



UniSR

Università Vita-Salute
San Raffaele

Academic Regulations

Master's Degree Programme in Theory and History of the Arts and the Image

In force for students enrolling in the academic year 2026-2027

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These Regulations use the masculine form in all circumstances, but this form should be understood as referring inclusively to all persons, irrespective of their gender.

General Part

ART 1 Admission to the Degree Programme

1.1. Knowledge required for admission

To be admitted to the Master's Degree Programme in Theory and History of the Arts and the Image, applicants must hold a Bachelor's Degree, or a Master's Degree, or a degree awarded under the previous system, or a three-year university diploma, or another qualification obtained abroad, recognised as suitable under the laws in force.

In accordance with Italian Ministerial Decree 270/2004, Article 6, which provides for an indicative and formative assessment of the preparation of incoming students, access to the Master's Degree Programme requires an assessment of the student's personal academic career at the time of enrolment. In particular, admission is conditional on meeting the curricular requirements, namely holding a Bachelor's Degree (or an equivalent foreign qualification) in one of the following Classes (or equivalent): L-1 Cultural Heritage; L-3 Visual Arts, Music, Performing Arts and Fashion Disciplines; L-5 Philosophy; L-10 Literature; L-11 Modern Languages and Cultures; L-15 Tourism Sciences; L-17 Architecture Sciences; L-19 Education and Training Sciences; L-20 Communication Sciences; L-40 Sociology; L-42 History; L-43 Diagnostics for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage.

For students holding a different degree, the adequacy of their personal preparation will be assessed by evaluating the candidate's educational career, including an evaluation of the syllabuses of the courses taken and of the final examination for the award of the Bachelor's Degree.

The evaluation will consist of verifying that the student has achieved at least 12 ECTS-credits in the academic disciplines included under L-ART; M-FIL; M-STO; L-LIN; L-ANT; L-FIL-LET; L-OR; ICAR; SPS and of any coherence between the topic of the final examination for the award of the Bachelor's Degree and the themes of the degree programme.

For international students or those holding a qualification obtained abroad, the assessment of the admission requirements (compatibility of the qualification with the degree classes indicated, evaluation of the curriculum, credits and learning outcomes in relation to the competences, final grade achieved) is performed through a similar review of the curriculum by the committee appointed by the Degree Programme Council.

The Degree Programme also admits candidates holding a Level I Diploma issued by Higher Education Institutions authorised to award AFAM academic qualifications (state or legally recognised Fine Arts Academies; Accademia Nazionale di Danza; Accademia Nazionale di Arte Drammatica; Accademia Internazionale di Teatro; Istituti Superiori per le Industrie Artistiche; music conservatoires and equivalent music institutes; other institutions authorised to award AFAM qualifications (Article 11, Italian Presidential Decree no. 212 of 8 August 2005)).

1.2. Admission Procedures

Admission to the Degree Programme is open.

The admissions committee, made up of at least three permanent Faculty members appointed by the Degree Programme Council, taking into account the need to ensure coverage of the

academic disciplines, verifies the adequacy of candidates' individual preparation by assessing the education and training pathway they have completed, including an assessment of the syllabuses of the courses taken and of the final examination for the award of the Bachelor's Degree.

Knowledge of a European Union language other than Italian, at least at B2 level (CEFR, Common European Framework of Reference for Languages), will be assessed by the end of the first year of the programme, or documented at the time of enrolment for students holding internationally recognised certifications.

ART 2 Study Plan

Teaching activity is organised in accordance with the Study Plan set out in the following section **"Course Prospectus"**.

2.1. Individual Study Plans

Students must submit a request for approval of their individual study plan, which must comply with the constraints imposed by the Programme Specifications and by the annual range of courses of the Master's Degree in Theory and History of the Arts and the Image (Class LM-89), as provided for in the Description of the educational programme in the Single Annual Document.

Study plans submitted by students in compliance with prerequisite constraints are subject to approval by a dedicated committee appointed by the Chair of the Degree Programme Council and, once approved, are forwarded to the Student Center, which will keep them on file and monitor the student's compliance with them throughout the duration of their degree programme.

First-year students will submit their first study plan, within two weeks of their enrolment.

Changes to study plans may be submitted only by 31 October of the second year of the programme.

When completing the study plan, students may choose whether to attend courses in the first or second year of the programme, bringing forward or postponing attendance with respect to the year proposed by the Faculty.

Students enrolled as repeating students are not permitted to submit an individual study plan or to amend the one previously submitted.

