

# Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English (JEUPS)

## Materials Science and Engineering

**Extract from Decision No. 38744/15-01-2026 of the Senate of ATh (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), regarding the Internal Regulations of Operation of the Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English (JEUPS).**

### Preface

The first cycle of studies includes the attendance of an Undergraduate Studies Program (P.P.S.) and is completed with the award of an Undergraduate Studies degree. Successful completion of the program leads to the award of a Bachelor's Degree at Level 6 for the four-year cycle of studies, and to the award of a Diploma with an Integrated Master's Degree at Level 7 for the five-year cycle of studies, in accordance with the National and European Qualifications Frameworks.

This Regulation of Undergraduate Studies is drafted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter G' of Law 4957/2022 (Government Gazette A', 141/21.07.2022) "New Horizons in Higher Education Institutions: Strengthening the quality, functionality and connection of HEIs with society and other provisions", which concern the organization and operation of study programs, as well as Chapter K' of the same law, which specifically concerns Foreign Language Undergraduate Study Programs. In addition, it is harmonized with the Regulation of Operation of Undergraduate Study Programs of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, ensuring that the regulations herein are in line with the current institutional framework of the institution.

### Article 1

#### Objectives and Purpose of the JEUPS

The Departments of Chemistry (coordinator), Physics, and Mechanical Engineering of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki organize and operate an Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English (hereinafter referred to as JEUPS) on **Materials Science and Engineering**. The program includes a single study guide and offers two educational pathways:

- A four-year cycle of studies (1st to 8th semester) leading to a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Materials Science and Engineering.
- A five-year integrated cycle of studies (1st to 10th semester) leading to an integrated master's degree (Diploma with Integrated Master in Materials Science and Engineering).

**The objective** of the JEUPS is the systematic education and specialization of students in Materials Science and Engineering, emphasizing the connection between theoretical knowledge, applied research, and industrial practice. The Program provides students with the necessary knowledge and skills to access scientific and technological professions related to the development, characterization, processing, and applications of advanced materials, as well as any other professional or academic activity requiring high-level training in this field.

**The aim** of the Program is to provide high-level interdisciplinary education to an international audience through systematic familiarization with core scientific fields, modern technological developments, and key directions in the Materials sector. The Program aims to:

- Cultivate abilities for analysis, critical evaluation, and the resolution of complex technical and scientific problems.
- Develop skills in experimental research, technological application, and innovation.
- Strengthen critical thinking, scientific depth, and the creative utilization of knowledge.
- Promote the scientific work and academic footprint of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki within the international environment.
- Enhance the general extroversion of the participating Departments and the Institution.

**Learning Outcomes and Qualifications** Upon successful completion of the JEUPS, students will have acquired:

- Solid theoretical knowledge in all core areas of Materials Science and Engineering.
- Skills in understanding, analyzing, and synthesizing complex scientific issues and technical data.
- Familiarity with modern research methodologies, laboratory tools, and technological applications in the field.
- Sufficient scientific and technical training for employment in research centers, industrial units, and technological organizations.
- Development of intercultural communication skills, oral presentation, and written scientific documentation.
- The ability to pursue further studies in the second cycle (Master's Programs) for those who completed the 4-year cycle, or at the doctoral level (Ph.D.) for those who completed the 5-year cycle, and, under specific conditions, access to professional rights internationally.

The Program provides students with the academic prerequisites for further postgraduate and doctoral studies, as well as the professional requirements for careers in fields demanding documented scientific knowledge and technological competence. The awarded degree/diploma is equivalent to the degrees/diplomas granted by Greek-language programs of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Greece and is recognized as equivalent to degrees/diplomas of related programs from foreign universities.

## **Article 2**

### **Awarded Title of JEUPS**

The Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English (JEUPS) of the Schools of Chemistry (coordinator), Physics, and Mechanical Engineering of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki awards a “**Bachelor of Science in Materials Science and Engineering**”

in its four-year version and a Diploma leading to the award of an integrated and undivided postgraduate-level degree, “**Diploma with Integrated Master in Materials Science and Engineering**,” in its five-year version.

