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1240**

Teaching Regulations for the Degree Programme (CdS) in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81)

(effective from the 2025-26 academic year)

Course website <https://public-cultural-diplomacy.unisi.it/en>

Article 1 – Purpose

1. These Teaching Regulations specify the organisational aspects of the Master's Degree Course in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81), in accordance with the regulations defined in Part 'Annex A' of the University Teaching Regulations, in compliance with freedom of teaching and the rights and duties of Professors and students.
2. The competent collegial body is the Teaching Committee, which carries out its activities in accordance with the provisions of the Statute, the University Teaching Regulations and other applicable regulations, insofar as not governed by these Regulations. The Teaching Committee is a joint body composed of 6 Professors and 6 students.
3. An integral part of these regulations is the Single Annual Course Description (SUA-CdS), a tool used for the planning, implementation, self-assessment and redesign of the degree programme.
4. The SUA-CdS for each edition of the course can be found on the degree programme website at <https://public-cultural-diplomacy.unisi.it/en/course/teaching-quality-assurance>

Article 2 – Establishment

1. The University of Siena has established a Master's Degree Course in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81), belonging to the class of Master's Degrees in Development Cooperation Sciences, in accordance with Ministerial Decree 270/2004 and subsequent implementing decrees.
2. The degree programme is run by the Department of Social, Political and Cognitive Sciences (lead department), the Department of Political and International Sciences (co-lead department) and the Department of Historical Sciences and Cultural Heritage (co-lead department).

The programme lasts two years and, in order to obtain the Master's Degree in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81), it is necessary to have acquired 120 University Credits (ECTS).



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Article 3 – Specific educational objectives and professional profiles of reference

1. The specific educational objectives of the Master's Degree Course in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81) aim to provide the tools to develop knowledge and professionalism in international cooperation, typical of the LM-81 master's degree class, by exploring the field of new public and cultural diplomacy. This is a rapidly expanding field, involving a growing number of professionals, not only in the context of political institutions and public administrations, but increasingly among global governance actors: non-governmental organisations, new media, interest groups, associations and the third sector. In this context, the Master's Degree in Public and Cultural Diplomacy develops two specific dimensions: public and cultural diplomacy practices in international relations and the international approach to the design of policies and institutions aimed at the conservation, enhancement and promotion of cultural heritage.

2. The attainment of a Master's degree in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81) opens up the following career opportunities:

- Human resources specialists
- Specialists in control in public administration
- Public relations, image and related professions specialists
- Specialists in Political Science

3. With regard to the knowledge, understanding and application skills, as well as the abilities and competences that graduates of the Master's Degree Course in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81) will have acquired at the end of the course, reference should be made to the SUA CdS Form (Tables A4.b1, A4.c).

Article 4 - Scientific-disciplinary sectors and related courses

1. The official courses of the Master's Degree Programme in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81), defined in relation to its educational objectives, within the relevant scientific-disciplinary sectors/disciplinary groups provided for in the programme's teaching regulations, are those listed in SUA-CdS Table B1.

2. Related and supplementary activities are designed to complement the training provided by core and specialised activities in order to offer students the opportunity to deepen and complete their knowledge.

Article 5 – Admission requirements and assessment methods



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Admission to the Master's Degree Course in Public and Cultural Diplomacy requires a bachelor's degree, or a four-year degree under the old Italian system, or a three-year university diploma or other qualification obtained abroad and recognised as equivalent, or a first-level AFAM academic diploma.

Students wishing to enrol must have a basic knowledge of the humanities and social sciences. Knowledge of English at least at level B2 of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages is also required. For information on how English language proficiency is assessed, please refer to the link: <https://apply.unisi.it/contents/content/17-english-proficiency>.

Graduates with the following degrees are eligible for admission to the Master's Degree Programme in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81):

- L-1 (Cultural Heritage);
- L-3 (Figurative arts, music, performing arts and fashion) L-5 (Philosophy)
- L-6 (Geography)
- L- 10 (Literature)
- L-11 (Modern languages and cultures) L-12 (Language mediation);
- L-16 (Administrative and organisational sciences); L-18
(Economics and business management sciences);
- L-19 (Education and training sciences)
- L-20 (Communication sciences);
- L-33 (Economics);
- L-36 (Political Science and International Relations);
- L-37 (Social Sciences for Cooperation, Development and Peace);
- L-39 (Social Work)
- L-40 (Sociology);
- L-42 (History);

