



UniSR

Università Vita-Salute
San Raffaele

Didactic Regulations

Master of Science in Nursing and Midwifery

Applicable for students who enrol in academic year 2025-2026

Issued with Rector's Decree no. 9570 dated 9 June 2025

Summary

Article 1 – Course Admission	3
1.1 Knowledge required for admission	3
1.2 Admission procedure	3
Art. 2 – Study Plan	3
2.1 Internships	3
2.2 International mobility and recognition of periods of study and learning spent abroad	5
Art. 3 – Restrictions	5
Art. 4 – Assessment	5
Art. 5 – Final Exam	5
5.1 Definition of the Roles associated with the Final Exam	5
5.2 Dissertation drafting	6
5.3 The Degree Examination	6
5.4 Calculation of Degree marks/GPA	6
5.5 Degree examination sessions calendar / Time limits and obligations for candidates	7
5.6 Degree Exam Committee	7
Art. 6 – University and course transfers	7
Art. 7 – Recognition of degrees awarded by foreign universities	8
Art. 8 – Committees established within the Course Council	8
Art. 9 – Protection of health and safety	8
Art. 10 – Modifications	9
Annexes	9

Where these Regulations use the masculine form in an over-extended manner, it is intended to refer inclusively to all persons, irrespective of their gender.

Article 1 – Course Admission

1.1 Knowledge required for admission

Admission requires a university degree or diploma qualifying for the professions of nurse, paediatric nurse, midwife, or other equivalent qualification.

Curricular requirements

Graduates in the SNT/1 (or L-SNTI) class are eligible for admission to the course without educational debts.

Admission is also possible for candidates in possession of the qualifying qualification obtained with University Diplomas if they have completed a minimum of 20 ECTS credits in the scientific disciplinary sector MED/45 for Nurses and MED/47 for Midwives, and 50 ECTS credits in internship activities, as well as candidates in possession of a Professional Nurse, Childminder and Midwife Diploma obtained under the previous non-university system and recognised as an equivalent qualification if they have completed a minimum of 200 hours in the disciplines of the specific professional profile of origin, and 1500 hours of internship activities.

Assessment of academic background

Admission to the Master of Science in Nursing and Midwifery requires a mastery of the Italian language, an adequate preparation in the professional disciplines and good general knowledge.

The assessment of the individual's academic background is concurrent with the admission test and is carried out as specified in the call of applications issued by the rector.

1.2 Admission procedure

The admission procedures are outlined in the call for applications, which also defines the number of places available each year.

An admission test is required for admission to the degree course and therefore selection is based on the outcome of the test itself.

The test consists of multiple-choice questions covering subject areas and topics defined on an annual basis and will take place on the date indicated in the call for applications.

Art. 2 – Study Plan

The teaching activity is structured according to the Study Plan specified in the attached Description of the training programme.

There is no provision for students to enrol in the Master of Science in Nursing and Midwifery on a part-time basis.

2.1 Internships

During the two years of the Master's Degree Course, students are required to experiment the application of managerial, professional, educational and research methodologies in their specific field through placement, internship, and project experiences. The internship is intended to offer

students the opportunities to develop the skills provided for in the profile of the master's degree graduate, and also in view of the distinctive advanced skill sets for the professions of origin.

Internship activities are carried out at external facilities affiliated with Vita-Salute San Raffaele University in accordance with the current legal provisions.

For the laboratory and placement activities of each year of the course, the President avails him/herself of a lecturer appointed as the "Internship Coordinator", who is responsible for coordinating and recording the internship and laboratory activities. The internship coordinator also acts as a teaching tutor to support and monitor students in their educational programme.

For the organisation and management of internships, the Internship Coordinator is supported by site tutors appointed annually in agreement with the President of the Course Council.

The Internship Coordinator must belong to the professional profiles pertaining to the class of the Master's Degree Course and must hold a Master's Degree in the relevant class. Internship coordinator positions have a duration of three years.

This figure is identified on the basis of the evaluation of the curriculum expressing the required professional experience of not less than 5 years in the field of training. It is proposed by the Course Council and approved by the Faculty Council.

Internship Coordinators organise and supervise the workshop and internship activities with the assistance of internship tutors, who are identified in the accredited internship sites from among experienced professionals in the professional or organisational management or training areas.

Tutor-led activities are aimed at supporting the processes of preparing, reprocessing and reflecting on the experiences; they are partly timetabled (briefing and debriefing sessions with presentation and discussion of projects/reports) and partly defined individually by the student in discussions with the tutors.

