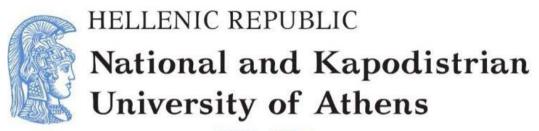




MSc in Smart Telecom and Sensing Networks Student Handbook





EST. 1837 -

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Welcome Note from the Rector



The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), which recently celebrated 180 years since its foundation, is the oldest University in Greece and the first Higher Education Institution in the Balkan and Eastern Mediterranean area.

In respect to its historical background and with the significant efforts of its human resources, our University has attained recognition as a center of educational and scientific excellence and as a

source of intellectual wealth for our country.

NKUA has eight (8) Schools offering a range of study areas defined by great variety and scope. Currently, students can choose among 33 bachelor's and 183 master's programs and also pursue doctoral studies.

39,789 undergraduates, 14,158 postgraduate students (at master level) and 8,753 Ph.D candidates, as well as 5,727 registered international students are pursuing their studies at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, supported by 1,643 professors, 402 other teaching and technical staff, as well as by 1.057 (administrative) staff members. Education and research facilities are located in an area of 700.000 sq.m. We aim at our graduates' personal and professional success; we endeavor to make them not only highly employable, but also able to gain influence and respect in their interactions with academics, researchers and the community in general.

Nowadays one of our most important tasks is to train specialists to work in organizations and institutions operating in economy, business, healthcare, the social sphere, etc. That's why the curriculum of our Departments is constantly updated and significant educational and applied research activity takes place at the 76 University Clinics and the 210 laboratories distributed in almost all Departments of the University of Athens. Since NKUA is a research university all faculty and researchers are engaged in pushing the boundaries of knowledge in their wide-ranging fields of endeavor. We encourage our students to participate and excel in Olympiads and international competitions in scientific fields of their interest. They are also invited to actively participate — in and beyond classrooms, laboratories, libraries, and museums.

The internationalization of the University of Athens is a priority for Rectoral Authorities and members of our Academic community. Decades of cooperation with partner institutions from most European countries as well as the participation of the NKUA in international organizations, associations and university networks, have led to a consistent development of our University's international profile and its fundamental role in student and staff mobility. We strongly believe that cooperation between Higher Education Institutes is essential also for the strengthening of relations of the respective countries. The mobility activities foreseen by the ERASMUS+ program for the academic year 2017-18 are based on 655 Erasmus Agreements between the NKUA and 336 universities of 31 European countries. Last but not least, NKUA is currently involved in 60 scientific cooperation agreements with Universities worldwide (EU

countries, US, Canada, China, Russian Federation, Japan, Australia, Israel, Jordan, Korea, Iran, Taiwan etc.), as well as Research Centers such as CERN (Switzerland), INRIA (France) and A * STAR (Singapore).

We believe that universities are about knowledge, innovation, as well as the pursuit of excellence. We are committed to work towards the advancement of critical human capacities, contribute to sustainable development and social cohesion and promote our country's cultural heritage, with respect to the principles of democracy, ethics and cultural diversity.

The active participation of each one of you in the academic life of our University is welcome, vital for the success, our aspirations and endeavors, and therefore, invaluable.

The Rector

Prof. Thanos Dimopoulos

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens



The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) was founded in 1837 and has been the first university in the Balkan and Eastern Mediterranean area.

Throughout its history a number of our students and faculty members have played a crucial role in research innovation, medicine, literature and in nearly all fields of sciences; we should mention, among others, George Papanicolaou, Helene Glykatzi-Ahrweiler, Constantin Carathéodory. We are also proud of the two Nobel prize-winners in Literature, Odysseas Elytis and George Seferis, who have studied at the NKUA, and Nikos Kazantzakis who was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature in nine different years.

Nowadays, the University of Athens is among the largest universities in Europe with 33 Departments about 62.700 students (undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral), 5.448 foreign students, 2.045 teaching staff and 1.057 administrative staff.

The Schools and their respective Departments, offer a wide range of *undergraduate courses*, leading to a Diploma equivalent to a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree, after a minimum of four years of studies –with the exceptions of the School of Medicine (six years), the Department of Dentistry (five years), the Department of Pharmacy (five years) and the Department of Music Studies (five years). All Departments offer *Postgraduate courses* leading to a Master of Arts or Science degree and *Doctoral studies* leading to a PhD degree.

Students can make use of 10 libraries (8 School libraries and 2 libraries belonging to the University Club) and 13 thematic museums are open to students and to the public.

NKUA's Schools/Departments along with its other services are located at three areas:

 in the University Campus of Zographou region, which contains the majority of University's Schools

- in the area of Goudi where the School of Health Sciences (Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Nursing) is situated and
- in the center of Athens where the Schools of: Law, Economics & Political Sciences, Education, and Physical Education & Sport Science are located.

Schools and Departments

School of Theology

- Department of Theology
- Department of Social Theology

School of Law

School of Economics and Political Sciences

- Department of Political Science & Public Administration
- Department of Economics
- Department of Communication and Media Studies
- Department of Turkish Studies and Modern Asian Studies

School of Philosophy

- Department of Philology
- Department of History and Archaeology
- Department of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology
- Department of Psychology
- Department of English Language and Literature
- Department of French Language and Literature
- Department of German Language and Literature
- Department of Italian Language and Literature
- Department of Spanish Language and Literature
- Department of Music Studies
- Department of Theatre Studies
- Department of Russian Language and Literature and Slavic Studies

School of Sciences

- Department of Physics
- Department of Chemistry
- Department of Mathematics
- Department of Biology
- Department of Geology and Geo-environment
- Department of Informatics and Telecommunications
- Department of History and Philosophy of Science

School of Health Sciences

- School of Medicine
- Department of Dentistry
- Department of Pharmacy
- · Department of Nursing

School of Education

- Department of Primary Education
- Department of Early Childhood Education

School of Physical Education and Sport Science

NKUA and Erasmus+

The core of the future of NKUA is in the development of research and education, the innovation and internationalization. Within this context the University Authorities place particular emphasis on issues like the globalization and diversification of higher education the ERASMUS exchange programme is considered among the most significant means to achieve this objective.

