



UNIVERSITÀ
DI TRENTO



SIS
School of
International
Studies



Sant'Anna
Scuola Universitaria Superiore Pisa

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Master's Degree in International Security Studies

Laurea Magistrale in Studi sulla Sicurezza Internazionale

Academic Year 2025/2026

Updated on 1 February 2026

Table of Contents

General Information	4
<i>A few words about MISS</i>	4
<i>Well-equipped for an international career</i>	4
Academic Calendar 2025/2026	5
Who's Who at MISS	6
Learning Platforms and Communication	7
Moodle platform for MISS	7
How to access the Moodle	7
SIS on social media	7
The Programme – "Manifesto Degli Studi 2025/26"	8
Languages on The MISS Programme	11
Second language	11
Attending courses at CLA	12
Italian language	12
English for International Studies	12
Internships and Extra Activities	13
Internship	13
<i>Funding opportunities for internships</i>	14
Substitute activities for internships	14
Summer Schools, intensive courses, or similar activities	15
Study Abroad Experiences	16
Graduation and Exams	18
<i>Exams</i>	18
<i>Final Dissertation</i>	18
Standards of Ethics and Safety for Master's Thesis Research	21
Best Practices at The University of Trento	22
<i>The Student Voice</i>	22
<i>Plagiarism, Intellectual Honesty and Tips</i>	23
<i>Reporting issues</i>	24
Academic and Career Opportunities	26
SIS Events, Seminars, and Guest Lectures	26
The "Applied Workshops on Global Affairs" (SAWGA)	26
Mentoring and Career Advice	27
University Library Services	27
UniTrento @ ECIU	27

Student Life at The University of Trento	27
Associations	27
Opera Universitaria (cultural activities, accommodation, services)	28
Student Services Office	28
Student card badge	28
Free circulation pass	28
University canteens in Trento downtown	29
UniSport Trento	29
Borrow a bike	29
Student Support and Well-being – University Based	29
Confidential Counseling	30
Anti-violence support center	30
Inclusion Services	30
Psychological Counseling	30
Office of the Ombudsperson for Students	31
Other services and resources	32
Glossary	32

General Information

A few words about MISS

The Master's Degree in International Security Studies (MISS) is a joint programme offered by the School of International Studies (SIS) of the University of Trento and Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies - Pisa.

The course structure is designed with the understanding that contemporary security must be analysed through interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary lenses. Consequently, MISS students will encounter courses characterized by an ongoing dialogue between Political Science, Law, Economics, History, Political Sociology, Political Geography, and Political Philosophy.

MISS provides its graduates with theoretical, conceptual, analytical tools as well as practical learning experiences: we indeed aim to offer them the most suitable instruments to understand the dynamics of contemporary security issues, assess security policies designed at the national and international level, and formulate responses to the most pressing transnational and global security challenges. In that perspective, our courses are designed premising on an extensive articulation of the concept of security to encompass human security, societal security, economic and financial security, environmental and climate security, resource and food security, cyber and digital security.

Language skills as well as soft and transversal skills enrich the course of study over the 2 years. For example, twice a year we organize the so-called Applied Workshops on Global Affairs, featuring simulations, debates, role play, moot courts, and case-based seminars on current political issues. Furthermore, the second semester of the II year is entirely dedicated to international mobility experiences (for example, thesis research abroad) or internships and traineeships. All courses are taught in English.

Well-equipped for an international career

MISS prepares its students for highly qualified careers as analysts, consultants, policy officers in the public and the private sectors, civil servants and officials, security practitioners and professionals. Since its establishment in 2016, we have trained dozens of students for highly qualified careers in international organizations, governmental agencies, in diplomatic and institutional milieu, the non-governmental and humanitarian sectors. We intend to offer the students the most suitable instruments to hold positions leading the analysis, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of security policies.

Students with academic ambitions will be provided with a sound basis to compete for admission to **PhD programmes** in international studies and disciplinary fields that are related to the study of international security.

