



e-Learning

“Situation Analysis for Greece”

1. General Introduction

Since people find themselves in highly competitive environments and seek ways to update their knowledge and skills the way we learn and educate ourselves has vastly changed and the way we provide training and education has also changed. The e-learning programmes allow trainees to participate from a distance to a very big variety of e-learning courses.

E-Learning is flexible, it offers the option to work and study at the same time, and allows the participants to focus in an efficient and convenient manner on the subject they are studying. It is self-paced and available at any time and place. As such, it is ideally suited for initial and for lifelong learning selecting subjects important for their professional improvement and activities designed to meet contemporary needs and interests.

The minimum requirements for a successful planning of an e-learning course are:

a) Learning & Testing Procedures

In all cases the e-learning programmes must be provided under the supervision of experienced educators who are available for regular communication with the trainees and who ensure the academic level of the course. In some e-learning courses and seminars, theory can be supplemented with shorter or longer practical training, according to the total length of the programme.

b) Technical Support

A facilitator is always available for all trainees, in order to help the participants to overcome any technical difficulty that may arise.

c) Ongoing Learning

The learning experience must not end on the completion of the e-learning course. All participants must receive regularly topics relevant to the course they attended, as well as on other topics of broader relevant interest.

Information about e-learning in Greece

In Greece the term "open" and distance education is emerging through the Open University, which opened its doors in 1997:

- Financing for Development of Greek Open University of EPEAEK I (B CSF).
- Commission Formation Research Group of Experts on the completion of the Program.
- Completion of the effort to acquire teaching materials for the first two pilot programs.
- Selection of teachers and establishment of faculty groups for the above programs.
- Edit the Ministry of Education Bill for HOU and adoption by the Parliament (N.2552 / 97).

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*This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the
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be made of the information contained therein*



- Completion of technical work and installation of HOU in the main building of Patras.
- Administrative Services - Educational Material Laboratory Methodology - 'Distance' Library.

The first year of full operation was the year 1999-2000:

- Completion of one of the two pilot programs of HOU (Open and Distance Education).
- Graduation of the first Students.
- Completion of preparatory actions and development of the necessary infrastructure (e.g. formation of faculty groups, ensuring premises, doubling the building infrastructure, electronic system development for remote submission for candidate student applications).
- Offer 5 undergraduate, 3 training and 9 postgraduate programs for 5,000 students.
- Proclamation of the first 15 positions for faculty members (DEP).
- Proclamation of the first positions for Administrative Employees.
- Proclamation of the first textbooks on the HOU programs.
- Financing for development and proper functioning of the educational work of the Greek Open University of EPEAEK II (CSF).
- Offer of a new Masters program: "Environmental Infrastructure Design"
- Formation and organization of Administrative Departments:
 - a. Academic Institutions
 - b. Student Records
 - c. Personnel
 - d. Installations
 - e. Economic
 - f. Library
 - g. Education
- Amendments of Law. 2552/97
- Establishment and staffing of the Internal Evaluation Unit
- Service Commitment from 8 faculty members
- Issue 180 additional new teaching material volumes

2a) The e-learning in the primary and secondary schools

The project "Digital Educational Platform, Interactive Books and Learning Object Repository" is a central task of the Ministry of Education for the period 2010-15 and implemented by the CTI "Diophantus" under the action axis for Digital Educational Content of the "Digital School".

It concerns the design, development and operation of three central web Ministry of Education services for digital educational content of primary and secondary general education:

- Website "Interactive School Books» (e-books.edu.gr),
- Series of digital educational content repositories with title "Phototree (Photodentro)" (learning objects repositories, educational videos, educational software, educational users hardware, open educational practices, external sources / cultural collections) and the National Accumulator Learning Content for school education (photodentro.edu.gr),
- and Digital Educational Platform e-me (e-me.edu.gr)

It also includes:

- development of more than six thousand digital open educational resources from experienced teachers,
- selection, suspension, meta-comments (description with metadata) and publication of several thousands of learning objects in repositories "Photodentro"
- digital modulation and enriched textbooks with these objects, and
- promotional actions and promotion of good educational content exploitation practices (Action "Participate": i-participate.gr)

The home page for the digital educational content of the primary and secondary education from which are given access to these services is: <http://dschool.edu.gr>.

