

UNIVERSITY OF THE AEGEAN



the
mespom

student
guide 2026

Department



of

Environment



Dear MESPOM Students

This guide is expected to provide answers to most questions that you may have.

In the case that there are more questions, feel free to contact us (Contact information is provided in the last page of this guide)

The University of the Aegean

The University of the Aegean (UAegean) was founded in 1984, aiming to introduce new approaches in higher education in Greece and worldwide and to promote regional development. It represents a strong social and economic factor and acts as Regional Innovator in the two Regions (North and South) of the Aegean Archipelago. Situated on six picturesque islands in the Aegean Archipelago, the UAegean offers a unique natural, cultural and human environment for modern studies in the ancient cradle of knowledge.

In less than forty years, the UAegean has evolved into an international research oriented University offering 17 undergraduate (BA or BSc) and 43 postgraduate (MA, MSc or MBA) programmes in modern interdisciplinary thematic areas such as environment, communication systems, cultural informatics, business administration, product design, food and nutritional sciences, education design and Mediterranean studies. In addition, the UAegean has established joined international postgraduate programmes (Biodiversity, Environmental Policy and Management, European Integration) as well as joined PhD programmes in a wide range of thematic areas. It has organized and established 90 research laboratories with activities in the following research areas: ICT, Design and Interaction Design, Sustainable Development and Environment, Geography, GIS, Meteorology-Climatology, Transport & Shipping, Culture & Education, Financial, Economic and Social Sciences.

According to the results of the 2015 external periodic evaluation of the 22 Greek public universities (<http://www.hqa.gr/en/insteval-reports.php>) by the Hellenic Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (EEC), UAegean not only was placed in the highest class of evaluation results – “Worthy of Merit” along with six more Greek Universities – but it was also achieved the highest ranking among all Greek academic institutions, scoring 18 Worthy of Merit, 7 Positive and 1 Partially Positive marks over the 26 areas evaluated. The external evaluation concluded “The EEC was impressed by the performance and achievements of the UAegean, especially in terms of innovation, internationalization, research, outreach, both in teaching and research, as well as in terms of management, leadership and strategy. All this is worthy of merit.”

Webpage: <http://www.aegean.gr/>

Introduction video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TR831EYWwWA>

Location


The town of Mytilene is full of life, a growing city of 30,000 inhabitants. The town is built on small hills, on top of the ruins of an ancient city. The prosperous economic past of the town is reflected on impressive mansions, while the establishment of the University of the Aegean has given it a fresh impulse and has livened things up.

Lesvos is the third biggest island of Greece with 1,632 square kilometres in extent and 86,436 inhabitants. The immense areas of olive groves, pine forests, oaks, the rich gulfs of Gera and Kalloni and the impressive Petrified Forest of Lesvos (at Sigri) on Western Lesvos compose a multifarious and particularly attractive natural landscape.



For an online Guide to flora, fauna, and trails:

https://issuu.com/crossbillguidesfoundation/docs/cg20_lesbos_issuu_befe7ac980cb7e

The **weather** in Mytilene in the Spring is typically sunny  with monthly average temperatures of **15 °C**, **20 °C** and **24 °C** for **April**, **May** and **June**, respectively.

For those who'd like to check: http://www.meteo.gr/cf-en.cfm?city_id=8

History & Culture

The island of Lesbos is renowned for its rich history and culture, which are depicted in a number of archaeological and historical monuments and works of art. Homeland of ancient Greek poets, such as Sappho, Alceus and Theophrastus, modern Greek painters, such as Theofilos, and modern Greek writers, such as Myrivilis, Eftalioies and Elytis [Nobel Prize for Poetry in 1979], Lesbos is famous for its rich culture and contribution to world literature and arts.



Student life

Life in the town of Mytilene combines the advantages of a small scale place and a place with a long history and tradition. Cultural events, sports activities, musical events and performances at the town and the University, along with the vibrant nightlife in the bars of the harbour and the traditional food, snacks and ouzo at the taverns compose the range of student entertainment.