Under the umbrella of the Erasmus programme the NKUA has established 680 bilateral agreements with 340 European Higher Education Institutions with which it exchanges annually an increasing number of students for undergraduate, postgraduate or doctoral studies. Up to now the number of the Erasmus incoming students is more than 5000 and the number of the outgoing students is more than 13.000.

University Libraries – Study Halls



The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens offers ten libraries (8 School libraries and 2 libraries belonging to the University Club. Only some of them are lending libraries but strictly for the students of the relevant School/Department. The rest operate as study halls.

The material owned by Libraries is listed in an electronic catalogue, called OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue). By consulting this source, it is possible to find nformation about book offer, and availability (http://opac.seab.gr/search~S6*eng).

Each library has its own opening hours and rules: (http://www.lib.uoa.gr/bibliothikes-scholon/oraria.html).

Personal computers are available for students at the **University Club** with a capacity of 20 work places.

[15, Ippokratous str. -3rd floor-, Tel.: 210 368 8261,8271].

Opening hours: from Monday to Friday (9:00a.m.-16:00p.m.).

In addition, there are rooms with PC facilities in most of the Departments.

Department of Informatics and Telecommunications

General Information



The Department of Informatics and Telecommunications belongs to the School of Sciences of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. It was officially founded in 1989, however, it started functioning in 1986, further to a decision taken by the Senate, as an "Interdisciplinary Study Programme in the Computer Sciences and Communications" between the Faculties of Physics and Mathematics. Today the Department has 42 faculty members: 20 Professors, 10 Associate Professors, 11 Assistant Professors and 1 Lecturers.

In 2000, the Department was renamed from Department of Informatics to Department of Informatics and Telecommunications.

Our department offers a modern and rigorous course of study, professors who are leaders in several scientific fields, good building and technology infrastructure, a modern reading hall/library, a well-organized curriculum and class schedule, as well as strong Master's and Ph.D. programs.

Our department is highly ranked internationally, and this success is a result of collaborative effort, cooperation and the great potential of our students. According to the annual evaluation (2010) of the **Academic Ranking of World Universities**(www.arwu.org), the department of Informatics and Telecommunications of NKUA is the only Greek university department, in any knowledge area, **ranked in the top 100 departments worldwide** (2009 - 2011).

Our graduates have excellent job prospects in both the public and the private sector, in government organizations, as well as in a variety of industries: software design & development, software services, technology product lifecycle, telecommunications products and services. Graduates can also work in research and development institutes and projects.

Location

The facilities of the Department are located in the Ilissia University Campus.

Buses - Transportation

Direct:

- **224**: Kessariani El. Venizelou (Bus Stop "10th KESSARIANIS")
- 250: Panepistimiopolis Evagelismos (Bus Stop "2nd PANEPISTIMIOPOLIS")
- **E90** (Express): Pireas Panepistimiopolis (Bus Stop "2nd PANEPISTIMIOPOLIS")

With the use of the Campus Bus from the Central Gate:

- 220: Akademia Ano Ilissia
- 221: Akademia Panepistimiopolis

Administration

Head: Prof. A. Paschalis

Director, Sector of Theoretical Computer Science: Prof. N. Misirlis

Director, Sector of Computer Systems and Applications: Prof. D. Gounopoulos

Director, Sector of Communications and Signal Processing: Prof. D. Syvridis

Responsible for Undergraduate Studies: Prof. A. Paschalis

Responsible for Postgraduate Studies: Prof. G. Kouroupetroglou

Contact

Mail Address

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Dept. of Informatics and Telecommunications Panepistimiopolis, Ilissia Athens 15784

Phone Directory

	Phone
Secretariat	+30-210-7275192 +30-210-7275167
Sector of Theoretical Informatics	+30-210-7275228
Sector of Computer Systems and Applications	+30-210-7275228
Sector of Telecommunications and Signal Processing	+30-210-7275228
Reception	+30-210-7275111

Web Page

http://www.di.uoa.gr/

Webmaster: http@di.uoa.gr

People

42 full-time faculty members, about 20 permanent employees who belong to the Technical and Administrative personnel, and many research associates are presently employed by the Department. Most of the research associates are PhD candidates and postdoc researchers who are being supported by externally funded research and development (R&D) projects/programmes. More than 1200 undergraduate students, 200 postgraduate students and 100 PhD candidates are enrolled in the Department's programmes.

Faculty

A complete list of the faculty members of the department can be found here

External Instructors

List of instructors from other departments of UoA can be found here

Instructional Lab. Personnel

Please look <u>here</u>

Administrative and Technical Personnel

Please look here

Research

The department comprises three divisions in close collaboration, covering a wide range of research areas:

Division of Theoretical Informatics

Faculty: Achlioptas, Emiris, Kiayias, Kolliopoulos, Koutsoupias, Missirlis, Rondogiannis, Theo haris, Tzaferis, Zissimopoulos

Algorithms, Computational Geometry, Computer Graphics, Game Theory, Logic Programming, Programming Language Semantics, Scientific Computing, Security and Cryptography, and more.

Division of Computer Systems and Applications

Faculty: <u>Cotronis</u>, <u>Delis</u>, <u>Gizopoulos</u>, <u>Gunopulos</u>, <u>Hadziefthymiades</u>, <u>Hatzopoulos</u>, <u>Ioannidis</u>, <u>Karali</u>, <u>Koubarakis</u>, <u>Martakos</u>, <u>Paschalis</u>, <u>Roussopoulos</u>, <u>Smaragdakis</u>, <u>Stamatopoulos</u>, <u>Tsalgati</u> dou

Artificial Intelligence, Computer Hardware and Software, Databases, Human Computer Interaction, Information Systems, Internet and Web Applications, Logic Programming, Programming Languages, Software Engineering, and more.