Academic Calendar 2025/2026

(for students enrolled in the 1st year)

First semester

- Supplementary teaching: September 15–19, 2025
- Lectures: September 22 – December 19, 2025

Second semester

- Supplementary teaching: February 16–20, 2026
- Lectures: February 23 – May 29, 2026

Exam sessions

- End-of-term and re-sit exams (2nd year) – 1 session: January 7 – February 6, 2026
- End-of-term and re-sit exams (1st and 2nd year) – 1 session: June 3 – July 17, 2026
- Examination re-sits (all courses): August 31 – September 11, 2026

Study plan (to be filled in via the Esse3 platform)

- September 15, 2025 – 09:00 to October 15, 2025 – 23:59
- November 1, 2025 – 09:00 to November 30, 2025 – 23:59
- March 1, 2026 – 09:00 to March 31, 2026 – 23:59

Public holidays and closure days

- All Saints' Day: November 1, 2025
- Immaculate Conception: December 8, 2025
- Christmas holidays: December 20, 2025 – January 6, 2026
- Graduation sessions: November 20, 2025; March 19, 2026; May 21, 2026
- Easter holidays: April 3–7, 2026
- Liberation Day: April 25, 2026
- International Workers' Day: May 1, 2026
- Career Fair: TBD
- Italian National Day: June 2, 2026
- Saint Vigilio, Patron Saint of Trento: June 26, 2026 (Trento only)

Please check the [web page](#) for any amendments, updates, or adjustments.

Who's Who at MISS

Director of the School of International Studies	Stefano Schiavo
Coordinator of the MISS at UniTrento	Alessandra Russo
Delegates	
Internships and Erasmus + Placement	Manuela Bragagnolo
Erasmus + Study Program, Double Degree Programmes and Bilateral Agreements	Pejman Abdolmohammadi
Foreign Languages	Giacomo Pallante
MISS Programme Office	Galina Kamburova <i>preferably by appointment (room 305)</i>
Head of SIS Secretariat	Silvia Tomaselli
MISS Tutor (SIS PhD student)	Chiara Seriola <i>Office hours: via Zoom or in-person meetings by appointment</i>
Student Representatives	rapp.stud.sis@unitn.it <i>please specify that you are a MISS student since it is a shared email address with MEIS representatives</i> Edoardo Giovanni Arcidiacono ; Cecilia Golgi Anna Hasani ; Giulia Morandi ; Gaia Stocchero
Student Support Office	supportostudentiecogiursi@unitn.it via Inama, 5 - 38122 Trento +39 0461 282166
Helpdesk	always by appointment, booked through this platform Online desk with Zoom, Monday 11.00-12.00, In-Person , Wednesday 14.30-16.00
Helpline	+39 0461 282166 available between 9.00 and 10.00 am, from Monday to Friday
International Mobility Office (Social Sciences Area and Humanities)	mobility-ssh@unitn.it (main contact person: Silvia Bevilacqua)
Job Guidance Office	jobguidance@unitn.it +39 0461 283200 available between 10.00 and 12.00, from Monday to Friday

Learning Platforms and Communication

Moodle platform for MISS

All MISS students will be automatically enrolled in a dedicated Moodle platform, an open source system for the management of online courses, fully integrated with the university authentication systems. Announcements, calls and opportunities, as well as news and communications, will be made available on Moodle. Every time an announcement is posted on the MISS Moodle, all MISS students will receive an alert in their UniTn email inbox.

How to access the Moodle

1. go to the page: [Accesso ai corsi online](#)
2. Click on 'Sei uno studente? (are you a student?) in order to see your courses' list.
3. Enter your UniTrento username and password.
4. Click on 'Corsi online ai quali sei iscritto' (Online courses you are enrolled in) and search for the course you are interested in.
5. Enter>>if you do not find that course, click on 'Corsi online ai quali potresti iscriverti' (Online courses you can enroll in) and search for the course.
6. Once you have found the course, click on it and enter.

SIS on social media

The School of International Studies can be followed on the following social media:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

Moreover, the School has a [Youtube](#) channel, on which past events are archived.

[Closed Facebook Group of SIS Students and Alumni](#) (for job and internship offers, vacancies, calls and announcements).

The Programme – "Manifesto Degli Studi 2025/26"

The [syllabus](#) of each course - including contents, teaching methods and assessment - can be retrieved from the Esse3 platform.

