



UniSR

Università Vita-Salute  
San Raffaele

## **Didactic Regulations**

### **Master's Degree Course in Psychology**

*Applicable for students who enrol in academic year 2022-2023*

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## **Article 1 – Course Admission**

### **1.1 Knowledge required for admission**

Candidates for admission to the Master's Degree Course must hold a Degree in one of the following classes or hold another academic qualification obtained abroad recognised in Italy:

- 1) under Italian Ministerial Decree 270 Class L-24 Psychological sciences and techniques or under Italian Ministerial Decree no. 509/99: Class 34 Psychological sciences and techniques, a five-year degree in Psychology awarded under the previous Italian system, or
- 2) at least 88 ECTS credits in M-PSI scientific disciplinary sectors for the other academic qualifications valid for admission.

In accordance with article 6 of Italian Ministerial Decree 270/2004, which requires verification of the abilities and academic records of students admitted to courses, the personal careers of students will be assessed on matriculation on the Master's Degree Course.

Candidates referred to in section 1.1 point 1), holding a degree awarded by another university, and candidates referred to in section 1.1 point 2), may enrol in the degree course upon verification of the curricula followed with regard to M-PSI SDS subjects by the examination committee, which will issue written authorisation.

Students will be required to submit relevant documentation with their applications.

### **1.2 Admission procedure**

The admission ranking is established on the basis of the arithmetic mean of the marks of the examinations taken by the candidate during the three-year degree course, as stated in the degree certificate or other appropriate certificate to be submitted by the candidates at the time of application. When calculating the arithmetic mean for assessment purposes, 30/30 and Honours is considered equivalent to 30/30. For candidates who obtained their Bachelor's degree at UniSR, the relevant Offices will provide the marks acquired in the degree course. For the candidates referred to in section 1.1 point 2 above, the arithmetic mean will be calculated on the marks acquired throughout the entire Bachelor's degree course and not only the marks referring to the M-PSI scientific disciplinary sectors.

For candidates who obtained their degree in a foreign country, the conversion of marks will be carried out on the basis of the database published by CIMEA.

## **Article 2 Course Curriculum**

The teaching activity is structured in accordance with the Course Curriculum specified in the appended Description of the training programme.

### **2.1 Individual course curricula (where applicable)**

Students may present an individual course curriculum which differs from that provided for by these Didactic Regulations. This curriculum must in any case comply with the restrictions imposed by the Didactic Regulations of the Master's Degree in Psychology.

To this end, students must present the Course Council with a request for approval of their individual course curriculum.

The course curricula, proposed by the students in compliance with the restrictions in terms of preparatory courses, are screened by a dedicated committee nominated by the President of the Course Council, and once approved are sent to the Student Centre, which will archive them and check that they are followed by the student throughout the course of their studies.

Students are allowed to attend the learning activities of their choice starting from the first year of the course.

The course curriculum may be modified multiple times during the course of the studies, subject to approval by the Course Council, in accordance with the timeframes provided for by the University Didactic Regulations.

## **2.2 Internships**

Internships will be regulated according to specific regulations issued by the academic authorities, pursuant to applicable legislation.

The internship will in any case take place after graduation.

## **2.3 International mobility and recognition of periods of study and learning spent abroad**

The university, on the basis of inter-institutional agreements or within the context of European and international programmes, supports, promotes and facilitates cycle one, two and three student exchanges with foreign universities, both within and outside Europe, providing support and guidance through its administrative and academic structures.

The University is committed to respecting the regulations relating to the principles and procedures for recognition of periods of study spent abroad, in accordance with the main European references. Students are guaranteed the possibility to carry out part of their studies at foreign universities. Specifically, they may:

- attend learning activities and take the corresponding exams to be awarded credits;
- carry out research activities for the purposes of preparing their dissertation or final examination;
- take part in other learning activities, including internships;
- participate in international programmes within the framework of agreements in order to receive, dual, multiple or jointly awarded qualifications.

