



# Cooperation Agreement to establish a Double Bachelor's Degree program between Università della Svizzera italiana and Università di Pisa

Università della Svizzera italiana, via Buffi 13, 6900 Lugano, Switzerland (hereafter USI)

and:

Università di Pisa, Lungarno Pacinotti, 43, 56126 Pisa, Italia (hereafter UNIPI)

guided by the desire to create new opportunities for cooperation among their respective institutions, to promote mobility in the context of a well structured and rich program of study and with the aim of simplifying administrative procedures, hereby agree as follow:

## 1. General objective

The purpose of this Cooperation Agreement is to promote the establishment of a Double Bachelor's Degree Program organised by USI and UNIPI, starting in the academic year 2022/2023. The double degree program will involve the Bachelor's degree program "Laurea triennale in Discipline dello spettacolo e della comunicazione" (B.Sc.) at UNIPI and "Bachelor in Comunicazione" (B.Sc.) at USI.

## 2. General commitment

Towards this objective, the partner universities commit themselves to respect the requirements and obligations defined in this agreement.

## 3. Collaboration on a Bachelor program

The Parties agree to simplify current procedures in order to enable the organisation of a common program of high quality at the Bachelor level on the basis of existing curricula in Communication, leading to two recognised degree certificates, one from each institution (double degree bachelor program).

The program will be run in accordance with the respective Bachelor program directives at USI and UNIPI.

In principle, each partner may select up to 40 (forty) students per year. However, this number may vary in any given year. This limitation is to be assessed and can be revised based on mutual consent.

Both universities agree to develop and implement a study plan in conformity with the examination regulations of the home and host university referring to the curricula of the Bachelor's degree program "Bachelor in Comunicazione" at USI and "Laurea triennale in Discipline dello spettacolo e della comunicazione" at UNIPI.

The content of the double degree program, approved by the relevant authorities of both institutions, will be added to the existing Cooperation Agreement (Annex 1). The curricula can be updated upon approval from both universities, and subsequently, annexed to this agreement.

**4. Organisation**

The Parties appoint a Committee in charge of coordinating and supervising admission, and examination procedures, as well as granting the quality assurance of the study program. The Committee will consist of at least one representative professor per partner university. Each university appoints an administrative person looking after the administrative procedures of the program.

The Committee will meet with the administrative staff periodically to monitor the overall functioning of the program, review the adequateness of the teaching programs, examine the academic results achieved by the students, and propose further actions whereas needed. Results should be shared with the Dean of the Faculty/School on a yearly basis.

The host institution engages to help students in their incoming procedures and in obtaining the same facilities foreseen for their students.

The study program of each student has to be validated by the Committee.

**5. Financial aspects**

Students accepted into the double degree program, will be enrolled as degree students both at USI and UNIPI in the year in which they study at the partner university (the third one), but will only pay fees at the university of first enrollment, whereas applicable. In addition to general tuition fees paid at the home university, students shall pay an administrative tax to the host university, to be paid while the student is in mobility only.

Expenses for travel and accommodation will be under the student's responsibility.

Before students' departure, the home institution must guarantee that exchange students have purchased the required insurances.

**6. Admission**

Criteria for admission are set by the Committee and must be available to prospective students before admission (e.g., published on the Bachelor program website, program booklet).

Both universities agree to accept the students admitted to this double-degree-program according to the respective admission regulations.

**7. Enrolment**

Students participating under this Agreement shall be enrolled as regular degree students sharing the same rights and obligations as degree students in the respective institutions, and will be enrolled at the guest university while in exchange.

**8. Language policy**

The language of instruction is Italian, however, knowledge of English is required to access reference materials.

**9. Exams**

The two partners will provide each other's academic authorities with transcripts summarizing grades and credits for each exam passed at the institution upon completion of the academic year spent at the respective partner institution.

Courses completed at the two schools will be accredited by each party, in relation to the contents and the total number of credit points required for each of the standard bachelor degree programs and in compliance with the respective rules and regulations.

The double degree structure is based on equivalencies that are mutually agreed upon. These equivalencies as well as details on the recognition of courses at the home university are represented in Annex 1.

The grade conversion will follow the ECTS guidelines. Each institution will apply its conventional grade conversion scheme in accordance with all rules and regulations.

**10. Degree delivery: double degree with diploma supplement**

The double bachelor degree is a three-year program (180 ECTS) at Bachelor's level, leading to two degree certificates, one from each institution. The students study according to a curriculum built on Annex 1 and mobility plan defined in the study program and have to acquire 30 ECTS at the host institution.

Upon the completion of the double degree procedure and fulfilment of all relevant requirements at both institutions, USI will award the student the degree "Bachelor of Science in Comunicazione".

UNIFI will award the student the degree "Laurea triennale in Discipline dello spettacolo e della comunicazione".

Both universities will issue separate certificates according to their respective regulations.

Both certificates clearly state that one degree has been awarded in a double degree procedure.

