



Intercultura

Incontri che cambiano il mondo. Dal 1955

Excellence in Higher Education in Italy



An opportunity for your future

Have you ever considered studying at an Italian University?

- Many AFS students return to Italy to continue their studies, thanks to the high level of preparation given by the Italian school system. A previous experience of living and studying in Italy opens the door to a wide range of choices of undergraduate or postgraduate programmes, both in Italian and in English language.
- In Italy you can find some excellent Universities, specializing both in traditional and less known fields of studies. If you are interested in Architecture, Engineering and Economics or you are more focused in subjects strictly connected to well famous Italian brands in fashion and design, like Gucci, Prada, Alessi, you will find an opportunity to pursue your interests and passions and to start building your future career.
- Moreover, you will have several possibilities to access scholarships for excellent and international universities
- In this short guide, we will help you to find out more...



Economics and Management

The main Italian universities for Economics and Management are:

- Bocconi University (Milan)
- Luiss University (Rome)
- University Ca' Foscari (Venice)



Bocconi is a private university whose economics, management and finance programs are considered among the best ones in the world. The QS World University Rankings listed Bocconi among the ten best institutions in Europe, while the Financial Times ranks their master degrees in Finance and Management among the top ten worldwide. Based in Milan, this university has developed agreements with over 250 international partner schools, to offer all students a wide range of opportunities. For more info. https://www.unibocconi.eu/wps/wcm/connect/Bocconi/SitoPubblico_EN/Navigation+Tree/Home/Programs/Undergraduate+School/Prospective+Students/

LUISS is a prestigious private institution in Rome. Students are carefully selected to study here, through an admissions test. The Bachelor's degree programs in Economics, Management and Business and Political Science are held in Italian and English, as teachers are international. More information can be found here: <http://www.luiss.edu/corsi-e-master/2119>

Located in magical Venice, the public **University Ca' Foscari** has 8 study departments, two of which are Economics and Management. It offers 3 Bachelor's courses, but opens the way to a further specialization in 9 different Master's Courses, also in English. Ca' Foscari puts a particular focus on internationalization, including a number of seats reserved for foreign students. More at: <http://www.unive.it/pag/17839/>

Other good public universities to be mentioned in Economics and Management are **Padova** and **Bologna**.

Architecture and Engineering

The best Italian universities in the fields of architecture and engineering are:

- Polytechnic University of Milan (PoliMi)
- Polytechnic University of Turin (PoliTo)
- University of Sassari



The **PoliMi, in Milan**, is the highest-ranked Italian university in the world for engineering courses, in particular civil and structural engineering, mechanical engineering, as well as architecture and art and design. Engineering Bachelor's degree courses are in Italian, while architecture programs are also offered in English. Check out more at: <http://www.polimi.it/index.php?id=4140&L=1>

The **PoliTo, in Turin**, is Italy's oldest polytechnic university. It is in the top 50 of the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2016 for civil and structural engineering, electrical engineering and architecture. The university is highly international, offering mobility experiences and bilateral agreements with foreign universities, such as in the Bachelor's degree course of engineering industrial production. Courses are in Italian and English. For more information:

https://didattica.polito.it/pls/portal30/sviluppo.offerta_formativa.lauree?p_tipo_cds=1&p_elenco=T&p_lang=EN

The **Sassari University (UNISS), in Sardinia**, holds the first national ranking place in architecture since 2012. The two offered courses are Project architecture (specialization in architecture or design) and city planning. More information available at: <http://www.architettura.uniss.it/eng/Courses>

Medical sciences, healthcare pharmacology, chemistry



In the medical study field, the best ranked universities in Italy are:

- University of Padova
- University of Pavia
- University of Udine

The **University of Padova (UNIPD)** has around 61.000 students enrolled in 32 departments. At the Bachelor's degree courses are very specific and diversified, held in Italian – with the exception of psychology. For more: <http://www.unipd.it/en/educational-offer/first-cycle-degrees?tipo=L>

The **University of Pavia (UNIPV)**, just 40km south of Milan, offers excellence in scientific and medical studies, taught in Italian – apart from the Molecular Biology and Genetics course. It strictly cooperates with the S.Matteo teaching hospital and other research centres. For more: <http://www.unipv.eu/site/en/home/study/course-catalogue.html>

