

Erasmus+ Programme (ERASMUS) (ERASMUS-EDU-2022-CBHE-STRAND-1)

Managerial And GoverNance Enhancement through Teaching

(101083006 — MAGNET)



<Development of MOOC's>

<D3.2 / D10>

DIMOKRITIO PANEPISTIMIO THRAKIS (1-DUTH)



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Introduction

Teaching development programs in the form of seminars, workshops and/or lectures structured as learning units/modules to fulfill faculty and teaching staff needs on teaching and learning in HE, regarding the fields of curricula and teaching design, assessment, cultivation of critical thinking and soft skills, use of ICT and digital tools, virtual environments etc. In all languages plus English

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) developed by the 12 consortium partners in the MAGNET project play a pivotal role in achieving its overarching goals. These courses are specifically designed to address the diverse and evolving needs of higher education institutions, focusing on enhancing teaching and learning practices. The MOOCs are tailored to faculty and teaching staff, offering structured programs that include seminars, workshops, and lectures presented as modular learning units. These units provide in-depth training on critical areas such as curriculum and teaching design, assessment methodologies, fostering critical thinking and soft skills, and the integration of ICT, digital tools, and virtual environments into pedagogical practices.

The development of these MOOCs in multiple languages ensures accessibility and inclusivity across different cultural and linguistic contexts within the partner institutions and their regions. By doing so, the MAGNET project effectively addresses the specific needs of teaching staff in diverse higher education settings, enabling them to enhance their teaching effectiveness and align with modern educational paradigms. The importance of MOOCs within the MAGNET project lies in their capacity to standardize and disseminate best practices in teaching and learning across the consortium. They serve as a flexible, scalable, and sustainable platform for professional development, allowing faculty to engage in self-paced learning while gaining valuable insights and competencies. The collaborative development of MOOCs by the 12 partners ensures that these resources reflect a wide range of expertise and perspectives, enriching the content and ensuring its relevance to a broad audience.

In terms of contribution, the MOOCs are instrumental in achieving MAGNET's results by fostering innovation in teaching methodologies and equipping educators with the tools to adapt to rapidly changing educational landscapes. They support the project's goals of advancing student-centered learning, promoting digital transformation in higher education, and fostering an international and collaborative academic environment. Furthermore, the successful implementation of MOOCs demonstrates the consortium's commitment to leveraging technology to overcome barriers and provide high-quality educational resources, thereby creating a lasting impact on higher education practices.



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MAGNET MOOC platform

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are addressed to a large number of learners who can attend them asynchronously and at their own pace. In the MAGNET project, the OpenEdX open-source platform was selected for this purpose, which is designed exclusively for offering MOOCs courses. The platform offers:

- 1. Personalized access
- 2. Secure connection (https)
- 3. Multiple courses
- 4. Tailor-made material
- 5. Video lectures with multilingual subtitles
- 6. Quizes
- 7. Exercises
- 8. Forum
- 9. Monitoring of progress by teachers
- 10. Reports on student assessment
- 11. Usage reports

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magnet	Mastering Medical Education: Strategies for Effective Teaching and Learning logos - mmesetl Ended - Dec 1, 2024 View Archived Course	

Installation and operation

The installation of the platform took place in a virtual machine on a server of the Democritus University of Thrace and was given the URL https://magnet-moocs.mbg.duth.gr. The server has a



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connection speed of 10Gbps to the Internet to ensure its fast response. The option to install the platform on a server of the Democritus University of Thrace helps reduce installation and maintenance costs as well as ensure the continuity of the platform's operation even after the end of the program. In addition, the option of installing it in a virtual machine offers flexibility, as it is possible to upgrade the features of the server if required and transfer it to another server to have this need, without disrupting the operation of the platform.