The Faculties, in collaboration with the Internationalisation Department, are responsible for co-ordinating and promoting international mobility activities both for European and extra-European universities. The Faculties, the Course Councils and the Internationalisation Department are responsible for negotiating, drawing up and monitoring student mobility agreements, managing student selection and assessing the results obtained. The Faculties designate one or more academic co-ordinators and ensure sufficient administrative support for international mobility, working in close contact with the offices responsible for internationalisation.

For the purposes of approval of the learning activities to be performed abroad, the Course Council or Doctoral College or the Graduate School Council nominates an academic supervisor for international mobility.

Students permitted to spend a period of study, internship or research abroad shall draw up a Learning Agreement with their academic Supervisor using the format approved by the European Commission for mobility within the Erasmus+ programme, indicating the learning activities to be

taken at the hosting university. The recognition of credits awarded following the teaching activities performed must replace the credits provided for in the student's curriculum proportionally to the learning activities completed successfully abroad. Credits inserted as "additional" with respect to those provided for by the student's curriculum for the purposes of obtaining the qualification shall not be counted for the purposes of the resources. There is maximum flexibility in choosing the learning activities to be inserted in the Learning Agreement, while pursuing full agreement with the educational objectives of the relative course.

For approval of the Learning Agreement, refer to the provisions in the University Didactic Regulations.

It is the responsibility of the faculty councils or the course councils to identify a window of mobility in the training path within which spending periods of study abroad will be incentivised and their recognition facilitated.

At the end of the period spent abroad, the Faculty or Course Councils will recognise the activities performed without making provision for supplementary learning.

Students spending a period of time abroad are guaranteed recognition of attendance (also obligatory) and the learning activities provided for during the same period at their home university.

The recognition of periods of study spent abroad will be constantly monitored by the offices responsible in order to assess data on:

- a) the credits approved in the Learning Agreements;
- b) the credits acquired in the Transcripts of Records;
- c) the credits recognised and awarded.

These data are necessary in order to assess the effectiveness of selection of students and the validity of the training paths, as well as the effectiveness of the recognition process.

### **Article 3 Restrictions**

With reference to the provisions of Articles 14 and 15 of the University Didactic Regulations, General Section, the Course Council has not identified mandatory exams required on an annual basis, or courses for which an annual certificate of attendance is necessary, or a minimum number of credits which students must acquire, as a requirement for passing to the next year of the course.

### **Article 4 Assessment**

Students are awarded the credits provided for with each learning activity when a passing grade is achieved on the relative exam.

The exams consist of oral and/or written tests, at the discretion of the lecturer, who provides information on the same at the beginning of the course. In the event of written exams, these will be archived by the Master's Degree course Office. The possibility of progressive checks is also provided for in order to facilitate learning and effective student participation in the learning process.

The exam committees are composed of at least 2 members and are generally presided over by the course supervisor. For all other aspects relating to the formation of the exam committees, refer to the provisions of Article 24 of the University Didactic Regulations, general section.

The assessment of the students' progress is expressed as a mark out of thirty for exams and as a mark out of 110 for the final exam, with honours where applicable in both cases.

The passing score for the exam is 18/30. The Examination Committee may unanimously grant candidates the maximum score with honours.

Assessment of the individual learning activities of the student's choice is not expressed as a numerical grade, but as pass/fail.

In the event that a course is divided into multiple modules, the exam committee is always presided over by the course coordinator.

Credits relating to language skills may be recognised, on the basis of certifications issued by bodies internal or external to the University for each of the languages subject to confirmation of suitability by the competent academic body.

The dates of the examination calls are communicated by the President of the Course Council, subject to agreement with the lecturers and given the need for didactic scheduling. The six examination calls provided for by the University Didactic Regulations, general section article 21 para.10, are divided into winter, summer and autumn calls in groups of two for each discipline. The dates of each group are communicated to the students with appropriate notice. Only students who are up to date with their enrolment and course fees may be admitted to the exams and other assessments.

## **Article 5 Final exam**

The qualification is awarded following the final examination.

In order to take the final exam, students must have obtained all university credits for all other learning activities.