The project funded by the European Union (ESF) and the Greek government under OP "Education and Lifelong Learning" of the NSRF 2007-2013. It has been selected as Priority Project (project "Flag"). It has a total budget of € 8.85M. Joined and started in 2010 and completed in 2015. Final Beneficiary is the Computer Technology Institute & Publications - "DIOFANTOS" (CTI). It is analyzed in one (1) sub-project which is implemented by the same means.

2b) The e-learning in the University and post University Education

Hellenic Open University (www.eap.gr)

In Greece the only provider of complete cycles of distance education leading to recognized - graded qualification is the Greek Open University of Patras (HOU). The students are selected every year through public lottery process for the undergraduate and postgraduate programs of the institution. The applications are for the period November - December of each year, usually from November 1 to December 10 of that year, the results are published at the end of the year and the courses start in October next year for those who were selected by the above process. The HOU State University, is absolutely equal with other Universities in the country, and provides to its graduates with all the commercial rights under the current legal framework of the country.

As regards the application of the e-Learning methodology, we could say that this is an additional tool of the methodology of the institution for 32 undergraduate and graduate programs already running in the conventional -traditional distance learning methodology. In other words there are no programs in HOU which operate exclusively with the e-Learning methodology.

University of Athens (www.uoa.gr)

The University of Athens is considered a key piece of the e-learning in Greece for 12 years. Today there are 150 undergraduate or postgraduate programs, which are divided into 20 educational paths and lead to specialization or training certificate. The programs last from 3-9 months and cost between 550-1400 euros. So far the "door" of the University of Athens has been graduated more than 15.000 people.

e-learning programs: Business Administration, Marketing and Sales, Finance and Banking, Accounting Direction, Human Resource Management, Business Planning and Development, Personal Skills, Environment and Development, Health, Educational, Tourist, Business Mobility, Business,

Business Intelligence and Business Analytics, Special Education, Psychology - Psychiatry, Nursing, Dietetics - Nutrition, Future Analytics

University of Piraeus (www.unipi.gr)

The University of Piraeus is progressing dynamically in the e-learning courses with over 20.000 users and 300 classes have been loaded on the platform. Without the constraints and limitations proceeds to education of people who are more concerned with economics, computer science and business administration. A typical example of tuition is the Banking and Financial Management department, where courses last from 1-6 months and cost between 100-800 euros. However, there are foreseen limited fees for the unemployed, large families, people with disabilities and graduates or students of the University of Piraeus, as long as there are appropriate supporting evidence.

Available courses: Industrial Management and Technology, International and European Studies, Maritime Studies, Economics, Business Administration, Computer Science, Statistics and Insurance Science, Banking and Financial Management, Digital Systems.

University of Aegean (www.aegean.gr)

"Premiere" in the e-learning sector makes the Aegean University, since its programs first start on October 15, 2015. It is a platform that essentially allows students to support each other through knowledge. The university's programs vary, and cost between 200-800 euros and last from 2-6 months. The programs of the Aegean University e-learning are: Ancient Egypt and the Aegean World: historical, archaeological and educational approaches, Effective Management and Administration Business Modern and Organizations, Auto Processing & Retrieval Images of Historical Documents, Problem Management Learning and Behaviour in the Context of Classroom: from kindergarten to high school, Education for Sustainable Development, Analysis Methods Research Evidence in Social Sciences and Educational Sciences, Management and Administration of Tourism, Cultural Communication and Modern Technologies, Modern Interactive Technologies, Library of History and historiography, Design and develop online courses, three-dimensional Computer Graphics, e-Teaching Languages, e-Parents School, e-learning in Archaeometry (New Technologies, Maintenance & Antiquities Management).

University of Ioannina (www.uoi.gr)

The e-Learning program of the Laboratory of Applied Economic and Social Policy of the Department of Economics is the "Continuous Training - Economy and Society". The novelty of the "Continuous Training program - Economy and Society" is the beginning of both individual courses and monthly course cycles.