UAegean MESPOM facilitators will provide all information about the upcoming cultural events and sports activities on a regular basis.

The Department of Environment

The Department of Environment of the University of the Aegean was established in 1987. It was the first Department on Environmental Science in Greece and the first to emphasize interdisciplinary studies. It was designed based on international standards, and it was innovative and pioneering in its inception. Its Undergraduate, Graduate programs, as well as its research activities cover a wide range of environment-related topics such as Ecology, Economics, Education, Politics, Engineering and Pollution. According to Thomson Reuters' (1999-2009) research on the impact of scientific research by country and discipline, the University of the Aegean is the leading University in Greece in the area "Environment/Ecology" with an average score of 12.74 -with the second Greek University score at 7.58 and the global average at 10.7.

Webpage: <http://www.env.aegean.gr/en/>

Introduction video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BF1Xd2lot88&list=PL0Txyou27ge-A3QeBZGfe6juW6bKTNFLh&index=2>



The U Aegean Mespom Semester

DURATION: 14 weeks from March 31, 2026 to July 03, 2026 (including the 2 weeks of Easter Holidays)

COURSES:

A. Mandatory:

- i. **[ENV540]** *Assessment, Modelling and Scenarios for Ecosystems Management* (6 Credits)

B. Elective (Students have to select **10 ECTS credits from elective courses** offered):

- i. **[ENV541]** Applied Ecology (2 Credits)
- ii. **[ENV511]** Air Pollution and Climate Change (3 Credits)
- iii. **[ENV512]** Freshwater Resources: Natural systems, Human Impact and Conservation (2 Credits)
- iv. **[ENV513]** Aquatic Pollution and Wastewater Management (2 Credits)
- v. **[ENV531]** Environmental Applications of GIS: Spatial Analysis and Modeling (3 Credits) - **Prerequisite:** “an Introductory GIS course” @ CEU” (or equivalent)
- vi. **[ENV571]** Resilient cities and communities (Part 2): Sustainable Local Development and Tourism (3 Credits)
- vii. **[ENV581]** Research Design & Methods in Social Sciences (3 Credits)

Table 1: UAegean Semester 2026 Time Schedule

DATES

March 31, 2026 April 06, 2026 April 19, 2026 June 8, 2026 July 3, 2026

| WEEKS | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | |
|-------|---|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|--|----|----|----|--|
| | | Easter Holidays | | Applied Ecology (2 ECTS) | | | | | | | Assessment, Modelling and Scenarios for Ecosystems Management (6 ECTS) | | | | |
| | | | | Freshwater Resources: Natural systems, Human Impact and Conservation (2 ECTS) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Air Pollution and Climate Change (3 ECTS) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Research Design & Methods in Social Sciences (3 ECTS) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Aquatic Pollution and Wastewater Management (2 ECTS) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Resilient cities and communities (Part 2): Sustainable Local Development and Tourism (3 ECTS) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Environmental Applications of GIS: Spatial Analysis and Modeling (3 ECTS) | | | | | | | | | | | |

Students should send their preliminary course selection form until Friday, April 03, 2026 and their final course registration until Wednesday, April 08, 2026.

Practicalities

Transportation to & from the UAegean Campus

Concerning your transportation from Mytilene to University Campus and vice versa, there are frequent buses that can be taken from several bus stops in the town centre. You simply show your [UAegean student ID](#) card to the driver when you board the bus and you will be carried [free of charge](#).

Municipality of Mytilene-Bike Sharing System

The municipality has implemented a shared bike system to encourage eco-friendly transport, working in collaboration with partners such as the Lesvos Cycling Club. For further information, please check [here](#).

In the first couple of days, you'll receive your UAegean student ID card that, in addition to free transportation to and from the university campus, gives you access to 50% off in all public transportation in Greece (except airplane tickets) and access to the University canteen.