Eighteen ECTS credits out of the total 120 are assigned to the final examination.

The Examination Committees for the final dissertation award a mark out of 110 and may unanimously award full marks with honours. The pass mark is 66/110.

### **5.1 Definition of the Roles associated with the Final Exam**

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

Assistant Supervisors for the final examination can be full professors, associate professors, contract professors, researchers, permanent lecturers 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.

Examiners for the final examination can be full professors, associate professors, contract professors, researchers and permanent lecturers from other Faculties of the University and other universities.

At least one of the persons listed above: Supervisor, Assistant Supervisor, Examiner, must be a permanent lecturer of the University, permanent and associate professor and university researcher.

### **5.2 Preparation of the Final dissertation/Thesis**

The thesis is normally written in Italian; it may be written in English subject to a request made to the Faculty Council with reasoning, and this being approved by the same. Each dissertation must contain an abstract in both Italian and English.

In order for the Master's Degree to be awarded, the student is required in all cases to develop an original dissertation under the guidance of a Supervisor and, where applicable, a second, or Assistant, Supervisor.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to identify the supervisor for their dissertation and decide on its topic. Alongside the Supervisor is the Examiner nominated by the Dean of the Faculty or on their delegation by the President of the Course Council, whose job is to perform a critical assessment of the dissertation.

### **5.3 The Degree Examination**

The Student Centre performs the relevant checks on the student's academic career. Subsequently, a message is sent via the online noticeboard confirming admission to the degree award exam containing the GPA and starting grade. Only if all conditions have been followed will the dissertation be subjected to assessment by the Degree Committee.

The dissertation must be publicly discussed during the sitting of a dedicated Committee.

### **5.4 Calculation of Degree marks/GPA**

The degree mark/GPA is calculated by adding together three terms. The first is obtained from the average mark obtained in all assessment exams, according to the following formula:  $\text{Average} \times 110/30$ . When calculating this average, as well as the grades for exams for courses required to obtain the minimum number of credits for admission to the final examination, those for any additional exams over and above the required total and included in the personal course curriculum are also included. For each exam, honours are taken into account by adding an additional third of a point (30/30 with honours = 30.33). The second term is the grade awarded in the degree exam, and is in turn the average of the grades assigned by the individual committee members, on a scale of 0 to 7. The third item (Motivato Giudizio di Eccellenza, MGE (justified excellence award)) has a maximum value of 3 points. This is added, on the proposal of at least one committee member, for which reasons must be provided and the proposal accepted unanimously, in order to take into account any original and educational contributions which would otherwise not be quantifiable, or of the particular scientific quality of the work.

The final grade is decided by the Examination Committee with an absolute majority of its members.

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

The final exams calendar must include at least three sessions, appropriately distributed across the academic year according to the provisions of the University Didactic Regulations. The calendar can be viewed on the dedicated noticeboards in the Academic Secretariat and on the student intranet.

The student books the degree award exam online in the periods indicated in the degree sessions calendar.

If the student intends, for any reason whatsoever, to forgo graduation in the degree award exam for which he/she is booked, he/she must cancel the application booking by submitting a written request to the Student Centre.

In order to graduate in a subsequent exam call, they must make a new booking within the deadlines provided for by the degree sessions calendar.

For administrative requirements and the deadlines for presenting the required documents and the type thereof, see the provisions stated in the instructions from the Student Centre.

It is possible to take the examination tests for the courses in the curriculum by a deadline compatible with the start date of the graduation session; this deadline is communicated annually by the Student Centre.

### **5.6 Degree Exam Committee**

The Examination Committees for the final dissertation are nominated by the Dean of the Faculty or the President of the Course Council, and are composed of at least 7 members, including the president of the committee, which shall include at least 5 permanent lecturers and/or researchers on fixed-term contracts.

Members of the Examination Committee can be full professors, associate professors, contract professors, researchers (established and otherwise), permanent lecturers from other Faculties of the University and other universities.

