



Erasmus Mundus Joint Master ALA
“Architecture, Landscape, Archaeology”
DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

Preamble

The Diploma Supplement was developed by the European Commission, Council of Europe and by UNESCO/CEPES (European Centre for Higher Education). The purpose of the supplement is to provide sufficient independent data to improve the international transparency and fair academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates etc.). It is designed to provide a description of the nature, level, context, content and status of the studies that were pursued and successfully completed by the individual named on the original qualification to which this supplement is appended. It should be free from any value-judgements, equivalence statements or suggestions about recognition. Information in all eight sections should be provided. Where information is not provided, an explanation should be provided.

WARNING: This Diploma Supplement is only valid if presented with the official degree certificate. The ALA Consortium provides each student with only one official copy of all documents associated with their academic work.

1. Information identifying the holder of the qualification

1.1 Last Name(s):

1.2 Given Name(s):

1.3 Date of Birth (day/month/year):

1.4 Student Identification Number (if available):

2. Information identifying the qualification

2.1 Name of qualification(s) and title(s) conferred:

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master’s Degree in Architecture, Landscape, Archaeology (ALA) - Second level Professional Master Diploma (CMU2).





2.2 Main field(s) of study for the qualification:

Architecture, Landscape and Archaeology.

2.3 Names and status of awarding institutions:

The awarding institutions are checked below:

- SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA (UNIROMA1, Italy) (Undergone external quality assurance by ANVUR, 2017)
- UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO II (UNINA, Italy) (Undergone external quality assurance by ANVUR, 2017)
- UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA (UC, Portugal) (Undergone external quality assurance by A3ES, 2015)
- ETHNIKO METSOBIO POLYTECHNEIO (NTUA, Greece) (Undergone external quality assurance by ADIP, 2016, in progress 2020 by HAHE)

2.4 Name(s) and status of institution(s) (if different from 2.3.) administering studies:

- SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA (UNIROMA1, Italy) (Undergone external quality assurance by ANVUR, 2017)

2.5 Language of instruction/examination:

English

3. Information on the level and duration of the qualification

3.1 Level of qualification:

Third cycle programme corresponding to EQF level 8:

(<http://hubmiur.pubblica.istruzione.it/web/universita/il-quadro-dei-titoli-italiani>)

3.2 Official length of programme:

2 years corresponding to 120 ECTS (see section 8).

3.3 Access requirement(s):

Admission is based on academic excellence and it is mandatory for a student to have a 5 ys. Bachelor's degree or a 5 ys Integrated Master degree. More specifically:

- for Architects, Landscape Architects and Civil Engineers: a 2nd cycle graduate degree (equivalent to 300 ECTS or 180 ECTS + 120 ECTS) that gives access to the profession;





- for Archaeologists and Humanities degree holders (Archaeology, Cultural Anthropology with major in Archaeology, Conservation Science, Cultural Heritage, Museum Conservation): a 2nd cycle graduate degree that gives access to PhD level.

Admission is granted according to national laws.

4. Information on the programme completed and results obtained.

4.1. Mode of study:

- Full time attendance during 2 years (4 semesters);
- Students have to implement at least two mobilities of 30 ECTS each in two different Programme countries, other than their country of residence.
- Exams: mid-term and final exams will be held to test the students' learning process (oral, written essays, graphic and drawing representations);
- Research Thesis consisting of a project with supervision and tutoring at each University by at least two professors (one architect and one archaeologist)
- Professional Internship/Traineeship (350 hours).

4.2. Programme learning outcomes:

The learning outcomes covered by this master are:

- Architectural and Landscape design capacity for Archaeological areas (real research-design projects at the forefront of archaeological challenges with topics indicated by the local superintendencies and municipalities).
- Analytical and Representation techniques abilities (CAD 2D/3D, Virtual Reality, Surveys Techniques, Site Excavation)
- Critical understanding of conservation and sustainable enhancement of sites
- Writing and communicative skills to explain projects and scientific documents to specialists and non-specialists, within the themes of the Master.

In addition, special attention is paid to the following learning outcomes:

- the capacity of managing information
- the self-learning skills
- the ability to work within a research or technical team
- the development of critical and analytical problem-solving
- the aptitude to pursue archive research
- the concern for quality, ethics and accomplishment.