Technological Educational Institute of Kavalas - Athabasca University (www.teikav.edu.gr)

The Technological Educational Institute of Kavalas in collaboration with the State University of Athabasca in Canada, one of the three best in the world, pioneers offering the capability to public to study from home for a Master title recognized by DOATAP (former Dikatsa) on the subject of " Distance

Learning ". The Master is aimed for teachers of different specialties who wish to indulge in ICT issues in Education, the development of educational material methodologies and the design of training programs.

2c) The e-learning in the Technical and Vocational Education

The Greek Republic with the Law 3879/2010 established and institutionalized the concept of Lifelong Learning, modernizing first educational context and separating the concepts (and the providers) of Formal (initial) education (Elementary, Middle School, High School, University) from Continuous and Lifelong Learning which requires rapidly development in nowadays. The Ke.Di.Vi.M. (Center for Lifelong Learning) must include approved curricula associated with Occupational Profiles List in order each learner will acquire training and certification in accordance with the profession he wants to follow. The Structures has certified by the Ministry of Education through EOPPEP and can be found at: http://www.eoppep.gr/index.php/el/search-for/learning-institutions/kdvm_search_page.

In the last 3 years a big number of Technical and Vocational Training Institution started offering e-learning courses. List of Public and Private Post Secondary Technical and Vocational Educational Institutions, offering e-learning courses:

MASTER A.E. – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2

Κύπρου 4
164 52, Αργυρούπολη
Τηλ. 210 9633485/559
Fax: 210 9601698
e-mail: mav01@masterkek.gr
master41@masterkek.gr

INTERACTIVE LEARNING – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ1

Ειρήνης & Δρίζη 1
50100, Κοζάνη
Τηλ. 24610 49116
e-mail: info@interactive.gr

ΚΕΚ ΙΑΣΩΝ – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2

Λιοσίων 281
10445, Αθήνα
Τηλ. 210 8547970
Fax: 210 8547969
e-mail: iasonat@otenet.gr

01 ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΚΗ-ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΗ Α.Ε. – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2

Γκιννοσάτη 88Α
14452, Μεταμόρφωση Αττικής
Τηλ. 210 6230444
Fax: 210 6231898
e-mail: infokek@01p.gr

Κ.Ε.Κ ΠΥΘΑΓΟΡΑΣ – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2

Λιβανόβου 15
54627, Θεσσαλονίκη
Τηλ. 2310 500367/500905
Fax: 2310 550368
e-mail: kek@pythagoras.gr

ΑΝΟΔΟΣ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΗ ΣΥΜΒΟΥΛΕΥΤΙΚΗ – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2

Αραπάκη 6
17676, Καλλιθέα Αττικής
Τηλ. 210 9513626
Fax: 210 9513431
e-mail: info@e-anodos.gr

EUROTRAINING – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2

Βερανζέρου 1
10677, Αθήνα

ΝΕΑ ΓΝΩΣΗ ΑΕ – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2

Κασομούλη 108
11744, Αθήνα

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ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΚΗ – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ.1**

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10677, Αθήνα
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e-mail: info@omiros-studies.gr

Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2 ΚΑΜΑΤΕΡΟΥ

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13451, Καματερό Αττικής
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Εθνάρχου Μακαρίου 29
12131, Περιστέρι
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11853, Αθήνα
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Fax: 210 3479460
e-mail: info@diavalkaniko.gr

ΤΑΣΕΙΣ ΠΑΙΔΑΓΩΓΙΚΗ ΕΠΕ – Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ2

Διστόμου 7-9
18532, Πειραιάς
Τηλ: 210 4118241, 210 4110595
Fax: -
e-mail: pedbirds@otenet.gr, info@taseism.gr

RAM COMPUTER ΜΟΝ. Ε.Π.Ε.

