

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE, Italia

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI UDINE, Italia
and

OTTO-FRIEDRICH-UNIVERSITÄT BAMBERG, Deutschland

**DIDACTIC AGREEMENT FOR A
DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
PHILOSOPHY**

Università degli Studi di Trieste, with registered office in Trieste, Piazzale Europa, 1 - 34132 (Italy) represented by the Chancellor, Prof. Maurizio Fermeglia;

AND

Università degli Studi di Udine, with registered office in Udine, Via Palladio 8 - 33100 Udine (Italy) represented by the Chancellor, Prof. Alberto Felice De Toni;

hereinafter known as «*Italian Universities*»

AND

Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg, with registered office in Bamberg - Kapuzinerstraße 16 - 96047 (Deutschland) represented by the President, Prof. Dr. theol. Dr. phil. habil. Godehard Ruppert

All together hereinafter known as «*Partner Universities*»

GIVEN the Cultural Agreement between Italy and Germany signed in Bonn on 08.02.1956 and the following Cultural Cooperation Programmes between the two countries;

GIVEN the current Italian Regulation in the field of University studies and particularly art. 3, point 10 of the Decree of the Italian Ministry n. 270 of October 22, 2004 “Modifications to the Regulation Setting Out the Norms Concerning the Curricular Autonomy of Universities, approved by MURST Decree n. 509 of 3 November 1999”, that allows Italian universities to award degrees also in cooperation with other Italian or foreign Universities, on the basis of suitable agreements;

GIVEN art. 6, point 2 of the same Italian Decree setting out that a bachelor degree or a three years academic degree or other officially recognized foreign academic degrees are an essential requirement for admission to a Master degree and that Universities can set our specific entry criteria foreshadowing to possess curricular requirements;

GIVEN the current German Regulation in the field of University studies;

CONSIDERING that it is a common interest of the Partner Universities to establish a tight collaboration in postgraduate University education and in particular in the field of philosophical disciplines;

CONSIDERING that Italian Universities offer a joint degree in Philosophy at the MA level;

CONSIDERING that the University of Bamberg offers a MA degree in Philosophy;

GIVEN the intra-university Agreement between the Italian Universities concerning the *Laurea magistrale in Studi storici dal medioevo all'età contemporanea* that provides an administrative management every second year;

CONSIDERING that for 2015/2016 a. y. the administrative management will be provided by Università degli Studi di Udine and, afterwards, by Università degli Studi di Trieste, notwithstanding the location of courses

JOINTLY AGREE THE FOLLOWING:

Art. 1

Purpose of the Agreement

1. Partner Universities agree to establish an International Double Degree Programme that, further to some suitable arrangements on their respective initial courses, will allow their respective students, fulfilling the conditions and requirements detailed in this Agreement, to be awarded with the following two separate degrees, which are fully recognized in their own country:

I) Italian Universities (Italia): *Laurea Magistrale in Filosofia*;

II) Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg (Deutschland): *Master in Philosophy*

2. In order to fulfil the obligations set out in this Agreement, Partner Universities agree to respect the national laws and regulations and procedures of the two Countries.

Art. 2

Definitions

1. In this Agreement "*Partner Universities*" are Università degli Studi di Trieste (hereinafter known as "UNITS"), Università degli Studi di Udine (hereinafter known as "UNIUD") and Otto-Friedrich-Universität Bamberg (hereinafter known as "UNIBA").
2. "*Programme*" provides for the Double Degree Programme in Philosophy.
3. Notwithstanding the location of courses, in this Agreement "*Home University*" means the University at which the student first enrolled in the Programme, while "*Host University*" refers to the University that has agreed to receive students from the Home University for a certain period of study under the Programme.

Art. 3

Students

1. Partner Universities will select their students participating in the Programme, without setting out a fixed number of places although trying to maintain a balance between incoming and outgoing students.
2. Selection will be made among first year students: applicants have to meet with all specific curricular requirements and to make proof of sufficient linguistic competence verified during an interview. Applications must be submitted when enrolling to the Home University.
3. Students of Italian Universities will have to submit evidence of having successfully passed the "Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang (DSH)", level 2 or higher (*DSH German Language Proficiency Test for the Admission to Higher Education*) before they take up their studies in Bamberg, i.e. before the beginning of their 2nd year. Equivalent language certificates will be accepted if listed in Section 1 para (3) of the DSH regulations of UNIBA.
4. UNIBA Students, who spend their second year of studies at the Italian Universities, will make proof of competence in Italian at level B1, which will be certified by the Language Centre of Bamberg University prior to the beginning of their studies in Italy

Art. 4

Plan of studies

1. The Plan of studies of the Programme is an essential part of this Agreement (Annex 1 A and Annex 1 B): it can be amended by mutual consent in writing by Partner Universities, in compliance with their didactic regulations and procedures set by applicable laws.
2. Attended courses, carried out activities, and examinations passed at Italian Universities within the Plan of Studies of the Programme are fully recognized by UNIBA and *vice versa*.