More specifically:

Knowledge

- Interdisciplinary understanding of the fields of study;
- Disciplinary literacy through history, theory and design combining contemporary issues in practice;
- Combined knowledge of archaeological and architectural issues related to the “Historic Urban Landscape” approach introduced worldwide by UNESCO;
- Techniques of documentation, interpretation of archaeological sites (from an urban, natural and archaeological point of view), methodology on how to intervene in “Historic Urban Landscape”, management of an archaeological dig, and the relevant legislative framework;
- Research methodology and design capacity on conducting a thesis in an area archaeological area introducing, if necessary for its enhancement, elements of contemporary architecture.

Skills

- To acquire the academic skills to build concepts, combine knowledge, question assumptions and assess ideas;
- Design capacities and elaboration of critical thinking, technical skills for the innovative enhancement of heritage and especially archeological areas;
- Drawing and surveying digitalized tools, representation techniques;
- To gain experience in archaeological techniques and excavation works;

Capacities

- To cultivate the ability to work in trans-disciplinary teams and negotiate in partnerships;
- To encourage the aptitude to work with an intercultural and international openness;
- To develop the disposition to work in professional and research sector;
- To tackle problems by integrating theoretical and practical knowledge from different fields taught in the course.

4.3. Programme details: individual credits gained and grades/marks obtained (if this information is available in an official transcript this should be used here).

First Semester (UNIROMA1) – 30 ECTS

MODULES	ECTS	MARK
a. ROME WORKSHOP		
1.a Urban design and archaeology workshop	6	
b. ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL CULTURE		
1.b The relationship between architecture and archaeology in urban transformation	4	



2.b Landscape and archaeology	4	
3.b Design and archaeology: narratives and techniques	4	
c. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGIES		
1.c Measured drawings and digital cartography	4	
2.c Archaeological excavation and on field methodologies	4	
3.c Preventive archaeology and context analysis	4	

Second Semester (option NTUA or UC) - 30 ECTS

d. DESIGN STUDIO A (NTUA) - Option A		
1.d Design studio A – Archaeology within the urban tissue	12	
2.d Analysis and interpretation: historical and methodological issues	6	
3.d Landscape urbanism	6	
4.d Contemporary Interventions: theories and practices	6	
e. DESIGN STUDIO B (UC) - Option B		
1.e Design studio B – Archaeology and the design of territory	12	
2.e Landscape, city and territory archaeology	6	
3.e Archaeogeography and territory techniques	6	
4.e Narratives of restoration	6	

Third Semester (UNIROMA1 or UNINA or UC or NTUA) – 30 ECTS

f. PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE (internship) (UNIROMA1 or UNINA or UC or NTUA)		
1.f Internship 350 hours : [INSERT TITLE, HOST ORGANIZATION, LEARNING OUTCOMES]	14	
g. Architecture, Landscape and Archaeology Online Course 1 (NTUA)		
1.g Legislation and conventions	2	
i. Architecture, Landscape and Archaeology Online Course 2 (UC)		
1.i Research methodologies	2	
j. NAPOLI WORKSHOP (UNINA)		
1.j Archaeological site design workshop and field trip	12	

Fourth Semester (UNIROMA1 or UNINA or UC or NTUA) – 30 ECTS

k. THESIS		
1.k Research seminar and thesis : [INSERT TITLE]	30	

All courses in the table above are mandatory. There is no elective pathways.





4.4 Grading system and (if available) grade distribution table:

Student' accomplishments are going to be evaluated through module examination and the evaluation of Master Thesis which shall be presented in front of a panel of professors. The Student should successfully pass module examinations to complete each of the Master modules; the form of examination for each module is going to be specified in the description of each module. Local rules and regulations of the European partner university at which the student is enrolled apply to courses/modules that are followed, grading of courses/modules, re-sits, consultation of graded work etc. Generally, a grade superior or equal to D has to be obtained in order to be awarded the ECTS corresponding to the relevant course. Different grading systems are in place at the European partner institutions. These are going to be translated via a table to common grades.

