

University of Nicosia

The University of Nicosia is an independent, co-educational, equal opportunity tertiary education institution, combining the best elements in western education, quality standards and an international philosophy.

Located in Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus, an island which lies at the cross-roads of three continents, the University has quickly become a global education centre. International in philosophy, the University hosts students from all over the world, in a multicultural learning environment, promoting friendship, cooperation and understanding.

The University pursues excellence in education through high teaching standards, in a continually improving academic environment. Besides classroom instruction, the University offers students opportunities to become involved in a whole range of activities including student clubs, sports, public lectures and seminars.

The University is actively involved in European and local research projects as a partner and as a coordinating institution. Additionally, the University of Nicosia received approval for an Erasmus University Charter and is an official participant in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The University of Nicosia is also actively involved in the community with campaigns for various causes, including environmental protection. In recognition of this work the institution received the prestigious "Global 500" award from the United Nations. Other examples of community service include campaigns for fighting world hunger and raising funds for worthy causes. In an ongoing project, professors help prison inmates acquire knowledge and skills in Computing, Art and Psychology.

Academic tradition encourages the majority of the world's universities to adopt the name of the city which hosts them. Indeed, this occurs almost as a rule when the city in question happens to be the capital city. The University of Nicosia is proud of the ties and status which its name conveys. To this end, the University is

committed to maintaining its position at the forefront of education, research and social service; in line with the enduring motto of the institution: "Excellence in Education".

Vision

The University of Nicosia aspires to be a leading contributor to excellence in education and research.

Mission

To help students become educated individuals, achieve their academic and professional goals and assume responsible roles in a changing world of European cooperation and global interdependence; to promote research and the generation of knowledge; to be of service to society through the dissemination and application of knowledge, as well as through innovative partnerships with business and civic society institutions.

Statement of Values

To foster within the University community the values of personal and academic integrity; the liberty to question and to pursue knowledge; of respect for the laws of the Republic of Cyprus, the European Union and the University; democratic governance and management of the institution; respect for persons; professionalism and diligence; ethical behaviour; civic responsibility; multi-cultural awareness; tolerance; sustainability of resources; entrepreneurship and innovation; personalised attention and student focus.

General Aims

1. The promotion of science, knowledge, learning and education, through teaching and research for the benefit of society;
2. The cultivation, transmission, application and inter-disciplinary exchange of knowledge, and
3. The provision of high quality undergraduate and graduate education that is internationally recognized, and of other programmes of study, which are of an international standard.

The University gives top priority to providing students with academic and professional skills such as:

(a) to become educated individuals and develop critical skills and communication abilities, achieved through liberal arts and general electives. Evidence for this is their work while at University, including critical essays, assignments, individual and group projects, presentations internships, educational trips etc; plus the various distinctions/prizes, awards earned by our students through their participation in numerous conferences, community activities, and so on; and

(b) to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for their profession, instilled through specialized courses which the relevant professions require before graduates can practise. Evidence of this being achieved is the approval of our programmes by various professional bodies such as the Legal Council of Cyprus in Law, the Nursing and Midwifery Council, ETEK in Architecture, Computer Science and Engineering and the ACCA and ICAEW in Accounting (through the maximum exemptions allowed). With these academic and professional skills, the University of Nicosia graduates are able to succeed both at a regional-European level as well at a global level.

Focus on Research

Another important priority is research and the generation of knowledge especially in an ap-

plied manner and of benefit to the economy and society. Realizing that it does not have the resources to be a top research university, the University of Nicosia emphasizes the generation of knowledge which is primarily focused on Cyprus and the region and is more applied in nature.

Contribution to Society

The third priority is service to society and innovative partnerships with other institutions. This is illustrated by the innumerable academic and public service activities such as the Citizen's Free University, international conferences, seminars, lectures to inmates and the public presence of our faculty in the media for current affairs.

Making Cyprus an International Education Centre

The University of Nicosia also tries to contribute as much as possible to the national goal of making Cyprus a regional and international education centre; for instance partnership with St. George's University of London which recruits mainly in the UK and has some European but no international students: this institution's high reputation and high entrance criteria for its entrants is already attracting top quality students from the USA, Canada, Israel and other countries for the first time.