



*A brief presentation  
of an educational experiment*



*Mathesis*

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CRETE UNIVERSITY PRESS



ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ  
STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION



First –and main – Greek Massive Open Online Courses’ (MOOC) Provider.  
Founded in 2015 with the initiative of its director Stefanos Trachanas,  
as a department of Crete University Press of FORTH



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**FORTH**

FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY - HELLAS

Offers MOOCs mainly in the fields of History, Philosophy,  
Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics

# Three numbers about Mathesis

**110.000** subscribers

**67.000** successful course completions

**0€** cost for the Greek state (direct or indirect, e.g. salaries)

What is actually  
a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)?

# Massive

Technology allows thousands of students to attend a MOOC at the same time

# Open

Anyone interested can join a MOOC without prerequisites. Financially though, the “free access” part rarely applies anymore

# Online

Students can attend, at any time and from any device, as long as they are online

# Course

Not just a collection of speeches, instead a complete analysis of a topic, just like a University course

# However, a high-quality MOOC is more than that

- It's interactive
- Students can get support from the instructor through discussion forums
- It's filmed in a studio
- It's offered through a high-tech platform

# Mathesis' core characteristics

- **Instructors** are chosen as the best in their field, from all Greek or international Universities
- **Our platform** is the Greek version of the EdX platform, the MOOC provider of Harvard and MIT
- **Participation** is free for anyone. Students pay only an amount of ~20€, if they want to earn a certificate and they achieve the required grade
- **Volunteers** support our work, mainly as Instructors' assistants

# Our students professions

Scientists (doctors, lawyers, programmers, etc...)	~55%
Schoolteachers	~30%
University/High School students	~12%

# Where does Mathesis revenue come from?

1. Non mandatory certificates: ~65%
2. Donations from Foundations, Corporations and individuals: ~35%  
*SNF Foundation (Main Sponsor), Pancretan Association Of America, Bodosaki Foundation, Plastika Kritis S.A, Pancreta Bank, individual contributors (Athina Fotiadou-Mitsouli, Charalampos Mitsoulis), etc.*

+ Volunteer work

# Our Team

- Stefanos Trachanas: **Founder and Director**
- Nikos Gikopoulos: **Software engineer / Technical manager**
- Dimitris Agelakis: **Developer / support technician of Mathesis platform**
- Elena Kollatou: **Filming and editing**
- Dimitris Voudouris: **Communication and marketing**

# Our plans and goals for the near future

- New fields, like Digital Skills, Art, etc.
- ~ 10.000 new students per year
- 80%-100% self funding by 2025

To achieve this, we will need to  
continue focusing on

**Quality**

Thank you

<https://mathesis.cup.gr>