GRADES	UC	NTUA	UNIROMA1/UNINA1
A	18/20-20/20	9/10-10/10	30/30-30 E LODE
B	16/20-17/20	8/10	27/30-29/30
C	14/20-15/20	7/10	24/30-26/30
D	12/20-13/20	6/10	21/30-23/30
E	10/20-11/20	5/10	18/30-20/30
F Failed	0/20-9/20	0/10-4/10	0/30-17/30

In order to start working on the master's thesis, students should complete successfully all the modules and the professional practice (traineeship).

The **Research Thesis** is evaluated by a jury, made of at least 7 members: these will be the two advisors (one archaeologist and one architect), the president of the jury (the Coordinator of the ALA Joint Master) and a member from the other ALA Consortium Partners (3), plus at least another member.

The **Professional Traineeship** is going to be assessed together with the Master Thesis. Parallel to the Master Thesis the students should submit a report on their internship period along with the report of their supervisor stating that the student has satisfactorily completed the internship period and assessing his/her performance. This is going to be graded and its grade is going to count 30% of the thesis mark. Honours and extraordinary mentions will be awarded by the master academic committee to the 10% top ranked students, based on a report issued by the academic committee.

Resits: at each partner institution, the local policies for repeating Master level examinations will apply. In case of failure of a course (failure includes absence from an exam with or without legitimate reason) a resit is possible depending on the examination rules of the university. The marks of a subject won't be used for compensating marks of another subject. If the student failed a subject, he/she needs to abandon the ALA programme.





4.5 Overall classification of the qualification:

The final degree grade is specified on the degree certificate.

5. Information on the function of the qualification

5.1 Access to further study:

NOT APPLICABLE

5.2 Access to a regulated profession:

The qualification is not giving access to a specific “regulated profession”. However, the huge pressure of international heritage bodies, national heritage institutions and public opinion about qualified interventions in archaeological areas, the crescent need to operate in a mediated environment, and the urgent need to construct a shared language between architects and archaeologists raises the worldwide need for this programme. ALA programme is based on permanent education and improvement. In this way the qualification is not a terminal award or part of a hierarchy of awards.

With regard to employment possibilities:

The employment possibilities are diverse, according to the educational programme. Upon completion of studies in Architecture, Landscape and Archaeology, individuals will have analytical capacities, design and planning skills to operate in archaeological contexts and will be able to work in professional agencies, contractors enterprises, governmental .

Since students that enroll in the EMJMD ALA can apply to the programme if they possess a graduate degree they can already access professional associations and PHD programs. Nevertheless the additional and specific knowledge on gained on archaeological enhancement and heritage issues will permit affiliations to heritage associations and higher education teaching in those fields.

6. Additional information

6.1 Additional information:

The students enrolled in the Master ALA Programme have a mandatory mobility among the universities of the Consortium with a full academic acknowledgement of the credits acquired.

In view of the Consortium Agreement between Sapienza University of Rome (UNIROMA1, Italy), University of Naples Federico II (UNINA, Italy), UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA (UC, Portugal), and ETHNIKO METSOBIO POLYTECHNEIO (NTUA, Greece), Partner Universities of the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJMD) ALA “Architecture, Landscape, Archaeology” Consortium, the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master degree ALA is awarded by the four Partners.





6.2 Further information sources:

- SAPIENZA UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA, Piazzale Aldo Moro, 5, Rome, Italy, postcode 000185
 - <https://www.uniroma1.it/it/>
- UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO II, Corso Umberto I 40, Naples, Italy, Postcode 80138
 - <https://www.unina.it>
- UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA, Paço das Escolas, Coimbra, Portugal, Postcode 3004-531 Coimbra
 - <https://www.uc.pt/>
- ETHNIKO METSOBIO POLYTEXNEIO
 - Eroon Polytechniou 9, Zographou Campus, Athens, Greece, Postcode 10682 / www.ntua.gr

7. Certification of the Supplement

7.1 Date (date/month/year):

7.2 Signature:

7.3 Capacity:

General Coordinator of the Master ALA programme (Sapienza University of Rome)

Prof. Alessandra Capuano

email: erasmusmaster.ala@uniroma1.it

7.4 ALA Official stamp/seal:

This document is released for all uses permitted by law; any information is derived from the electronic archive of this University and from declarations about didactic information given by the Director of the Master.