For the student-option activities, students may choose any course in the Master's Degree Programme that they have not already taken, or courses from other degree programmes offered by the Faculty and/or at the University, including those jointly delivered.

In preparation for drafting the Master's degree dissertation, it is possible to spread only one examination over two years, choosing it from among any course already taken.

ART 3 Mobility

On the basis of inter-institutional agreements or within European and international programmes, the Degree Programme supports, promotes and encourages student exchanges with foreign

Universities, both European and non-European.

Students are guaranteed the opportunity to carry out part of their study programmes abroad. In particular, through participation in the Erasmus+ Programme and other international mobility programmes, they may attend educational activities and sit assessments to obtain credits, and carry out other educational activities, including an internship/placement and prepare their Master's degree dissertation.

ART 4 Repeating student

As provided for by Article 14 of the University Academic Regulations, repeating students are considered as such – if they have enrolled and attended all the courses required for the entire programme of study but have not passed the relevant examinations – until they obtain the academic qualification.

ART 5 Final Examination

The qualification is awarded following a final examination.

To access the final examination, the student must have obtained the credits relating to all educational activities.

The final examination consists of the presentation and public defence, before an examination committee, of a written dissertation, originally prepared by the student. The dissertation must be original, comprehensive and clearly presented, and must demonstrate the Master's degree candidate's ability to analyse, reflect on and develop a monographic study in an independent and critical manner, as well as knowledge of the relevant literature on the contemporary debate concerning the theory and history of the arts and the image.

As regards the language in which the essay is written, one should refer to Article 29 of the University Academic Regulations.

5.1. Calculation of the degree mark

The final assessment must take into account the student's entire academic record within the Master's Degree Programme, the timescales and methods for obtaining credits, the marks achieved in test assessments and the final examination, as well as any other element deemed relevant.

In particular, the proposed final mark is determined by: a) the weighted average of the marks obtained in examinations, including any additional examinations included in the personalised study plan; for each examination, any "honours" will be taken into account by assigning it the value of one third of an additional point (30/30 with honours = 30.33); b) the mark obtained in the degree examination, determined as the average of the marks given by the individual examination committee members on a scale from 0 to 5.

Students who have completed a period of international mobility as part of the Erasmus+ Study

and Erasmus+ Traineeship Programmes and mobility for a thesis internship (including outside the EU) will be awarded 1 additional point on the degree mark.

Examination committees may award candidates the maximum mark with honours, where the Master's degree dissertation shows particular originality, completeness and critical ability, as well as full knowledge of the relevant literature on the topic.

In any event, "honours" may be awarded by the examination committee unanimously only to candidates who achieve a final score equal to or above 113/110, including any additional point for completing a period of international mobility.

5.2. Final Examination Committee

The examination committees are appointed by the Chair of the Degree Programme Council and consist of at least 7 members, at least 5 of whom are permanent lecturers and/or fixed-term researchers, as provided for by Article 30 of the University Academic Regulations. The supervisor, assistant supervisor and the co-examiner are members of the committee; for the definition of these roles, one should refer to Article 7 of the Regulations of the Faculty of Philosophy.

At least one member of the committee must be a full professor. The committee is chaired by the full professor with the greatest seniority.

ART 6 Recognition of credits

The Degree Programme Council assesses the recognition of credits obtained following transfers, programme changes, completion of extracurricular activities and international mobility.

6.1. University and course transfers

Applications to transfer to the University from students from other Italian and foreign Universities, from Military Academies or other military higher-education institutions, as well as applications to transfer to a Master's Degree Programme, are subject to approval by the Degree Programme Council, in accordance with the criteria it establishes each year.

In relation to the number of credits recognised, the Degree Programme Council may admit students to years of study after the first.

The Degree Programme Council makes use of a Committee appointed for this purpose, which:

- a) assesses the possibility of full or partial recognition of the study career followed up to that point, with validation of some or all of the examinations taken and any credits obtained, in compliance with the provisions in the University Academic Regulations and the applicable legislation;
- b) indicates the year of the degree programme in which the student is to be enrolled;
- c) determines any educational debt to be fulfilled;
- d) draws up the minimum study plan for completing the curriculum for the award of the degree qualification.

ECTS-credits acquired in degree programmes of the same class are recognised as provided for by Article 15 of the University Academic Regulations. Under the same Article, ECTS-credits acquired in Degree Programmes of a different class are recognised by the Degree Programme Council on the basis of an assessment of the consistency of the academic disciplines and the content of the educational activities in which the student earned the credits with the specific educational

objectives of the Degree Programme and of the individual educational activities to be recognised, while in any case pursuing the objective of student mobility.

