



**University of the Peloponnese**  
**European Community Course Credit Transfer**  
**System (ECTS) Guide**

## **European Community Course Credit Transfer System (ECTS)**

ECTS, the European Community Course Credit Transfer System, was developed by the Commission of the European Communities in order to provide common procedures to guarantee academic recognition of studies abroad. It provides a way of measuring and comparing learning achievements using ECTS credits, and transferring them from one institution to another.

ECTS reflects the content, structure, equivalence and correspondence of academic programmes, which are quality criteria for University Institutes participating in the programme and defined by the latter in such a way as to create appropriate conditions for cooperation agreements.

In the University of the Peloponnese the ECTS system is applied to all Departments.

ECTS Guide is available [here](#)

### **Why is it needed?**

The differences between national systems can lead to problems with the recognition of educational qualifications from other countries and of periods of study taken abroad. Greater transparency of learning achievements simplifies the recognition of studies done in other countries.

ECTS also makes it possible to merge different types of learning, such as university and work-based learning, within the same programme of study or in a lifelong learning perspective.

### **How does it work?**

According to the Guide for Users of ECTS:

ECTS credits represent the workload (theory, laboratories, seminars, projects, examinations) and defined learning outcomes ("what the individual knows understands and is able to do") of a given course or programme. 60 credits are the equivalent of a full year of study or work. In a standard academic year, 60 credits would be usually broken down into several smaller components

In most cases, student workload ranges from 1,500 to 1,800 hours for an academic year, whereby one credit corresponds to 25 to 30 hours of work.

A typical "first cycle" (or Bachelor's) Degree, would consist of 180 or 240 credits, whereas a typical "second cycle" (or Master's) Degree, would consist of 90 or 120 credits, with at least 60 credits at second cycle level. The use of ECTS at the "third cycle" (or Ph.D. level) varies.

### **Please follow the links below in order to find more information about:**

-**European Commission:** [http://ec.europa.eu/education/ects/ects\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/ects/ects_en.htm)

-**Law. 3374/2005** "Quality Assurance in Higher Education. Credits Transfer and Accumulation System-Diploma Supplement"

