

Welcome to the Department of Chemical Engineering of the Polytechnic School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. One of the main objectives of the Department is the provision of high-quality education in one of the broadest and dynamically evolving sciences and the preparation of well-trained Chemical Engineers capable of judging, evaluating, deciding and eventually being able to staff a variety of research, educational, educational or administrative organizations.

Chemical Engineering is often defined as the science that, through large-scale physical and chemical processes, converts raw materials into products with high added value, useful in society. It has long time since ceased to be determined only by processes taking place of a classical chemical industry (eg chemicals, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, food, etc.) or a refinery. It has now successfully penetrated new and dynamic themes such as energy, environment, safety, nanotechnology or biomedicine and biotechnology.

The curriculum of the Department, through a dynamic adjustment process, attempts to respond to the challenges of this evolving environment. The theoretical and laboratory courses (enriched with some specialty introductory courses) of the first semesters, follow courses of specialty in Chemical Engineering, which in combination with a wide range of elective courses (in the areas mentioned above) provide each student the opportunity to create his own scientific profile.

The undergraduate studies are completed in the fifth year of studies with the elaboration of work (technical-economic study, diploma thesis), in which the student is trained in the integrated approach to design issues or answer scientific questions with the combined use of his / her undergraduate knowledge.

The Department of Chemical Engineering offers postgraduate studies leading to an M.Sc. in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and a Ph.D. degree. In addition, the Department participates in two interdisciplinary postgraduate programs that award diplomas in "Processes and Technology of Advanced Materials" and in "Protection, Maintenance and Restoration of Cultural Monuments".

I think it is appropriate to address particularly to our first – year students of the Department. First of all, I would like to congratulate you on your success, with which a very busy cycle has been closed in the best way and a young person starts. You became students of one of the most remarkable Departments of Greek Universities. In the next few years, you will not only acquire specialized scientific knowledge and innovative skills, but you will end up being scientists with ethics and self-confidence, learning to communicate clearly and work effectively with your colleagues.

Nothing is easy but nothing should scare you. On the one hand, because you have proved that you have the capabilities, on the other hand, because in this effort you are not alone. Your Teachers and all members of the Department will always be at your side willing to provide you with all the advice and assistance you may need, and that you should take advantage of it.

I wish everyone a good and creative academic year.

The Head of the Department Professor Vasilis Zapalis.