The Hellenic Open University and its journey

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Vice President
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Hellenic Open University is the 19th Public Higher Education Institution. It was founded based on the article 27, par. 1, pas. a of Act 2083/1992. It is an independent and fully self-governing tertiary education institution and operates in the form of a Legal Entity under Public Law.

HOU was established to fill a gap for open tertiary education in Greece, as was the case with Open Universities in almost every European country, which were established in the ‘70s and they are now able to admit thousands of students.
The main objectives of the institution (educational work, evaluation of the teaching staff, human resource management, competitions, project implementation, etc.) are evaluated periodically, in order to adapt to the constantly evolving environment in which the institution operates.

HOU is located in Patras. Pursuant to the council’s decision, branches of the HOU can be established either in Greece or in any other country.

Today, with more than 50,000 Graduates and 30,000 Active Students, it proves, once again, that it is ready to face all special circumstances.
Since its establishment, HOU has been based on embedding a **quality culture**.

- Introduction of the flexible **Curriculum (Program of Studies)**, which can be easily adapted depending on the respective social, economic and educational needs.

- Introduction of the **Module**, instead of the **Course**, as the basic functional unit of HOU.
In 1997, HOU was the first University to establish the Internal Assessment & Training Unit (IATU).

https://meae.eap.gr/

The establishment of the Educational Content, Methodology and Technology Laboratory.

https://eeyem.eap.gr/

Quality Assurance Unit (2010)
4 Schools

The schools offer both Undergraduate and Postgraduate (Master, Ph.D.) degrees, as well as training with Short and Special Program Courses.
Since the mid 90s, many of our fellow citizens have had the opportunity to study "via correspondence", which was an innovation of its time. HOU is thriving and expanding in young people, as more and more of them have it as their first-choice for university studies.

### HOU in numbers (1/2)

**Graduates – Students – Teaching staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduates</td>
<td>52,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active students</td>
<td>31,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching staff</td>
<td>2,685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Postgraduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduates</td>
<td>18,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active students</td>
<td>34,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching staff</td>
<td>14,464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjunct Lecturers</td>
<td>2644</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teaching staff to student ratio is 1 to 13

*November 2020*
HOU in numbers (2/2)

- **Classes**: 2573
- **Undergraduate Programs**: 8
- **Postgraduate Programs**: 45
- **Joint Programs**: 9
  - Co-operation with other higher education institutions
- **Special Program of Study**: 1
  - School of Social Sciences
- **Short Learning Programs of Study**: 10
8 Undergraduate Programs of Study

School of Science & Technology
- **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

School of Science & Technology
- **STUDIES IN NATURAL SCIENCES**

School of Humanities
- **STUDIES IN GREEK CIVILIZATION**

School of Social Science
- **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

School of Social Science
- **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

School of Social Science
- **TOURISM MANAGEMENT**

School of Humanities
- **STUDIES IN EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION**

School of Humanities
- **HISPANIC LANGUAGE AND CIVILISATION STUDIES**
The only higher education institution that offers exclusively distant education.

Present in the whole country with its pioneering methodology and technologically advanced innovations.

Collaboration with the best teaching staff from all over Greece in every Academic Field.

Lower tuition fees compared to equivalent institutions’, while maintaining a high quality level of studies.

**Strengths**

**Weaknesses**

Difficulties (due to the nature of the institution) in the development of an active community with the physical participation of students.

Some programs have only a few applications.

Some programs are yet to ensured the professional rights of their graduates.

Small number of Teaching Faculty Members
hahe
Certified Undergraduate Programs by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education

- Business Administration (DEO)
- Studies in Natural Sciences (FYE)
- Computer Science (PLI) - Pending
This distinction highlights the high quality of education offered by HOU, the attunement of the Institution with the Academic perceptions and practices that govern all the remarkable Institutions around the world as well as the commitment to the continuous effort for renewal and modernization of its programs.

Hellenic Open University, ranked fourth, globally, among all the Institutions of open and distance education of the World, according to the recent scientific ranking in the global ranking list "Webometrics" (2021)
"HOU:
Investing in the concept of quality"

Thank you