Graduates with degrees in the corresponding degree classes referred to in Ministerial Decree 509/1999 are also eligible, as are graduates with degrees in other degree classes. However, these students must have obtained a degree mark of no less than 95/110 and have earned at least 75 ECTS credits in at least two of the following SSD groups:

- a. IUS/07 (Labour Law); IUS/08 (Constitutional Law); IUS/09 (Public Law Institutions); IUS/10 (Administrative Law); IUS/12 (Tax Law); IUS/13 (International Law); IUS/14 (European Union Law); IUS/19 (History of Medieval and Modern Law); IUS/21 (Comparative Public Law);
- b. M-STO/02 (Modern History); M-STO/03 (History of Eastern Europe); M-STO/04 (Contemporary History); M-GGR/01 (Geography); M-DEA/01 Demo-ethno-anthropological Disciplines;
- c. L-ANT/01 Prehistory and Protohistory; L-ANT/07 Classical Archaeology; L-ANT/08 Christian



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and Medieval Archaeology; L-ANT/09 Ancient Topography; L-ART/03 Contemporary Art History, SECS-P/01 (Political Economy); SECS-P/02 (Economic Policy); SECS-P/03 (Finance); SECS-P/04 (History of Economic Thought); SECS-P/06 (Applied Economics); SECS-P/07 (Business Economics); SECS-P/08 (Business Economics and Management); SECS-P/12 (Economic History); SECS-S/04 (Demography);

- d. SPS/01 (Political Philosophy); SPS/02 (History of Political Doctrines); SPS/03 (History of Political Institutions); SPS/04 (Political Science); SPS/05 (History and Institutions of the Americas); SPS/06 (History of International Relations); SPS/07 (General Sociology); SPS/08 (Sociology of Cultural and Communication Processes); SPS/09 (Sociology of Economic and Labour Processes); SPS/10 (Sociology of the Environment and Territory); SPS/11 (Sociology of Political Phenomena); SPS/12 (Sociology of Law, Deviance and Social Change); SPS/13 (History and Institutions of Africa); SPS/14 (History and Institutions of Asia).

Verification of initial individual preparation is mandatory and only students who meet the curricular requirements may access the course. Verification of initial preparation is conducted by a Commission appointed annually by the Department Council on the recommendation of the Teaching Committee and consists of three professors from the Master's Degree programme. Through an individual interview, which may also be held online, the committee assesses the general preparation of the graduate in the subject areas directly relevant to the Master's Degree Programme and the validity of the reasons that led the graduate to apply for admission. At the end of the interview, the committee sends the outcome of the assessment to the Teaching Committee.

- e. Curriculum requirements are verified on the basis of the documentation provided, which shows the exams passed, the relevant scientific disciplinary sectors (SSD), the credits acquired and the degree grade.
- f. Verification of individual initial preparation is mandatory and only students who meet the curricular requirements may access it.
- g. The assessment procedures are set out in the Teaching Regulations and are published each year on the course website <https://public-cultural-diplomacy.unisi.it/en/course/admission-requirements>.

Article 6 – Organisation of the course

a) Credits and attendance

The Master's Degree Course in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81) lasts two years. Teaching is delivered in semesters through lectures and practical exercises. The total number of credits (ECTS) required to obtain the degree is 120.

b) Study plan, curricula or specialisations

The study plan, with an indication of the curricula, is shown in Table B1 - SUA CdS form. The types of teaching activities and the hours assigned to 1 credit are indicated in the following table:



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Type of activity	Hours Teaching provided per credit	Independent study per credit
Lectures	7 hours	17 hours
Practical exercises (Technical applications that clarify the content of the lectures. A final report).	8 hours	17 hours
Laboratories (Activities that, following a theoretical introduction, involve the interaction of the student with scientific equipment).	12	13 hours
Seminar workshop and teaching for small groups (under the guidance of the professor, students participate in and contribute to discussions on a given assigned topic).	4	21 hours

The Teaching Committee is responsible for assessing and deciding on the recognition of university credits (ECTS) attributable, at the request of the student, for prior professional knowledge and skills, certified in accordance with current legislation, as well as for other post-secondary educational activities, in line with the educational objectives of the degree programme. The total number of ECTS credits that can be recognised for such activities cannot exceed the maximum limit of 24 ECTS credits, in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 2, of Ministerial Decree No. 931 of 4 July 2024.

c) Prerequisites or restrictions

The Master's Degree Programme in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81) does not have any prerequisites or restrictions.

d) Academic calendar

The academic calendar is approved annually in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and is published on the programme website at: <https://public-cultural-diplomacy.unisi.it/en/study/academic-calendar>

e) Assessment

- Assessment of learning outcomes for core, related and supplementary courses, as well as language courses, takes place through written and/or oral and/or practical examinations, with a mark awarded.