6.2. Extracurricular activities

Recognition is approved by the Degree Programme Council according to criteria of strict consistency with the educational objectives and expected learning outcomes of the Master's Degree Programme and in line with the provisions of Italian Ministerial Decree no. 931 of 4 July 2024. The maximum limit of recognisable credits is 24 ECTS-credits.

6.3. International Mobility

The Degree Programme promotes international mobility and provides for the recognition of activities performed on the basis of inter-institutional agreements or as part of European and international programmes, in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 20 of the University Academic Regulations.

If the Degree Programme Council decides that part of the recognised credits cannot be validated for the purposes of the Study Plan, they may be included as additional extracurricular credits.

Students intending to write their Master's degree dissertation abroad, during their stay under the Erasmus+ Study or Traineeship Programme, or during other international mobility projects, are required to submit a formal request for authorisation to the Degree Programme Council, including an explicit undertaking of responsibility by the Faculty member who is the dissertation supervisor and indicating the name of the foreign lecturer who will oversee the drafting of the dissertation (the foreign lecturer normally assumes the role of assistant supervisor). The Degree Programme Council will decide on the possibility of accepting this request.

At the end of the period abroad, in addition to the required documentation, the student must provide a specific certificate from the foreign lecturer, containing a detailed description of the work carried out and proposing the number of credits that can be recognised for writing the dissertation. The Degree Programme Council will decide on the full or partial recognition of the credits allocated to the drafting of the Master's degree dissertation, up to a maximum of 15 ECTS-credits, specifying that these credits were obtained abroad.

ART 7 Attendance

The attendance requirement, necessary for admission to the relevant exam, is established for the following educational activities at a rate of 70%: French, (Advanced) English, German, Philosophical Logic and for the Further Educational Activities indicated in the Study Plan.

Any student who is unable to comply with the attendance requirement must submit a reasoned written request for exemption to the Chair of the Degree Programme, who forwards the case to the Degree Programme Council for approval.

Where there are courses shared with other Degree Programmes of the Faculty and/or the University, the compulsory attendance requirement is established by the Degree Programme that delivers such courses.

Attendance is recorded through online systems and spot checks may be carried out to confirm the student's presence in the lecture room.

ART 8 Tutoring model

To ensure support for students, several types of tutoring are used within the degree programme, such as:

1. Information and guidance tutoring: a service for incoming students and those already enrolled. Counselling services, assistance for students with disabilities and SLDs and support for international students are provided to accompany them throughout their educational path and facilitate their academic integration.
2. Academic Tutoring: a service aimed at supporting students in overcoming learning-related difficulties encountered during their course of study and in promoting effective participation in courses. Academic Tutors (also known as Year Tutors) organise regular meetings with the class to identify any issues and support the management of individual student cases, working with the administrative offices supporting the Degree Programme and with the Chair of the Degree Programme.

The above tutoring roles are appointed annually by resolution of the Faculty Council, following a proposal by the Degree Programme Council.

Special Part

ART 9 Description of the Educational Programme and of the educational activities

The normal duration of the Master's Degree Programme in Theory and History of the Arts and the Image is two years. To be awarded the degree, students must acquire 120 ECTS-credits.

ECTS-credits are a measure of the learning workload required of the student and each ECTS-credit corresponds to a standard workload of 25 hours of activity.

The ratio between hours and ECTS-credits for each type of educational activity is as follows:

- Core educational activities: 1 ECTS-credit corresponds to 6 hours of lecture-based teaching activity. With reference to foreign language courses, 1 ECTS-credit corresponds to 10 hours of lecture-based teaching activity.
- Similar and supplementary educational activities: 1 ECTS-credit corresponds to 6 hours of lecture-based teaching activity.
- Student-option educational activities: 1 ECTS-credit corresponds to 6 hours of lecture-based teaching activity.
- Other educational activities: 1 ECTS-credit corresponds to 6 hours of lecture-based and interactive teaching activity.
- Final examination: 1 ECTS-credit corresponds to 25 hours of individual study.

Where there are courses shared with other Degree Programmes of the Faculty and/or the University, these follow conditions established by the Degree Programme that delivers them.