### **Article 6 University and course transfers**

Transfer requests to the University from students enrolled at other universities in Italy and abroad, military academies or other similar institutes and Master's Degree course transfers are subject to approval by the Course Council, which will:

- a) Assess the possibility of partially or fully recognising the student's academic career up to that point in time, approving some or all the exams taken and any credits awarded.
- b) Recognise the credits acquired up to the same number of credits of the same scientific disciplinary sector (or group of the same) provided for by the didactic regulations of the course.

In all cases of student transfers between Master's Degree Courses belonging to the same class, the number of credits for the same scientific disciplinary sector directly awarded to the student may not be below the limit provided for by applicable legislation.

- c) Recognise the credits by evaluating the actual case on the basis of the didactic and cultural similarities.
- d) Indicate the year of the course in which the student shall be enrolled.
- e) Establish any educational deficit to make up.

In relation to the number of credits recognised, the duration of the degree course may be abbreviated by the Course Council. Any such shortening shall be decided on a case-by-case basis.



## **Article 7 Admission to individual courses**

The possibility to sign up to individual courses is governed as indicated below.

- 1) Students in possession of a five-year high-school diploma/secondary leaving certificate or other qualification issued abroad and considered acceptable, a university diploma, a bachelor's or master's degree, as well as holders of academic qualifications issued abroad, can enrol in individual learning activities within the study courses, take the corresponding exams and receive the certification including indication of the credits, according to the methods defined by the Faculty.
- 2) Whenever these activities are within limited-admission courses, enrolment must be approved in advance by the competent Course Council, on the basis of criteria previously identified by the same.

Applications must be made according to the conditions and deadlines published on an annual basis by the Student Centre on the University website.

For all other aspects not covered herein, refer to the provisions of Article 32 of the University Didactic Regulations, general section.

## **Article 8 Recognition of degrees awarded by foreign universities**

The Course Council decides on the recognition of academic qualifications obtained abroad; this competence may be exercised in accordance with the legislation in force, without prejudice to the powers and any authorisations by bodies provided for by the regulations in force.

## **Article 9 Committees established within the Course Council**

The Course Council may avail itself of the assistance of a Teaching Committee, which has an advisory role aimed at better coordinating activities. The Teaching Committee consists of the Dean, President and a minimum of 3 lecturers. The Course Council may also avail itself of the assistance of the same committee with an advisory role aimed at coordinating and supervising the smooth running of teaching activities, and carrying out the preliminary assessment of students' previous training curricula. The committee may also meet as sub-committees for the management and monitoring of specific activities.

## **Article 10 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 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.

Curricular and extracurricular activities involving exposure to a specific risk may therefore not be authorised to commence until the preliminary activities required to safeguard the health and safety of each student have been implemented.

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.

### **Article 11 Modifications**

Modifications to these Didactic Regulations are decided on by the Faculty Council, subject to a proposal from the Degree 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 of the Master's Degree in Psychology**

The course activities provided for over the course of the academic year are divided into two semesters of around 14 weeks.

The didactic formats provided for may include lectures, seminars, workshops and/or library activities, internships and IT exercises.

A course may also be divided into multiple modules of different lengths, with the assignment of a different number of corresponding credits.

Courses of any type and duration may be single-subject or modular; in the latter case they will be held by multiple lecturers, under the responsibility of a course coordinator.

For particular requirements, some lessons or seminars inside the course programme may also be held in EU languages other than Italian; this will be indicated in the annual course programmes.

### **Preparatory courses**

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

### **Attendance**

Attendance is mandatory except in the event of a written request for dispensation including a suitable reason (relating to one or more courses) being presented by the student to the President, who will forward the case to the Course Council for approval.

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 22 Para. 4 of the University Didactic Regulations, students may take an exam only after receiving a certificate of attendance for the learning activity being examined.

At the beginning of the learning activity, the lecturer will notify students of the methods for determining the frequency of attendance and the minimum attendance of 70% required to obtain a certificate of attendance.

At the end of the learning activity, the lecturer will send the Student Centre a list of those who have not met the attendance criteria.

### **Course Curriculum**

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 teaching 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.*