



UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA

**Dipartimento di
Scienze della Terra
e dell'Ambiente**

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS
(Article 12, Ministerial decree no. 270 of 22/10/2004)

MASTER'S DEGREE IN AGRI-FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

Category LM-69

Enrolment cohort of
academic year 2025-2026



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PART ONE – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 – Program name, category, teaching institution and duration

1. The Master's Program in Agri-Food Sustainability, activated by the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences of the University of Pavia, belongs to the LM-69 category - Agricultural sciences and technologies, pursuant to the Ministerial decree n. 1649, 19 December 2023.
2. The duration of the Master's Program in Agri-Food Sustainability is two years.

Article 2 – Regulatory reference texts

1. The organisation and implementation of the academic activities for the Master's Program in Agri-Food Sustainability (hereinafter "the Master's Program") are conducted in conformity with the principles of freedom of academic and the rights and duties of the teachers and the students and are regulated by the present text, by the Statute of the University of Pavia, by the University General Regulations, by the Academic Regulations of the University, by the Academic Regulations of the University, by the Regulations for Part-Time Enrolment and by the Student career Regulations (<https://portale.unipv.it/it/ateneo/organizzazione/statuto-e-regolamenti>) as well as by the Regulations of the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences: (<https://terraeambiente.dip.unipv.it/it/dipartimento/atti-e-documenti>).
2. For all matters not expressly provided for in these Regulations, the provisions of the law in force apply.

Article 3 – Body responsible for academic and organisational coordination

1. The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences administers the academic and organisational coordination of its degree programs.
2. The Department has set up the Agri-food sustainability Teaching Council, hereinafter referred to as the Teaching Council, to which the professors in charge of teaching the courses envisaged in this Master's Degree Course belong.
3. The Departmental Council appoints the Quality Assurance Management Group, which is responsible for supervising and promoting the quality policy on the Master's Program in Agri-Food Sustainability. The Quality Management Group coordinates the compilation of the Annual Program Plan (Scheda Unica Annuale, SUA). It also acts as a review group, and therefore prepares the Annual Monitoring Plan.
4. The organisational responsibilities for the academic activities of the Master's Program Sustainability are assumed by the President of the Academic Council and by a professor appointed for this purpose by the Council and named in the SUA, without prejudice to the collegiality of decisions and guidelines of the Council.

Article 4 – Administrative services

1. The Academic Secretariat of the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences provides support for all academic activities. In particular, this secretariat prepares the appropriate administrative acts for the assignment of roles, as well as managing classrooms, preparing course timetables, managing the ESSE3 system for booking exams and managing the Department's website, which contains all the information relevant to the Master's Program. (<https://agrifood.cdl.unipv.it/en>)
2. The UOC Carriere Studenti, the UOC Immatricolazioni e informastudenti and the UOC Admission office will handle the information relating to the student's career (enrolment, transfers, etc.): [Bachelor's and Master's degree programs | Università di Pavia](#)
[Degree programs | Università di Pavia](#)
3. The University Orientation Centre (Centro di Orientamento, COR) manages activities and projects to support students in the choice of university studies, the student's career, and the graduate's entry into the world of work. To this end, it organises collective and individual actions, counselling services and orientation meetings. The services offered by the COR can be consulted at: <https://orienta.unipv.it>.



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PART TWO - ORGANISATION OF ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Article 5 - Annual Program Plan

An Annual Program Plan (Scheda Unica Annuale, SUA) is drawn up in conformity with the Quality Assurance System. The SUA is a management tool serving in the design, implementation, self-evaluation and re-design of the course of study. It can be consulted at:

<https://gestionedidattica.unipv.it/index.php/file/2025SUA08438.pdf>

Article 6 - Requirements for admission

1. For admission to the Master's Program, students must hold a bachelor's degree (which may be a bachelor's degree obtained according to the regulations in force prior to Ministerial Decree 509/99), or a three-year university diploma, or another qualification obtained abroad, recognised as suitable by the competent bodies of the University.

2. Students applying for admission to the Master's Program must also meet certain curricular requirements and have an adequate personal background. The curricular requirements are automatically recognised for those who hold a bachelor's degree in one of the following categories: CATEGORY L25 - Agricultural and forestry sciences and technologies, or CATEGORY L26 - Agri-food sciences and technologies (and in the corresponding categories of the previous national education system, pursuant to Ministerial Decree 509/99).

Given the specific interdisciplinary nature of the Master's Program, candidates who have acquired sufficient training to undertake the program outlined in this Regulation may also be admitted.

