Aristotle University of Thessaloniki | International Hellenic University
Inter-Institutional MSc Programme

«Applied Bioinformatics»
🖥 https://websites.auth.gr/appbio/
✉ msc-appbio@auth.gr

DEPARTMENTS
Biology | AUTh
http://www.bio.auth.gr/en
Science & Technology | IHU
https://www.ihu.gr/ucips/sst/general-information

ANNOUNCEMENT
Enrollment in the Inter-Institutional MSc Programme
"Applied Bioinformatics"

The Steering Committee of the Inter-Institutional MSc Programme between the Departments of Biology, AUTh and Science & Technology, IHU announces the enrollment of up to sixty (60) postgraduate students in the MSc Programme "Applied Bioinformatics" for the **academic year 2022-2023**. The MSc Programme was established on October 6, 2022 (Government Gazette 5188, issue B, 6/10/22).

Aim of the MSc Programme
The purpose of the MSc in Applied Bioinformatics is to provide specialized knowledge and postgraduate-level training in methods for managing and analyzing digitized biological data and large-scale molecular data in biological systems. The aim is the selection of excellent graduates from relevant departments in Greece and abroad and their training in different areas of Bioinformatics related to human health and the environment to create a human resource with high theoretical background and expertise that will meet the growing needs of the field in the global market. Graduates of the MSc Programme will have high employable opportunities at several sectors (academia, research institutes, organizations, governments, companies, bio-industry).

Description of the MSc Programme
The current MSc Programme awards a **Postgraduate Diploma** entitled "Applied Bioinformatics" after a cycle of studies, which includes attending postgraduate courses as well as the preparation of a MSc Dissertation. The duration of studies is **three (3) semesters**, including the time for preparing and defending the MSc Dissertation.

Students are required to attend courses during the first two semesters (A, B) for a total of sixty (60) ECTS. During the third (C) semester students complete their MSc Dissertation which corresponds to thirty (30) ECTS. Second semester students are given the opportunity to prepare an extensive research thesis. In this case, the student is obliged to attend only the compulsory courses of semesters A and B, which correspond to forty-eight (48) ECTS. During semester B, in agreement with the supervisor, the student prepares part of the thesis (Part A) corresponding to twelve (12) ECTS; the remaining research thesis is completed during the third semester (Part B, 30 ECTS).

For those students who wish, and following a relevant application and approval by the Steering Committee, there is the **possibility of partial attendance**. In this case, the duration of studies is six (6) semesters.

Attendance of the programme is **mandatory** for all courses, lectures, seminars, workshops and other activities and is primarily done through **physical, face-to-face, teaching**. However, in some cases, courses in the programme may be taken via distance learning. The official language of the MSc Programme is **English** and therefore all activities are conducted in English, such as lectures, seminars, workshops, dissertation writing, as well as written exams.

Categories of candidates

To meet entry requirements, candidates should be graduates of University Departments and Graduated Engineers of Polytechnics and Polytechnic Schools in Greece or equivalent recognized Institutions abroad issuing degrees and diplomas related to the fields of specialization of the MSc Programme.

In the MSc Programme, graduates of Departments of recognized equivalent institutions abroad are accepted as candidates, **on the condition** that their first degree is recognized by the [Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (Hellenic NARIC / DOATAP; https://www.doatap.gr/)](https://www.doatap.gr/) in accordance with Law 4957/2022.

Tuition fees

To attend the MSc programme, tuition fees of **€3000 for EU citizens** (€1000 per semester of full-time study) and **€4500 for citizens of non-EU** countries (€1500 per semester of full-time study) are required. Tuition fees are payable in three equal installments at the start of each semester.

Submission documents

Candidates must submit the following supporting documents[1]:

1. Application that can be downloaded from the website of the MSc Programme (https://websites.auth.gr/appbio/).
2. Copy of Police ID or passport.
3. Curriculum vitae.
4. Copies of undergraduate and, if applicable, postgraduate degrees.
5. DOATAP certificate related to the equivalence and matching of study titles with corresponding Greek Institutions, if required.
6. Transcript of Recodrs of undergraduate and/or postgraduate courses or Diploma Supplement that accompanies each degree.
7. Two (2) letters of recommendation. The letters should be submitted <u>directly</u> by the signatories via email to: msc-appbio@auth.gr.
8. Certificate of knowledge of the English language at least level B2.
9. Personal statement of the candidate explaining their background, their interest in the scientific aspects of the MSc Programme, their expectations from the MSc Programme, as well as any professional relevance.
10. Other documents that at the candidate's discretion should be considered during their evaluation.