The Degree Programme is delivered in blended mode, meaning that, for more than one third but no more than two thirds of the educational activities of the degree programme, it makes use of online and digital tools (e-learning). This teaching delivery method is expected to be used for the seminar-based lessons of each course, where the online tool enables easier and more frequent connections and active cooperation with research centres, arts and museum institutions, individual artists, experts and critics worldwide. Online teaching, through more advanced use of digital technologies, complements traditional teaching methods based on the central role of the individual lecturer and the transmission of content, promoting students' active role in acquiring skills. In addition, the online tool, in its asynchronous variant, is used as a means of integration and ongoing assessment of the expected learning outcomes from the degree programme's range of courses. Consequently, the recordings of the lessons of the degree programme courses, made available as supplementary teaching materials, and any further material useful to students' learning, in compliance with privacy and copyright regulations, are expected to be made available asynchronously.

The delivery mode of each educational activity is indicated in the relevant course schedule.

For each course delivered by the Degree Programme in blended mode, the following are normally envisaged:

- for courses that provide a total of 9 ECTS-credits: 28 hours (equivalent to 4.7 credits) in person and 26 hours (equivalent to 4.3 credits) delivered in seminar format on an online platform;
- for courses that provide a total of 6 ECTS-credits: 18 hours (equivalent to 3 credits) in person and 18 hours (equivalent to 3 credits) on an online platform;

As provided for by the Faculty Regulations, educational activities are delivered as follows:

Lecture-based teaching

Lecture

A lecture is a traditional teaching method in which the lecturer presents topics and content, guiding students' learning through explanations, examples and further insights. Lectures are mainly used to convey theoretical knowledge in a clear and organised way, making it possible to introduce new topics and provide students with a shared foundation.

Seminar

A seminar is a teaching activity delivered by one or more speakers, invited by the person responsible for the educational activity on the basis of specific expertise, which makes it possible to explore in greater depth aspects consistent with what is set out in the educational curriculum.

Interactive teaching

Workshop

Workshops are educational activities with an applied and participatory focus, typically aimed at a small group of students, with the objective of facilitating the acquisition of specific skills and encouraging the application of knowledge, including through direct experimentation.

Other educational activities

With regard to "additional" educational activities, defined in accordance with Article 10(5)(d) of Italian Ministerial Decree 270/2004, the 6 credits may be acquired by undertaking a placement with public bodies and companies with which the University enters into agreements. A placement may, where applicable, be aimed at drafting the degree dissertation.

Students who do not undertake a placement may obtain the credits by acquiring basic IT skills (3 credits) and attending cultural enrichment courses organised year by year by the faculty or by other scientific bodies of national importance, subject to assessment by the faculty (3 or 6 credits). Students may also obtain recognition of educational credits through participation in conferences and in direct professional training initiatives (3 or 6 credits). In this case, students must ask the Degree Programme Council for a prior assessment of the consistency between the nature of the activity they intend to take part in and the professional opportunities offered by the Master's Degree Programme, submitting appropriate documentation on the activities that will be performed. The Degree Programme Council will assess on a case-by-case basis.

It is also possible to obtain 3 credits for additional educational activities by participating in individual seminars or series of seminars organised by the Faculty.

Participation in each seminar enables students to obtain 0.10 credits, subject to certification by the Chair. In the case of a series of seminars, 3 credits are awarded.

Holding the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) is considered equivalent to obtaining the 3 credits provided under "additional activities" for the acquisition of basic IT skills.

Holding certificates attesting knowledge of languages other than English is considered eligible for recognition with the award of 3 credits relating to additional activities, if such certifications are issued by the following Institutes: Alliance Française Centre Pilote Delf-Dalf; Chambre de

Commerce et de l'Industrie de Paris; Goethe-Institut; Österreichisches Sprachdiplom Deutsch; Weiterbildung-Testsysteme; Ministerio de Educacion, Cultura y Deporte; ТРКИ-Torfl; Istituto A.S. Pushkin di Mosca; TELC (The European Language Certificates) for the German, French, Spanish, Russian, Dutch, Portuguese, Danish, Czech and Turkish languages. Certifications of knowledge of Hebrew issued by Theological Faculties and by the Federazione Sionistica Italiana may also be recognised.

ART 10 Specific provisions relating to academic planning

The teaching activity planned for the academic year is divided into two semesters, each lasting about 14 weeks.

The academic calendar is approved annually, in accordance with the timelines set out in legislation. It indicates the semesters, the dates for exam sittings, the periods reserved for the final examination, and the suspension of activities.

Dates of assessments are scheduled annually and communicated to students. The six sittings provided for by the University Academic Regulations, Article 21(10), are appropriately distributed over the specified single session.

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.