Division of Telecommunications and Signal Processing

Faculty: Alonistioti, Arapoyanni, Eleftheriadis, Kalouptsidis, Karampogias, Kouroupetroglou, Manolakos, Maroulis, Merakos, Sagkriotis, Sfikopoulos, Stavrakakis, Stefanou, Syvridis, Theodoridis, Varoutas

Communication Networks, Communication Systems, Cryptography and Coding, Devices and Subsystems, Digital Video Compression and Communication, Mobile Networking, Signal and Image Processing, and more.

Research Fields

The current research of the Department is in the following areas:

- Algorithms
- Artificial Intelligence
- Communication Networks
- Communication Systems
- Computer Graphics
- Computer Hardware and Software
- Databases
- Devices and Subsystems
- Educational Technology and Distance Learning
- Energy Policies
- Human Computer Interaction
- Information Systems
- Internet Applications
- Methodologies, Techniques, and Tools for Software Development
- Programming Languages
- Scientific Computing
- Signal and Image Processing

Research Labs

Our Department has a number of Research Labs for our Master's and Ph.D. students as well as Postdoctorate researchers:

- Algebraic and Geometric Algorithms Laboratory http://erga.di.uoa.gr/
- Computer Graphics Laboratory http://graphics.di.uoa.gr/
- Management of Data,Information & Knowledge Laboratory http://www.madgik.di.uoa.gr/
- Pervasive Computing Laboratory http://p-comp.di.uoa.gr/
- Educational and Language Technology Laboratory http://hermes.di.uoa.gr/indexeng.html
- Signal and Image Processing Laboratory http://cgi.di.uoa.gr/~idsp/indexen.htm
- Distributed Systems Laboratory http://dsp.di.uoa.gr/
- Optical Communications Laboratory http://www.optcomm2.di.uoa.gr/
- Advanced Networking Laboratory http://anr.di.uoa.gr/
- Real-Time Systems and Image Analysis Laboratory http://rtsimage.di.uoa.gr/
- Speech and Accesibility Laboratory http://speech.di.uoa.gr/sppages/firstgr.html
- Green, Adaptive and Intelligent Networking Laboratory http://gain.di.uoa.gr/
- Self-evolving Congitive & Autonomic Networking Laboratory http://scan.di.uoa.gr/

University Services and Student Life



Orientation Day

It is strongly suggested to all incoming students to attend the **Orientation Day**, as it is an important step for starting the Erasmus period at National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA).

In addition, the incoming students will get acquainted with the Greek students of the ESNKapa Organization and will have the opportunity to discuss with them about practical matters and also to obtain the ESN Card.

The Orientation Day takes place at the Main building of the University [Propylaia] at 30 Eleftheriou Venizelou str. (ex Panepistimiou) twice per year.

For the academic year 2021-2022 the Orientation Day had been scheduled as follows:

First semester: September 2021

Second semester: February 2022

Registration Procedure

The documents needed for your enrolment at the Secretariat of your Faculty, are the following:

- 3 photographs
- a copy of passport or identity card
- the "Beneficiary Letter of Acceptance"

Student ID Card

After your enrolment the Faculty's Secretariat will provide you with a **personal identification number (PIN)** needed in order to activate a personal account and to get a Username. By using your Username and the Password you can apply for your **Academic Identification Card** (Academic ID Card). Since the on-line procedure for the Academic ID card is in Greek you can ask either for the assistance of a buddy (from ESNKAPA student organization) or of the secretariat of your Department. Please note that the issuing of the card may take approximately two weeks

This ID gives right of access to libraries, sport facilities, etc. and also enables you to buy at half of the regular price, tickets or cards for all means of transport. The card must be presented to controllers of public transportation organization whenever there is a ticket control.

PLEASE NOTE:

Secretariats of Faculties are open to students on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 11:00 a.m.-13:00 p.m.

Academic Calendar

The academic calendar for 2021-2022 will be announced in **September 2021** and it will be available <u>here</u>. In the meantime, you can refer to the current academic calendar as no significant changes are expected. In order to know the specific starting and ending dates of semesters, international exchange students are advised to contact the Secretariat or visit the website of the respective Department. For the SMARTNET students this is the Department of Informatics and Telecommunications.

2020-2021 Calendar

DEPARTMENT OF
INFORMATICS AND
TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Autumn Semester: 28/9/2020-15/1/2021

Examination Period: 25/1/2021-12/2/2021

Spring Semester: 22/2/2021-4/6/2021

Examination Period: 14/6/2021-2/7/2021

Official holidays 2021-2022

- 28/10/2021
- 17/11/2021
- 24/12/2021 8/1/2022 (Xmas, New Year's)
- 7/3/2022
- 25/3/2022
- 18/4/2022 29/4/2022 (Orthodox Easter)
- 13/6/2022

ECTS

The NKUA has implemented the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which eases the process of transferring credits between Universities. The number of credits awarded for each bachelor and master course is based on the learning achievements and workload of the course. The ECTS system defines a full study load for one academic year (2 semesters) as 60 ECTS credits. A full semester load is defined as 30 ECTS credits.

Grading System

The Greek Universities grading system runs from 0 to 10 and it has the following ranges:

Passing grades are from 5 to 10:

Excellent	8.50 – 10.00
Very Good	6.50 - 8.49
Good	5.00 - 6.49

Maps of UoA

In this <u>link</u> you can find a map for all the departments of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA). SMARTNET Erasmus students will be primarily based in the Department of Informatics and Telecommunications.

Student Services and Student Life



Healthcare

Students who are residents of the EU countries (and also of Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Switzerland) should obtain, before their departure from their country, the **European Health Insurance Card**, which must cover the whole period of Erasmus+ participation. Further information about the European Health Insurance Card you will find at the http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=509&langId=en

Moreover, at the http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1021&langId=en&intPageId=1739 you will be able to find information for emergency health treatment in each European country. Students of countries that do not issue the European Health Insurance Card should have a private health insurance which will cover them for the whole period of their studies in Athens.