In any case, the minimum curricular requirements are to have acquired at least 45 university credits (CFUs) in five different scientific-disciplinary sectors among those listed below:

AGR/01 – Economics and rural appraisal
AGR/02 – Agronomy and field crops
AGR/03 – Arboriculture and fruit crops
AGR/04 – Vegetable and ornamental crops
AGR/05 – Forest management and silviculture
AGR/07 – Agricultural genetics
AGR/08 – Agricultural hydraulics and watershed protection
AGR/09 – Agricultural machinery and mechanisation
AGR/10 – Rural buildings and agri-forest land planning
AGR/11 – General and applied entomology
AGR/12 – Plant pathology
AGR/13 – Agricultural chemistry
AGR/14 – Paedology
AGR/15 – Food science and technology
AGR/16 – Agricultural microbiology
BIO/01 – General botany
BIO/02 – Systematic botany
BIO/03 – Environmental and applied botany
BIO/04 – Plant physiology
BIO/05 – Zoology
BIO/07 – Ecology
BIO/09 – Physiology
BIO/10 – Biochemistry
BIO/13 - Applied biology
BIO/14 - Pharmacology
BIO/15 - Pharmaceutical biology
BIO/18 – Genetics
BIO/19 – Microbiology
CHIM/03 – General and inorganic chemistry
CHIM/06 – Organic chemistry



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CHIM/10 – Food chemistry

GEO/04 – Physical geography and geomorphology

GEO/05 – Applied geology

ICAR/01 – Hydraulics

ICAR/02 – Hydraulic and marine constructions and hydrology

ICAR/03 – Sanitary-environmental engineering

ICAR/06 – Topography and cartography

In addition, for admission to the Master's Program, the candidate must possess knowledge of the English language, in written and oral forms, corresponding to at least level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages as established by the Council of Europe.

3. The fulfillment of the admission requirements in the preceding paragraph is verified through the evaluation of the qualifications submitted by the candidates. The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of the English language at level B2 through the presentation of certification from among those listed in article 19 below, or other certification at a higher level. In the absence of certification, English language proficiency is verified through a brief interview.

4. Access to the Master's Program is also open to students who are in the process of obtaining a relevant degree ("Conditional enrolment"), and who have acquired at least 150 credits by the deadline date set by the University for submission of the application. These candidates may only enrol once they have passed the admission test.

5. Candidates may also enrol during the academic year, as long as the timing is sufficient to permit their attendance at educational activities consistent with the general structure of the Master's Program, and in any case within the time limits annually decided by the Academic Senate.

6. Graduate students who do not meet the curricular requirements for admission to the Master's Degree Program may supplement their education by acquiring them through individual courses.

In this case, the graduate may also take subjects contributing to the Master's Program, up to a maximum of 30 CFU (University Credits).

7. The Master's Program is not subject to regional or national limits on access.

Article 7 – Academic organisation

1. The Master's Program is delivered in a blended mode. As a result, the training pathway involves a significant proportion of CFUs to be delivered online, for a total of no more than two-thirds, however. The master's degree program involves a combination of face-to-face (in-person/in-presence) and distance learning. For the Agroecology and sustainable farming (ASF) curriculum, the share of in-person/in-presence learning is 57 CFU and the share of distance learning is 33 CFU.

For the Food quality and nutrition (FNQ) curriculum, the share of in-person/in-presence learning is 59 CFU and the share of distance learning is 31 CFU.

Each distance/online or partially distance/online learning activity must include a share of distance lectures (DE - Didattica erogativa) and interactive learning (DI - Didattica interattiva).

In this regard, it is established that 1 CFU face-to-face/in-person lecture corresponds to 6 hours of distance lectures (DE - Didattica erogativa) and 2 hours of interactive learning (DI - Didattica interattiva).

Distance lectures (DE - Didattica erogativa) are carried out through synchronous and asynchronous (video-recorded) web conference lectures. Interactive learning (DI - Didattica interattiva) is designed and implemented to foster progressive student learning.

2. Students participating in the educational activities comprising the Master's Program acquire university credits (CFUs), in accordance with the regulations in force.

3. The average total learning commitment for a student engaged one year of full-time university studies is nominally set at 60 CFU.