The internship programme for both years is negotiated between the student (his or her preferences with respect to his or her profession of origin, areas of interest and job requirements) and the Internship Coordinator (with respect to the operational availability in the training offerings of the internship sites). Students organise their own internships in the scheduled periods and attend them on a continuous basis. Any absences must be made up. The daily attendance time is defined with the internship tutor taking into account the learning opportunities and the needs of the internship site, but must not be more than 8 or less than 4 hours per day.

Attendance must be certified by the internship tutor on a dedicated form; tutor-led activities must also be recorded on the form. It is the student's responsibility to comply with the agreed attendance plan and to give timely notice in the event of absence or lateness.

In order to acquire internship credits, students must submit their internship project to the Internship Coordinator; the project must state the educational objectives, the strategies in relation to the opportunities offered by the internship site, the tools and theoretical prerequisites for preparing for the internship experience, the assessment and supervision arrangements, and the start and end date.

Each internship experience concludes with the writing of a learning diary and a final report defined by the learning from experience schedule.

At the end of each academic year, a Committee, chaired by the Internship Coordinator and comprising 2 lecturers and a representation of the tutors from the internship sites, certifies the

level of learning achieved during the year through the internship and workshop experiences and awards a mark out of thirty; the examination arrangements may also provide for the presentation and plenary discussion of the projects/reports prepared the student.

If the overall mark for the programme is negative, the whole programme must be repeated.

2.2 International mobility and recognition of periods of study and learning spent abroad

The Master's Degree, on the basis of inter-institutional agreements or within the context of European and international programmes, provides for the possibility of carrying out the sixth and last semester at foreign universities, by granting support and guidance through its administrative and academic functions, as provided for in Article 20 of the University Didactic Regulations.

Art. 3 – Restrictions

Students who accumulate an educational debt of 15 or more ECTS credits at the end of each year cannot enter the following year and are enrolled repeating students (Article 14 and Article 15(12) of the University Didactic Regulations).

Art. 4 – Assessment

Assessments may take the form of examinations or any other form of assessment, such as an aptitude test, the nature of which will be defined once a year by the Course Supervisor/Coordinator in accordance with the Didactic System and the Dublin Descriptors it contains.

The Course Supervisor/Coordinator is under obligation to provide students with detailed information on the assessment processes when lessons start. These processes will also be published in the course teaching activity syllabuses.

Assessment of the learning activities of the student's choice is expressed as a proficiency rating. Proficiency is certified, by the Course Supervisor, by assessing the objectives achieved at the end of the course.

Students will acquire the corresponding ECTS credits when they pass an assessment.

The exam committees are composed in accordance with Article 24 of the University Didactic Regulations.

The dates of the assessment exams are scheduled once a year and disclosed to the students.

There are two exam rounds for the first year internship activity.

There are four exam rounds for the second year internship activity.

Art. 5 – Final Exam

In order to sit the final exam, students must have acquired all the ECTS credits in the learning activities indicated in the study plan, including those regarding internship activities.

5.1 Definition of the Roles associated with the Final Exam

Students will be supervised by a lecturer of the Degree Course, known as the Supervisor, and possible Assistant Supervisors, who guide and direct the work of the candidate.

Supervisors for the final examination can be full professors, associate professors, contract professors, researchers and tutors of the Course and permanent lecturers or researchers from other Faculties of the University and other Universities.

Assistant Supervisors for the final examination can be full professors, associate professors, contract professors, researchers and tutors of the Course, permanent lecturers or researchers also from other Faculties of the university and other universities, as well as experts with proven experience on the topics discussed in the text presented.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to identify the supervisor for their dissertation and decide on its topic. The Assistant Supervisor is identified by the Supervisor.

5.2 Dissertation drafting

The aim of the dissertation is to engage students in a formalisation, design research process that makes a substantial contribution to the completion of their professional and scientific education. The content of the thesis must concern topics or disciplines closely related to the objectives of the Master's Degree.

Dissertations are normally written in Italian but may be written and discussed in English if requested by the candidate. Each dissertation must contain an abstract in both Italian and English.

5.3 The Degree Examination

The final examination consists of the preparation and discussion, before an Exam Committee, of an original dissertation prepared based on work of an experimental or theoretical and practical nature concerning the in-depth study of managerial, research, training and advanced professional methodologies, specific the student's professional field.

5.4 Calculation of Degree marks/GPA

The assessment of the dissertation will be based on the following criteria: level of the work of the work carried out and scientific rigour, critical contribution of the candidate, accuracy of the methodology adopted, significance of the topic developed.

