee they were very happy with the atmosphere.*  
(p. 11) *The procedure for selecting students is robust. It should lead to sharp selection.*

5. Resources *(ESG 1.6)*

6. Additional for distance learning programs *(ALL ESG)*

Not applicable

7. Additional for doctoral programs *(ALL ESG)*

Not applicable

8. Additional for joint programs *(ALL ESG)*

Not applicable
B. Conclusions and final remarks

**Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**
(p. 11 § b, p. 23 § 2.5 and p. 30 § b): The organization in three semesters should be expanded to 4 semesters and 120 ECTS points in order to be in conformity with the majority of the European universities and to officially allow students to have more time for writing their master thesis.

**Response of the Department of French and European Studies**
Because the University of Cyprus has adopted an 8 semesters BA scheme, MA degrees in Cyprus are usually structured in 3 semesters and 90 ECTS, as recognised by the CYQAA (http://www.dipae.ac.cy/index.php/el/enimerosi/anakoinoseis/179-2018-10-25-pliris-foitisi-metaptychiako-diarkia-2-3-examina). It should be noted that the Department of French and European Studies has not seen any adaptation problems with other European universities. On the contrary, on one hand, our 8 semesters BA holders are usually directly accepted in the second year of MA degrees (Master II). On the other hand, the 240 ECTS of the BA added to the 90 ECTS of the MA exceed the Bologna Process minimum requirement of 300 ECTS for enrolling in a PHD program.

**Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation**
(p. 12 § c and p. 30 § c) Methodology should be more explicit from the beginning. The committee suggests offering specific methodology courses.

**Response of the Department of French and European Studies**
It is a permanent policy of the Department to ask those of the enrolled students who have not attended our Research Methodology compulsory course (specially designed since 2006 for students preparing a thesis or dissertation) to take it. As an illustration, see appended document below (Πρακτικό Συνεδρίασης Επιτροπής Μεταπτυχιακών Σπουδών 5.5.2017 με θέμα Εισδοχή στο Μάστερ στις Ευρωπαϊκές Σπουδές).

Δεκτοί με όρους: Η αίτηση της έγινε δεκτή υπό τον όρο να εγγραφεί στο προπτυχιακό μάθημα 4ου έτους και όνω ΓΕΣ 370 Μεθοδολογία της Έρευνας.
Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
(p. 12 § d, p. 18 § 1.3.1, p. 19 and p. 30 § d) The program is much more a program in Studies of European Cultures than in European Studies. Professors of law, political sciences, sociology should be present in this program.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
As explicitly stated in the Purpose and Objectives and learning outcomes of the Program of Study (and repeated in p. 8 of the Report of the EC), the European Studies MA Program of the Department of French and European Studies “aims to cover an obvious gap in the programs offered internationally in the field of postgraduate European Studies. More specifically, it aims to move away from the usual frame of such programs, which are usually based on a dominant politico-economic approach [covered in the University of Cyprus by the Department of Social and Political Sciences]. Thus, the postgraduate program aims to investigate specific cultural issues related to Europe and to see how these issues relate to philosophical, literary, visual and other cultural narratives. The program puts forward ways of studying European cultural phenomena in a synthetic way, combining a specific European conjuncture with its diachronic depth”. See our website presentation http://www.ucy.ac.cy/frml/fr/academicprogramms/postgraduate/european-studies. That being reminded, the Department agrees with the Evaluation Committee’s remark. Following its recommendation, the (ex-)Chairman of the Department requested from the University Governing Bodies a new position in European Studies. Document appended hereafter.
Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation
(p. 9) The originality of such research has been recognized by European institutions: program C.o.n.t.a.c.t, and the Jean Monnet Chair awarded by the European Commission which inter alia also involves public lectures outside the academia.

(p.11) Academic qualities of the staff and personal involvement and engagement are very high. A good atmosphere prevails between the academic staff, the students and the administrative staff. The leading practices are good, as is the coherence of the program. The procedure for selecting students is robust. It should lead to sharp selection. Some of the courses are quite interesting and inspiring, especially when they connect with research. The amount of publications of the academic staff is quite impressive and the new library is a very important asset.

(p. 29) Academic qualities of the staff and personal involvement and engagement are very high. A good atmosphere prevails between the academic staff, the students and the administrative staff. The leading practices are good, as is the coherence of the program. The amount of publications of the academic staff is quite impressive and the new library is a very important asset.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies
The Department of French and European Studies highly values the Evaluation Committee’s appreciation. It has taken all necessary measures and decisions to meet its recommendations and reaffirms its commitment to ensure high academic quality in the current international requirements of a European Studies MA program.

C. Higher Education Institution academic representatives

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pavagiannis Christos</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yiannakos Ioannou</td>
<td>ex-Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mavry Chehab</td>
<td>Coordinator, and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Member of the university</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internal Quality Committee</td>
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Date: 21 May 2019