

SELECTION CALL FOR THE ADMISSION TO AN INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAM LEADING TO THE AWARD OF A DOUBLE DEGREE

LAUREA MAGISTRALE IN SCIENZE CHIMICHE / MASTER BIO-INFORMATIQUE, Parcours: IN SILICO DRUG DESIGN - DESIGN OF BIOACTIVE MOLECULES (TWO-YEAR MASTER'S PROGRAM "IN SILICO DRUG DESIGN") ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-2020

University of Milan (UNIMI) on the one part and Université de Paris and Université de Strasbourg (U-PARIS/UNISTRASBOURG) on the other, have jointly developed an integrated educational program at graduate level, leading to a double degree, involving the "Corso di Laurea Magistrale in Scienze Chimiche" of UNIMI and the "Master Bio-Informatique, Parcours: In Silico Drug Design-Design of Bioactive Molecules" of U-PARIS.

Structure of the international program leading to the award of a double degree

The term double degree program refers to a program at Master's level, two-year (120 ECTS), launched by the parties and leading to the two corresponding degrees issued by each party for that program.

The double-degree international program agreed upon by UNIMI and U-PARIS/UNISTRASBOURG consists of two full academic years, each worth 60 ECTS credits. In each academic year similar courses are taught and similar learning activities are carried out at UNIMI and U-PARIS/UNISTRASBOURG.

UNIMI students registered in the program will spend the first and second semester at **UNIMI**, the third semester at **U-PARIS** and the forth semester at **UNIMI**, where they will prepare and defend their master's dissertation.

At the end of the double-degree international program, registered students successfully completing their studies will obtain the degree of "Laurea Magistrale in Scienze Chimiche" and the degree of "Master Bio-Informatique, Parcours: In Silico Drug Design-Design of Bioactive Molecules".

Admission criteria

For the academic year 2019-2020, UNIMI will select for participation in the double-degree international program up to **10** students registered, during the academic year 2019-2020, in the Scienze Chimiche Master Degree program.

The UNIMI students selected for the double-degree international program will simultaneously be recognized as U-PARIS students registered in the "Master Bio-Informatique, Parcours: In Silico Drug Design-Design of Bioactive Molecules", according to the study plan they select to follow in U-PARIS during their third semester study stay in France (see below, Annex 1).

The following eligibility requirements must be satisfied at the moment of the application:

a. applicants must be regularly registered in the Scienze Chimiche Master program for the academic year 2019/2020;

b. applicants must prove their English proficiency (B2 or higher) either providing an official language certificate (IELTS, FCE, TOEFL, etc.), or the Placement level/certificate of level issued by SLAM -Servizio Linguistico dell'Ateneo di Milano. Proficiency statements made by a language teacher whatsoever will not qualify.

Mobility requirements

Only regular students enrolled in their second year of the Scienze Chimiche Master program will be enabled to take part in the international study program.

Application procedure

Documents required for admission in the exchange program between UNIMI and U-PARIS are the following:

- 1. curriculum vitae (pdf/jpeg);
- 2. letter of motivation (pdf);
- 3. transcript of the undergraduate career, with the *matricola*, the grades obtained in all the exams taken and the final grade (screenshot of the relevant UNIMIA page- pdf/jpeg); Scienze Chimiche Master program's students that have graduated in a different University than UNIMI must fill up the form <u>Dichiarazione sostitutiva di iscrizione</u>, <u>conseguimento titolo</u>, <u>esami (box 2)</u> or, if available, the certification issued by the University where they graduated, with the information related to their undergraduate degree and career records;
- 4. transcript of the graduate career in the Scienze Chimiche Master program, with the *matricola* and the grades obtained in all the exams taken up until the date of the application submission (screenshot of the relevant UNIMIA page pdf/jpeg);
- 5. English proficiency certificate/ SLAM certificate of level /Placement test (pdf/jpeg). Applicants must submit their application along with all the relevant documents through the platform elixForms.

Deadline: 15 June 2020–12 pm (Italian local time).