The final degree mark is expressed out of 110 with honours, where appropriate, and is formed by adding the weighted average mark out of 110 of the marks obtained in the assessment exams, with the mark obtained in the discussion of the Dissertations for which a maximum of 7 points is awarded:

Score allocation criteria:	Points:
Level of depth of the work carried out and scientific rigour.	maximum 2 points
Critical contribution of the candidate (in both the dissertation and its discussion)	maximum 2 points
Accuracy of the methodology adopted	maximum 2 points
Significance of the topic developed	maximum 1 point
The Degree Committee may also award additional points on the basis of:	
Placements in health services in other countries	maximum 1 point

Final qualification award by the third Graduation session provided for in the academic year in question	maximum 1 point
Honours	≥ 3 maximum 1 point
	≥ 6 maximum 2 points

The pass mark for the final examination is 66/110.

If the final sum reaches 110/110, the Degree Committee may decide to award honours, if the opinion is unanimous.

A mention of honour will be given, when a score of 113 is exceeded, upon a unanimous proposal of the Exam Committee. The request must be made by the Supervisor at the end of the dissertation session.

5.5 Degree examination sessions calendar / Time limits and obligations for candidates

The Course Council publishes the instructions for dissertation drafting and on the various administrative and organisational requirements on the Course website on an annual basis.

The procedures and deadlines for submitting the degree application are established and published by the Student Center.

5.6 Degree Exam Committee

The Committee for the final exam consists of no less than 7 lecturers, at least 5 of whom are permanent lecturers and researchers belonging to the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

Art. 6 – University and course transfers

Incoming transfer requests from students enrolled at other universities in Italy and abroad, military academies or other similar institutes and requests for Master's Degree course transfers are subject to approval by the Course Council.

The Course Council will recognise credits after analysing the educational documentation provided by the student and the outcome of the interview to verify the knowledge actually possessed.

The Course Council is responsible for recognising and validating the credits earned by the student in previous teaching activities and internship experiences.

Students must submit a request for credit recognition to the Student Center, accompanied by detailed documentation, certifying the examinations taken and the marks obtained, the credits earned and the programmes taken. The Course Council may avail itself of the cooperation of the Teaching Committee, which will prepare a summary, on the basis of the documentation received, regarding:

1. The number of ECTS credits and the relevance of the examination programmes to the course content;
2. The equivalences between the activities carried out and those provided for by the Course;
3. The degree of educational obsolescence of the activities presented.

Following this investigation, it will propose additional curricular activities for the achievement of the credits envisaged for the individual activity to be approved by the Course Council.

In the case of transfer between Master Degree Courses in the health professions belonging to the same professional profile, the share of ECTS credits relating to the same scientific disciplinary sector directly recognised to the student shall in any case not be less than fifty per cent, in accordance with paragraph 6(3) of the Italian Ministerial Decree of 08/01/2009.

In the case of activities for which reference to a specific scientific disciplinary sector is not envisaged, the Course Council, with the cooperation of the Teaching Committee, will assess on a case-by-case basis the content of the learning activities and their consistency with the objectives of the course, evaluating the number of credits acquired that can be recognised within the framework of the teaching activities envisaged in the Course.

If the mark to be awarded for a particular learning activity is the sum of several activities that were awarded different marks, the final mark will be determined by the weighted average of the value of each activity expressed in credits, of the marks awarded, rounded to the nearest whole number. If the result is exactly half way between two numbers, it is rounded up to the next integer.

Enrolment in the first year of the Course is conditional to the passing of the test.

Art. 7 – Recognition of degrees awarded by foreign universities

The Course Council decides on the recognition of academic qualifications obtained abroad; this task may be exercised in compliance with the legislation in force, without prejudice to the powers and any authorisations of Authorities foreseen by the regulations in force.

Art. 8 – Committees established within the Course Council

Once a year, the Course Council appoints a Teaching Committee for the organisation of teaching activities. The Teaching Committee has a purely advisory role and it coordinates and supervises the smooth running of the teaching activities, assesses students' previous educational curricula, and carries out any further tasks assigned to it by the President of the Course.

The Teaching Committee consists of the President, the internship Coordinators and a minimum of 3 lecturers, also ensuring the presence of lecturers from the Health Service.

Art. 9 – Protection of health and safety

When carrying out internship or practical activities, with regard to health and safety regulations, students are considered equivalent to workers. Consequently, they are subject to the same protective measures and responsibilities and are therefore required to comply with the relevant legal requirements, with the restrictions and prohibitions enforced by occupational health and safety, radioprotection and accident prevention laws, and with any other regulations enforced by the Host Organisation with the same purposes.

The University has formalised and centralised a series of activities strictly related to the risk exposure profile of the individual study programme, with a view to implementing the applicable legal provisions.