4. Each CFU corresponds to an average of 25 hours of effort per student, of which at least 50% are devoted to personal study or other individual training activities (unless the CFU involves a high content of experimental or practical education). For each Master's Program CFU, the division between hours of face-to-face teaching and hours devoted to individual study is as follows:



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- a) for core academic activities: 8 hours dedicated to face-to-face instruction and 17 hours dedicated to individual study;
- b) for exercises, seminars and laboratories: 12 hours dedicated to academic activities and 13 hours dedicated to individual study;
- c) for academic activities of a mainly practical nature, such as field activities: 14 hours dedicated to the activities and 11 hours dedicated to individual study;
- d) for thesis internship and thesis preparation activities: 25 hours.

5. The student receives the CFUs corresponding to each educational activity after passing an examination or completing another form of assessment of the preparation or skills acquired.

6. For some of the teachings offered, such as the courses on soft skills and the Sustainable Development Goals – SDG, as per the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations: by passing the exam, in addition to the registration of the related credits (CFU), an open badge can be envisaged, a digital certificate as a proof of knowledge, competencies and abilities gained during the course. The certificate will be issued automatically after the registration of the exam and will be sent to the student's University of Pavia email address.

7. The academic activities are organised in two semesters per year: October-January and March-June.

8. There are three examination sessions: January-February, June-July and September. The student must book at least one examination for each session, and not less than six examinations in a year.

9. If the examination is conducted in both written and oral form, the two tests together are considered as a single booking.

10. The interval between two examinations in the same course must comply with the provisions of the University Academic Regulations.

11. Students who have already complied with the attendance requirements for all courses of the Master's Program may book examination sessions that overlap with their ongoing courses.

12. Students who are athletes (Article 15, paragraph 1, letter c) may obtain ad hoc examination bookings in agreement with the relevant professors, in the case of conflicts with sporting commitments (competitions, training and related travel).

13. The calendar of lessons, appeals and final exams is published in accordance with the ministerial deadlines, as reported in the SUA. The calendar of examinations is published at the beginning of each calendar year.

14. Completion of the Master's Program requires participation in at least five academic sessions, which take place in the following periods, indicatively: June-July, September-October, December, March and April.

15. Beginning with academic year 2022-2023, students may enrol in the Master's Degree Plus (Laurea Magistrale Plus, LM+) program, in the context of a collaboration project regulated by a specific agreement with a network of partner institutions and companies.

Starting in the second year, students in the LM+ program undertake two semesters of training at affiliated organisations/companies as an integral part of their education, with the aim of acquiring specific professional skills coherent with the Master's Program. The organisations/companies included in the network agreement and the relative education programs will be communicated over the course of the year, and meetings will be organised for communication with the interested students.

On an annual basis, the Master's Program Academic Council will appoint a committee for the purpose of selecting from candidates who apply for the LM+ program. The selection will be in keeping with a number of students defined by the Academic Council and in consideration of the education opportunities offered by the organisations/companies. The selection will be based on the candidate's curricular achievements, supplemented by the results of an individual interview. For assessment purposes, the Academic Council may request a non-binding opinion from the LM+ Steering Committee, composed of representatives of the University of Pavia and the partner organisations/companies.

Students enrolled in the LM+ have the option of enrolling in the Master's Program on a part-time basis, in keeping with the relevant regulations.



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In carrying out their activities at the host organisation/company, students will be followed by an organisation/company tutor and a university tutor, who will interact constantly in monitoring the ongoing achievement of the objectives defined in the education project. Assessments will be conducted twice during the educational path: one at mid-point and one final.

The student will be reimbursed for expenses incurred during the educational period with the organisation/company.

Students enrolled in the LM+ program may obtain up to 18 CFUs in consideration of their experience at the company/organisation, as part of their final degree examination. Any such CFUs will be recognised: as part of "supernumerary activities" (12 CFUs of thesis internship, 3 CFU of other knowledge useful in the working context); as part of their elective activities (12 CFUs), and potentially as supernumerary CFUs, as specified in the following articles of these regulations.

Article 8 – Study plans

1. The term "standard study plan" refers to a study plan complying with the scheme in Attachment 1 of these regulations.

2. All students are required to submit their study plan within the deadlines indicated annually by the University.

3. Study plans that comply with the scheme in Attachment 1 of these Regulations shall be approved ex officio. Any elective educational activities chosen by the student, as per letter a), paragraph 5 of Article 10 of Ministerial Decree n. 270 of 22 October 2004 are considered coherent with the study plan and are also approved ex officio.

4. The term "individual study plan" refers to any study plan not in conformity with the standard one.

5. A student intending to follow a different course of study from the one set out in these Regulations may submit an individual study plan, within the deadline established annually by the University, in compliance with the constraints of the program classification and the Master's Program academic regulations.