All students of the ERASMUS Mundus Joint Master Degree Programme SMARTNET will receive private health insurance

Student Restaurants

Our university offers <u>two free meals on a daily basis</u> at specific student restaurants from **September 1**st to **June 30**th, except for Christmas and Easter holidays.

In order to obtain the card for the free meals you should:

- download and fill in the Application Form http://en.interel.uoa.gr/erasmus/student-mobility/students-services.html
- get it verified (checked and stamped) by the Secretariat of the Faculty
- submit it along with two photographs to the Meals Service of the University at the University Club (4th floor, Ippokratous 15 (center of Athens), Tel.:+30 210-3688216, +30 210-3688230, +30 210-3688228).

<u>Until the acquisition of the card for the free meals you could visit the University restaurants with the charge of 3 Euros per day (for both meals)</u>

The Students restaurants can be found in the following locations:

• University Campus:

The restaurant is located at the University Campus at Zografou, in the School of Philosophy building and serves students who attend courses at the Faculties of the University Campus.

• Faculty of Medicine:

The restaurant is located in the Medical Laboratories building and serves students who attend courses at the Faculties of the University in Goudi (i.e. Medical School).

Centre of Athens:

The restaurant is located at Lycavittou 14, in the centre of Athens and serves students who attend courses at all Faculties of the University in the centre of Athens.

Faculty of Physical Education and Sport Science

The restaurant is located at the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports Science in Dafni and serves students who attend courses at this Faculty.

The opening hours of the restaurants are:

- Monday-Friday: 12:00pm 14:00pm and 18:00pm 21:00 pm.
- On Saturdays and Sundays: 12:00pm 16:00pm and 18:00pm 20:30 pm.

University Gym and Sports Centre

Sports services have been provided to students and academic staff of the University of Athens since 1930.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES			
Exercise (conditioning aerobics)	Table tennis	Traditional dancing	
Basketball	Football	Chess	
Volleyball	Classical sports	Tennis	

The University Sports Centre and its sports facilities at the University Campus in Ano Ilissia gives students the opportunity to participate in various athletic programmes, which include exciting leisure activities contributing both to their physical and mental health.

The Centre, which has recently acquired modern exercise equipment, is open from **October 1**st **to June 30**th, from 09:00a.m. to 18:00p.m (daily except Saturdays and Sundays).

For the enrolment in the Sports Centre students should submit the following (from Monday to Friday, 10:00-13:00):

- one photograph
- a photocopy of their student identification card
- a certificate from a cardiologist or pathologist

Students' teams and individual students take part in internal, inter-university and international championships.

Information: Tel. 210 7275551, 210 7275556-7, 210 7275560

Access: Bus line 250 (Metro station Evangelismos – Panepistimiopolis (1st stop)

Greek Language Courses



The UoA offers Greek language courses to Erasmus+ students, in order to enable them to understand and read the Greek language. Even if many of the incoming students take courses in English, basic knowledge of the Greek language will help them to get acquainted with everyday life in Greece.

Please refer to the Modern Greek Language Teaching Center website for further information about the courses and registration details.

Academic Year 2021-2022:

https://en.greekcourses.uoa.gr/

In order to complete the online Application for the Greek Language Courses you must ensure that you have received the Acceptance Letter from our Department.

Academic Year 2021 - 2022:

Information will be announced in September 2021.

Modern Greek Language Teaching Centre

School of Philosophy (6th floor), room 626

Panepistimioupolis, Zographou

Reception hours: Monday-Wednesday-Friday 11.00 a.m. -13.00 p.m.

tel.: +30 210 727 7672, 7971 fax: +30 210 727 7673

website: http://en.greekcourses.uoa.gr/ e-mail: info[at]greekcourses.uoa[dot]gr

Foreign Language Courses

At the Foreign Languages Teaching Centre of the University Club, all students including Erasmus, may choose out of the 24 offered languages to improve their language capacity. The fee for regular classes is **300 Euro for one academic year**. Moreover, apart from its general language courses, the Centre of Foreign Languages offers specific programmes such as terminology, translation and culture courses.

For further information concerning the timetables of the courses and the registration requirements, please contact:

Foreign Languages Teaching Centre:

7 Ippokratous St. (2nd floor) Tel. 210 3688266 or 210 3688263

http://www.didaskaleio.uoa.gr

Counselling Centre for Students

The Counselling Centre offers aid and advice to students having difficulties related either to studies or personal issues. All students of the University have the opportunity to receive confidential assistance.

You can get more information on:

http://www.skf.psych.uoa.gr/proboli-anakoinwshs/counselling-psychological-services-for-erasmus-and-international-students.html

COUNSELLING CENTRE FOR STUDENTS AT THE NKUA

School of Philosophy-Department of Psychology, Panepistimiopolis,

Illisia, 15784 Athens

Tel +30-210-727 7554

e-mail: skf@psych.uoa.gr

webpage: http://en.skf.psych.uoa.gr/

In addition, students could address to the:

Psychosocial Intervention Unit at the University Club

15 Ippokratous str.

tel. 210 3688226

Every Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday

Responsible person: Mr Kontagelos

Students with Special Needs

The Accessibility Unit of the University of Athens welcomes all students with special needs participating in the Erasmus programme. The mission of the Accessibility Unit is to realize equal access to academic studies for students with different abilities and needs, through environmental modifications, assistive technology and access services.

The following services are currently provided on a regular basis:

- registration of the needs of students with disabilities,
- evaluation of students with special needs towards the selection of personal assistive technologies,
- support of accessible workstations in University libraries,
- operation of a Video Relay Service for deaf students,
- daily transportation to the University for students who use a wheelchair, or those with severe mobility impairments,
- · personal and group psychological counseling,
- production and distribution of accessible educational material,
- coordination of volunteers for helping the disabled students.