Code	Course Title	CFU	SSD	Instructor	Co-instructor	Hours	Semester
First Year (Cohort 2025-26)							
Compulsory courses							
160074	Security Studies: Concepts and Cases	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Alessandra Russo		36	First
160075	Power, Force and Violence in International Politics	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Paolo Foradori		36	Second
160094	International Law and Security	6	IUS/13 - GIUR-09/A	Antonino Ali		36	Second
160076	Research Methods in Security Studies	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Paolo Rosa		36	Second
No. 1 course to be chosen between the two listed below for a total of 6 ECTS credits:							
160073	Development Economics	6	SECS-P/02 - ECON-02/A	Giacomo Pallante		36	First
160078	Economic Security	6	SECS-P/02 - ECON-02/A	Andrea Fracasso		36	First
No. 1 course to be chosen between the three listed below for a total of 6 ECTS credits:							
160077	Concepts of Security: Histories and Genealogies	6	SPS/02 - GSPS-03/A	Manuela Bragagnolo		36	First
160021	International Cooperation, Development and Security	6	M-STO/04 - HIST-03/A	Stefano Palestini		36	First
160092	History and International Relations of the Middle East	6	L-OR/10 - STAA-01/J	Pejman Abdolmohammadi		36	First
No. 1 course to be chosen between the three listed below for a total of 6 ECTS credits:							
160012	Natural Resources and Energy Security	6	IUS/13 - GIUR-09/A	Sondra Faccio	Michela Faccioli	36	Second
160066	Security and the Environment	6	M-GGR/02 - GEOG-01/B	Anna Casaglia		36	Second
160008	Global Food Security	6	SECS-P/02 - ECON-02/A	Stefano Schiavo	M. Alabrese	36	Second
Other compulsory activities							
160080	English for International Studies	6	/	CLA	-	36	First
6 ECTS credits to be chosen from the following:							
<i>N.B. For Russian, Arabic, Chinese, and Portuguese, the activation of B2-level courses depends on CLA availability and a minimum of eight enrolled students; otherwise, B2 exams are offered during specific exam windows (February, July, and September).</i>							
160025	Second Language level B2 (German)	6	/	CLA	-		First
160029	Second Language level B2 (Russian)	6	/	CLA	-		First

Code	Course Title	CFU	SSD	Instructor	Co-instructor	Hours	Semester
160031	Second Language level B2 (French)	6	/	CLA	-		First
160032	Second Language level B2 (Spanish)	6	/	CLA	-		First
160034	Second Language level B2 (Arabic)	6	/	CLA	-		First
160035	Second Language level B2 (Chinese)	6	/	CLA	-		First
160038	Second Language level B2 (Portuguese)	6	/	CLA	-		First

Elective courses for a total of 12 ECTS credits

In the first year, students may choose elective courses for 12 credits in line with their study programme. All 6-credit courses offered by the MEIS programme at the School of International Studies require no approval. Otherwise, elective courses have to be approved by the Coordinator.

N.B. The course 160086 – Geographies of Security has a maximum capacity of 38 students due to the limited number of seats in the lab. Students who want to take this course as an elective are asked to contact the instructor, Prof. Anna Casaglia, in advance to check availability.

155422	The Politics of China: Past and Present	6	L-OR/23 - ASIA-01/H	Sofia Graziani	-	36	Second
160086	Geographies of Security	6	M-GGR/02 - GEOG-01/B	Anna Casaglia	-	36	Second
155335	Strategic Studies	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Paolo Rosa	-	36	First
160044	Democratising Security	6	SPS/01 - GSPS-01/A	Michele Nicoletti	-	36	First
155404	Science, Technology and Global Affairs	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Georgios Glouftisios	-	36	Second
Total ECTS credits – 1st year		66					

For 1st-year students enrolled in 2025, 3 CFU will be awarded upon completion of the three SAWGA Workshops, as a replacement for the course "160093 - Vocational Activities" offered by SSSA in the 2nd year.

Second Year (Cohort 2024-25)

Compulsory courses

160058	Terrorism and Insurgency in Peace and War	6	IUS/13 - GIUR-09/A	Francesca Capone		36	First
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No. 2 course to be chosen between the three listed below for a total of 12 ECTS credits:

160081	European Security	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Edoardo Bressanelli	Emilio De Capitani	36	First
160083	African Security	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Luca Raineri		36	First
160082	Security Assistance in Fragile Contexts	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Kevin Koehler		36	First

No. 1 course to be chosen between the three listed below for a total of 6 ECTS credits:

160006	Ethics of Security	6	M-FIL/03 - PHIL-03/A	Alberto Pirni		36	First
160084	The World Order Contested: Change and Critical Junctures	6	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	Francesco Strazzari		36	First