ΚΕ.ΔΙ.ΒΙ.Μ. 2 & ΚΕ.ΔΙ.ΒΙ.Μ. 1

Π. Μελά 5
59300, Αλεξάνδρεια Ημαθίας,
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ΚΕΚ PRACTICA ΔΥΤΙΚΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ

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ΑΠΟΨΗ Α.Ε. – ΚΕ.ΔΙ.ΒΙ.Μ.2

Αντιπλοίαρχου Π. Βλαχάκου 38-40
18545, Πειραιάς
Τηλ: 210 4618585
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e-

ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΑΘΛΗΤΙΚΟΥ ΡΕΠΟΡΤΑΖ (ΚΑΡ) –

Κε.Δι.Βι.Μ1

25ης Μαρτίου 26
17778, Ταύρος
Τηλ: 210 4831108, 210 4818593
Fax: 210 9598352

3) Annual e-learning students and dropout

There is no exact number of students who are attending e-learning courses, at the different levels and categories of Education in Greece every year. For sure the number is increasing from year to year because the e-learning becomes more familiar to the students. We estimate that an average 10% of the students of different level are participating in one or more e-learning courses every year.

We made a small scale research about the dropouts of the e-learning programmes. The result of this research proves that 6-8 students out of 10 drop out. We prepared a questionnaire in order to explore the reasons for dropouts from such a programme and addressed it to 25 e-learning students who dropped out. According to the answers in the questionnaire we decided to prepare the following “Guide to a successful e-learning course” aiming to minimize the number of drop outs.

“Guide to a successful e-learning course”

How to avoid a dropout.

The flexibility offered by online study requires a more organized and effective use of time, compared to in-class learning. Simply the fact that the participants are free to allocate their study time among other parameters of their daily schedule (work, family, social activities, rest), may lead to confusion and ineffectiveness. It is therefore essential that they must adopt a structured approach to their various activities, including studying and increase their capacity to perform more tasks in the same available time. To minimize the negatives, organize better the e-learning programme and minimize at the same time the possibilities for drop out, the e-learning trainees must focus on the following:

- 1. Identify their regular weekly obligations**, and allocate a specific day and time for each one of them.
- 2. Write down regular and non-repeating activities** and tasks to be accomplished during each coming week. Be realistic and disciplined with their time allocation.
- 3. Create an hourly activity plan for each day**, and preferably write it down from the previous evening, to give enough time to better process, absorb and remember the information. Writing down exactly what they need to do and when to do it, not only helps planning time and monitor the execution of each separate task, but also commits and motivates you to work in accordance with the timetable each one has set.
- 4. Select the optimal time period for studying:** Always allocate study time in periods of higher stamina and concentration (e.g., it is recommended to avoid repeated late-night study). So, it will be increased the knowledge absorption rate and the efficiency of the learning.

5. Study at the same time period every day

To the maximum extent possible, they should allocate a regular time period every day, which will be dedicated for studying. This practice will better integrate studying as part of the daily or weekly schedule, and remove ‘confusion’ or ‘clashes’ with other activities, which may derail your schedule.

6. Make good use of any free time

Free time 'gaps' between activities may be useful, in order to review material already studied in previous sessions, or progressing with next course sessions. Being complementary to your ordinary schedule, the efficient utilization of such time gaps can significantly reduce the time required to complete any e-learning programme.

7. Concentration is a must!

When sitting in front of a computer, there are numerous distractions which may take their attention away from their study, and therefore reduce its efficiency. It's better to schedule short breaks at regular intervals (e.g. 5 minutes every hour, rather than letting the above 'take over' their schedule.

8. Plan their tasks with adequate time inbetween

Tight schedules usually work only in theory! In practice, there is a need for a small time gap between separate tasks in the schedule, to absorb unforeseen delays, or simply allowing resting for a short while and clearing their minds before starting something new.

9. Plan their working space

Find a suitable place for studying (for example, a library, an empty classroom, a quiet part of the house, bedroom at home, etc.).

Make sure this place is only used for study purposes, as this is critical for the efficiency of your studying. Necessary features of your selected study place:

- Quiet, and as remote as possible from other 'noisy' parts of the house
- A desk with adequate space to spread out your notes and write comfortably on the keyboard.
- The computer monitor must be kept at a healthy distance from your eyes.
- Good lighting and fresh air at all times of the day.

A chair adjusted to the appropriate height, providing adequate back support.