In short, depending on the specific indications for each Course of study, students are under obligation to:

- participate in the initial information and educational initiatives and those included in the teaching activities calendar organised to ensure compliance with the provisions set forth in Articles 36 and 37 of Legislative Decree 81/08 “Information and training of workers and their representatives” and in Legislative Decree no.101/2020 on radioprotection;
- take part in the initial and periodic health monitoring activities pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree 81/08 and, where applicable, Italian Legislative Decree 101/2020, for issuance of the compliance certification required before starting practical activities involving exposure to risks;
- use the collective and individual protective equipment provided in compliance with the instructions and training imparted;
- comply with the general safety measures and the safety specifications drawn up and made available from time to time.

The start of curricular and extracurricular activities involving exposure to a specific risk may therefore not be authorised until the provisions required to safeguard the health and safety of each student have been implemented and fulfilled.

Repeated failure to comply with the above obligations shall result in the suspension of the activities involving exposure to a specific risk until such time as the legal obligations have been fulfilled.

Art. 10 – Modifications

Modifications to these Didactic Regulations are decided on by the Faculty Council, subject to a proposal from the Course Council and an opinion issued by the Lecturer-Student Joint Committee for those aspects for which it is responsible.

Annexes

Description of the training programme and learning methods

Annex

Description of the training programme and learning methods Master of Science in Nursing and Midwifery

The proposed teaching activities, for each of which there is a specific ECTS credit/hour conversion, are usually structured as follows:

- a) Lecture (lesson): 8 hours per ECTS credit of classroom teaching (17 hours of individual study)
- b) Workshops-exercises-interactive classroom teaching: 15 hours per ECTS credit (10 hours of individual study)
- c) Professional internship: 20 hours per ECTS credit (5 hours of personal study or assignments)
- d) Learning activities of the student's choice and scheduled by the Degree course: 8 hours per ECTS credit (17 hours of individual study)

33 ECTS credits are allocated to internships, 6 in the first year and 27 in the second.

Lastly, 6 ECTS credits are reserved for the activities of the student's choice.

The ECTS credits for each learning activity are awarded when students pass the corresponding exam or following another predefined form of assessment of the preparation or skills achieved.

The courses consist of several modules, each with its own name, which engage the skills of specific subjects and which must be integrated into both the planning phase of the course itself and in the management of an integrated and contextual assessment exam aimed at ascertaining the students' learning with respect to the envisaged educational objectives.

Language skills

The study plan includes an English module that enables students to acquire the language skills required to interact with patients and colleagues from other countries, to be able to converse with international institutions and lastly to read and understand the content of scientific papers on specific professional topics.

Elective learning activities

The Course Council presents students with a wide range of training activities to be chosen by the student, which include the University's entire range of courses, from which the student may propose those of his/her interest as long as they are relevant to the expected professional profile, for a maximum total number of 6 ECTS credits. Among the courses available to students, the Teaching Committee proposes to the Course Council the provision of two courses that are further offered to students in order to develop specific educational programmes.

The calendar and list of teaching activities of the student's choice are published on the website at the beginning of the educational activities.

Additional Learning Activities

Seminars

Seminars are a teaching activity that aims to address a topic with an interdisciplinary approach and is usually carried out jointly by several lecturers, including foreign lecturers, even from different scientific disciplinary sectors.

Professional labs

The planning, educational management and certification of the professional lab teaching activities is entrusted to the Course Council on the proposal of the Internship Coordinator and is defined annually in the learning from experience schedule.

Journal Club

These are meetings held by the students with the participation of the lecturers of the Course in which articles of literature proposed jointly by students and lecturers are presented, analysed and discussed in English.

Nursing Research Meeting

Students are invited to freely participate in the meetings of the University's various research centres, including the meetings organised periodically by the Centre for Nursing Research and Innovation.

The above forms of teaching can be delivered using the following methods:

- Delivered teaching: may consist in the delivery of educational content by means of video lessons recorded by the lecturer in charge of the course. This method is similar to conventional lectures and focuses on the presentation of content by the lecturer.
- Interactive teaching: consists in online teaching activities that actively involve students through e-tivities and collaborative activities, such as interactive video conferences, assignments, work groups and educational assessments. The aim is to encourage interaction and cooperation between students and lecturers.

Coordinating lecturers provide further details in the relevant syllabuses.

Preparatory courses

When specific preparatory courses are required for each teaching activity, they are indicated in the list of teaching activities.

Attendance

Students are required to attend all the activities of the Master's Degree Course. For teaching activities and activities of the student's choice, students are required to attend at least 70% of the hours of each course.

The internship must be attended in its entirety and any absences must be made up.

Attendance is necessary for the student to be able to take the corresponding examination or assessment.

Study Plan

During the annual teaching planning phase, a different fraction of the total commitment may be assigned to individual study, which shall not, in any case, be less than 50% of the total hourly commitment. An exception is made for cases in which the educational activities have a high experimental or practical content.

The Italian version of this Regulations is the only legal means of communication of the relative contents and in case of dispute, the Italian version shall prevail.