8. Information on the European Higher Education System

ITALIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

(info based on: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/eurydice/content/italy_en)

The Italian University System (D.M. 509/1999 and D.M. 270/2004):

Since 1999, Italian university studies have been fully reformed so as to meet the objectives of the "Bologna process". The university system is now organised on 3 cycles: the 1st cycle academic degree, that is the Laurea, grants access to the 2nd cycle, and the Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale, the main



degree of the 2nd cycle, gives access to 3rd cycle doctorate programmes resulting in the degree called Dottorato di Ricerca. In addition to the mentioned degree sequence after the Bologna pattern, the system offers other degree programmes and related degrees both within the 2nd and 3rd cycle.

First cycle:

Undergraduate studies consist exclusively in Corsi di Laurea-CL (1st degree courses) aimed at guaranteeing undergraduate students an adequate command of general scientific methods and contents as well as specific professional skills. General access requirement is the Italian school leaving qualification (Diploma di Superamento dell'Esame di Stato conclusivo dei corsi di Istruzione Secondaria Superiore), awarded on passing the relevant state examinations, after completion of 13 years of global schooling; also foreign comparable qualifications may be accepted. Admission to individual degree courses may be subject to specific course requirements. First degree courses last 3 years. The Laurea (L, 1st degree, and bachelor-level of the Bologna process) is awarded to undergraduates who have earned 180 ECTS credits. The L allows transition to the labour market, access to the civil service and/or regulated professions; it also grants access to all degree programmes of the 2nd cycle

Second cycle:

Postgraduate studies include:

- A) Corsi di Laurea Specialistica/Corsi di Laurea Magistrale-CLS/CLM;
- B) Corsi di Master Universitario di 1° livello-CMU1.

A) CLS/CLM are aimed at providing postgraduates with an advanced level of education for the exercise of a highly qualified activity in specific areas. Access to CLS/CLM is by the Italian 1st degree (L) or a foreign comparable degree; admission is subject to specific course requirements determined by individual universities; workload: 120 ECTS credits; length: 2 years. The final degree, Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale-LS/LM (master-level of the Bologna process), is awarded to those graduates who, once satisfied all curricular requirements, have also defended an original dissertation in the final degree examination.

The change of the degree name from Laurea Specialistica into Laurea Magistrale was agreed upon in 2004.

A limited number of 2nd cycle programmes, namely those leading to professions regulated by EU sectoral directives (in dentistry, human medicine, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, architecture), are defined "one long cycle degree programmes" (Corsi di Laurea Specialistica/ Magistrale a ciclo unico-CLSU/CLMU); they differ from the majority of usual CLS/CLM in the following characteristic features: access is by the Italian school leaving diploma or a foreign comparable qualification; admission is always subject to entrance exams; curricula consist of just one long cycle of 5-6 years (at present, only the CLSU/CLMU in human medicine takes 6 years), and a total number of 300-360 ECTS credits.





All LS/LM and LSU/LMU allow transition to the labour market, access to the civil service and/or regulated professions; they also grant access to research doctorate programmes as well as to all other degree courses of the 3rd cycle.

B) CMU1 consist in advanced scientific courses or higher continuing education studies, open to the holders of a Laurea-L or a foreign comparable degree; admission may be subject to additional conditions. Course length is min. 1 year. The degree Master Universitario di 1° livello-MU1 (1st level university master) is awarded to graduates who have earned 60 credits at least. The qualification awarded (Master Universitario di 1° livello-MU1) does not give access to Corsi di Dottorato di Ricerca or to any other 3rd cycle programmes, since this type of course does not belong to the general requirements established at national level, but it is offered under the autonomous responsibility of each university.

Third cycle:

It covers the following typologies of degree courses:

- A) Corsi di Dottorato di Ricerca-CDR (research doctorate programmes);
- B) Corsi di Specializzazione-CS (specialisation courses);
- C) Corsi di Master Universitario di 2° livello-CMU2 (2nd level university master courses).