6. The individual study plan, presented in its entirety, must be approved by the Academic Council, which will take into account the student's needs for cultural education and professional preparation in relation to the academic offer, and may suggest changes to make the educational path more consistent with the specific educational objectives of the Master's Program.

7. In addition to the courses necessary for the graduation, it is possible to include a maximum of 24 credits (CFU) of extra learning activities to the study plan per academic year, except for the medical area courses of nationally restricted access and the psychology area courses, as long as the course propaedeutic rules are followed.

8. The student is not required to complete supernumerary educational activities as a condition of obtaining the degree.

9. In the study plan, for EU, equivalent and non-EU students with a qualification obtained abroad, it is mandatory to attend an Italian course for foreigners as part of further linguistic knowledge (Italian language for foreign students - 3 ECTS).

Students are considered exempt:

- who have obtained a high school diploma or a first level degree in Italian in Italy;
- who have obtained an Italian school qualification abroad;
- who are in possession of an Italian language certification of at least level B1.

Alternatively, for Italian students or for exempt foreign students, there is a training activity called "Other useful knowledge for entering the world of work" (Other activities) of 3 ECTS. This activity is considered acquired if the student has attended seminars, laboratories and other initiatives organized by the master's degree course. Participation in seminars, workshops or scientific conferences in the agri-food sector organized outside the University may also be recognized, subject to the favorable opinion of the Teaching Council. Participation in the aforementioned initiatives must be adequately certified.

10. Students may submit study plans for enrolment on a part-time basis, corresponding to the standard study plan and spread over not more than twice the conventional number of years.

11. Students participating in the LM+ program may opt for part-time enrolment beginning in the second year of the program, in accordance with the relevant University regulations.



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Article 9 - Joint or double degree programs

1. The Master's Program in Agri-Food Sustainability course does not provide for the award of joint or double degrees.

Article 10 – Prerequisites and attendance obligations

1. Attendance at learning activities is the student's right and duty. Students are strongly recommended to attend face-to-face education activities, academic activities in the field and other practical and laboratory activities.

2. No learning activities/exams are subject to prerequisites.

3. For learning activities delivered in a blended mode and involving practical activities, it is mandatory for the student to acquire theoretical knowledge in self-study, before attending laboratory activities and excursions.

Article 11 – Student electives

1. Students enrolled in the Master's Program may include 12 elective university credits in their study plan (so-called "Type D" educational activity, TAFD, in keeping with Article 10, paragraph 5.a of Ministerial Decree 270/2004). The electives may be chosen by students from the learning activities offered or recommended by the Teaching Council or from the entire range of teachings offered by the University. The Teaching Council may reserve the right to evaluate the coherence of the choices with respect to the educational objectives of the Master's Degree Program.

2. It is allowed to include, among the freely chosen activities, courses belonging to the educational offer of the three-year and master's degree courses, with the exception of those pertaining to the educational offer of the medical and health area with national planning and the psychology area. The student will not be able to choose courses already taken during previous university attendance, unless they have obtained specific validations of the same.

3. According to recent ministerial decrees, among elective activities, students are allowed to choose at least 3 courses in Italian. These courses can be selected in the frame of the didactic teaching of the university or specifically set up courses.

4. Students enrolled in the LM+ program may request recognition of up to 12 CFUs within the framework of their elective credits. The Teaching Council may also approve the recognition of the training activity carried out in the company as additional extra internship credits calculated according to Article 16, paragraph 5, letter c of the University Teaching Regulations on the basis of the hours of attendance, in addition to the curricular hours documented by the tutors and recognized by the Teaching Council. At the conclusion of the in-company training activities, the university tutor and the company tutor will submit a brief report on the activities carried out by the student to the President of the Teaching Council for verbalization.

Article 12 – Thesis internship

1. The study plan provides for a thesis internship of 12 CFUs aimed at promoting knowledge and data collection for thesis degree. Such thesis internship is an integral part of the training course and must contribute to the achievement of the Master's Program educational objectives.

2. Thesis internship may be carried out in the context of the laboratories of the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences of the University of Pavia and of the other Departments of the University of Pavia which contribute to the educational offer of the master's degree program.

3. The student may also be able to obtain recognition of internships carried out on a voluntary basis in facilities outside the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, within the CFUs reserved for thesis internship or as supernumerary credits. The recognition and identification of the number of such CFUs is subject to assessment of the activity by the Academic Council.

