

Doc. 300.1.2

Date: 03.07.2019

Higher Education Institution's response

- Higher education institution:
UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS
- Town: **NICOSIA**
- Program of study (Name, ECTS, duration, cycle)

In Greek:

**ΜΑΣΤΕΡ ΣΤΗΝ ΔΙΔΑΚΤΙΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΓΑΛΛΙΚΗΣ ΩΣ ΞΕΝΗΣ
ΓΛΩΣΣΑΣ**

In English:

**MASTER PROGRAM IN DIDACTICS OF FRENCH AS A
FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

- Language of instruction: **French and Greek**
- Program's status
New program:
- Currently operating:

The present document has been prepared within the framework of the authority and competencies of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education, according to the provisions of the “Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws of 2015 and 2016” [N. 136 (I)/2015 and N. 47(I)/2016].

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.*

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

The programme is generally very well designed and corresponds well to international standards and norms. It has a clear focus relating to the teaching of French as a foreign language, and is designed to prepare students for a career in education both as a teacher and as a school director. It also has a research element that can prepare students for doctoral study.

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

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

1.8: The use of more recent bibliographical references could be more visible in the course outlines and documentation.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

All the courses are continuously updated. The bibliography will better reflect these updates in the course outlines and documentation.

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

1.9: It is not explicit in the documents but given the high level of research activity of the teaching staff and their frequent participation in international collaborations, the research-led aspect of the programme's teaching could be more visible.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

The policy of the Department is not to include our own publications in the bibliography of the courses. However, the students have full access to our research, which is mostly available online. Moreover, during the courses or while writing their thesis, the instructors provide them with relevant articles, data and various research results.

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

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

1.3.5: While students provide feedback on current course provision through the evaluations they complete at the end of each course, we saw no evidence of staff-student consultative committees.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

Although there is no provision for Student consultative committees in the University of Cyprus, the matter is quite extensively covered by the institution of the Academic Counsellor, a specific one for each academic semester and year of study (four in total), who coordinates with the Students Representatives on the Departmental Council. Moreover, since the Chairperson of the Department has access to all evaluations, he/she can bring such matters to the Board.

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

*2.9.: While the new library is a magnificent asset, its holdings in French areas of inquiry could be improved; in particular, subscriptions to key journals in French language and teaching (such as *Langue française*, *Langages*, *Journal of French Language Studies*, as reported in our meeting with teaching staff) should be obtained. This would facilitate updating of bibliographies in line with our comments in the previous section.*

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

For budgetary reasons, Departments are often asked to re-evaluate their permanent subscription needs for periodicals when they have a statistical reduced use, and are instead encouraged to request specific issues through the Interlibrary Service.

However, the following e-subscriptions have been asked for:

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ						
ΒΙΒΛΙΟΘΗΚΗ						
ΕΝΤΥΠΟ ΠΑΡΑΓΕΛΙΑΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΔΙΚΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΗΛΕΚΤΡΟΝΙΚΟΥ ΥΛΙΚΟΥ						
ΟΝΟΜΑ ΚΑΘΗΓΗΤΗ: <i>Fran. Karpatzakis</i>						
ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΟ ΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ: <i>99405141 / 22894478</i>						
ΤΜΗΜΑ: <i>Γαλλικά και Ευρωπαϊκά Σπουδών</i>						
ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΑ ΥΛΙΚΟΥ (ΤΙΤΛΟΣ, ΕΚΔΟΤΗΣ, ISBN/ISSN)	ΕΙΔΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΜΟΡΦΗ ΥΛΙΚΟΥ					ΥΠΟΛΟΓ. ΚΟΣΤΟΣ
	ΣΥΝΔΡΟΜΗ ΕΙΔΟΥΣ ΉΛΕΚΤΡΟΝΙΚΗΣ ΤΟΜΟΥ/ΤΕΥΧΟΣ ΠΡΟΣ ΑΠΟΣΤ.	ΠΕΡΙΟΔΙΚΟ			ΒΑΡΗ ΔΕΣΟΜΕΝΩΝ (%)	
		ΗΛΕΚΤΡΟΝΙΚΟ	ΕΝΤΥΠΟ	ΗΜΕΡΗΣΙΟ/ΕΒΔΟΜΙΑΔΙΑ ΕΝΤΥΠΟ		
		[ΕΠΙΛΕΞΤΕ ΚΑΙ ΣΕ ΒΙΒΛΙΟΘΗΚΗΣ]				
<i>e-ISBN 1597-7882</i>						
<i>Revue Linguistique Française (Revue Trilingue de Linguistique)</i>		✓				
<i>ISSN 2077-4224</i>						
<i>Sciences Cognitives Linguistiques</i>		✓				
<i>ISSN 1967-6432</i>						
<i>Lectures de Linguistique et de Didactique des Langues</i>		✓				
<i>ISSN 1630-575X</i>						
<i>Les langues vivantes représentatives</i>		✓				
ΟΝΟΜΑ ΚΑΙ ΥΠΟΓΡΑΦΗ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΟΣ						
						<i>27.6.19</i>
						ΗΜΕΡΟΜΗΝΙΑ
ΠΑΡΑΚΑΛΩ ΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΗΤΕ ΜΕ ΤΟΥΣ ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΥΣ:						
ΠΑΡΑΓΕΛΙΕΣ ΕΝΤΥΠΩΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΔΙΚΩΝ (ΣΥΝΔΡΟΜΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΛΑΙΟΙ ΤΟΜΟΙ): Νίλη Καρατάλη [karatali.n@ucy.ac.cy] τηλ.: 22892084						
ΠΑΡΑΓΕΛΙΕΣ ΗΛΕΚΤΡΟΝΙΚΟΥ ΥΛΙΚΟΥ: Μανόλης Εμμανουήλ (emmanouel.m@ucy.ac.cy) τηλ.: 22892092, 22894449						