Code	Course Title	CFU	SSD	Instructor	Co-instructor	Hours	Semester
Other compulsory activities							
160085	Internship	3 - 6	---				Second
No. 1 course to be chosen between the three listed below for a total of 3 ECTS credits:							
160091	Thesis Lab	3	---	Kevin Koehler		18	First + Second
160093	Vocational Activities	3	---	Kevin Koehler			First
160028	Italian Language level A2 (compulsory for non-Italian speaking students)	3	---	CLI		--	First
Elective courses for a total of 6 ECTS credits							
160037	Gender and Security	3	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	TBD		18	First
160089	Technical Change and International Trade	3	SECS-P/02 - ECON-02/A	Daniele Moschella	Angelo Cuzzola	18	First
160068	Security and States of Emergency: A Constitutional Law Perspective	3	IUS/08 - GIUR-05/A	Giacomo Delledonne		18	First
160090	Governance of development and social policy	3	SPS/04 - GSPS-02/A	David Natali		18	First
160030	Final Exam	18					
Total ECTS credits – 2nd year		54					

Please note the following:

- Course attendance: as specified in the MISS Academic Regulations, the structure of the program and the teaching methods employed require full-time commitment. Regular and consistent attendance is recommended for all MISS courses and made compulsory for certain courses, as specified in each syllabus, which also clarifies the assessment methods. Any attendance requirement, indicated in the syllabus of each course, is considered fulfilled with participation in at least 80% of the total class hours. In courses with mandatory attendance, if the 20% absence threshold is exceeded, MISS governance body will be informed and will take the necessary measures in agreement with the course instructor. For all courses, in case of absence, students are required, whenever possible, to notify the instructor by email. Exceptions are provided for students with special educational needs, upon activation of the Student Community Inclusion Service, in case of health issues, and with reference to the [“Guidelines for students who are unable to attend classes”](#).
- Credits awarded for internships: students who complete an internship lasting more than 200 hours (documented and certified in the learning agreement) will be awarded 6 university credits: 3 “regular” credits associated with the internship itself and 3 “additional” credits, categorized in the study plan as “vocational activities”.
- Elective courses: students are recommended to include the elective courses listed in the official course catalogue in their study plan. In principle, and in addition to the courses listed in the official catalogue, they may choose any course offered by the University of Trento and/or the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies, provided that it is at master’s level, delivered in English, and carries the same number of credits as required by the study plan. The inclusion of “extra-catalogue” elective courses must be authorized by the Program Coordinator ([Study plan submission | Sito Corsi | UniTrento](#) – please scroll down to the section “Study plan with PDF form”).
- All exams, including the final degree examination, **must be taken in person**, unless otherwise provided by University regulations or specific institutional guidelines.

Languages on The MISS Programme

MISS students are required to demonstrate language proficiency at level:

- **B2 of a Second language** (below for more information regarding possible language choices)
- **A2 - Italian language (only non-Italian students)**

IMPORTANT: Starting from the Enrollment Year 2024, all students must enroll in and pass the "English for International Studies" course offered by the SIS.

Second language

Students are required to reach a **B2 level in a second language** chosen among German, French and Spanish. Other second languages – Russian, Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese - do not normally include courses up to B2. However, students wishing to take B2 level exams in Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, or Russian may do so during specific exam windows scheduled at the end of each session (i.e., in February, July and September). To arrange the exact date and exam content, students must email the delegate for foreign languages at least 60 days before the beginning of the chosen exam period (please refer to the academic calendar for exact dates).. Late requests will not be considered and will be postponed to the next available exam period.

B2-level courses in Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese, and Russian may be activated by the CLA, provided that at least eight students enroll.. Enrollment is also open to students from other departments to reach the required number of participants.

To demonstrate their language proficiency, students can alternatively:

- Pass the **Second Language Examination at CLA in Trento.**
- **Request the recognition of Second language certificates that are less than 3 years old** (here the list of valid certificates:
- [Do you have a certificate? | Language Centre - CLA.](#)
- **If you obtained your high school diploma, bachelor's or master's degree entirely in the Second language in your study plan**, you can present documentation (Diploma plus documentation clearly stating the Course was entirely in the second language) by email to the MISS Secretariat (sis@sis.unitn.it) and the Delegate for Foreign languages (Giacomo.Pallante@unitn.it).

All the second language courses and examinations are organized by CLA.

Attending courses at CLA

To attend courses at CLA students must:

- Take the [online placement test](#) and then **enroll for the appropriate course** at [Course enrolments | Language Centre - CLA](#).
- **The test is not necessary if you:**
 - > are a complete **beginner** (you have no knowledge of the language), in which case you can enroll directly on an A1a/A1 course;
 - > have successfully **completed a CLA course one level below** the level of the course you are interested in (as long as you passed the course within the last twelve months)
 - > have **passed the language exam that is specified in your degree course programme** (the exam must be registered in Esse3)
 - > **have a language certificate** that is included on the list of “[language certificates recognised at the international level](#)” (in the event that the certificate is not yet registered on Esse3 you can bring it to the CLA Secretary’s Office when you enroll). These students will be admitted to the course immediately following the level of the certificate.