The successful completion of studies corresponds to Level six (6) for the four-year version of the program and Level seven (7) for the five-year version, in accordance with the National and the European Qualifications Frameworks, pursuant to the provisions of Article 47 of Law 4763/2020 (Government Gazette A' 254).

### **Article 3** **Governing Bodies of the JEUPS**

The competent bodies responsible for the organisation, administration and operation of the **Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English (JEUPS)** “Materials Science and Engineering” of the Schools of Chemistry, Physics and Mechanical Engineering are the following:

1. The Senate Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
2. The **Steering Committee** of the JEUPS of the collaborating Departments
3. The **Director** of the JEUPS of the Department
4. The Assembly of the School of Chemistry, which organizes the JEUPS

More specifically:

**1. The Senate of the University exercises the following responsibilities:**

- a. Approves the establishment of the JEUPS, following the recommendation of the Assembly of the School, as well as the amendment of the decision for the establishment of the JEUPS, following the recommendation of the Steering Committee.
- b. Approves the Internal Regulation of the JEUPS, following a recommendation of the Assembly of the School, as well as its amendment, following the recommendation of the Steering Committee.
- c. Establishes the Steering Committee of the JEUPS and appoints the Director of the JEUPS, following the recommendation of the Assembly of the School.
- d. Approves the abolition of the JEUPS, following the recommendation of the Assembly of the School.
- e. Exercises any other responsibility related to issues of academic, administrative, financial and organisational nature of the JEUPS, which are not specifically assigned by the present to other bodies.

**2. The Steering Committee of the JEUPS.** The Steering Committee of the JEUPS consists of seven (7) members of the Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) from the Schools of Chemistry, Physics and Mechanical Engineering, of whom at least two (2) faculty members are of the rank of Professor or Associate Professor. Specifically, it consists of: Three (3) members of Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) from the School of Chemistry, Two (2) members of Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) from the School of Physics, and Two (2) members of Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) from the School of Mechanical Engineering. The Committee has a four-year term and is appointed by decision of the Senate of the Higher Education Institution, following recommendations from the School Assemblies. Its members receive no remuneration for the performance of their administrative duties. The Steering Committee exercises the following responsibilities:

- a. Proposes to the Senate amendment to the decision establishing the JEUPS, as well as any other issue related to its operation for which the Senate is the competent body.
- b. Distributes the teaching assignments among the Lecturers of the JEUPS.
- c. Prepares the annual budget of the JEUPS.
- d. Approves all expenses for the operation of the JEUPS.
- e. Certifies the successful completion of studies in order for the degree of the JEUPS to be awarded.
- f. Exercises any other responsibility which is related to the organisation, administration and management of the JEUPS.

**3. Director of the Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English “Materials Science and Engineering”**

The Head of the School of Chemistry (coordinating School) is designated as Director of the JEUPS “Materials Science and Engineering,” with the aim of ensuring a unified strategy, administrative supervision and alignment between the Greek-language and the English-language Curriculum. The Director exercises, indicatively, the following responsibilities:

- a. Chairs the Steering Committee and convenes its meetings.
- b. Submits recommendations to the Program Steering Committee and to the other bodies of the Higher Education Institution regarding matters related to the effective operation of the JEUPS.

- c. Acts as Scientific Coordinator of the JEUPS, in accordance with Article 234 of Law 4957/2022.

#### **4. Coordinator of the Undergraduate Program of Studies in English**

By decision of the Study Program Committee, a Coordinator of the Program may be appointed for a term equal to that of the Committee. The Coordinator is a faculty member of one of the Schools of Chemistry, Physics or Mechanical Engineering and works closely with the Program Director and the Committee, undertaking coordinating and organisational duties under their supervision. By delegation from the Program Steering Committee, the Coordinator exercises, indicatively, the following responsibilities:

- a. Monitors the smooth day-to-day operation of the Program and ensures the timely implementation of the decisions of the Committee and the Director.
- b. Oversees the organisation of the timetable and communication with the Lecturers.
- c. Cooperates with the Secretariat of the EUPS/JEUPS on matters relating to the operation of the Program.
- d. Ensures that students are informed regarding the Curriculum, assessment procedures, mobility opportunities, scholarship opportunities and any other academic or administrative matter.
- e. In coordination with the Secretariat of the EUPS/JEUPS, prepares and submits regular reports to the Committee and the Director regarding the operation of the Program.
- f. Represents the Program, following a relevant decision of the Committee or the Director, in administrative and/or academic contacts with bodies within and outside the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
- g. Exercises, upon authorisation by the Committee, any other responsibility assigned to the Director under the present Regulation.