ACCESSIBILITY UNIT AT THE NKUA

Tel: +30 210 7275183/ +30 210 3689779

e-mail: access@uoa.gr

webpage: http://access.uoa.gr

Wi-Fi Hotspots

Students will be able to have access to the WIFI HOTSPOT via their codes (username-password) that they use to http://my-studies.uoa.gr.

There are more than 50 Wi-Fi hotspots at Panepistimiopolis (Ilisia), Goudi (Health Sciences) and at the Center of Athens. You can find them at the following link:

http://www.noc.uoa.gr/syndesh-sto-diktyo/asyrmath-syndesh-wi-fi/shmeia-prosbashs-wifi-hotspots.html

Students Associations

ESN KAPA ATHENS: the Erasmus student organization of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

The Erasmus Student Network Kapodistriako Panepistimio Athinon (ESN KAPA ATHENS) is a non-governmental, non-profit student organization of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. ESN-KAPA ATHENS consists of students of the University of Athens who have participated in the Erasmus programme.

They work together with the University to ensure that every student will have a marvelous experience here. *Their aim is to* help, in all possible ways, the Erasmus exchange students coming to study in the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. Furthermore, they organize cultural events, parties, trips and social activities in order to bring together the incoming Erasmus+ students and the Greek students of NKUA.

Buddy system: Any incoming Erasmus student who wants to meet a Greek student upon his arrival in Athens who will be his "buddy" and assist him in any practical matter that may arise during his studies at NKUA should complete the relevant form (http://www.esnkapa.org/content/find-buddy).

The organisation provides students with an **ESNcard** which gives the following benefits, across Europe for a year:

<u>Culture</u> discounts in museums, cinemas, concerts, events

Fun and Leisure discounts in pubs, clubs, restaurants

Travel discounts, language courses, useful information and news

Shops vouchers and discounts on books, fashion, house and electronic equipment

Sport discounts in swimming pools, fitness and dance clubs

<u>Careers and Education</u> information and news about jobs, student conferences and

Competitions each month for everyone with different prizes

For more information visit the following website www.esnkapa.org or join the relevant Facebook page (ESN KAPA ATHENS) and the relevant Facebook Group Erasmus@University of Athens 2018/2019 (ESN KAPA Athens). E-mail: info@esnkapa.org

NKUA Students Cultural Society

The Students Cultural Society collaborates with the Public Relations Section of the University Club to organize cultural events. It is located at the University Club (15 Ippokratous Str.). Information: 210 3688205, 210 3688276

The Students Cultural Society is composed of 5 sections: a) Theatre, b) Dance, c) Cinema d) Music and e) Photography.

a) Theatre Section

The Theatre Section organizes acting classes, classes for vocals and dancing, child theater classes, as well as other artistic events with visiting actors and professors. Through the work of its members the Theatre Section seeks to highlight the various dimensions of amateur theatricals, modern experimental theatre, classical repertory, as well as the study of ancient Greek drama on the basis of folk performances of traditional culture.

b) Dance Section

The aim of the Dance Section is to raise students' awareness of various aspects of Greek folk culture and folk dances are used as a means to this direction. Through this medium, registered students become familiar with all the elements that make up the Greek folk culture and thus experience our traditional heritage. On a daily basis throughout the year, the Dance Section organizes traditional dance lessons. These are held in Room A, which is located in the basement of the University Club.

c) Cinema Section

The objective of the Cinema Section is to promote cinematographic education among students who wish to become knowledgeable filmgoers. Moreover, it gives them the opportunity to create their own films and express themselves through the art of filmmaking. The Cinema Section has a full weekly programme of seminars on script writing, technique analysis and direction, as well as screenings of 35mm films.

d) Music Section

The aim of the Music Section is the musical education of students and, particularly, the organization of theoretical and practical classes and seminars such as lectures on the history of music, teaching of musical instruments, and introduction to artistic, folk and Byzantine music. The Music Section is located on the 4th floor of the University Club.

e) Photography Section

Artistic photography seminars constitute the main activity of the Photography Section. These seminars are designed for new, as well as advanced, students and are aimed not only at technical skills but also at the aesthetics of photography.

VISA Requirements



Depending on your citizenship and on the duration of your participation to Erasmus+ programme you may need to obtain a visa before coming to Greece.

In order to know if you need a VISA to come to Greece you can check the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

http://www.mfa.gr/en/visas/visas-for-foreigners-traveling-to-greece/countries-requiring-or-not-requiring-visa.html

A detailed practical Guide for Visa and Residence Permit as well as other information for incoming students to Greece are available at the following website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

http://www.mfa.gr/en/visas/visa-types/national-visas.html

Additionally, you should contact the nearest authorized Greek Embassy or Consulate in your country, in order to be informed about the required documents and the formal application procedure.

Please, take into consideration that the procedures may be time consuming, therefore you are advised to start in good time.

Arriving and Living in Athens



Accommodation

The Department of European and International Relations is supported by the Erasmus Student Network ESN Kapa Athens in order to assist foreign students to find private accommodation. Therefore, students must contact the ESN-KAPA ATHENS Organization (housing@esnkapa.org) so that they get access to the list of persons who rent rooms or apartments to students [http://www.esnkapa.org/accommodation-0].

Indicative prices for private accommodation range from 160-200Euro to 250 Euro. Usually, renters are asked to pay in advance a fixed amount (equivalent to the rent of two months) as a deposit, which will be returned to them upon their departure on the condition that no damage or unpaid bills are remaining.

Furthermore, you can use the platform https://www.uniplaces.com/ or other online platforms.

Until permanent accommodation is found, students may stay at certain Foreign Institutes' Guest Houses or Youth Hostels located in the center of Athens, at relatively low prices. Students who wish to stay there may receive a list from the Erasmus Office upon request.

Getting to Athens from Airport

Athens is being connected with direct flights with all European cities.

The Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos" is located 27km southeastern of Athens and is accessible via Attiki Odos, a motorway that constitutes the Athens City Ring Road.

http://www.oasa.gr/pdf/en/maps/keypoint/airport1.pdf

Metro (underground railway)

- ✓ The airport is accessible via Metro Line 3 (blue line) "Aghia Marina Athens International Airport" (http://www.stasy.gr/index.php?id=70&L=1).
- ✓ The Duration time is approximately 45 min.
- ✓ The Ticket costs 10,00€ per person or 5,00€ for reduced fare it is valid for one trip to or
 from the airport and you can go directly to the city center, like Syntagma Square,
 Monastiraki etc. For two persons the ticket costs 18 Euros and for three persons 24
 Euros. (http://www.oasa.gr/pdf/en/TICKETS AND TRAVEL CARDS.pdf)

Bus

Four bus routes connect directly Athens and Piraeus with the airport (Line X95: Syntagma Square-Airport Express, Line X96: Piraeus-Airport Express, Line X97: Metro station "Elliniko" - Aerol. Athinon (Express), Line X93: Kifissos Intercity Bus station- Athens Airport Express). All buses depart from the designated area on the inner curbside of the arrivals level of the Main Terminal Building exactly outside the Schengen Exit (between Exits 4 and 5) (http://www.oasa.gr/content.php?id=airlines)

✓ The Ticket costs 6€ and the reduced fare costs 3€.

(http://www.oasa.gr/pdf/en/TICKETS AND TRAVEL CARDS.pdf)

Further information about the route and the timetables are accessible via the telematics application: http://telematics.oasa.gr/en/

<u>Taxi</u>

The taxi queue is between the Exit 2 and Exit 3 of the Arrivals Level. The price for transportation to/from the airport is 38€ (daytime) or 50€ (night time) from/to the center of Athens. (http://www.athensairporttaxi.com/)

Car

Private cars can use the outer curbside of the arrivals level for embarkation. Extensive signage is available on the Attiki Odos for the junctions leading to the southern suburbs, and the rest of the destinations.

Transportation

Driving in Athens

An international driving licence is required.

Public Transportation

Since November, 2017 the Athens transport ticket system changed from paper tickets to electronic tickets with the use of plastic smartcards (similar to London's Oyster cards).

At the webpage: https://www.athenstransport.com/english/tickets/ you can find further information about the new system.

At the official webpage of public transportations: http://www.oasa.gr/pdf/en/TICKETS AND TRAVEL CARDS.pdf you can find detailed information about the prices of tickets and transportation cards.

The price of a ticket is 1,40€, while that of the reduced fare for special categories of citizens and for students is 0,60€.

Metro lines

http://www.stasy.gr/index.php?id=67&L=1

The Urban planning of Athens, provides one of the most sumptuous, cleanest subway system in Europe which is continuously expanding.

Two Metro lines (underground railway) connect the central area of the city with a two-line system: Line 2: Elliniko – Agios Dimitrios- Anthoupoli (red line) and Line 3: Aghia Marina - Doukissis Plakentias – Airport (blue line).

Operating hours of the metro lines: 05.30-24.00 (on Fridays and Saturdays it operates until 2:30p.m.)

Bus and trolley bus routes

www.oasa.gr

Operating hours of buses and trolley buses: 05.00-00.30 every 10 to 30 minutes depending on the route and the traffic conditions.

If you want to use public transport you can use the application http://telematics.oasa.gr/en/ in order to be informed about which bus or trolley bus goes where, when and via which route.

Electric railway line (ISAP)

http://www.stasy.gr/index.php?id=67&L=1

The electric railway line (Line 1) serves the area from Piraeus to Kifissia, passing under Omonia Square and part of the centre of Athens.

Tickets for the electric railway are bought in every station from selling offices and automatic vending machines and you must validate before you enter the train.

Operating hours of the electric railway: 05.00-00.15 every five minutes (on Fridays and Saturdays it operates until 2:15).

ATTENTION

All students should carry their University Student Card in order to obtain and use the tickets and transportation cards in reduced prices.

Athens TRAM

http://www.tramsa.gr/

There are the 3 routes of the Tram:

- THUKIDIDIS 3: From SEF to ASKLIPIO VOULA
- ARISTOTELIS 4: From SYNTAGMA to SEF
- PLATONAS 5: From SYNTAGMA to ASKLIPIO VOULA

The tram operates daily from 05:00 am to 01:00 am while on Fridays and Saturdays it operates 24 hours

TAXIS

Taxis are yellow and bear the sing TAXI on the roof. They can be found at special stops or in motion. The flag – falling is $1,19 \in$ and there is a minimum charge of $3,20 \in$ regardless of the distance. Between 24:00 and 5:00 there is a double tariff. The amount payable is indicated on the taximeter of the car, except in cases where there is an extra charge (transport from ports – airports, long distance bus terminals, luggage, radio – taxi call). During Christmas and Easter period there is an extra charge of about $0,60 \in$.

<u>Long distance transportation:</u> You can travel by long – distance buses (KTEL) throughout Attica, from Sounion to Marathon. They are orange – colored and their terminal is at the "Pedion tou Areos" (Areo's Park) on Mavromateon & Ioulianou St. The ticket costs about from 2,20 to 5,70 € (25% student discount) depending on the route and the buses run from 05:30 till 22:30 for most routes. For further information you may call +30210 880 8000

Services

<u>Telecommunication Services</u>: the Greek national telephone company is the OTE ("Organismos Tilepikoinonion Ellados – Οργανισμός Τηλεπικοινωνιών Ελλάδας"). Actually,

there are direct lines to all major countries and the rates vary depending on the country you are phoning. At many places of Athens such as telephone booths, street kiosks, local OTE office and hotels, you can find public telephones. In order to call you need a telephone card which is available at any kiosk in denominations of 100, 500 and 1000 units. At the airports you can also phone by using your credit card. Faxes can usually be sent from OTE offices and a few city post offices. Some useful telephone numbers are the followings: telephone directory information: ++30210 11888, international calls: ++30210 161, time: ++30210 141.