4. Students enrolled in the LM+ program may be awarded 12 CFUs of thesis internship and 3 CFUs of "Other knowledge useful for integration in the working context". The Academic Council may also recognise the thesis internship activity carried out in an organisation/company as supernumerary credits. Such recognition will be calculated on the basis of hours of attendance in addition to the



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curricular hours, as documented by the tutors, in accordance with Article 16, paragraph 5, letter c of the University Academic Regulations.

Article 13 – Final examinations and assessments

1. For the purposes of the Master's Program, the student may not take more than 12 final examinations.
2. The final examinations or assessments taken must cover: the core educational activities, the related or supplementary activities, and the elective activities chosen by the student. The final examinations or assessments concerning the elective activities are considered in the count as corresponding to one unit (even if the credits assigned involve more than one final examination or assessment).
3. None of the educational activities referred to in letters c), d), paragraph 5 of Article 10 of Ministerial Decree 270/2004 are included in the calculation of the maximum number of final examinations or assessments. In any case, these activities must not be subject to more than five examinations, including the final examination for award of the degree.
4. Examinations are conducted in written or oral form or both, according to the academic requirements of each course. The examination procedures for each course are published on a specific page of the Department's website (<https://agrifood.cdl.unipv.it/en>). In the case of written examinations, the student may withdraw during the course of the examination. In the case of oral examinations, students are allowed to withdraw until the moment before recording of the final assessment. In the case of a student who withdraws, any annotation in the examination report may be used for statistical purposes but shall not be recorded in the student's report of university studies nor in the student's academic career.
5. Examinations are marked in thirtieths, except in the case of thesis internship, Italian language for foreign students and transversal skills, where only a pass mark is awarded and this is recorded in the minutes. Educational credits are deemed to have been acquired if the mark is equal to or higher than 18/30. In the case of a maximum mark of 30/30, the examining committee may award *laude* honours by unanimous decision. An assessment of insufficiency is not accompanied by a grade. Any annotation in the examination report in this regard may be used for statistical purposes, but shall not be recorded in the student's report of university studies nor in the student's academic career. Based on the art. 30, comma 1 of the Students' Careers Regulation, it is necessary to register the evaluation of the exam even when it is negative.
6. In the case of courses comprising two or more modules, the professors responsible for the different modules participate collectively in the overall assessment of the student's performance.

Article 14 - Final degree examination and award of the qualification

1. The student is awarded the degree after passing a final examination, designed to verify the achievement of the Master's Program educational objectives.
2. The student may enrol for the final examination after having acquired at least 102 CFUs, and through the examination may acquire a further 18 CFUs. The examination consists in the presentation and discussion of a dissertation written in an original manner under the guidance of a rapporteur, either a tenured professor or a lecturer within the University of Pavia, and possibly one or two co-rapporteurs, who may also be external to the University of Pavia.
3. The thesis is discussed in public session before a Degree Examination Committee, appointed by the Director of the Department, composed of at least five professors, at least four of whom are professors or researchers in role at the University of Pavia. The President of the Academic Council appoints a counter-rapporteur, who must be a member of the Examination Committee, to whom the student must submit the thesis at least five days before the final examination session. Subject to the same deadline, the student must also send a summary of the thesis to the Committee members. The student must also email a pdf copy of the thesis to the Academic Secretariat.
4. The final examination takes place through a public presentation by the student, using electronic media, which may be followed by a brief discussion.
5. The final thesis must be written and discussed in English. It is therefore necessary to meet the following conditions:



- a) an "abstract" written in Italian and summarizing the content of the thesis must be attached
 - b) the title must be written both in English and Italian.
6. At the end of the public discussion, the Committee proceeds to grading of the degree examination.
7. The degree grade (from a minimum of 66 points to a maximum of 110, with possible *laude*) is awarded collectively by the Degree Examination Committee, in public session, and takes into account the student's entire study path. In particular, the degree score is obtained from the sum of a basic score, proportional to the average of the marks obtained in the exams taken, weighted by the CFUs of each course, and a score established by the Committee. The average is weighted and rounded off arithmetically. A mark of 30 *cum laude* for an examination counts as 30 for the purposes of the average. Scores obtained in supernumerary educational activities are not taken into account for the calculation of the basic score. The mark established by the Committee is based on an assessment proposed by the rapporteur, an assessment proposed by the counter-rapporteur and an assessment proposed by the Degree Examination Committee. The President of the graduation session proposes to the Committee the awarding of *laude* if the sum of the base score and the score established by the Commission is equal to at least 110/110.
8. The student may withdraw from the final examination up until the moment of being dismissed by the President for initiation of the grading process by the Committee, which takes place without the presence of the student or outsiders.
9. Students enrolled in the LM+ program may request approval for a thesis topic linked to the specific training experience carried out at the host organisation/company.
10. Students enrolled in the LM+ program may be awarded up to 18 CFUs at the time of their final examination. The Academic Council may also recognise the training activity carried out in an organisation/company as supernumerary credits. Such recognition will be calculated on the basis of hours of attendance in addition to the curricular hours, as documented by the tutors, in accordance with Article 16, paragraph 5, letter c of the University Academic Regulations.