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**Article 10**  
**Teaching Staff of the JEUPS**

The teaching work of the Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English (JEUPS) is allocated by decision of the Steering Committee to Lecturers whose field of expertise is relevant to the subject matter assigned to them. By decision of the Steering Committee, the teaching of the Courses of the Curriculum for the following academic year is assigned to the teaching staff. In particular, the following categories may be employed as teaching staff of the JEUPS:

- a. members of the Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) of the Departments of Chemistry, Physics and Mechanical Engineering, or of other Departments of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki or of another Higher Education Institution, with additional employment beyond their statutory obligations as defined by the applicable legislation,
- b. Emeritus Professors or retired members of Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) of the Department of Chemistry, Physics and Mechanical Engineering, or of other Departments of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki or of another Higher Education Institution,
- c. members of Special Educational Staff, Laboratory Teaching Staff (E.D.I.P.) and Special Technical Laboratory Staff (ETEP) of Higher Education Institutions, who hold a doctoral degree and have teaching experience as well as sufficient scientific, writing or research activity,
- d. Lecturers,
- e. visiting professors and visiting researchers,
- f. Contract Researchers,
- g. researchers and special functional scientists of research centers under Article 13A of Law 4310/2014 (Government Gazette A' 258) or of other research organisations in Greece or abroad, who hold a doctoral degree and possess teaching experience and sufficient scientific, writing or research activity,
- h. postdoctoral researchers and early-career scientists holding at least a doctoral degree, who possess specialised knowledge or relevant experience in the subject area of the JEUPS,
- i. collaborating professors.

The assignment of teaching work within the JEUPS is carried out by decision of the Steering Committee, following a recommendation by the Director of the Program, who collaborates for this purpose with the Heads of the participating Schools. The decision of the Steering Committee ensures that the teaching and educational activities assigned to members of Teaching and Research Staff (TRS) of the participating Schools within the framework of the Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English in no way affect their other educational, research and administrative obligations toward the Schools of the Greek-language Undergraduate Programs of Studies.

The decision of the Steering Committee regarding the assignment of teaching work is issued no later than the commencement of each Semester and mandatorily

Payment is made electronically, in accordance with the instructions sent together with the confirmation of receipt of the application. The amount is deposited into the SARF of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and is non-refundable in the event of non-acceptance or withdrawal of the application.

In the event of acceptance of a place in the Program, candidates are required to pay an additional amount of one thousand euros (€1,000) as an advance on tuition fees. This amount is also paid to the SARF of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and is non-refundable in the event of withdrawal from studies.

### **Financial Management Procedure**

The management of the resources of the JEUPS, with the School of Chemistry acting as the coordinating School in cooperation with the Schools of Physics and Mechanical Engineering, is carried out by the Program Steering Committee through the Special Account for Research Funds (ELKE) of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. The resources are allocated primarily to cover the operational needs of the JEUPS and, where cash balances are available, may also be used to meet other educational and developmental needs of the Schools of Chemistry, Physics and Mechanical Engineering. By decision of the Administrative Council, following a recommendation from the Research Committee of the ELKE, the percentage withheld in favour of the ELKE of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is determined.

Operational expenses of the JEUPS include the remuneration of Lecturers and visiting professors. The amount of remuneration per category of teaching staff is determined by the Program Steering Committee, in accordance with the Remuneration Regulation of the ELKE of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and up to the maximum permitted amount per teaching hour. The Committee may decide on a graduated differentiation of remuneration depending on the number of admitted students per academic year.