A) CDR aim at training postgraduates for very advanced scientific research or for professional appointments of the highest consequence; they envisage the use of suitable teaching methodologies such as updated technologies, study periods abroad, stages in specialistic research centres. Access is by an Italian 2nd degree (LS/LM) or a foreign comparable degree; admission is subject to the passing of very competitive exams; legal length must be min. 3 years; the drawing up of an original dissertation is necessary for the awarding of the 3rd degree called Dottorato di Ricerca-DR (research doctorate); the corresponding personal title is Dottore di Ricerca.

B) CS are devised to provide postgraduates with knowledge and abilities as requested in the practice of highly qualifying professions; the majority concerns medical, clinical and surgical specialities, but CS have been also established for the advanced education and professional training in different contexts. CS may be established exclusively in application of specific Italian laws or EU directives. Access is by an LS/LM or by a foreign comparable degree; admission is subject to the passing of a competitive examination; course length is min. 2 years. The final degree, called "Diploma di Specializzazione"-DS, give the right to the title as "Specialista".

C) CMU2 consist 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 min. 1 year. The degree (Master Universitario di 2° livello-MU2) is awarded to postgraduates who have earned min. 60 credits. The qualification awarded (Master Universitario di 2° livello – MU2) does not give access to Corsi di Dottorato di Ricerca or to any other 3rd cycle





programmes, since this type of course does not belong to the general requirements established at national level, but it is offered under the autonomous responsibility of each university.

Credits:

Degree courses are structured in credits (Crediti Formativi Universitari – CFU). University credits are based on the workload students need in order to achieve the expected learning outcomes. Each credit corresponds to 25 hours of student workload, including independent study.

The average workload of a full time student is conventionally fixed at 60 credits per year. Thus, The CFU fully coincide with ECTS credits.

Classes of Degree Courses:

All degree programmes of Laurea and Laurea Magistrale sharing general educational objectives are grouped into “classes”. In developing the specific learning outcomes of single programmes, Universities have to comply with some national requirements for each class concerning the types (and corresponding amount of credits) of teaching learning activities to be included. Degrees belonging to the same class have the same legal value.

Academic Titles:

Those who receive the Laurea are entitled to be called “Dottore”, the holders of a Laurea Magistrale have a right to the title of "Dottore Magistrale", the Dottorato di ricerca confers the title of "Dottore di Ricerca" or “PhD”.

Joint Degrees:

Italian universities are allowed to establish degree programmes in cooperation with Italian and foreign partner universities, on completion of which joint or double/multiple degrees can be awarded.

Further information:

Italian Qualifications Framework (Quadro dei Titoli Italiani – QTI) - <http://www.quadrodeititoli.it>

GREEK EDUCATION SYSTEM

(info based on: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/eurydice/content/greece_en
https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/eurydice/content/greece_en)

Key features of the education system

According to the Greek Constitution (article 16), higher education is public. It is provided only by institutions which are legal entities of public law. HEIs enjoy full self-administration and academic freedom. They are subject to state supervision. The government finances them. No private HEIs





exist in the country. Admission of students has to do with their performance in the national pan-hellenic exams at the end of grade C of Lykeio (upper secondary school).

1.1.1 Higher education structure

Higher education is provided by HEIs (total number 25) and includes two parallel and distinct sectors:

1. The university sector that includes universities, national technical universities and the Higher School of Fine Arts
2. The technological sector that includes technological educational institutes (TEIs) and the School of Pedagogical and Technological Education (ASPETE).

It should be noted that all TEIs of the country have merged with university institutions.

1.1.2 Organisation of studies

1.1.2.1 First cycle of studies

Studies last 4 years for most HEIs which award Ptyxeia equivalent to 6th EQF level. HEIs of 5 years or more of continuous studies in scientific areas such as: Engineering (Civil, Architectural, Mechanical, Chemical, Agronomy, Forestry, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Pharmaceuticals, Certain art departments (Music Studies and Fine Arts award **Integrated Master** of second cycle degree (see below). Academic work is distributed in semester modules. Each academic year includes educational activities that correspond to 60 ECTS credits.