Postal Services: Greek post offices ("tachydromeia –ELTA: Ελληνικά Ταχυδρομία") are generally open from 07:30 to 14:00, Monday to Friday, with some main branches staying open as late as 20:00 (main branches occasionally open for a few hours at weekends). The main post offices in the center of Athens are indicated on the Street Finder map, at Plateia Syntagmatos, Tritis Septemvriou and on Aiolou St. All post offices are closed on public holidays. Those with an "Exchange" sign will change money in addition to the usual services. Post boxes are usually bright yellow; those with two slots are marked "esoteriko - εσωτερικό", meaning domestic and "exoteriko - εξωτερικό", meaning overseas. Bright red post boxes are reserved for express mail, both domestic and overseas. Express mail is a little more expensive but cuts delivery time by few days. Stamps ("grammatosima – γραμματόσημα") can be bought at post offices and also at kiosks (the latter usually charge a ten per cent commission). Some useful telephone numbers are the followings: central post offices: Plateia Syntagmatos – Mitropoleos St. ++30210 3226253, Omonia, 100 Aiolou St. ++30210 3216024. Moreover, at the School of Philosophy operates a Post office right next to the personnel Tea Room (2nd floor) which is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 14:00.

Local Currency, Bank Services and credit cards: The monetary unit in Greece is Euro

• Coins: 0,01, 0,02, 0,05, 0,10, 0,20, 0,50, 1, 2.

• Notes: 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500.

There are Greek banks and branches of all big foreign banks in all major towns and resorts as well as exchange facilities at post offices, travel agents, hotels, tourist offices and car hire agencies. Always take your passport with you when cashing travelers' checks and check exchange rates and commission charges beforehand, as they vary greatly. In major towns and tourist areas you may find a foreign exchange machine for changing money at any time of day or night; these operate in several languages. All banks are open from 08:00 to 14:30 Monday to Thursday and from 08:00 to 14:00 on Friday. Cash machines are in operation 24 hours a day. All banks are closed on public or national holidays.

The most widely accepted credit cards in Greece are Visa, MasterCard (Access), American Express and Diners Club. They are the most convenient way to pay for plane tickets, international ferry journeys, car hire, most hotels and large purchases. Cheaper tavernas, shops and hotels as a rule do not accept credit cards.

Police Service: Greece's police ("αστυνομία") are split into 3 forces: the regular police, the port police and the tourist police. The tourist police are the most useful for holiday – makers, combining normal police duties with tourist advice. Should you suffer a theft, lose your passport or have cause to complain about shops, restaurants, tour guides or taxi drivers, your case should first be known to them. Usually every tourist police office has at least one English speaker, they can act as translators if the case needs to involve the local police. Their offices also offer maps, brochures and advice on finding accommodation. Some useful telephone numbers are the followings: Police: 100 and Tourist Police: 171 (nationwide emergency).

Medical Treatment and Insurance: All students of European Union are entitled to free medical care in Greece on presentation of an E128 (the ex E111) form. Students from other countries must be provided with a private insurance from their country of origin before entering Greece.

<u>Emergency Services</u>: In case of emergencies the appropriate services to call are listed below.

For accidents or other medical emergencies, a 24-hour ambulance service operates within Athens. If necessary, patients can be transferred to ESY (Greek National Health Service – "Εθνικό Σύστημα Υγείας") hospitals. A complete list of ESY hospitals, private hospitals and clinics is available from the tourist police. Some useful telephone numbers are the followings:

Ambulance: 166 (nationwide emergency) and doctors: 105 (from 14:00 to 07:00).

<u>Pharmacies</u>: Greek pharmacies are highly qualified and cannot only advise on minor ailments, but also dispense medication. Their premises ("farmakeia – φαρμακεία") are identified by a red or green cross on a white background. Pharmacies are open from 08:30 to 14:00, but are usually closed in the afternoon and on Saturday mornings. However, in large towns there is usually a rota system to maintain a service from 07:30 to 14:00 and from 17:30 to 21:00. Details are posted in pharmacy windows, both in Greek and in English. A useful telephone number is the following:

Information on 24 hour pharmacies: 107 (central Athens) and 102 (suburbs).

<u>The climate of Athens</u>: The weather in Athens is generally warm: temperatures are high in summer and rarely drop below 0 °C in winter when, usually, north-coming winds are extremely strong.

<u>Main public holidays</u>: these are the dates when the A.U.A. and also other public organizations are closed nationwide:

- 1st January (New Year's Day)
- 6th January (Epiphany Day)
- 30th January (only for Educational Institutions)
- 25th March (National Holiday)
- Greek Orthodox Easter Sunday, Easter Monday (movable feast)
- 1st May (Labor Day)
- 15th August (Assumption of Virgin Mary)
- 28th October (National Holiday)
- 17th November (only for Educational Institutions)
- 25th December (Christmas Day)
- 26th December (Boxing Day)

Educational institutions have a two-week vacation at Christmas and a two-week vacation at Easter time.

Useful Telephone Numbers

First Aid Station	166
Holiday and Night Duty Hospitals	106
Holiday and Night Doctors	105
Athens Night Duty Pharmacies	107
Police Flying Squad	100
Fire Squad	199
Aliens Bureau	210 6411746
ELPA road assistance	104
ELPA tourist information	174
Athens Traffic Police Headquarters	210 5230111
K.A.T. Hospital for Road and other Accidents	210 8014411
Poisoning Cases Centre	210 7793777
Hellenic Tourism Organisation	210 3223111
Tourist Police	171
Counseling Centre for AIDS	210 7222222
Find a telephone nr from the Telecommunications Service	11888

Culture and Leisure



Athens excels in the sheer variety of its entertainment. People coming to Athens can go to cinemas and see the latest film releases, attend theatre pieces, live the experience of concerts in a variety of concert halls, go to galleries, spend lazy evenings in garden bars full of the aroma of plants and flowers and also try delicious plates and wines in a great variety of restaurants and tavernas. People can, at the same time, visit some of the many museums and historical sites of Athens in order to discover the glorious Greek art and history. Some English listing magazines related to the entertainment and cultural life in Athens are the following: "Athens News" published daily, "Greek News" and "Athenscope" published weekly, "The Athenian" and "Athina" published monthly and "Odyssey" published bimonthly. Concerning detailed information about museums and sites you can address to the Hellenic Tourism Organisation (EOT).