Furthermore, operational expenses of the Program also include travel expenses incurred for the purposes of organising and operating the JEUPS, as approved by the Steering Committee. Travel expenses are charged to the budget of the JEUPS and are paid to the individuals concerned upon submission of the relevant supporting documents, in accordance with Article 248 of Law 4957/2022 and its subsequent amendments.

### **Allocation of Resources**

The resources of the JEUPS are allocated as follows:

- a. An amount corresponding to ten percent (10%) of the total revenue derived from tuition fees is withheld by the ELKE for the financial management of the Program. By decision of the Administrative Council, it is determined whether the remaining amount, after deduction of the ELKE withholding, is transferred to the regular budget or allocated for the creation of projects/programs through the ELKE of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, primarily to cover the needs of the Greek-language Undergraduate Programs of Studies of the Schools of Chemistry, Physics and Mechanical Engineering, which operate without tuition fees, as well as to cover research, educational and operational needs of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

For the revenues of the Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English deriving from items (b) to (d) of Article 11, the withholding in favour of the ELKE applicable to revenues from corresponding funding sources is applied.

- b. The remaining amount of the total revenues of the JEUPS is allocated to cover the operational expenses of the JEUPS.

## **Article 12**

### **Administrative Support - Logistical Infrastructure**

The Foreign Student Support Unit is responsible for the support of the foreign students of the Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English (JEUPS), based on Article 212 of Law 4957/2022. The mission of the Foreign Student Support Unit is to support foreign students enrolled in first-, second- and third-cycle study programs of the Higher Education Institution. In particular, the responsibilities of the Foreign Student Support Unit are:

- a. The support of foreign students for their enrolment in foreign language study programs of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
- b. The support of foreign students with the issuance of entry visas and residence permits in Greece for study purposes and liaising with the competent public authorities on these matters.
- c. To support the process of concluding contracts for the accelerated granting of residence permits for study purposes, in accordance with Article 37 of Law 4251/2014 (Government Gazette A' 80).
- d. the support of students during their settlement in Country.
- e. The Cooperation with the competent services of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki to facilitate services for international students.
- f. Ensuring the organisation of Greek language courses or other foreign language courses in cooperation with the competent units of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
- g. Exercising any other responsibility defined in the University Statute of the Higher Education Institution and related to the remit of the International Student Support Unit.

### **Administrative Support of the Program**

The Department of Chemistry (coordinator) of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, having long-standing experience in the organisation and implementation of first-, second- and third-cycle study programs, undertakes the overall administrative and technical support of the present Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English. The secretarial support of the Program is provided by the Secretariat of the JEUPS, which may be staffed by personnel of the Secretariat of the Department of Chemistry, constituting the main operational arm of its administration and operating under the supervision of the Program Steering Committee. More specifically, the Secretariat of the Program:

- a. Provides administrative support to the Steering Committee and the Director of the JEUPS.
- b. Handles matters relating to the students' educational lifecycle, from registration through to graduation and the issuance of their degree.
- c. Maintains the protocol, the printed and digital file of the Program.
- d. Handles the administrative procedures concerning the teaching staff of the Program (contracts, travel arrangements, etc.).

- e. Cooperates with the Special Account for Research Funds of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki for the financial management of the Program and the support of the relevant procedures.

The coordination of the Secretariat of the JEUPS, as well as the keeping of the minutes of the Program Steering Committee, is undertaken by a staff member of the Secretariat of the Greek-language Undergraduate Program of Studies who possesses the formal qualifications required to perform the duties of Head of Unit, in accordance with Article 1 of Law 3839/2010. The relevant assignment is made by decision of the Program Steering Committee.

Within this framework, for the support of the needs of the Program, the following may be employed, in accordance with Article 104 of Law 4957/2022:

- a. Members of the permanent administrative staff of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, with additional employment beyond their statutory obligations, following a decision of the Research Committee of the ELKE, upon recommendation of the Program Steering Committee of the JEUPS.
- b. Additional staff selected in accordance with the procedure of Article 243 of Law 4957/2022.

The remuneration of all categories of personnel is borne exclusively by the budget of the Program.