1.1.2.2 Second cycle of studies

Law 4485/2017 refers to the institutional framework of the organisation and functioning of higher education institutions second cycle programmes. According to it, second cycle programmes fall within the strategic planning of each institution. They focus on specialisations adherent to the scientific fields of the undergraduate study programmes. Attendance of second cycle programmes leads to a **postgraduate degree** (Diploma Metaptychiakon Spoudon).

Departments of higher education institutions may organise second cycle programmes aiming at the specialisation of graduates in fields of knowledge adherent to the scientific fields of undergraduate study programmes. Furthermore, more than one departments of the same or other higher education institutions or research centres and institutes may organise second cycle programmes. Autonomous departments of national HEIs collaborate with departments recognised as peer institutions or research centres and institutes abroad for the organisation and operation of joint postgraduate study programmes-PMS (law 4485/2017). By decision of the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs, the procedure for the establishment of the joint postgraduate study programmes (PMS) is defined. The issues are regulated in the EPS for any relevant topic (ministerial decision 41931/Z1/19-3-2018). The minimum duration of a second cycle programme is two semesters, while part of this time period is devoted to the completion of a dissertation. It includes modules corresponding to a minimum of 60 ECTS credits. The maximum time period a student is allowed in order to obtain a second cycle certification is defined by the second cycle programme regulation of each institution. Moreover, the second cycle programme regulation stipulates part-time attendance for working and



non-working students. The duration ought not to be longer than twice the duration of the full-time programme

Studies are divided into three cycles:

Integrated Master: Master of Science

According to Law 4485/2017 (article 46) all HEIs degrees of 5 years or more of continuous studies award Eniaio kai Adiaspasto Diploma Metaptixiakou (Integrated Master: Master of Science) equivalent to 7th EQF level

1.1.2.3 Third cycle of studies

It involves the attendance of a doctorate study programme. It requires a thesis preparation. Students have 3 full calendar years to complete the programme. It leads to the award of a doctoral diploma.

Quality Assurance

Law 4653/2020 defines the framework, the procedures and the criteria of the evaluation and the certification

of quality assurance of the curricula and the services of individual academic units and institutions as a whole. They are all subjected to the certification by the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education. Initially, quality assurance was regulated by virtue of Law 3374/2005, which determined the framework and the specific processes of internal and external evaluation in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). It was substituted by Law 4009/2011, establishing the "**Hellenic Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (HQA)**", taking over additional responsibilities, mainly in relation to accreditation of internal quality assurance systems and curricula. The Law 3374/2005 also foresees the setting up of a "**Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP)**" in every Higher Education Institution to support and coordinate the evaluation processes therein.

2 Useful links

While the Eurydice Description of national Education Systems provides comprehensive and comparable information, further information may also be found on the following websites:

- Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs
- Institute of Educational Policy
- Hellenic Statistical Authority under the section "Population and Social Conditions"
<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/pop>
- OECD's Educational Policy Outlook Profile for Greece <http://www.oecd.org/greece/>

PORTUGUESE EDUCATION SYSTEM

(info based on: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/eurydice/content/portugal_en)





The **Comprehensive Law on the Education System**, approved by [Law no. 46/86, 14th October](#) (subsequently amended by [Laws no. 115/97, 19th September 19](#), [49/2005, 30th August](#), and [85/2009, 27th August](#)), establishes the general framework of the education system.

The education system comprises all the means used to provide the right to education, expressed by the guarantee of a continuous training geared to foster the overall development of personality, social progress and the democratization of society.

According to this Law, the education system operates through structures and actions of the initiative and responsibility of different public, private and cooperative institutions and organizations.

Organization of studies

First cycle programmes

The first cycle of higher education in Portugal includes two types of programmes:

- bachelor programmes (*licenciatura*), which normally last between 3 and 4 years or 6-8 semesters;
- short-cycle higher education programmes (short cycle linked to a first cycle) called vocational and technical higher education and polytechnic courses, which normally last two years or four semesters.

These two types of programmes lead to different levels of qualification.

Second cycle programmes

Branches of study

The Master's degree is awarded by universities and polytechnics and corresponds to level 7 of the [National Qualifications Framework](#) (*Quadro Nacional de Qualificações - QNQ*) and the [European Qualifications Framework](#).

The degree of *Mestre* is conferred in a specific area that may, when necessary, be unfolded in areas of specialization.

