

Charter of Quality Assurance in Teaching 2017-2020

UCY seeks to enhance, promote and ensure quality of teaching. Ensuring quality of teaching will:

1. Contribute to the realization of the Institution's vision to establish itself as a leading university of cultural enterprise, a prominent social contributor to society, and a reference point for the global scientific community.
2. Take place in close conjunction with the advancement of research, internalization, learning, entrepreneurship, and the relations with the alumni.

According to *UCY Strategic Plan 2016-2025*, excellence in teaching and learning constitutes a major operational objective and a strategic goal aiming at strengthening competitiveness, and the international recognition of UCY as one of the top universities in the world. Analytically, excellence in learning and teaching aims at:

1. Strengthening the mechanism of internal evaluation and improvement of quality teaching.
2. Improving the faculty to student ratio.
3. Creating opportunities for real-world work experience in the context of pursuing academic curricula.
4. Developing the infrastructure, mechanisms, and programs of study for open and distance learning.
5. Promoting critical thinking and student participation in university life.

Charter's aim

The Charter purposes to recognize excellence in academic teaching and promote the continuous improvement of the quality of teaching at UCY. It seeks to establish mechanisms for monitoring quality in teaching, originating efforts for professional development initiatives, and providing faculty members, students, and other stakeholders with guidance and information about the University's policies and regulations concerning the assurance of teaching quality at the Institution. The Charter is subject to change as university policies are revised with the Senate's authority.

Charter's objectives

The Charter's objectives include:

1. The improvement of the quality of teaching at UCY.
2. The evolution of a culture for accomplishing quality teaching at UCY.
3. The monitoring and assurance of quality teaching for the purposes of self-assessment and self-improvement.
4. The alignment of UCY's policy on quality teaching with European and international standards and directives.

Actions

The initiatives that are proposed to be undertaken within the time span of the next three years follow a methodological approach around three areas of action:

Action 1 - Recognition and dissemination of good teaching practices and self-assessment.

1. Identification, documentation, and dissemination of good teaching practices at UCY.
2. Self-assessment tools for personal and professional development in teaching.
3. Establishment of the Quality Teaching award.

Action 2 - Initial training, ongoing faculty professional development, and networking.

1. Design, development, and implementation of a training program for supporting new faculty members and teaching staff in developing teaching skills and competencies. The program will be under the supervision and coordination of the Centre for Teaching and Learning at UCY.
2. Continuous professional development for the faculty and teaching staff.
3. Networking with other University Centers for Teaching and Learning.

Action 3 - Mechanisms for support and continuous improvement.

1. Support the faculty members and teaching staff in the design, development and improvement of their courses.
2. Establish support mechanisms for improving the quality of students' learning and studying at UCY.
3. Increase the duration of the spring semester from 13 to 14 weeks.
4. Provide ongoing support to academic departments.