With a great focus on student mobility and internationalization, the **University of Udine (UNIUD)** is the best ranked public university for medicine in Italy. It offers 8 different Bachelor's degree courses, mostly in Italian and the unified cycle course (6 years). For more: https://www.uniud.it/en/education/offer/courses?set_language=en

Literature and foreign languages



The best Italian universities in the fields of literature and languages are:

- University of Trieste (UNITS)
- University of Bologna (UNIBO)
- University of Naples Orientale
- University Ca' Foscari in Venice

The **University of Trieste** (UNITS) is well-known for foreign languages (freely accessible program), translation and interpreting (regulated by an admission examination). Besides, it occupies the first place also in Chemistry, Pharmacology and Political Science. It offers many international opportunities, such as internships, mobility and double-degree programs. For more: <http://www2.units.it/immatricolazioni/offertaformativa/>

The **University of Bologna** (UNIBO) is one of the best public universities in Italy and the oldest in the world. Its good reputation refers to the excellence of its study programs, but also to the particularly active student body: organizations, bands, activities and parties contribute positively to the already international young community. It is among the national top 3 in Literature, Linguistics, Geology, Biology, Economics and Statistics, Law, Social and Political Sciences, Teaching and Veterinary. All information can be found here: <http://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/degree-programmes>

The **University Orientale** is the oldest in Europe for sinology and oriental studies, with a consolidated tradition in European, Asian, African and American languages, cultures and societies. It features several learning opportunities, vocational training and research programs. For Bachelor's degree programs in English, it is mandatory to pass a language examination. Otherwise, the teaching language is Italian. More at: http://www.unior.it/index2.php?content_id=7853&content_id_start=1&titolo=corsi-di-laurea-triennale-attivi&parLingua=ENG

An excellent university to be mentioned in Asiatic and Middle-Eastern Languages is **Ca' Foscari in Venice**.

Social/political sciences, Law

The best Italian universities in social and political sciences and law are:

- LUISS Guido Carli University
- University of Bologna
- University of Pavia
- University of Trieste



The **LUISS** is a prestigious institution in Rome and the first private university for social and political studies in national rankings. Students are carefully selected to study here, through an admission test. The Bachelor's degree programs in Political Science, as well as Economics, Management and Business, are held in Italian and English, as teachers are international. More information can be found here: <http://www.luiss.edu/corsi-e-master/2119>

As far as public universities are concerned, the best institutions for social and political sciences and law are the universities of **Bologna, Pavia and Trieste**, already mentioned in the previous slides.

For more information and details about them, please refer to:

Bologna => <http://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/degree-programmes>

Pavia => <http://www.unipv.eu/site/en/home/study/course-catalogue.html>

Trieste => <http://www2.units.it/immatricolazioni/offertaformativa/>

Fashion and Design



The **Polimoda Institute** in Florence is known as the best international fashion&design school in Italy and among the top-10 globally. It offers 8 Bachelor's and 11 Master's degree programs, besides 22 specialized courses, in fashion design, fashion business, art direction and design management. Courses are in Italian or English. Further information can be found here: <http://www.polimoda.com/courses/>

The **Marangoni Institute** offers courses in Milan and Florence, besides other locations around the world. Costs are higher than elsewhere, but the courses in fashion, design and art that they have to offer is very extensive. To know more, check out the webpage: <http://www.istitutomarangoni.com/en/>

The **IED Institute** is famous for its focus on research and practical classes. Located in 7 different Italian cities (Milan/Rome/Como/Cagliari/Turin/Florence/Venice), each sub-institute focused on a slightly particular field of study, including visual arts, communication, restoration, service design & sustainability and green economy practices. All details and course information can be found at <http://www.ied.edu/ied-locations>

The **NABA** is a private School of Fine Arts in Milan, offering study programs with 7 different specializations, held in Italian and English languages. Students can also benefit from field projects and be involved in the seasonal fashion, cultural and artistic events in Milan. The website is available in Italian, English and Chinese - <http://www.naba.it/en/undergraduate-programs>

Dance, Music and Arts



Teatro alla Scala Academy, Milan:

The academy, among the most prestigious ones in the world, offers a range of courses in dance, music and singing, and stage/technical departments. Courses are mostly annual and taught by an international staff of teachers. Selections consist of various examinations and an oral interview with the candidate. All details can be found here: <http://www.accademialascala.it/en/>

