

University studies in Italy

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Abstract

A system of Italian university studies is divided into three gradually consequential types of study. Organisation of university system in Italy appears from the reform published in the late ninetieth ages.

Keywords: university, bachelor study, master study, doctoral study

Introduction

According to the reform from the 1999, the university system in Italy is systematized into three stages.

First stage

Bachelor studies or undergraduate studies lie within the Corsi di Laurea-CL (first degree courses) of purpose to undertake undergraduate students a sufficient statement of principal scientific methods and supplies just as much as significant professional abilities.

The basic approach requirement is the Italian school leaving certificate assigned after thirteen years of complex integrated education; also foreign proportional qualifications may be adopted. Admission to individual degree courses may be conditional on specific course standards. Undergraduate studies - 1st degree courses last three years. The Laurea-L (1st degree) is assigned to undergraduates who have earned 180 credits.

Second stage

Master studies or graduate studies consist in

- a) Corsi di Laurea Specialistica-CLS;
- b) Corsi di Specializzazione di 1° livello-CS1;
- c) Corsi di Master Universitario di 1° livello-CMU1.

The purpose of CLS is to provide graduates with an advanced level of education for the practising of a highly qualified profession in specific spheres. Admission to CLS is subject to a previous Italian 1st degree (L) or a foreign comparable degree; the degree course lasts 2 years. The final degree, Laurea Specialistica-LS (2nd degree), is assigned to graduates who have earned a global amount of 300 credits, including those of the 1st degree that have been recognised for access to the CLS (maximum 180); besides, the compounding of an original dissertation is also compulsory.

A limited number of CLS regulated by specific EU directives (CLS in dentistry, human medicine, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, architecture) concern the following different characteristics: approach is subject to an Italian school leaving certificate or a foreign comparable qualification; admission is always subject to entrance exams; the degree course lasts 5 years (human medicine takes 6 years).

CS1 are set up to convey the knowledge and skills needed for the practice of highly qualifying professions; they may be established exclusively to the application of specific Italian laws or EU directives. Admission is subject to a previous Laurea (1st degree) or a foreign comparable degree and to the passing of a competitive examination; the course length changes between 2 and 3 years. The final degree, called Diploma di Specializzazione di primo livello - DS1 (1st level specialization degree) is awarded to graduates who have earned 300-360 credits in total, including those of the 1st degree, that have been recognised for accessing to the CS1.

The CMU1s include consist of advanced scientific courses or higher further education studies, open to 1st degree-course graduate students (Laurea-L) or students with a foreign comparable degree; admission may be subject to additional conditions. The course lasts a minimum 1 year. The degree of Master Universitario di 1^o livello-MU1 (1st level University Master) is conferred to graduates who have earned at least 60 credits.

Third stage

The Italian university system includes the following Postgraduate studies:

1. Corsi di Dottorato di Ricerca-CDR (research doctorate programmes);
2. Corsi di Specializzazione di 2^o livello-CS2 (2nd level specialization programmes);
3. Corsi di Master Universitario di 2^o livello-CMU2 (2nd level University Master's Degree programmes).

The CDR's purpose is to train postgraduates for very advanced scientific research or for high professional skills; they consider the use of convenient teaching methodologies such as updated technologies, study periods abroad, stages in professional research centres. The approach is subject to a previous Italian 2nd degree (LS) or a foreign comparable degree; admission is subject to

the passing of very competitive exams; official length is not less than 3 years; the drawing up of an original dissertation is necessary for awarding the 3rd degree called Dottorato di Ricerca - Ph.D. (Doctor of Philosophy).

The CS2's purpose is aimed at training postgraduates in the knowledge and abilities that is required in the practice of highly qualified professions; they may be organized and established exclusively in application of specific Italian laws or EU directives. Access is subject to a previous LS (2nd degree) or to an equivalent degree; admission is subject to the passing of an examination; the course length is generally 1 year, except for all CS2s of the medicine sector which may take up to a maximum of 5 years.

The CMU2's consist of in advanced scientific courses or higher continuing education studies, open to the holders of an LS or a foreign comparable degree; admission may be subject to additional conditions. Studies take not less than 1 year. The degree (Master Universitario di 2° livello-MU2) is awarded to postgraduates who have earned not less than 60 credits.

The Classes of Degree Courses: education systems of individual degree programmes are independently established by universities. Individual institutions, however, when determining a CL or a CLS, they have to assumed a few principal standards established at national level in relationship to classes of similar degree programmes; such national requirements may not comprise of more than the 2/3 of each curriculum.

Conclusion

University Educational Credits: degree programmes are arranged in credits (crediti formativi universitari). A university credit agrees with twenty-five hours of work per student, time for personal study included. The average annual workload of a full time student is in general terms assigned at 60 credits.

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Vysokoškolský systém v Itálii

Systém studia na italských vysokých školách je rozčleněn do tří postupně navazujících typů studia. Uspořádání vysokoškolského systému v Itálii vychází z reformy vydané koncem devadesátých let.

Klíčová slova: vysoká škola, bakalářské studium, magisterské studium, doktorské studium

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