Selection procedures

The applications will be assessed by a selection committee, composed by Prof. Fabio Ragaini (Chair), Prof. Laura Belvisi and Prof. Stefano Pieraccini (alternate member Prof. Laura Raimondi). After examining the applicants' dossiers, the committee will interview the applicants on **18 June**, **2020** at **16 pm** via video-conference through Microsoft Teams.

After completing the interviews, the committee will rank the candidates according to their respective merit.

For each candidate the overall score will be obtained by summing up the following partial scores:

- 1. academic career and grades obtained in the exams taken in the Scienze Chimiche Master program (up to 50/100);
- 2. curriculum vitae (up to 10/100);

- 3. motivations (up to 20/100);
- 4. proficiency in English (up to 20/100).

Only candidates with an overall score of at least 70/100 will qualify for the international double degree program.

The final ranking will be published online on the UNIMI website <u>here</u> by **22 June, 2020**. No personal communication will be sent to the candidates.

Applicants in the first positions of the ranking must formally accept to enter the program within 3 days from the online publication of the ranking, through this <u>link</u>.

If the selected candidate's acceptance is not received by the specified deadline, the same candidate loses her/his right to enter the program.

Ufficio Accordi e Progetti Internazionali per la Didattica e la Formazione will send the data of the selected candidates to the Host University for final approval.

Upon partner University's acceptance, Ufficio Accordi e Progetti Internazionali per la Didattica e la Formazione will contact selected student for information on administrative issues.

Financial aspects

Exchange students will pay tuition and fees to the Home University. The Host University will waive tuition and fees.

Exchange students will be covered with civil liability insurance and accident insurance provided by the University of Milan during the performance of their study activities at the Host University. Exchange students will personally provide for medical insurance coverage during their stay abroad.

The University of Milan will award the selected students a grant to contribute to cover travel and living costs abroad. The university grant will be awarded according to the student's income, based on ISEE statement as already submitted to Divisione Segreterie Studenti.

The awarding criteria will be as follows:

ISEE	Monthly allowance
less or equal to 13.000 euros	500 euros
from 13.000 to 21.000 euros	450 euros
from 21.000 to 26.000 euros	400 euros
from 26.000 to 30.000 euros and further	350 euros

The grant final amount will correspond to the study period actually spent abroad. In case of students not spending their period abroad entirely, the amount will be calculated by multiplying the number of days actually spent abroad by 1/30 monthly allowance.

Confidentiality

According to the Law, the University of Milan shall fully respect the confidential nature of any information furnished by the candidates: said information will only be processed for the purposes of the selection call, the formalization of any relation between the University and the candidates and the management of the relation thereof.

Contacts

Further information on didactic issues will be provided by the academic coordinators, <u>Prof. Laura Belvisi</u> and Prof. Stefano Pieraccini.

For information on administrative issues students are invited to contact Ufficio Accordi e Progetti Internazionali per la Didattica e la Formazione, international.education@unimi.it

IL RETTORE Prof. Elio Franzini

Annex 1. STUDY PLAN

- FIRST YEAR (UNIMI): Chimica Fisica A (9 CFU); Chimica Fisica B (9 CFU) or Chimica Organica A (9 CFU); Programming C (6 CFU); Structural Biology and Enzymology (6 CFU); Medicinal Chemistry (6 CFU); Simulation Modeling of Biomolecules (6 CFU); one of the following courses (6 CFU): Analisi chimiche ambientali; Chimica elettroanalitica avanzata; Fotoluminescenza e risonanze magnetiche: applicazioni in chimica inorganica e metallorganica; Chimica Ambientale; a free choice course (6 CFU); English proficiency (B2 level, 3 CFU); master thesis (3 CFU).
- SECOND YEAR

First semester (U-PARIS): Molecular space analysis (4 CFU); Data analysis in drug design (8 CFU); High throughput screening: structure and ligand based (5 CFU); Molecular analysis and dynamics and drug design (7 CFU); Preparation for research in drug design (6 CFU) as part of the master thesis.

Second semester: master thesis and final dissertation (30 CFU).