The study cycle leading to a Master's degree includes between 90 to 120 ECTS and normally lasts between three and four semesters, or exceptionally, two semesters that include 60 ECTS, following a stable and internationally consolidated practice.

The cycle of studies leading to a Master's degree consists of:

- a specialization course, consisting of an organized set of curricular units, known as a *Mestrado*, which correspond to a minimum of 50% of the total number of credits of the cycle of study;
- a scientific dissertation/thesis or an original work project, specifically carried out for this purpose, or a professional work placement which is to be concluded with a final report, under the terms established by the respective regulating standards and which correspond to a minimum of 30 credits.

In **Polytechnic Education**, the cycle of studies leading to a Master's degree must ensure predominantly that the student purchases a professional specialisation.

In **University Education**, the cycle of studies leading to a Master's degree must ensure that the student acquires an academic specialisation using research activity, innovation or deepening of professional competences.





Third cycle (PhD) programmes

Organisation of doctoral studies

The Doctoral (*Doutorado*) degree (3rd cycle) is awarded only by universities and university institutes, and corresponds to Level 8 of the [National Qualifications Framework](#) (*Quadro Nacional de Qualificações* - QNQ) and the [European Qualifications framework](#).

Although the length of this study cycle is not defined, it is frequent to last for six to eight semesters. The Doctoral degree is conferred in a given field of knowledge or in one of its expertise subjects.

The cycle of studies that leads to the Doctoral degree includes:

- The development of an original thesis specially written for that purpose which is appropriate to the nature of the field of knowledge or expertise, and subjected to public defence, or the compilation of a coherent and relevant research, or in the Arts, either an art piece or a set of art pieces accompanied by written state reasons;
- the possible undertaking of curricular units aimed at research training whenever permitted by the respective regulating standards foresee that.

Quality Assurance

Higher education quality assurance includes internal and external quality assurance and international evaluation at different levels.

Internal quality assurance is conducted by the higher education institutions (HEIs) according to their own regulations in the framework of institutional autonomy. HEIs have their own internal quality assurance systems, which must include the assessment of teaching staff, researchers and non-teaching staff.

In the drafting of Law no. 38/2007, 16th August, which approves the new legal framework for higher education quality, via Decree-Law no. 369/2007, 5th November, the Portuguese State established the [Agency for Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Education](#) (Estado Português a Agência de Avaliação e Acreditação do Ensino Superior A3ES), whose purpose is the assessment and accreditation of higher education institutions and their study cycles, as well as performing the duties inherent to Portugal's part in the European system of higher education quality assurance.

Useful Links

- Ministry of Higher Education <https://www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/gc22/area-de-governo/ciencia-tecnologia-e-ensino-superior/ministro>
- Portuguese Statistics Information (Instituto Nacional de Estatística – INE) https://www.ine.pt/xportal/xmain?xpid=INE&xpgid=ine_main&xlang=en
- OECD's Educational Policy Outlook Profile for Portugal <http://www.oecd.org/portugal/>





INFORMATION ON ERASMUS MUNDUS PROGRAMMES:

Erasmus Mundus is the international counterpart of the Erasmus programme, which is named after the Dutch scholar Desiderius Erasmus Roterodamus, who studied in different monastic schools in Europe in the 15th century. "Mundus" is Latin for world, meaning the name "Erasmus Mundus Programme" stands for the international version of the Erasmus programme. It was created on 5 December 2003, gazetted on 31 December 2003 in the official journal of the European Union and became an official programme on 20 January 2004. Most of the programmes are called "European Master" and lead to a joint or double Master's Degree.

The main objective, from the European Union's Lisbon Strategy, is to make Europe "the most competitive and knowledge-based economy in the world and a reference for high quality and excellence in education". Specific objectives:

- Promoting a European model for higher education.
- Attracting qualified graduates and scholars from other parts of the world to obtain qualifications and experience in the EU.
- Increasing cooperation between the EU and institutions from outside Europe.
- Increasing the visibility of European higher education throughout the world.

The Erasmus Mundus recognition is very competitive at the European level. Between 2014 and 2019 183 programmes were financed. The complete list of Erasmus Mundus master's programmes can be found on the European Commission website.