

NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES

Postgraduate Program "Religious Studies and Intercultural  
Research"

**REGULATIONS FOR THE ROLE OF THE ACADEMIC  
ADVISOR**

The **Regulations for the Role of the Academic Advisor** of the Postgraduate Program of the Department of Social Theology and Religious Studies of the NKUA, entitled "Religious Studies and Intercultural Research," were approved at the 9th meeting of the General Assembly of the Department on 24/2/2025.

**Regulations for the Role of the Academic Advisor**

**1. General**

The role of the Academic Advisor is established by Article 35 (Law 4009\_2011 Government Gazette 195, Section A), which states that "The academic advisor guides and supports students in their study programs. The Internal Regulations of each institution determine the periodic assignment of the role of academic advisor to faculty members and regulate relevant matters."

As Academic Advisor (AA) for students of the Postgraduate Program "Religious Studies and Intercultural Research," any faculty member (regardless of rank) teaching in the Program and belonging to the Department may be appointed. The role of the AA is to support and guide students regarding the Program. The same AA remains with each student until the completion of their studies.

**2. Assignment of Students to Academic Advisors**

All faculty members teaching in the Program are expected to take on the role of AA. At the beginning of each academic year, the Program Committee allocates, in alphabetical order, the new students among the faculty members. If an AA is absent due to educational or other leave, their responsibilities are

temporarily assigned to a substitute designated at random. In exceptional cases, a student may request a change of AA by stating the reasons to the Program Committee. Each request is considered on a case-by-case basis.

### **3. Procedure**

The AA is responsible for creating a dedicated section (“course”) titled "Academic Advisor" on the e-class platform (using the same process as for other courses). At the start of their studies, new students are informed—via the website and each AA’s e-class—about their assigned Academic Advisor and receive a list of AAs, emails, and office hours. Students are encouraged to enroll in their AA’s e-class to allow for direct communication and ongoing academic and research support and guidance. At the beginning of each academic year, usually in October, there is a scheduled meeting of the AA with the new students in their group. This meeting may be held in person or online and will be an orientation regarding the AA’s role and the support available. Further meetings are arranged as needed, either at the student’s initiative or, in urgent or serious matters, at the initiative of the AA. The content of discussions is confidential, and the student’s personal data is protected by the AA.

### **4. Duties of the Academic Advisor**

The main duties of the AA are to advise, guide, and support students in the Program, as well as in personal issues related to their studies, and to suggest ways for students to achieve their individual study goals. The AA’s advice and recommendations are not mandatory or binding for the student. The AA also guides students in making the best choices for their professional development, connection to the job market, and prospects as graduates.

### **5. Communication**

The AA creates a relevant “course” (page) on the e-class platform, through which they communicate with their group of students. This takes full advantage of the platform’s capabilities, especially for immediacy and speed of communication (as announcements are automatically emailed to all group members), coordination of actions (via the platform’s calendar), and regular interaction among all group members. Any questions from a member, along with the AA’s answers or suggestions, may be posted publicly (if relevant for other group members, and with anonymity protected). Meetings may be held individually or as a group, for topics of common interest, in person or online. More information about the AA’s role and the legal framework can be found at:

<https://www.kodiko.gr/nomothesia/document/120922/nomos-4009-2011>.