



Education in Greece



Education in Greece

The Greek educational system is mainly divided into three levels:

- o primary,
- o secondary
- an additional post-secondary level providing vocational training and
- o tertiary

Primary Education

Primary education is divided into:

- > kindergarten lasting one or two years (ages 4 to 5), and
- > primary school spanning six years (ages 6 to 12)



Secondary education

Secondary education comprises two stages:

- 1. Gymnasio (variously translated as Middle or Junior High School), a three-year school,
- 2. Lykeion (an academically oriented high school) or Vocational training.



Higher Tertiary education

Higher Tertiary education is provided by:

- ✓ Universities and Polytechnics,
- ✓ Technological Educational Institutes and
- ✓ Academies which primarily cater for the military and the clergy



Duration of the Studies

- ✓ Undergraduate courses typically last 4 years (5 in polytechnics and some technical/art schools, and 6 in medical schools),
- ✓ postgraduate (MSc level) courses last from 1 to 2 years and
- ✓ doctorates (PhD level) from 3 to 6 years.

Ministry of Education

All levels are overseen by the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs. The Ministry exercises centralized control over state schools, by prescribing the curriculum, appointing staff and controlling funding.

Private schools

Private schools also fall under the mandate of the Ministry, which exercises supervisory control over them.



Tertiary institutions

Tertiary institutions are nominally autonomous, but the Ministry is responsible for their funding, and the distribution of students to undergraduate courses.

Free Education

State-run schools and universities do not charge tuition fees and textbooks are provided free to all students

Higher Tertiary education

A normal school-day starts at 8.15 and finishes at 14.10.

The classes last between 45 minutes.

The school year always starts on September 11 and ends on June 15.

The students have summer vacation (about 3 months), Christmas vacation (2 weeks) and Easter vacation (2 weeks).

1st grade, age 15 to 16

Obligatory Subjects

- 1. Ancient Greek (5h)
- 2. Modern Greek Language (2h)
- 3. Modern Greek Literature (2h)
- 4. Algebra (3h)
- 5. Geometry (2h)
- 6. Physics (2h)
- 7. Chemistry (2h)

- 8. Biology (2h)
- 9. History (2hours)
- 10. Political Studies (3h)
- 11. Religion Education (2h)
- 12. Project (2h)
- 13. Foreign Language (2h)
- 14. Physical Education (2h)

1st grade, age 15 to 16

Subjects of selection

- 1. Applications of Computer Science (2h)
- 2. Geology and Management of Natural Resources (2h)
- 3. Greek and European Culture (2h)
- 4. Art Education (2h)

2st grade, age 16 to 17

Obligatory Subjects

- 1. Ancient Greek (2h)
- 2. Modern Greek Language (2h)
- 3. Modern Greek Literature (2h)
- 4. Algebra (3h)
- 5. Geometry (2h)
- 6. Physics (2h)
- 7. Chemistry (2h)
- 8. Biology (2h)

- 9. Computers (1h)
- 10. History (2h)
- 11. Philosophy (2h)
- 12. Political Education (2h)
- 13. Religious Education (2h)
- 14. Project (1h)
- 15. Foreign Language (2h)
- 16. Physical Education (1h)

2st grade, age 16 to 17

The students can choose 1 of the 2 Orientation Groups:

the Humanities

or

the Sciences

2st grade, age 16 to 17

Subjects of the Humanities Orientation Group

- 1. Ancient Greek Language and Literature (3h)
- 2. Basic Principles of Social Science (2h)

2st grade, age 16 to 17

Subjects of the Sciences Orientation Group

- 1. Physics (3h)
- 2. Mathematics (2h)

3st grade, age 17 to 18

Obligatory Subjects

- 1. Religion Education (1h)
- 2. Foreign Language (2h)
- 3. Physical Education (2h)
- 4. History (2h)
- 5. Greek Language (2h)

- 6. Greek Literature (1h)
- 7. Biology (2h)
- 8. Mathematics and Statistics (2h)
- 9. History of Social Sciences (1h)

3st grade, age 17 to 18

Subjects of selection

- 1. 2nd Foreign Language (2h)
- 2. Drawing (free or linear) (2h)
- 3. History of Art (2h)
- 4. Business Management and Organization (2h)

3st grade, age 17 to 18

The students can choose 1 of the 3 Orientation Groups:

√ the Humanities

✓ the Economical and Computer Studies

or

✓ the Sciences

3st grade, age 17 to 18

Subjects of the Humanities Orientation Group

- 1. Ancient Greek Language (5h)
- 2. Latin (3h)
- 3. History (3h)
- 4. Literature(2h)
- 5. Sociology (2h)

3st grade, age 17 to 18

Subjects of the Science Studies Orientation Group:

- 1. Mathematics (5h)
- 2. Biology (2h)
- 3. Physics (3h)
- 4. Chemistry (3h)
- 5. Computers (2h)

3st grade, age 17 to 18

Subjects of the Humanities Orientation Group

- 1. Ancient Greek Language (5h)
- 2. Latin (3h)
- 3. History (3h)
- 4. Literature(2h)
- 5. Sociology (2h)

3st grade, age 17 to 18

Panhellenic national examinations



Panhellenic national examinations

The students must take the Panhellenic national Examinations to proceed to the Higher Tertiary education. These exams are held after the students have received their Apolytirion (the main school-leaving certificate for secondary education). The students pass into a specific Higher Educational Institute based on the Orientation and Group chosen.