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expressed in thirtieths and with honours, if applicable. For courses divided into modules, the final assessment is based on the weighted average of the marks obtained for each module.

- Examination sessions are organised in accordance with the University's Teaching Regulations. The lecturer is also required to schedule at least two additional examination sessions during the calendar year for working students, students with disabilities, as well as for students who are repeating the year, students who are behind in their studies, student *carers* and student athletes.
- The dates of the exam sessions must be published well in advance by the lecturer responsible for the course or the relevant teaching department.

f) Final examination and award of the degree

In order to obtain a Master's degree in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81), students are required to write an original thesis under the supervision of a supervisor. The thesis, written in English, must be related to one of the research areas of interest of the course, or to a specific training experience carried out by the student, under the supervision of an academic tutor, at one of the institutions or organisations partnering with the course. In any case, the thesis must contain original research and/or dissemination contributions. The final mark, expressed in hundredths with honours, is determined by reference to the weighted average of the marks obtained in the exams taken.

The degree committee may award up to a maximum of 6 (six) points to be added to the final mark for the writing and presentation of the thesis. In addition to the maximum of 6 (six) points mentioned above, graduating students are entitled to 1 (one) point to be added to their final degree mark for credits obtained during international mobility programmes.

The procedures and characteristics of the final examination are set out in SUA A5.b.

g) Transfers, transfers to other degree programmes and enrolment of students who have already graduated

For information on transfers, changes to other degree programmes and enrolment of female and male students who have already graduated, please refer to the annual Study Manifesto published at the link <https://orientarsi.unisi.it/scelgo/come-isciversi/documento/manifesto-degli-studi>

Article 7 - Activities chosen by the student

Educational activities chosen independently by students are assessed by the Teaching Committee in relation to their consistency with the study plan.



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Article 8 - Methods for assessing the results of internships, work placements and periods of study abroad and the related credits

1. The Teaching Committee verifies the suitability of the activity programmes with the students' educational path and the regularity of the implementation of these programmes.
2. The Master's Degree Programme in **Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81)** adheres to the University's European and non-European student mobility programmes. The recognition of exams taken during the mobility period is the responsibility of the Teaching Committee, which verifies the consistency of the programmes taken abroad with those of the degree programme study plan and validates the grades obtained abroad according to the university conversion tables.
3. The Teaching Committee is responsible for verifying the results of internships and work placements. Students must submit a request for approval of the start and end dates of their internship to the Teaching Committee via the Student Services Office. The application for approval of the start of the internship must bear the signature of the internship tutor, while the application for approval of the end of the internship must be accompanied by a statement of the hours worked, signed by the external tutor and the tutor, as well as a report by the intern on the results and skills acquired.

Article 11 - Organisation of Quality Assurance and Evaluation of Teaching Activities The Master's Degree Programme in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-8)

1. The Master's Degree Course in Public and Cultural Diplomacy (LM-81) considers it of primary importance to organise and maintain a quality assurance (QA) system.
2. The course implements the QA system in accordance with the guidelines of the University Quality Assurance Committee (PQA) and the University's quality policies. QA activities are overseen by the Teaching Committee (CpD), which is responsible for compiling the SUA-CdS, the annual monitoring report and the cyclical review report for the CdS.
3. At regular meetings held throughout the year, the Teaching Committee critically addresses quality issues based on available data (National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes – ANVUR, Alma Laurea, etc.), student opinion surveys based on the ANVUR model, and observations made by the Joint Professor-Student Committee.
4. The main indicators relating to the following are examined annually:
 - entry, regularity and exit of students from the degree programme;



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- the opinions of students and undergraduates on the degree programme;
- employment opportunities for graduates.

On the basis of these, where appropriate, improvement measures are initiated.

Article 13 – Final provisions

For anything not covered in these Teaching Regulations, please refer to the law, the Statute, the University's General Regulations, and the University's Teaching Regulations.