PART THREE - PROVISIONS CONCERNING STUDENT ACADEMIC CAREERS

Article 15 – Criteria for the recognition of duly certified extra-university knowledge and skills

1. The Academic Council may validate duly certified knowledge and skills up to a maximum of 24 CFUs, recognising them as examinations of the Master's Program:
- a) for professional knowledge and skills, individually certified in accordance with the relevant regulations in force, up to 12 CFUs;
 - b) for knowledge and skills acquired in post-secondary educational activities planned with the participation of a university, up to 12 CFUs.
 - c) for sports activities recognised by the competent authorities, up to a maximum of 12 CFUs according to the following schedule: i) sport practised at Olympic, world and European level, up to 6 CFUs; ii) sport practised at Italian level and intermediate categories up to 3 CFUs; iii) qualification in the "medal zone" at the University Championships, or the performance of competitive activities for the sections of Pavia University Sports Centre (CUS), including in the context of competitions at regional and national level, up to 6 CFUs;
 - d) up to 1 CFU for recognition of the Training Course "Safety and health in the workplace", pursuant to Legislative Decree 81/2008.
2. Any recognition of the knowledge and skills referred to in the previous paragraphs shall be decided by the Academic Council.

Article 16 – Criteria for recognition of previous credits

1. At the time of enrolment, students who have already obtained a degree at higher level than a bachelor's from the University of Pavia or another Italian or foreign university may request an abbreviation of their studies, which may be granted subsequent to the assessment, validation and recognition of CFUs in relation to the Master's Program, as determined by the Academic Council. Any CFUs acquired on the basis of Article 49 of the University Academic Regulations, i.e. relating to the certified passing of examinations for individual courses, will also be recognised.



2. Pursuant to Article 46 of the University Academic Regulations, in the case of transfer from other courses of study or from other universities, the potential recognition of students' careers and of any CFUs considered shall be decided by the Academic Council.

3. A share of not less than 50% must in any case be assigned for university credits directly accrued by the student in degree programs of the same category and the same scientific-disciplinary sector.

4. The acquired University credits (CFUs) are not considered subject to obsolescence during the student's career, regardless of its duration, except in cases of loss of student status or withdrawal. In such cases, in the event of re-enrollment, the validation of the acquired credits is subordinated, among other things, to an assessment of their possible obsolescence by the Teaching Council. In well-motivated particular cases, the obsolescence of training credits related to specific educational activities may be deliberated by the Teaching Council. The resolution of obsolescence contains the indication of the modalities for the recovery of obsolete credits, establishing the possible supplementary tests that the student must take for this purpose.

Article 17 – Criteria for recognition of educational activities during study at foreign universities

1. Students enrolled in this Master's Degree may carry out part of their studies at universities in Italy or abroad with which conventions or agreements (Erasmus programs, or other exchange programs) have been stipulated.

2. Study periods abroad normally have a duration of between 3 and 10 months extendable, where necessary, up to a maximum of 12 months. Study periods at other affiliated Italian universities have a minimum duration of 3 months up to a maximum of 6 months. The study plan to be carried out at the host university, valid for university career purposes, and the number of credits that can be acquired must be appropriate to the duration.

3. Study opportunities abroad or at Italian universities are made known to students through specific calls for application containing, among other things, the participation requirements and selection criteria. Selected students may be granted financial contributions or other benefits as provided by the mobility programs and exchange agreements. A mobility grant is generally awarded in the case of exchanges carried out within the framework of the Erasmus community program or in the case of the Italian Erasmus national mobility program (the conditions are stated on the related call for application).