Taxi: For taxi reservations call (+30)2251025900 or (+30)2251023500.
Taxi stops: there are several points in the town centre and the indicative prices for Town – University itinerary are 4,5-5,5€. Reservations are charged with additional 1.5€

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---|---|---|---|
| From | Saturday | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Airport | +15 minutes after departure from Mytilene | | | | | | | | | | | |
| University | +10 minutes after departure from Mytilene | | | | | | | | | | | |
| To | Sunday | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Airport | 09:30 | 12:00 | 13:15 | 14:15 | 15:15 | 16:15 | 18:15 | 20:15 | - | - | - | - |
| University | 13.15 | 14.15 | 15:15 | 16:15 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| From | Sunday | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Airport | +15 minutes after departure from Mytilene | | | | | | | | | | | |
| University | +10 minutes after departure from Mytilene | | | | | | | | | | | |

Attention: You will need to buy tickets for any trips that do not strictly lie on city center-university route. You can avail the 50% discount on these tickets. The ticket office is at Sappho square.

Student ID Cards

You can pick up your student ID Card by the **Vodafone Shop** which is located at Kavetsou 2 & Vournazon str (see [here](#)). You will need to provide a proof of identity (driver's license, state issued ID or passport). The **Vodafone shop is open on**: Mondays, Wednesdays & Saturdays, between 09:00 – 14:00, and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, between 09:00 – 14:00 & 17:30-20:30.

Food at the University Canteen

The University Canteen offers students **three meals** (breakfast, lunch and dinner) at a total cost of **2.75 € per person per day**.

The University Canteen is located on the University campus next to the Department of Geography and it is open **seven days a week**.

You should keep in mind that the meals are based on the Greek diet (every Wednesday and Friday vegetarian meals are served).

Time schedule:

Breakfast is served from 08:30 - 09:30

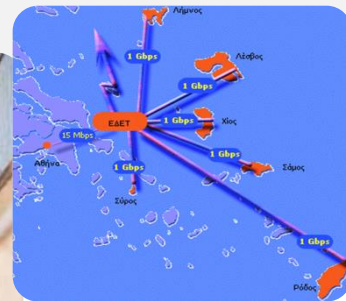
Lunch is served from 12:00 - 15:00

Dinner is served from 18:30 - 20:30

Internet access - Wi-Fi

FREE INTERNET ACCESS

All students of the University of the Aegean have free and unlimited access to the University's Wi-Fi connection by using their username and password provided by the host department. Furthermore, it is possible to have free internet access to the UAegean, other Institutions and public locations worldwide by using **eduroam** (education roaming) at <https://www.eduroam.gr/>. It allows students, researchers and staff from participating institutions to obtain internet connectivity across campus, as well while visiting other participating institutions.



BUSINESS TIMINGS

Shopping Area/Supermarkets/Pharmacies

Ermou St. is the commercial street of Mytilene. There you can find almost everything you need. All commercial shops are open every day from 08:30-14:00 and from 17:30 to 20:30 on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evening. They remain closed on Sundays.

Pharmacies are open the same hours with shops and remain closed during weekends. If you need pharmacy services during these hours please contact a facilitator.

Supermarkets are open from 9:00 to 21:00 from Monday to Friday and 9:00 to 20:00 every Saturday. They remain closed on Sundays.

Your 1st Day

The **UAegean** Courses officially start on **Tuesday, March 31, 2026**.

You are expected to be at the Dept. of Environment (University hill), at **09:30 am**.

Here is your 1st day's morning schedule:

March 31, 2026

| When | Where | What |
|--------------|--|---|
| 09:30 -10:30 | Dept. of Environment - Room D | Welcome Session Prof. Gaganis: Introduction to the UAegean Semester Course Facilitators: Tour in the facilities of the UoA |
| 12:00-14:00 | Dept. of Environment- GIS Room | Research Design & Methods in Social Sciences Prof. Botetzagias: Introduction to the Course |

Other Activities

During your stay, several activities will be organized, such as:

- "Get together" events for food and drink,
- a tour to the town's museums and cultural centers,
- other activities such as a weekend trip or a football game between students and faculty,
- a field trip-tour to the Lesvos Petrified Forest,
- several educational field trips during the coursework that cover most of the island,
- contacts for scuba diving, crewed Sailing Cruises ...and more!



Contact Information



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