The Certificate of English language should be one of the following:

a. Greek state certificate of language proficiency of a corresponding level, as it is stated in the replacement of the Law 2740/1999, in par. 19 of article 13 of Law 3149/2003.
b. CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH (CPE) of The University of Cambridge or The University of Michigan.

c. INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM (IELTS) of the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES).
d. TOEFL.
e. The British Council – IDP Education Australia IELTS Australia with a score of 6.5 or higher.
f. Any other certificate of language proficiency as stated in the Greek Law (undergraduate or postgraduate studies at English-speaking Universities, nationals of English-speaking countries, etc.).

For their participation in the selection process, candidates are not required to submit original or certified copies of supporting documents but **simple photocopies or electronic files in known file formats, such as jpeg and pdf**.

Candidates who **have not yet received a degree/diploma** can still apply and submit their supporting documents accompanied by a certificate from the Department Secretariat attesting to the number of due courses or other obligations (e.g. degree/diploma thesis) and their current average grade. In any case, and if they are on the list of successful candidates, their degree/diploma must be submitted at the time of registration. In the event that they haven't sworn in at the time of registration, a certificate from the Department Secretariat is required attesting to the successful completion of their studies; their degree must be submitted after they have sworn in. Otherwise, they are rejected, and the runners-up are called.

[1]*Compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EE 2016/679)*
Prospective students who submit an application and the supporting documents, give their consent to the processing of their personal data for the purpose of assessment of their candidacy in order to become accepted to the postgraduate programme. If a candidate is not selected, their details are deleted from the School's archives within a period of 30 days. A candidate whose application is not successful is entitled to receive the documents submitted, otherwise the documents are destroyed within 30 days.

Criteria and selection process

The evaluation of all candidates takes place in two phases. In the **first phase**, the evaluation of all candidates is based on the following criteria:
- The final degree grade.
- The performance of the candidate in undergraduate courses related to the topics of the MSc Programme.
- The performance of the candidate in their diploma thesis.
- Any existing professional or research activity related to the topics of the MSc Programme.
- The possession of other undergraduate or postgraduate degrees related to the topics of the MSc Programme.
- Publications in scientific journals and conference proceedings.

In the **second phase**, the evaluation of all candidates is based on the results of interviews set by the candidate Selection Committee.

Scoring criteria for the selection of candidates

For the quantitative evaluation of the criteria, a scoring system is applied as follows:
- **Degree credits:** The score is calculated by the following formula: "coefficient * (final degree or diploma grade)". The coefficient is a) 1.6, b) 1.8 and c) 2.0 if the degree is respectively from: Departments of Universities and former Technological Educational Institutions with undergraduate study programmes of duration less than four years, University Departments having four-year undergraduate study programmes, University Departments having five- and six-year undergraduate study programmes.

- **Diploma thesis credits:** The score is the grade of the diploma thesis provided that the thesis is found to have relevance to the MSc Programme.
- **Undergraduate degree relevance credits:** The score weighs the relevance of the undergraduate degree to the MSc Programme and can be up to 10 points.
- **Postgraduate degree relevance credits:** The score weighs the relevance of a postgraduate degree (if any, otherwise score is zero) to the MSc Programme and can be up to 10 points.
- **Relevant publications credits:** The score for publications relevant to the MSc Programme can be up to 15 points.
- **Relevant research and/or professional experience credits:** The score can be up to 10 points.
- **Letters of recommendation credits:** The score can be up to 5 points.
- **Personal interview:** The personal interview of candidates is conducted by the Selection Committee of the MSc Programme. Its purpose is both to verify the required academic knowledge of the candidates to attend the MSc Programme and to evaluate their competence in areas such as reading and comprehension, their analytical skills, the reasons for which they applied for the specific postgraduate program, etc. The interview may also refer to the personal statement submitted by the candidate.

Based on the **total points** that the candidates receive in the two evaluation phases, the new postgraduate students are selected from a list drawn up by the Selection Committee with the candidates in descending order of points. In the **event of a tie**, all those who are equal in whole unit with the last successful candidate are accepted as supernumeraries.

The students who are selected are invited to **register in the MSc Programme immediately**.

In the event that some students, despite their registration, **do not come to the classes without reason**, within the second week of the classes they are automatically deregistered and the runners-up are called. In case of student withdrawals up to the second week of classes, the runners-up are called.

The **runners-up** must respond immediately by attending the courses and proceed with their registration. Otherwise, the next runner-up on the list is called until the list is exhausted.

Submission of supporting documents

The necessary supporting documents are submitted **via email** to: msc-appbio@auth.gr. Candidates are notified for the time of interview.

The deadline for the submission of supporting documents is **22/11/2022**.

More **information** is available on the MSc Programme website: https://websites.auth.gr/appbio/ (see relevant posted documents).

Thessaloniki, 11 November 2022

The Director of the MSc Programme

*Signature

Minas Yiangou
Professor
*The signature was affixed to the original which is in the archive of the Secretariat of the School of Biology AUTh.