Italian language

For non-Italian-speaking students, passing a 3-credit Italian language exam is compulsory. This is typically a second-year requirement to be completed in Pisa. The Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies will organize these exams at the Centro Linguistico of the University of Pisa (CLI). The exam results will be recognized by the University of Trento’s Language Centre (CLA), provided that students pass all four core language skills: reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Furthermore, Sant’Anna will cover the cost of Italian language courses at CLI, provided that these courses are aimed at preparing students for the exam and the final exam is successfully passed.

English for International Studies

English for International Studies is a 6-credit course consisting of 48 hours in total: 12 hours of lectures and 36 hours of workshops and student presentations.

The lectures will be held during the first six weeks of the course for the entire class.

To enhance participation and ensure effective feedback, the workshops will be organized in two smaller groups with different timetables.

Further details on the schedule and group allocation will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the course.

IMPORTANT: English for International Studies is not an English Language course but an English for Specific Purpose course and **therefore international certifications cannot be deemed equivalent.**

Internships and Extra Activities

Internship

While the MISS programme does not foresee a compulsory internship, gaining some working experience through an internship, either in Italy or abroad, provides added value from a professional point of view and enriches the curriculum vitae of a student who, after graduation, aims at entering the international job market.

The university has precise **documentation procedures** for starting an internship, access to funding, completing an internship and obtaining credits. Students should carefully respect these procedures and start the process with enough time in hand.

The internship must receive prior authorization from the Delegate for Internships (Prof. Manuela Bragagnolo) after completing the online form [“Request for approval by the SIS Delegate for Internships, Summer Schools & other activities”](#).

Only one internship can be authorised. Internships must not interfere with university-taught courses and must not be an obstacle to the regular completion of the students' course of study. It should last around three months: it means that significantly shorter or longer periods will not be authorised, except for exceptional and properly justified cases.

Upon return from the internship and the submission of the necessary forms – which students will submit to the UniTrento office that activated the internship and then send via email to supportostudentiecogiursi@unitn.it - up to 6 credits can be granted to the students, of which 3 “regular” credits associated with the internship itself and 3 “additional” credits, categorized in the study plan as “vocational activities”. Please be aware that these credits cannot be in substitution for elective courses. Internship credits are awarded following these tiers:

- Less than 100 hours - the activity does not qualify as an internship and no credits are granted;
- Between 101 and 200 - 3 credits;
- Over 200 - 6 credits).

MISS will not recognise any activities that are not in accordance with UnitTrento's rules and regulations and that do not receive the preliminary approval of the MISS Delegate. In order to avoid any bad and last-minute surprises, please have a look at the following documents and web pages:

- [MISS Guidelines for Internships](#);
- [SIS Guidelines for Security and Safety in Risky Areas](#);
- [UniTrento programme for Traineeship abroad](#) (*further information can be requested via email to mobility-ssh@unitn.it*);
- the [UniTrento Job Guidance Office](#) web page for internships in Italy.

Funding opportunities for internships

The University of Trento offers a number of [opportunities](#) for funding internships abroad, through an international mobility scholarship.

Please be aware that procedures (i.e. documentation, deadlines and timing for processing the application) are different depending on the geographical area of the host institutions (in European countries and in non-European countries); in any case, the **student must have obtained the prior authorization of the MISS delegate**.

Furthermore, the University of Trento subscribes to a programme jointly promoted by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) and the Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI), providing internship opportunities in Italy's diplomatic missions abroad. The so-called MAECI-CRUI calls are managed by UniTrento Job Guidance Office (jobguidance@unitn.it), which also manages other internships to be carried out in Italy.

As regards the internship in Italy, no funds can be allocated by UniTrento. The relevant office to activate this internship is Job Guidance and the webpages for information are:

[Internship and work placement opportunities](#) and [Opportunità di tirocinio e lavoro](#)

Further information can be requested by writing to: jobguidance@unitn.it

Although the internship normally takes place in the second semester of the second year, the MISS Regulations do not explicitly prohibit an internship from taking place in the first year. These internships can be authorized by the MISS Board or by its Delegate only if they do not interfere in any way with the teaching activities. It is therefore supposed that these internships will take place in the summer between the first and second years. An internship in the first year, which must be set up in accordance with UniTrento administrative procedures, cannot be awarded credits and cannot be funded by UniTrento.