The technical support for the operation of the Program is centrally ensured by specialised personnel of the Digital Governance Unit of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the existing technical staff of the General Directorate of Technical Services and computer organization of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and the technical staff of the Faculty of Sciences.

For the delivery of the Courses of the JEUPS, the existing building and logistical infrastructure of the participating Schools of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is used.

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## **Article 14**

### **Certification – Evaluation of the JEUPS**

Following the issuance of the decision establishing the **Joint Undergraduate Program of Studies in English (JEUPS)** and prior to the commencement of its operation, certification of the JEUPS by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education is required, in accordance with Article 8(1)(c) of Law 4653/2020 (Government Gazette A' 12). After their establishment, JEUPS are periodically certified in accordance with Article 8(1)(b)(bb) of Law 4653/2020, within the framework of the evaluation of the academic unit to which they belong.

The JEUPS is evaluated within the context of the periodic evaluation/certification of the academic unit by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education. In particular, the evaluation examines:

- the overall assessment of the work carried out within the JEUPS,
- the degree of achievement of the objectives set at the time of its establishment,
- its sustainability,
- the employability of its graduates in the labour market,
- its contribution to research,
- its internal evaluation by graduates,
- the expediency of extending its operation, and
- other elements relating to the quality of the work produced and its contribution to the national strategy for higher education.

If, at the evaluation stage, the JEUPS is deemed not to meet the conditions for the continuation of its operation, its operation is concluded upon the graduation of the students already enrolled, in accordance with its founding decision.

### **Internal Evaluation – Quality Assurance Unit**

With the aim of safeguarding and improving the quality of the JEUPS, the Quality Assurance Unit of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (MODIP-AUTH) conducts periodic internal evaluations of the JEUPS within the framework of the Institution's Internal Quality Assurance System and in accordance with the guidelines and directions of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education.

The obligations of the governing bodies and the Lecturers of the Program include compliance with all procedures provided for under the applicable instructions and guidelines of the Quality Assurance Unit of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki concerning the internal and external evaluation and certification of Curricula and academic units.

### **Evaluation of Lecturers and Courses by Students**

For the exclusive purpose of improving the academic standards of the JEUPS, and with full assurance of anonymity, students are invited to evaluate the Courses and the Lecturers of each Semester.

For reasons of uniform statistical monitoring and to enable the extraction of conclusions useful for the educational work of the Faculties, Schools and the Institution as a whole, the evaluation questionnaires are prepared by the Quality Assurance Unit and may be partially differentiated based on the specific characteristics and needs of each academic unit and/or each Course. The questionnaires are completed electronically.

The evaluation process is conducted under the responsibility of the Internal Evaluation team (O.M.E.A.) of the JEUPS, which consists of: three (3) members of Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) from the Department of Chemistry, two (2) members of

Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and two (2) members of Teaching and Research Staff (DEP) from the Department of Physics, in cooperation with the Quality Assurance Unit of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and is carried out through its Quality Management Information System.

The Administration and the Internal Evaluation Group of the School are required to undertake systematic actions to ensure student participation in the evaluation process, in accordance with the guidelines of the Quality Assurance Unit and the relevant decisions of the Senate.

The O.M.E.A. of the JEUPS monitors, through the Quality Management Information System of the Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP), the level of student participation in the evaluation process, analyses the relevant results and informs the administrative bodies of the JEUPS and the respective academic unit accordingly. The evaluation questionnaires concern each Course and each Lecturer separately.

The administrative bodies of the JEUPS and of the academic unit, in cooperation with the respective OMEA of the JEUPS, are required to examine the evaluation results, announce their findings, decide on the publication of summary evaluation results—where deemed necessary and in any case after the announcement of Semester grades—in accordance with the applicable legislation on the protection of personal data, and undertake actions to address any identified issues or to improve the JEUPS.

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**Article 16**  
**Transitional arrangements**

Any issue that arises during the operation of the JEUPS, which is not covered by the relevant legislation or the present Regulation, is dealt with by decisions of the Program's governing bodies, by amending the relevant Regulation.