San Carlo Theatre, Naples:

The San Carlo Theatre offers a stage artistic laboratory and hosts an outstanding dancing school, the first in Italy and the oldest in Europe. Further information, including the application call and contact details, is available on the website, in Italian language: <http://www.teatrosancarlo.it/it/pages/scuola-ballo.html>

AFAM institute, Rome:

The AFAM Ministerial Department for artistic, musical and chorus education under the Ministry of Education is the official supervising entity for dance, music and art schools. On its webpage, in Italian, additional universities and information can be found: <http://www.afam.miur.it/>

Culinary Sciences and Enology



At the **University of Pollenzo (UNISG)**, the Bachelor's Degree in Gastronomic Sciences, taught both in Italian and English, provides the necessary knowledge and skills to work in food and beverage production, processing, distribution, promotion and marketing, and within food and wine tourism. The program includes 19 mandatory courses, 6 optional courses and 15 one-week study trips. With 50 foreign partner universities and students from 75 different countries, the university has a strong international characteristics. Among other services offered, the Career Office helps students finding internships and job opportunities. More information about the study program and admission procedures can be found here: <http://www.unisg.it/en/programs-admissions/three-year-undergraduate-degree/>

The **University of Turin (UNITO)** offers two Bachelor's Degree programs: Food Technologies and Viticulture and Enology, both taking place initially in Grugliasco, and then in Alba, Cuneo or Asti. Courses are held in the Italian language and include practical activities, field group-works and an internship. For more:

http://agraria-offdid.campusnet.unito.it/do/home.pl/View?doc=elenco_lauree_triennali.html

The **University of Udine (UNIUD)** also offers two very interesting Bachelor's Degree programs in Food Technologies and Viticulture and Enology. The second program is organized in cooperation with the the E. Mach Foundation of S. Michele all'Adige (Trento), an excellent centre in viticulture, and can be pursued as double-degree, in agreement with the Hochschule RheinMain in Wiesbaden - Geisenheim (Germany), the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, in Mendoza (Argentina) and the Instituto Federal Rio Grande do Sul di Bento Gonçalves (Brazil). For more: https://www.uniud.it/en/education/offer/courses/scientific-area/agricultural-sciences/bachelor-degree-courses-undergraduate-180-ects/viticulture-and-oenology?set_language=en

Special excellences in Tuscany: the ‘Scuola Superiore Universitaria’ concept

The ‘Scuole Superiori Universitarie’ (Superior Graduate Schools) are legally independent institutions, which offer advanced training and research through university-type courses and are dedicated to teaching at graduate or post-doctoral level. They are based on meritocracy and have very high standards. Students are expected to proceed with their studies at the university while studying at the Scuola Superiore in parallel.

The **Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa** is the best Italian university according to the World University Ranking 2016. Its ‘Ordinary course’ corresponds to the university offer in Bachelor + Master degree courses and it is divided into *Mathematic and Natural Science Class* and *Human Science Class*, taught in Italian language. Only the Master level of the Mathematic and Natural Science Class is taught in English. The admission selection consists of written and oral exams exclusively, while no previous results and high school diploma grades are taken into account. Once enrolled, the student commits to complying with the Scuola Normale’s study courses as well as with the correspondent study course at the University of Pisa. More information can be found at: <http://www.sns.it/corso-ordinario/corsi-di-studio>

The **Scuola Universitaria Superiore Sant’Anna**, also based in Pisa, works in a very similar way as the Scuola Normale Superiore. It developed supplementary higher education courses for those who study at university, both students, teachers and professionals. Programs are both at the Bachelor and Master’s level, besides PhD, in the fields of Applied Sciences: Economics and Management, Law, Political Sciences, as far as social sciences are concerned, and Agricultural Sciences, Biotechnologies, Medicine, Industrial and Information engineering for experimental sciences. For more, please rely on: <http://www.santannapisa.it/en/info-contacts>

The Italian university system

Italian universities are among the **oldest** ones globally, such as the University of Bologna (1088, the oldest in the world), the University of Padua (1222) and the University of Naples (1224).

Since 1999, Italy adopted the **Bologna Process framework**, together with the rest of the European Union, according to which the university system follows the “**3+2 system**”:

- the first level degree, *Laurea Triennale* (Bachelor's degree) can be achieved with 3 years of studies;
- the second level degree, *Laurea Magistrale* (Master's degree) follows with 2 additional years of studies.