Art. 5

Structure of the Plan of Studies

1. The Programme is organized into two academic years, each of which consists of two semesters.
2. During the 1st year students will take between 57 (Italian Universities Students) and 60 credits (UNIBA Students) at the home University; during the 2nd year they will take between 33 (Italian Universities Students) and 30 credits (UNIBA Students) at the Partner University.
3. Master thesis (with an abstract in Italian, respectively German) counts 30 credits; it will be carried out at the Partner University, and submitted at the Home University. Two Supervisors, one for each country, will supervise the thesis.
4. Regulations for the distributions of credits, according with the requirements of both courses of studies, will be defined by the Programme Coordinators, and approved by the competent bodies of Partner Universities.
5. Examinations will take place and be recorded in accordance with each University regulations.
6. Partner Universities agree on the Comparison grading chart of Annex 2.
7. At Italian Universities the final examination will be organized under their regulations; to this extent both Supervisors and Co-Supervisor will be part of the Board of Examiners at the final examination. Co-Supervisor will be present either in person or in videoconference, or with a written report and a suggested mark.

Art. 6

Degree

1. Upon achievement of credits required by the Programme, students will be awarded the degrees mentioned in art. 1 of this Agreement.
2. The degree issuing process is specific of each University. The correspondence of the final degree mark is that of Annex 2.

Art. 7

Coordination of the Programme

1. Partner Universities will individually appoint one Programme Coordinator for each country: one for Italian Universities and one for UNIBA. For Italian Universities the Programme Coordinator will appoint its own Programme Coordinator Assistant; they will be answerable to the Head of their competent didactic structure and to their Chancellor/President. For Italian Universities the Programme Coordinator and the Programme Coordinator Assistant will represent one of the two Universities each.
2. The Programme Coordinators and the Programme Coordinator Assistant will assure the smooth running of the Programme in accordance with a consistent plan and monitor the observance of the terms. They will meet at least once a year in order to:
 - ensure the availability of all useful promotional means to Partner Universities;
 - verify the validity of the Plans of studies;
 - monitor the academic results achieved by students, considering the efforts made by the Partner Universities.
3. All suggestions concerning the organization of the Programme, the Plans of studies, the access of students, etc. will need the approval of the Boards of Partner Universities.

Art. 8

Students mobility

1. Students will be enrolled at the Home University and will register at the Host University according to its applicable regulations.
2. The career of students is managed by the Home University.
3. Tuition fees are paid only at Home University, and the Host University will waive tuition fees, except for statutory costs. Regional taxes supporting student rights as well as, if applicable, local administrative fees such as the Student Office contribution and the regional transit pass will be paid in each academic year by each student at the University where he/she actually studies in that year. Obligations to continue payment of such fees at the Home University in the year when the student is abroad at the Host University as well as possible exemption from such payment are governed by the regulation applicable at the Home University.
4. Students enrolled in the Programme will make proof of their Health Insurance and of their insurance against third-party liability and against accidents usually provided by the Home University.
5. Students are required to provide for their travel expenses and all living costs. They are encouraged to apply for financial support from various agencies and programmes for student mobility.
6. At Host University all duly registered students have the same access to the libraries, computer and other facilities as the local students.
7. All Students must abide by the Rules of the Host University while completing the Academic Program at the Host University.

Art. 9

Disputes

1. Partner Universities agree to try to solve in a friendly manner any dispute which might arise from the interpretation for this Agreement.

Art. 10

Duration, Renewal, Termination and Amendment

1. This Agreement is valid for a period of 6 years, starting from the academic year 2016-2017.

2. Italian Universities educational plans are subject to annual approval by the Italian Ministry for Universities and Research (Miur). Therefore, notwithstanding the previous article, should the educational plan not be approved or not accredited by the National Agency, Italian Universities shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement for due cause.
3. The Agreement may be amended and/or extended only by mutual consent in writing of the Parties.
4. This Agreement may be terminated prior to the expiry of the 6 year term set forth in art. 10.1 by either University by a written communication to the Partner Universities within 90 days before the beginning of the academic year of the other Universities.
5. In the case of non-renewal, or termination of the Agreement according to Art. 10.2 or 10.4, completion or the course of studies at Home University will be warranted to students already enrolled in the Programme.
6. This Agreement is drawn up in English and signed in three (3) original copies by the legal representatives of each Partner University.
7. The date of this Agreement is that affixed to the last signature.