There is a large number of Museums, Galleries and archaeological/historical sites in Athens. Indicatively, find below some of the most significant museums:

Museums:

• The National Archaeological Museum

(44, Patission Str., Metro station Victoria, tel. +30 210 8217724)) http://www.namuseum.gr/

• The Acropolis Museum

(15, Dionysiou Aeropagitou Str., Metro station *Acropolis*, tel. +30 210 9000900) www.theacropolismuseum.gr

• The Byzantine and Christian Museum

(22, Vassilissis Sophias Ave., Metro station *Evangelismos*, tel. +30 210 7232178) http://www.byzantinemuseum.gr/

• The Benaki Museum

(Vass.Sophias Ave. & 1 Koumbari Str., Metro station *Syntagma*, tel. +30 210 3671000)

www.benaki.gr

• The Museum of Cycladic and Ancient Greek Art

(4, Neophytou Douka Str., Metro station *Syntagma*, Tel. +30 210 7228321) www.cycladic-m.gr

• The National Museum of Contemporary Art

(Kallirrois Avenue & Amvr. Frantzi Str., former Fix Factory, Metro station *Syggrou-Fix*, Tel+30 211 1019000-99)

http://www.emst.gr/en/

A special reference should be made to the **Athens University History Museum** which was the home of the architect Stamatios Kleanthis and is also known as the "Old University", since it housed (1837-1841) the first University of the independent Greek state.

• The Athens University History Museum

(5, Tholou Str. Metro Station *Monastiraki*, tel. +30 210 368 9500-10)

http://www.history-museum.uoa.gr

http://en.interel.uoa.gr/department-of-museum-historical-archives.html

Cultural Centres:

• Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center

https://www.snfcc.org/you-the-snfcc/how-to-get-here/

(364 Syggrou Avenue, 176 74 Kallithea, Tel. 210 8091001, email: visit@snfcc.org, https://www.snfcc.org/news-room/news/)

Onassis Cultural Center

http://www.sgt.gr/eng/SPG1272

(107 Syngrou Avenue, Athens, Tel. for Information/Tickets: +30 210 9005 800)

Archaeological Sites:

• The Acropolis and the Parthenon

(Metro station *Acropolis*, Tel. 210 3236665, 3210219)

Ancient Agora, Temple of Hephaistos and Stoa Attalos

(Metro station *Thission*, Tel. 210 3214825, 210 3210185)

The Herodes Atticus Odeion

(Metro station *Acropolis*, Tel. 210 3232771)

All the above sites compose the so-called Archaeological Promenade (Walk). There is a special ticket package at the price of 12 Euros (6 Euros Reduced) with which you can visit almost all archaeological sites within the Athens City Center, namely:

The Acropolis of Athens, The Ancient Agora, Kerameikos, The North slope of Acropolis, Olympeion, The Roman Agora and The South Slope of Acropolis.

You can get this special ticket package on the entrance of each of the above mentioned archaeological sites.

Moreover the visitors of public museums and archaeological sites have free admission on the following days:

- ➤ 6th of March in memory of Melina Mercouri
- > 18th of March International Monuments Day
- ➤ 18th of May International Museums Day
- > The last weekend of September annually (European Heritage Days) and
- > Every first Sunday from November 1st to March 31st

The Modern City of Athens

- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
- The House of Parliament
- The 3 Neoclassical Buildings of the Academy, the University of Athens, and the National Library
- <u>lliou Melathron</u> (former home of archaeologist Schliemann)
- Sintagma Square
- Lycabettus Hill
- Plaka (old Athens, below the hill of the Acropolis)

Monastiraki (flea market).

Public Libraries

- The National Library (32, Panepistimiou Str.), beside the University's Main Building
- The Greek Parliament Library (Sintagma Sq.)
- The "Benakios" Library (3, Anthimou Gazi Str.)
- The "Gennadios" Library (61, Souidias Str.)
- The Library of the National Institute of Research (48, Vas. Konstantinou Str.).

Entertainment

In Athens - center of the artistic life in the country - the visitor can choose from among many theatres, the Opera House (Lyriki Skini) and numerous winter as well as openair movie-theatres. Films are projected in the original version with Greek subtitles.

Athens prides itself on super-modern and perfectly equipped Mansion of Music (on the corner of Vassilissis Sophias Ave & 1, Kokkali Str.) where various performances - opera, theatre, concerts of classical and jazz music, ballet etc. - are held.

In Athens there is a wide choice of music-halls, discos and taverns.

Cultural Events

- The Athens and Epidaurus Festival is held from June to September every year and includes a series of ancient drama performances, opera, music and dance (http://www.greekfestival.gr/en/). Furthermore, a wide variety of modern performances are staged at the Athens Concert Hall (Megaron Mousikis), the Greek National Opera House etc.
- Folk Dances (Philopappus Theatre). From May to September.
- The Sound and Light Show at the Acropolis. From April to October
- Theatre, Musical and Dance performances at the Lykabettus Hill Theatre (from June to September).
- For other kind of entertainment Greek youth visits, especially in weekends, the area of *Psirri* (Monastiraki metro station) and the *Gazi* (near Kerameikos metro station), as well as *Panormou* Street (Panormou metro Station) where there are bars/restaurants with music and booze.

Other places to visit in Athens

Further information concerning culture and leisure can be obtained by visiting the following websites https://www.athens-museums.com/, www.culture.gr and www.athensculturenet.com/en