The *Laurea Magistrale* is not mandatory after the *Laurea Triennale*, but it is required for further studies, such as Post-Master degrees, Doctorates or Specializing schools.

Some courses, such as Law, Arts, Music and Medical Sciences, follow a unified 5-year (or 6-year) degree called *Laurea Magistrale Quinquennale* (Five-Year Master's degree).

There are **4 types** of Italian universities:

- state-funded public universities: the majority, particularly the larger institutions;
- universities funded by other public authorities, such as Provinces or Regions;
- private universities, officially recognized by the Ministry of Education;
- superior graduate schools, which focus mostly on postgraduate education, at a very high level.

Public and private universities are the most common ones.

Exams can be both written and oral.

Scholarships

In Italy, all international students are entitled to the **same financial assistance services as Italians**, based on same requisites of financial means and/or merit. There are government scholarships at the national and regional level to which international students can apply.

Furthermore, to a minor extent, Italian universities promote international recruitment by offering **specific scholarships to foreign students**, that cover the tuition fees totally or partially.

The **selection criteria** for the offered scholarships can be based on personal merit, family financial situation, specific countries of origin, agreements with foreign States, etc. Sometimes scholarships are assigned based on a ranking system (which is also determined by a written examination.)

As every university follows slightly different rules and procedures, the best way to find out current scholarship opportunities is to **refer to the official webpage** of the relevant university for scholarship and financial matters.

Please note: Scholarships announcements are often published **well in advance** before the beginning of the academic year. Therefore, it is important to periodically check the university website of interest and keep an eye on deadlines, including the exact time. Also, please note that universities might ask you to provide a number of **certifications and documents** during the application procedure, which often need to be legally certified or even translated into Italian or English language.

Study exchange and internship opportunities

The process of **internationalization** of incoming and outgoing students in Italy started in the early 1980s. Today, universities offer many possibilities, such as periods of study abroad and internships.

The projects and their organization vary according to the specific university, however some **common activities** are:

- Erasmus+ Programs: study exchange programs lasting max. one academic year and internship programs in other European countries or other continents (Erasmus Mundus);
- Bilateral agreements and multi-location study programs: many universities are developing international bachelor/master degree study programs, forming networks of foreign affiliated universities. The program can work as a period of study abroad (similar to the Erasmus Program), as a double-degree course, or as a multi-location study program, spending limited periods of time (usually semesters) in different countries and universities.
- Professional training: internships are often a mandatory part of the study program. They can be obtained as part of the Erasmus or other programs abroad, or in Italy. Some universities offer internship databases in their internal IT systems, while others require that each individual student identifies his/her own.
- Student organizations: amongst the many student associations, AIESEC is probably the most well-known and wide-spread. Not only it represents a valuable opportunity to get to know new people from around the world and occupy a specific role, but it also offers volunteering and internship opportunities in associations, start-ups and companies of 126 countries.

http://www.centrospinelli.eu/pdf/UE_school/L_Universita_italiana_e_la_sfid_a.pdf

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erasmus_Programme

<http://www.aiesec.it/>

Summary

Field of Studies	Public Universities	Private Universities
Chemistry, Biology, Pharmacology, Geology	Trieste, Pavia, Bologna	
Medicine, Healthcare	Padova, Pavia, Udine, Modena	Milan Cattolica
Engineering, Architecture	PoliTo, PoliMi, Sassari, Trieste, Modena	Bolzano
Agriculture, Veterinary	Bologna, Modena	
Economics, Statistics	Venice Ca' Foscari, Padova, Bologna,	Bocconi, LUISS
Social-Political sciences, Law	Trieste, Bologna, Pavia	LUISS
Literature, Languages	Bologna, Trieste, Modena, Naples Orientale, Ca' Foscari	Rome LUMSA
Teaching	Bologna, Roma Sapienza	Bolzano, LUMSA
Psychology	Turin, Padova, Pavia	Milan Cattolica
Fashion, Design	Venice IUAV, PoliMi, PoliTo	Polimoda, Marangoni, IED,
Culinary Sciences	Pollenzo, uniTo, Padova	
Dance, Music and Arts	AFAM Roma	La Scala Milano, San Carlo Napoli