4. During the mobility period, students may carry out the following activities, in accordance with the provisions of the relevant call for applications:

- a) attend courses and take the corresponding exams;
- b) carry out research activities in preparation for the thesis

5. In defining the training project, in agreement with the teachers of the disciplines involved, the students must indicate the activities they intend to undertake abroad (or at the affiliated Italian university in the case of Italian Erasmus) and which correspond to those included in their study plan. Before departure, students must present the Learning Agreement (document containing the list of learning activities to be taken during the mobility period with the corresponding credits) which must be agreed and signed between the student, the delegate for International Mobility and the host university.

6. At the end of the study period, on the basis of the certification of the learning activities carried out - "Transcript of records" - (issued by the foreign or Italian host university), the Teaching Council/Department will decide on the recognition of the exams taken abroad or at the Italian host university (if relevant to the educational pathway), awarding the related CFUs.

7. The University of Pavia ensures full recognition of learning activities carried out during the mobility period if they meet the latest approved Learning Agreement.

8. If the recognized learning activities are not included in the students' last approved study plan, the students must revise the study plan according to the indications provided by the Teaching Council/Department.

9. Students who have completed a period of mobility and who request validation of the activities incurred abroad or at another affiliated university will not be admitted to the degree final exam in default of the validation resolution.



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Article 18 – Admission to subsequent years

1. For students enrolled in the first year, admission to subsequent years is not subject to acquiring a minimum number of CFUs.

Article 19 – Certifications

1. Admission to the Master's Program is subject to certification of knowledge of English at level B2 (defined in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages established by the Council of Europe). The language certifications considered as corresponding to level B2 and approved by the University are the following:

- BEC Vantage
- B2 First (Cambridge English Qualification)
- IELTS 5.5-6.5 'Academic'
- TrackTest English Test B2
- ILEC Pass
- TOEFL iBT 72-94
- Trinity College ISE II, GESE 7, GESE 8, GESE 9
- Oxford Test of English level B2
- LCCI EfB level 3.

2. The committee appointed for the purposes of conducting admission interviews may assess the suitability of other certifications of English language proficiency at level B2.



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Attachment 1 - Study plan - Cohort 2025-26

Curriculum 1 - Agroecology and sustainable farming (ASF)

| Core learning activities (57 CFUs) | Year | Semester | CFUs | Scientific Disciplinary Sector (SSD) |
|--|-------------|-----------------|-------------|---|
| <i>Plant nutrition and quality of agri-food production</i> | 1 | 1 | 6 | BIO/04 |
| <i>Conservation and promotion of plant genetic resources</i> | 1 | 1 | 6 | AGR/07 |
| <i>European agri-food law</i> | 1 | 2 | 6 | IUS/14 |
| <i>Food marketing</i> | 1 | 1 | 6 | SECS-P/08 |
| <i>Local horticultural production chains</i> | 1 | 1 | 6 | AGR/04 |
| <i>Agroecology and biodiversity conservation</i> | 1 | 2 | 6 | BIO/03 |
| <i>Sustainable grass crops, integrated production, organic farming</i> | 1 | 2 | 9 | AGR/02 |
| <i>Sustainable management of water resources in agriculture</i> | 1 | 2 | 6 | AGR/08 |
| <i>Plant pathology</i> | 1 | 1 | 6 | AGR/12 |

| Non-core learning activities (18 CFUs) | Year | Semester | CFUs | SSD |
|--|-------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| <i>Forests and environmental sustainability in agriculture (3 modules)</i> | 2 | 1 | (total 9) | |
| - <i>Forests and mitigation of climate change</i> | | | 3 | AGR/05 |
| - <i>Sustainable use of pesticides</i> | | | 3 | AGR/02 |
| - <i>Next generation agrochemicals</i> | | | 3 | CHIM/06 |
| <i>Soil conservation and precision agriculture (3 modules)</i> | 2 | 1 | (total 9) | |
| - <i>Remote sensing for agricultural applications</i> | | | 3 | ING-INF/03 |
| - <i>Geomatics for precision agriculture</i> | | | 3 | ICAR/06 |
| - <i>Soil conservation</i> | | | 3 | GEO/05 |

| Elective learning activities suggestion: choose 12 CFUs from the following options (12 CFUs)* | Year | Semester | CFUs | SSD |
|--|-------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| <i>Spectroscopic Methods for Food Safety</i> | 2 | 1 | 3 | FIS/01 |
| <i>Seeds for sustainable agriculture</i> | 2 | 2 | 3 | BIO/04 |
| <i>Geopedology</i> | 2 | 2 | 6 | GEO/04 |
| <i>Soil and water contamination by intensive farming</i> | 2 | 1 | 3 | GEO/08 |
| <i>Ecology of farming system</i> | 2 | 1 | 3 | BIO/07 |