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

2.12: See comments for 1.5.2, 1.5.6 and 1.5.7 about the relative weights of practice and theory in the programme. One way to enhance the students' research skills could be to organise a forum in which they could present and discuss issues relating to the elaboration of their 'travail de fin d'études', whether a dissertation or a report on their internship.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

The students have already created their own page where they exchange information about their work in progress. The Department can also create a Forum for this purpose.

3. Teaching Staff (ESG 1.5)

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

1.5.2: More attention should be paid to the methodology of research specifically at postgraduate level. While there are research methods courses available at undergraduate level, it would be good to introduce such a course as an integral part of the Masters programme.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

The Research Methodology course has been specially designed for students preparing a thesis or dissertation (fourth year **and above**), because the BA programs abroad are three years, and the fourth is Master I. It is a permanent policy of the Department to ask those of the postgraduate enrolled students who have not attended our Research Methodology compulsory course 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 άνω **ΓΕΣ 370 Μεθοδολογία της Έρευνας**

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

1.5.6 and 1.5.7: While the vocational nature of the course is valuable, care must be taken to ensure that the theoretical dimension of the programme is not overly subordinated to the practical.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

Didactics of French as a Foreign Language is by definition a Masters Degree with a strong vocational purpose. However, it does include a very solid theoretical basis that innerves all its courses, a good command of which is required for the final thesis.

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

3.1: The sharp drop in the number of full-time permanent members of the Department over the last few years constitutes a risk to the sustainability of the programme. While two recent / ongoing appointments will partly remedy this, the difficulties of providing a full Masters syllabus in addition to undergraduate provision suggest further recruitment will be necessary.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

The Department had asked for a third new position by the University, which has not been allocated yet.

4. Students (ESG 1.4, 1.6, 1.7)

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

4.3 Students have the opportunity to feedback on individual courses but to our knowledge there is no mechanism in place to give their opinion about the programme as a whole (for example, in a staff-student consultative committee, as mentioned above).

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

Although there is no provision for Student consultative committees in the University of Cyprus, the matter is quite extensively covered by 1) the institution of the Academic Counsellor, a specific one for each academic semester and year of study (four in total), who coordinates with the 2) Students Representatives on the 3) Departmental Council, where such matters are discussed.

5. Resources (ESG 1.6)

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

5.2, 5.7, 5.10 and 5.11: As mentioned earlier, the new library building is a wonderful resource. However, more resources could be devoted to enhancing its collections by extending the holdings of journals that are key reference-points in the discipline. This would also make regular updating of course materials to take account of recent publications more easy.

Response of the Department of French and European Studies

For budgetary reasons, Departments are often asked to re-evaluate their permanent subscription needs for periodicals when they have a statistical reduced use, and are instead encouraged to request specific issues through the Interlibrary Service.

However, the books budgets is quite important and instructors as well as Doctoral students can order books all year long. The following journal e-subscriptions have also recently been asked for:

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΚΥΠΡΟΥ ΒΙΒΛΙΟΘΗΚΗ						
ΕΝΤΥΠΟ ΠΑΡΑΓΓΕΛΙΑΣ ΠΕΡΙΟΔΙΚΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΗΛΕΚΤΡΟΝΙΚΟΥ ΥΛΙΚΟΥ						
ΟΝΟΜΑ ΚΑΘΗΓΗΤΗ: <i>Φαν Κεμπέρν - Ντεν</i>						
ΤΗΛΕΦΩΝΟ ΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑΣ: <i>9945514 / 22834378</i>						
ΤΜΗΜΑ: <i>Γαλλικά και Ευρωπαϊκά Σπουδών</i>						
ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΑ ΥΛΙΚΟΥ (ΤΙΤΛΟΣ, ΕΚΔΟΤΗΣ, ISBN/ISSN)	ΕΙΔΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΜΟΡΦΗ ΥΛΙΚΟΥ					ΥΠΟΛΟΓ. ΚΟΣΤΟΣ
	ΣΥΝΔΡΟΜΗ ΕΤΟΣ ΉΡΑ/ ΠΑΡΑΔΟΣ ΕΠΙΧΡΕΩΣΗ/ ΠΡΟΣ ΑΙΤΟΥΣ	ΠΕΡΙΟΔΙΚΟ			ΒΑΘΗ ΔΕΣΟΜΕΝΩΝ (*)	
		ΗΛΕΚΤΡΟΝΙΚΟ	ΕΝΤΥΠΟ	ΗΛΕΚΤΡΟΝΙΚΟ & ΕΝΤΥΠΟ		
		(ΗΜΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΟ + 25 ΕΠΙΧΡΕΩΣΕΙΣ)				
<i>e- ISSN 1597-7302 Revue Française de Linguistique (Paris, Tahiti, Indes de la langue)</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>ISSN 2077-4224 Sciences sociales de la psychologie</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>ISSN 1961-6252 Lectures de Linguistique et de Sociologie des langues</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
<i>ISSN 1638-573X Lectures Linguistiques représentatives langage</i>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
ΟΝΟΜΑ ΚΑΙ ΥΠΟΓΡΑΦΗ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ ΤΜΗΜΑΤΟΣ						
						<i>28/09</i>
						ΗΜΕΡΟΜΗΝΙΑ
ΠΑΡΑΚΑΛΩ ΕΠΙΚΟΙΝΩΝΗΤΕ ΜΕ ΤΟΥΣ ΥΠΕΥΘΥΝΟΥΣ:						
ΠΑΡΑΓΓΕΛΙΕΣ ΕΝΤΥΠΩΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΔΙΚΩΝ (ΓΥΝΑΡΟΜΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΑΛΑΙΟΙ ΤΟΜΟΙ): Νίκη Καραολά [karaoln@ucy.ac.cy] τηλ.: 22892084						
ΠΑΡΑΓΓΕΛΙΕΣ ΗΛΕΚΤΡΟΝΙΚΟΥ ΥΛΙΚΟΥ: Μαρίanna Εμμανουήλ (emmanouel@ucy.ac.cy) τηλ.: 22892092, 22894449						

6. Additional for distance learning programs (ALL ESG)

N/A

7. Additional for doctoral programs (ALL ESG)

N/A

8. Additional for joint programs (ALL ESG)

N/A

B. Conclusions and final remarks

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

Teaching and assessment methods are wholly consistent with the programme's aims and objectives. Students are encouraged to participate actively in the learning process and systems are in place to monitor their progress. Facilities are appropriate to deliver the course's aims.

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

Academic staff on the programme have the necessary expertise to deliver the teaching in an appropriate manner, informed by their research specialisations. All of them manage to maintain an impressive level of research activity alongside a full teaching load. The reduction in numbers of staff has not to date damaged the quality of the programmes delivered, although current numbers are not sustainable in the long term.

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

Procedures for admitting students to the programme and supporting them in difficulties they may face are well established and appear to function satisfactorily. The structure of the programme, that enables students to complete their course of study in up to eight semesters, allows for a relatively high degree of flexibility which may be of value in protecting students against the increasing stresses of academic study.

Evaluation Committee Remark/Recommendation

In recapitulation, the programme succeeds impressively in offering a viable and focussed Masters, which is a very real achievement in the light of the drastic fall in student interest in studying French as a foreign language. It has an ambitious and targeted curriculum that supplements its core of courses specific to the teaching of French with a range of optional courses relating to topical issues in education provided in other Departments. It thus succeeds in offering a French-specific course, notwithstanding the sharp reduction in staff numbers since the economic crisis. The teaching staff has advanced expertise appropriate to the subject content, and the staff-student ratio of the classes taught corresponds well to international recommendations. Nearly all students benefit from a scholarship and the processes for monitoring student admission and progress are all appropriate. A particularly strong point of the programme is the involvement of Erasmus students, and the presence of Visiting Professors in the Department. Areas in which there remains room for improvement include the introduction, at institutional level, of staff-student consultative committees. The introduction of methodological training specific to the needs of students at post-graduate level would also represent an improvement.

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 their recommendations and reaffirms its commitment to ensure high academic quality in the current international requirements of a MA in Didactics of French as a Foreign Language program.

C. Higher Education Institution academic representatives

Name	Position	Signature
Fabienne BAIDER	Vice-Chair	
May CHEHAB	Internal Quality Committee	
Fryni DOA	Program Coordinator	

Date: 3.7.2019