

Istinye University Education-Training Policy Document

Policies are frameworks defining the basic functions carried out in universities and the organizational structures, mechanisms and processes to do so and are integral to quality assurance. The education and training policy outlined in this document is intended to raise awareness and offer monitoring guidelines for all stakeholders, expressing the mechanisms, priorities, principles, goals and processes related to the institution's internal quality assurance system.

A) Education-training processes principles

- 1) Shifting the focus in the teaching process from the teacher to the learner (student),
- 2) Considering the individual characteristics, learning styles, experiences, skills and preferences of the learners,
- 3) Recognizing the learner has his/her own knowledge and role in what to learn and how to acquire advanced skills,
- 4) Recognizing the teacher is a facilitator who shares the responsibility for learning,
- 5) Implementing active and interactive teaching methods,
- 6) Emphasizing outputs (gains) over inputs and clearly identifying learning outcomes,
- 7) Emphasizing deep understanding, critical thinking and effective use of information over information transfer,
- 8) Adopting interdisciplinary approaches,
- 9) Tracking student course loads (ECTS) and recognizing prior learning (credit transfer),
- 10) Offering continuous feedback and process and peer-oriented evaluations.

B) Education and training objectives:

- 1) Istinye University's student and learning-oriented education model is based on scientific research understanding, community service and internationalization. The model aims to produce qualified, knowledgeable graduates and world citizens who access and parse information and produce new information from what they have learned; who apply this information to problem solving, critical thinking and creative endeavors; who are intellectually practiced and productive, developing the competencies required by their professions; who communicate effectively; who are sensitive to natural and social problems; who are multicultural and sociocultural, with high awareness of social responsibility; and who adopt ethical values and embrace diversity.
- 2) Istinye University's student and learning-oriented education model rejects educational traditions where the student is the recipient of one-way knowledge transfer. Instead Istinye University's student and learning-oriented education model intends to achieve continuous self-assessment and improvement that includes interactive, multi-faceted, encouraging, skill developing, team-oriented, analytically minded, inquisitive methods, using artificial intelligence, digital transformation, advanced technological infrastructure, R&D and social developments. The model is technology and application-based, emphasizing multidisciplinary programs with reduced theoretical course load.

- 3) Istinye University's student and learning-oriented education model intends organizes the university as a learning-teaching environment to involving every student in a problem-solving teaching process based on love and tolerance and respecting differences and diversity.
- 4) Istinye University's student and learning-oriented education model seeks to employ faculty members who mentor and guide students, facilitating learning; who research and share what they have learned; who believe in lifelong learning and self-improvement; who behave ethically; who are innovative and responsive to change; and who exemplify the requisite knowledge and skills.
- 5) Istinye University's student and learning-oriented education model upholds the right to equal education, aiming for students to benefit from educational activities at the highest level, regardless of language, religion, race, gender and disability.
- 6) Istinye University aspires to become a competitive world university by providing education and training services meeting international standards within the framework of national needs and professional qualifications.
- 7) Istinye University aims to contribute to society by developing collaborations between the university and the private sector.
- 8) Istinye University aspires to achieve qualified internationalization by increasing the number of international programs and students and emphasizing program accreditations, joint programs and projects and student and academic/administrative personnel exchange.
- 9) Istinye University targets a minimum 60% course and class success rate, evaluating knowledge and skills through performance assignments, projects, presentations, research reports, portfolio studies and methods such as relative evaluation, in addition to classical evaluation tools.
- 10) Istinye University intends to manage learning and teaching processes using a quality assurance approach along with the PDCA cycle (planning, doing, checking, acting). This intends to monitor student mastery of program qualifications, on-time graduation status, employment periods, and satisfaction with the university. It provides a mechanism for improvement studies.
- 11) To uphold the student and learning-oriented education model, Istinye University intends to develop student intellectual capability through design and development of learning programs and curricula; defining and monitoring learning outcomes; application of active-interactive teaching methods; increasing elective course offerings; developing interdisciplinary activity; reducing weekly course hours; the simplifying course content and introducing extracurricular sociocultural activities.