Students who intend to do an internship during this period must:

- contact the Master's Coordinators;
- contact the MISS Delegate for internships to check that the internship is relevant to the Master's programme and that it does not interfere with the teaching activities;
- complete the Internship – Request for Approval form;
- contact UniTrento offices to set up the internship according to the procedures listed in art. 9.

Substitute activities for internships

In exceptional circumstances, special procedures may be activated by the SIS to recognise certain activities as substitutes for internships, provided that these are considered to have significant educational value, are consistent with the learning objectives of the degree program, and were carried out during the student's course of study. Examples include internships at international organizations that cannot enter into agreements with the

University; national or international volunteering experiences, subject to prior agreement with the University. The duration of substitute activities must be proportionate to the number of ECTS credits awarded. Students are required to submit a report on the activity to the SIS Delegate for Internships. The report will allow the tutor to evaluate the educational value of the activity, as well as its consistency with the learning objectives of the degree program and expected learning outcomes. Please note that substitute activities cannot be funded by UniTrento scholarships; UniTrento cannot provide insurance coverage either.

General reference: [Linee Guida per lo Svolgimento dei Tirocini Approvate dal Senato Accademico del 9 luglio 2025](#)

Summer Schools, intensive courses, or similar activities

When explicitly granted by the organizing Institution, MISS recognises 'extra' credits (i.e. beyond the 120 needed for graduation, and hence not in substitution for elective courses) for the successful participation in Summer Schools, intensive courses, or similar activities.

In addition to what is set out in the MISS Regulations:

1. The educational training courses must be intensive and last at least 4 consecutive days. These activities include Summer/Winter schools, short intensive courses and such like.
2. Participation in these courses must not interfere with university taught courses and must not be an obstacle to the regular completion of the student's course of study.
3. Participation in these activities must receive prior authorization from the Delegate by completing the Summer School - Request for Approval form. The form must be filled in and sent via the online application "[Request for approval by the SIS Delegate for Internships, Summer Schools & other activities](#)".
4. After completing the activity, the student must submit a short, written report to supportostudentiecogiursi@unitn.it (300 words max) along with a certificate of attendance or any diploma awarded.

Study Abroad Experiences

Considering that the MISS is a joint inter-university degree, please be reminded that students are expected to attend courses at each partner institution. This structure ensures a rich and diverse academic experience across universities. The second semester of the second year, when academic commitments are less demanding, is the ideal time to undertake an international mobility experience. Students are strongly encouraged to enhance their international profile through, for example, the thesis research abroad programme or an internship/traineeship abroad.

Study abroad experiences for MISS students may take place either through:

- Erasmus+ study;
- Bilateral Agreements;
- Thesis Research Abroad.

Erasmus+ Study allows students to spend abroad in a partner university for a period of study from 3 to 6 months for course attendance, thesis research, and traineeship combined with study activities. The University of Trento has established links with many different and prestigious partner universities: the list can be found on the [Partner Universities webpage](#).

If you are interested in this programme, you must browse carefully the University of Trento [dedicated webpage](#) (Participating in the Erasmus+ Programme) Here are some further tips:

- Make sure – in good time – that you have the requisite proficiency in the relevant foreign language.
- Find out about the courses the partner universities offer; this can be done by checking their websites and prospectuses.
- Go to the annual presentation of the mobility programmes;
- Follow the correct procedures when making your application to the programme, and do not apply after the closing date given in the selection announcement.

Bilateral Agreements are similar to Erasmus+ Study in their purposes (course attendance, thesis research, traineeship combined with study activities), but they allow students to apply to extra-European universities such as in Australia, Canada, China, and Israel. You can find the list of partners [on the SIS webpage](#) (Scientific Agreements with SIS). There is a Guide to Bilateral Exchanges on the same page, please read it carefully because it contains important information for planning, executing and coming back from your mobility.

There is a yearly selection call that you must not miss if you wish to apply (it is not possible to apply after).

Candidates may participate in bilateral agreement mobility by taking part in the yearly candidates' selection call based on the following criteria:

- language requirements for the chosen destination (CLA test or international certificate);

- *curriculum studiorum*;
- interview with an academic board (consisting of academic and non-academic staff from the University of Trento).