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| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|--------|
| Game management | 2 | 1 | 3 | BIO/05 |
|-----------------|---|---|---|--------|

* Students have the option of bringing six of the 12 elective CFUs forward to the first year. For the current academic year, please note the availability of the following additional elective courses:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|-----------|
| Practical tools for drafting a Sustainability Report | 1 | 2 | 3 | SECS-P/07 |
| From food heritage to sustainable rural development | 1 | 2 | 3 | M-DEA/01 |
| Seed ecology and use | 1 | 2 | 3 | BIO/03 |
| Carbon sequestration and the contribution of the agri-food sector | 1 | 2 | 3 | BIO/03 |
| Sustainable wine marketing | 1 | 1 | 3 | SECS-P/08 |

| Other activities: | Year | CFUs |
|--|------|------|
| Other activities or Italian Language for Foreign Students ** | 1 | 3 |
| Internship for thesis | 2 | 12 |
| Final exam | 2 | 18 |

** For guidance on the choice to make, refer to art. 8, paragraph 9

Curriculum 2 – Food quality and nutrition (FNQ)

| Core learning activities (51 CFUs) | Year | Semester | CFUs | SSD |
|---|------|----------|------|-----------|
| Plant nutrition and quality of agri-food production | 1 | 1 | 6 | BIO/04 |
| Conservation and promotion of plant genetic resources | 1 | 1 | 6 | AGR/07 |
| European agri-food Law | 1 | 2 | 6 | IUS/14 |
| Food marketing | 1 | 1 | 6 | SECS-P/08 |
| Local horticultural production chains | 1 | 1 | 6 | AGR/04 |
| Agroecology and biodiversity conservation | 1 | 2 | 6 | BIO/03 |
| Sustainable grass crops | 1 | 2 | 6 | AGR/02 |
| Fundamentals of food technology | 1 | 2 | 9 | AGR/15 |

| Non-core learning activities (24 CFUs) | Year | Semester | CFUs | SSD |
|---|------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Vegetable foods and agrochemicals for plant defence: chemistry and toxicology (3 modules) | 2 | 1 | (total 9) | |
| - Vegetable food chemistry | | | 3 | CHIM/10 |
| - Chemistry of agrochemicals | | | 3 | CHIM/08 |
| - Toxicology of agrochemicals | | | 3 | BIO/14 |



| | | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>Integrated course on nutrition and human health (2 modules)</i> - <i>Nutrition physiology</i> - <i>Healthy diets from sustainable food systems</i> | 1 | 2 | (total 9) 3 6 | BIO/09 MED/49 |
| <i>Secondary plant metabolism and medicinal plants (2 modules)</i> - <i>Secondary plant metabolism</i> - <i>Medicinal plants</i> | 2 | 2 | (total 6) 3 3 | CHIM/06 BIO/15 |

| Elective learning activities suggestion: choose 12 CFUs from the following options (12 CFUs)* | Year | Semester | CFUs | SSD |
|--|-------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Spectroscopic Methods for Food Safety | 2 | 1 | 3 | FIS/01 |
| Seeds for sustainable agriculture | 2 | 2 | 3 | BIO/04 |
| Geopedology | 2 | 2 | 6 | GEO/04 |
| Soil and water contamination by intensive farming | 2 | 1 | 3 | GEO/08 |
| Ecology of farming system | 2 | 1 | 3 | BIO/07 |
| Game management | 2 | 1 | 3 | BIO/05 |

* Students have the option of bringing six of the 12 elective CFUs forward to the first year. For the current academic year, please note the availability of the following additional elective courses:

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|-----------|
| <i>Practical tools for drafting a Sustainability Report</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | SECS-P/07 |
| <i>From food heritage to sustainable rural development</i> | 1 | 1 | 3 | M-DEA/01 |
| <i>Seed ecology and use</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | BIO/03 |
| <i>Carbon sequestration and the contribution of the agri-food sector</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | BIO/03 |
| <i>Sustainable wine marketing</i> | 1 | 1 | 3 | SECS-P/08 |

| Other activities: | Year | CFUs |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Other activities or Italian Language for Foreign Students ** | 1 | 3 |
| Internship for thesis | 2 | 12 |
| Final exam | 2 | 18 |

** For guidance on the choice to make, refer to art. 8, paragraph 9



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For further information on the learning activities program, the methods for assessing the student's learning outcomes, as well as the teachers and their curriculum vitae, refer to:
<https://agrifood.cdl.unipv.it/en>