MOOC Platform Administration

The server is managed by DUTH IT Manager and includes:

- Installation and update of OS
- Installing and updating the OpenEdx platform
- Backup
- Support of technical managers of the collaborating Institutions

Collaborating Institutions

Each partner institution appointed one or more administrators for its courses. Online seminars took place to support them. Each member

- Assign a person responsible for the platform
- Create a MOOC for a special topic about their university (e.g. medical teaching, lab teaching etc.)
- Videos and other teaching material are in native language and in English (captions, other material)



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Training - Material

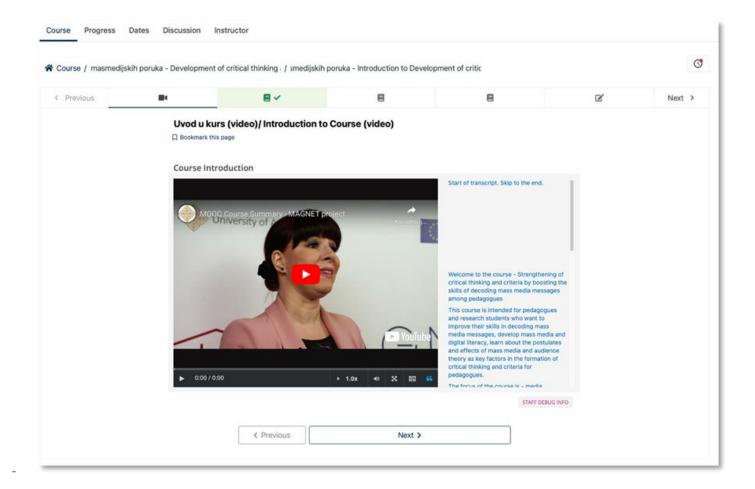
To familiarize the partners with the platform, distance training seminars took place and user guides were produced to help the administrators to create the online courses.

Also, relevant issues for the development of MOOCs were discussed during the face-to-face meetings (Tirana – Mitrovica).





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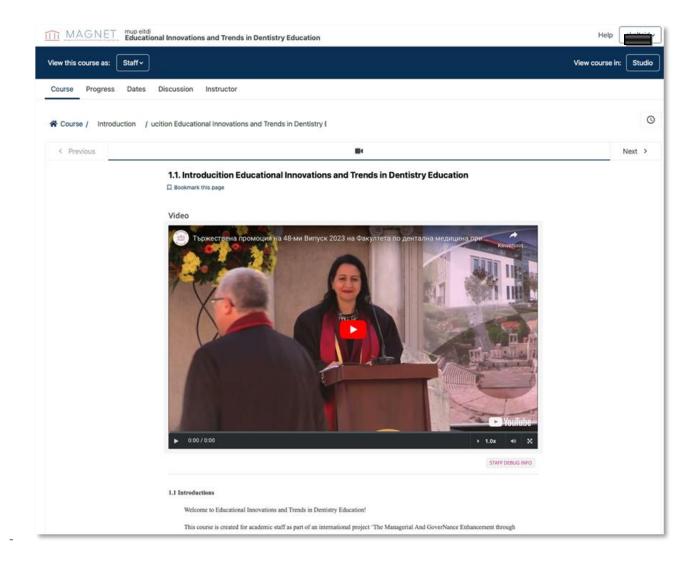


MAGNET duth: UP101 Explore courses Introduction to University Pedagogy Explore courses	Register Sign in
Introduction to University Pedagogy	
About This Course	⊮ f ⊠
Learning Circle INTRODUCTION TO UNIVERSITY PEDAGOGY for faculty members and teaching staff, aims at promoting University Pedagogy and creating a community of learning, innovation and continuous improvement of the teaching work at a Higher Education Institute (HEI). Modules are designed to support teachers to reflect on their professional development, to record their needs, to acquire and exchange good	Course Number UP101 Classes Start Jun 1, 2025



utilization of ICT within teaching in university courses.

learning and teaching practices, to develop and implement modern and effective educational actions, with the



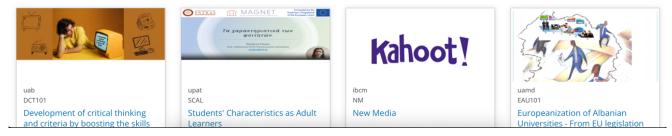


MAGNET MOOCs Courses

The partners have created online courses depending on their university specialization. The topics of the courses are from various scientific fields such as:

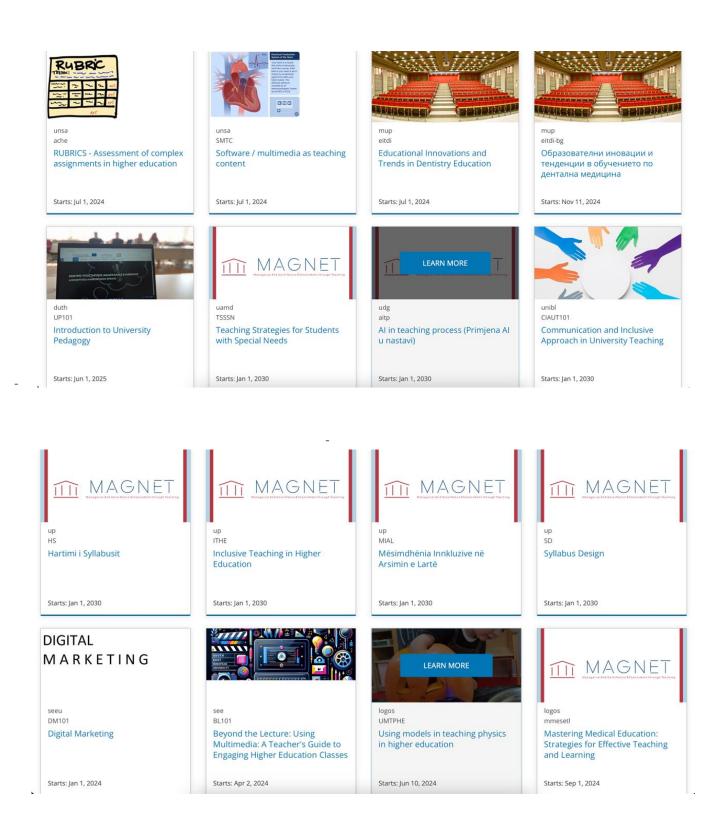
- Adult education
- Training in Health Personnel
- Educational Tools
- Natural science
- Inclusive education
- Communication
- Economic

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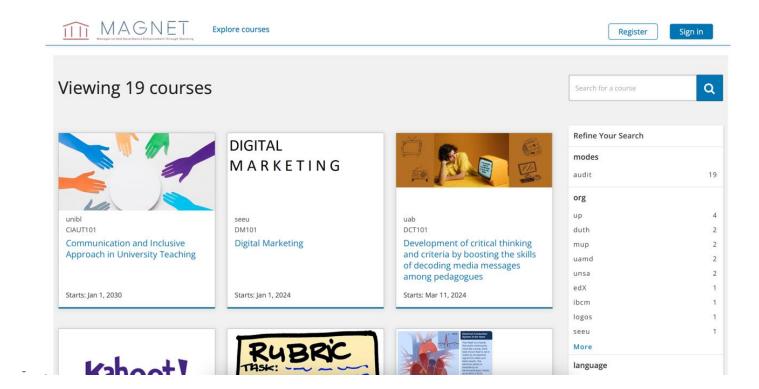




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MAGNET MOOCS Platform Registered Users

The platform is open and free of charge. Almost 200 users have already registered.

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Conclusion

The development and implementation of MOOCs within the MAGNET project represent a significant achievement in advancing teaching and learning practices across higher education institutions. These courses were meticulously designed to address the specific needs of faculty and teaching staff, providing them with the knowledge and skills required to adopt innovative and student-centered approaches. By focusing on critical areas such as curriculum design, assessment strategies, critical thinking cultivation, and the integration of ICT and digital tools, the MOOCs align with the project's objectives to modernize education and promote excellence in teaching.

The multilingual nature of the MOOCs ensures inclusivity and broad accessibility, allowing participants from diverse cultural and academic backgrounds to benefit from these resources. Their modular design offers flexibility and scalability, empowering educators to engage in professional development at their own pace and according to their individual needs.

This deliverable contributes significantly to the overall success of the MAGNET project by providing a robust foundation for continuous learning and improvement among teaching staff. It supports the project's vision of fostering collaboration, innovation, and digital transformation in higher education. Furthermore, the MOOCs serve as a testament to the consortium's dedication to creating sustainable and impactful tools that can be utilized beyond the project's duration, ensuring a long-term legacy in the higher education sector.



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