Finally, **Thesis Research Abroad** allows students to spend a minimum of 3 months in Universities or institutes all over the world selected by them (in accordance with their academic supervisor) for thesis research. Interested students can apply with a monthly deadline. Mobility can begin 30 days after this monthly deadline. More information can be found [here](#).

Graduation and Exams

Exams

In order to obtain the credits necessary to graduate from MISS, you need to pass exams that correspond to the classes you took during the academic year. To take an exam you must be regularly enrolled and make sure that the course is included in your Student Record (“Libretto”) on Esse3. Registration has to be completed within the deadlines published on the Exam Sessions notice board.

In order for a course to appear in your Student Record, you need to submit your Study Plan in Esse3 within the official windows:

- 15 September – 15 October 2025,
- 1–30 November 2025,
- 1–31 March 2026.

If you wish to add to your Study Plan a learning activity that does not appear in Esse3 but is permitted by the MISS regulations, you must complete the “[Study Plan Request for Approval](#)” form available online, provide a short justification for your choice, and send it by email to sis@sis.unitn.it. These requests must be approved by the Course Coordinator, who will check their coherence with the objectives of the programme.

If you have doubts about using Esse3, you can find student guides on the [Esse3 for students webpage](#). They are not translated into English, so if you need any help, please do not hesitate to contact MISS Staff!

Final Dissertation

The final exam for completion of the MISS programme consists of the evaluation and discussion of a written dissertation (tesi) on one of the topics addressed during the Master’s course. The thesis can cover specific projects carried out during placements, internships or other training experiences, including in the framework of international mobility, as long as it meets the criteria of **scientificity and originality**. The final dissertation is written in English and is prepared under the supervision of a professor at the University of Trento or Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna (affiliated with one of these institutions or in charge of one of the courses taught in the framework of the MISS programme).

Students are suggested to choose the topic of their final dissertation and find the right supervisor by the end of the first semester of the second year at the latest. This should allow them time to plan ahead and to take advantage of learning and training experiences that may enhance the quality of the dissertation.

A respectful working relationship with the supervisor requires regular contact. The work must be handed in well in advance so that the supervisor has the time to give it due attention and to schedule supervision meetings with the student.

Once the dissertation is completed and has received the approval of the supervisor, the student is admitted to the final exam. This entails the public presentation and defence of the final dissertation during one of the graduation sessions.¹ The examination panel (“*commissione di laurea*”) evaluating the dissertation consists of at least five members: one is the *relatore* (supervisor), or a substitute if necessary, and another is the *contro-relatore* (the main discussant). All examination panel members are nominated by the Director of the School of International Studies. The examination panel includes members of the faculties of the University of Trento and Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, respectively. All members of the examination panel can question the candidate and ask for further elucidations and all members participate in deciding the final mark. The presentation of the thesis should last around 10-12 minutes and is in principle public.

The examination panel evaluates both the dissertation and the defence, and awards up to 8 points. These points contribute to the final graduation mark. Therefore, the final graduation mark depends on three components: the points assigned to the final dissertation and defence, the average course mark (min 66 max 110), and up to an additional *punto tesi* (extra point) assigned by the MISS Coordinator for those students who graduate before December of the calendar year following their second year of studies (i.e., December 2027 for students enrolling in the first year in the academic year 2025/26). The conferring of *lode* (honours) must be a unanimous decision by the examination panel.

Students are recommended to carefully read through the rules and regulations regarding the [graduation procedure](#) and take note of the relative deadlines and procedures.

In particular:

- At least four months before the chosen graduation session, the student must send the “Thesis Supervisor and Thesis Title” module via the [online application](#). In case of rescheduling of the graduation at a later date, the original submission will remain valid if the title of the thesis has not been changed. This submission is an integral part of the dissertation process and students should not miss this four-month deadline.
- To access the later stage of the graduation application, students must have passed all the examinations required by the academic regulations set out in your year of enrolment.

¹ There are four graduation sessions each year in May, September, November and March. The graduation session in March is the last session of any given academic year. A student enrolled in 2025/26 has until the official end of his/her second year, i.e. March 2028, to apply for graduation and defend the final dissertation to graduate “on time”.