**11. Promotion, means and facilities**

Parties will take measures aimed at accompanying the bachelor program, in particular by:

- advertising the bachelor course widely,
- searching for sources of funding and support from public or private entities in order to run the program, applying, whenever, for Erasmus+/SEMP or other grants.

**12. Intellectual Property; Liability**

The Parties do not expect any intellectual property to be created in the course of this agreement. In this improbable case, the Parties will discuss in good faith a separate agreement with respect to the Parties' interests.

This agreement regulate and coordinate the procedure necessary for the establishment of a Double Bachelor's Degree Program organized by USI and UNIFI. This agreement of cooperation does not create any other obligation. USI and UNIFI exclude to the maximum extent admitted by the law their liability. In particular, no liability is accepted for any damage or negligence caused by an associate, employees, or subcontractors. The exclusion of liability includes namely, but not exclusively, all prejudice as well as all indirect, special, consecutive, exemplary or punitive damages and interests, missed examinations, loss of profits, loss of income or loss of data. This agreement does not obligate either party to commit or transfer any funds, assets, or other resources in support of other projects or activities between the two Parties.

**13. General provisions**

This agreement will be effective from the date on which it has been duly signed by both Parties and will be in force for a period of 5 years from the latest date appearing below. It can be renewed in written after the agreement expires provided that the two Parties agree on renewal.

This agreement may be amended by the mutual written consent of the Parties hereto. Any party may withdraw from this agreement at any time, and the agreement will terminate one hundred eighty days after the date of the written communication of the withdrawal to the partner institution. In such an event, all action previously undertaken shall nevertheless be completed.

For any administrative aspect not regulated by this agreement, the Committee decides how to proceed.

This Cooperation Agreement is produced in English. Any changes to this agreement shall be deemed invalid unless signed by both Parties.

The Parties agree to solve in a friendly manner any controversy. In the event that the disagreement cannot be resolved, the issue(s) will be submitted for arbitration; each party will appoint a member of the arbitration panel, and one member will be chosen by mutual consent.

Any dispute which cannot be settled amicably shall be finally settled by the Court located within the city in which the defendant is located.

This agreement does not result in any financial obligations, except as provided in Article 5.

Università di Pisa


Università della Svizzera italiana

Place, Date of the signature

Pisa, 18.12.2021


Lugano, Date of the signature

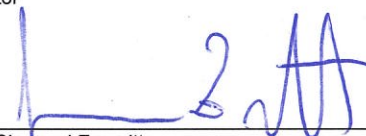
9.12.2021

  
Prof. Paolo Maria Mancarella  
Rector



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

  
Prof. Boas Erez  
Rector

  
Dr. Giovanni Zavaritt  
General Secretary



Università  
della  
Svizzera  
italiana

## Annex 1

### Academic matters

Students, while studying at the partner university will choose courses for 30 ECTS, taken from the following table.

In the event of a change of syllabus taking place at any one of the institutions, the other will be notified immediately.

In any case of changes affecting the course's table both universities should approve the amendments according to the internal rules of each University.

In the event that such a change of syllabus exceeds more than one third of the programme, the agreement will be renegotiated.

	USI's courses	ECTS	UNIPI's courses
1° anno			
Semestre autunnale	Storia dei media	6	Antropologia della comunicazione (6 cfu), M-FIL/03, Affine
	Tecnologie digitali per la comunicazione	6	Musica per Film (6 cfu), L-ART/07, Caratterizzante
2° ANNO			
Semestre autunnale	Comunicazione visiva	6	Storia del cinema italiano (6 cfu), L-ART/06, Caratterizzante
	ICT for Cultural Heritage	6	Informatica per le discipline umanistiche (6 cfu), ING-INF/05 Affini
3° ANNO			
Semestre autunnale	Teoria e produzione audiovisiva	9	Storia della radio, della tv e delle arti elettroniche, (12 CFU), L-ART/06, Caratterizzante
	Storia e pratiche della lettura	3	
	Comunicazione istituzionale	6	Storia e critica del cinema (6 cfu), L-ART/06, Caratterizzante
	ICT Media e Società	6	Filosofia della comunicazione (6 cfu), M-FIL/05, Caratterizzante
	Totale dei corsi tra cui vanno scelti 30ECTS	48	

### Grading system:

UNIPi	USI
30	10
[28]-29	9.5
27	9
[25]-26	8.5
24	8
[22]-23	7.5
21	7
[19]-20	6.5
18	6

### Grading system Final paper

UNIPi	USI
Final registration with pass/fail for students from USI, All grades equal to/above 6/10 would be assessed with pass and ECTS would be counted in the final total.	Final registration with pass/fail for students from UNIPi, without taking into account any bonuses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration according to Unipi student regulations in Unipi (ordinal)</li> <li>Calculation of weighted final averages for all students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration according to regulations for Usi students in Usi (numerical).</li> <li>Calculation of weighted final average for all students</li> </ul>