Please note that:

- * For exams organised by the University of Trento and/or Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, it is sufficient for the exams in question to have been taken, while the official recording and registration of the grade may take place in the following days, as this requires technical processing times that are beyond the student's control;
- * For exams organized by an external certifying body, such as language certifications, the relevant date is the one on which the external body itself releases the results and makes them available to the students and to us (and not the date on which the student sat the test), since it is not possible for us to systematically verify and document compliance with the timelines. In other words, the date shown on the certificate applies, and it must strictly be prior to the deadline for the submission of the graduation application.
- The graduation application must be submitted via Esse3 following the instructions and respecting the deadlines that are approved annually by the Council and published on the website of the School of International Studies. The deadline for registering for the degree exam is also the last date for submitting the thesis (no later than four weeks before the graduation day).
- The thesis must be submitted in its final form no later than one month before the defence via Esse3 and via email to the members of the examination panel in PDF/a form (a non-modifiable form of a PDF). The supervisor, the discussant and the president of the examination panel will need to receive the full-text version of the thesis while the other members of the examination panel will need to receive an abstract of the thesis, complemented by the thesis' reference list (bibliography). The members of the examination panel will be published in the Download Box on [this page](#) after they have been appointed.

If you wish to defer or withdraw from graduation, you must send a written statement to supportostudentiecogiursi@unitn.it. In this case, your previous application will no longer be valid. When you decide to graduate in a later session, you will need to submit a new application for graduation in Esse3, following exactly the same rules, steps, and deadlines as in the standard procedure.

Please, consult the website, especially regarding [Thesis regulations](#), and [Guidelines for writing a Master's thesis](#).

For students enrolled in 2024/2025, the completion of the compulsory internship is required before applying for graduation.

Contact the MISS Programme Office for further information and be careful in respecting all the deadlines.

Standards of Ethics and Safety for Master's Thesis Research

Students, in agreement with their thesis supervisor, may employ methods of inquiry and data collection involving interactions with human participants and the handling of first-hand data. In such cases, the principles of *do no harm* (i.e., safeguarding both the researchers' and respondents' safety and privacy), research integrity, confidentiality, accuracy, and transparency of research protocols—and how to uphold these principles—must be thoroughly discussed with the thesis supervisor in advance.

Activities such as conducting interviews, distributing and administering questionnaires and surveys, (participant) observation, organizing focus groups, and using social media platforms or other digital content all require:

- obtaining informed consent;
- adhering to rigorous procedures for the pseudonymisation and secure storage of transcripts and records;
- minimizing any potential distress for participants.

Best Practices at The University of Trento

The University of Trento has its own “Code of Ethics” (a courtesy translation of the legally valid Italian version is available [here](#)), that defines standards of professional ethical behaviour that apply to all UniTrento components (including faculty members, staff and students).

As a general note, SIS members strongly encourage discussions and exchanges in our community: students are welcome to get in contact with the SIS staff and faculty members in order to make proposals, ask for clarifications and (politely) identify issues that need to be addressed. However, please consider that most regulations derive from national and institutional norms and others have been carefully drafted by the SIS and MISS governing bodies. Accordingly, please avoid regulatory shopping (i.e., shopping across regulations and draw on the rules that may apply in other universities and departments: they may inspire future reforms, but have no direct application for MISS).

Further, please consider that we cannot bargain over rules, marks, decisions, etc. Individual problems, if properly and timely reported to the attention of the appropriate person, are taken into account, last minute or late complaints and proposals for negotiations will not be considered. This line of conduct is undertaken as it helps to preserve that rules are consistently applied, over time and across different cohorts of students, to ensure horizontal and vertical fairness, and to enhance coherence in addressing different issues. This approach clearly holds not only for Miss students but also for SIS staff and the faculty members.

The Student Voice

The MISS student body has its voice in the elected representatives. These representatives are the channel through which collective feedback, comments and suggestions are communicated to the appropriate School and Degree course bodies. The governance responsible for monitoring the degree course, enhancing its strengths and addressing its weaknesses are:

- the *Consiglio della Scuola di Studi Internazionali* (the School of International Studies Council), which includes student representatives from the Master’s and PhD programmes;
- the *Commissione Paritetica Docenti-Studenti* (Student-Teacher Committee), which consists of 4 faculty members and 4 students;
- the *Gruppo di Autovalutazione* (Self-Assessment Group), which includes at least one student representative.

These bodies meet regularly and student participation is by no means ancillary. As former representatives can confirm, in the past MISS has addressed most of their concerns and endorsed various suggestions (*for instance regarding the meetings with professionals, the exam schedule, and many others*).

Plagiarism, Intellectual Honesty and Tips

Consistently with this code of conduct, and more broadly considering intellectual honesty as a cornerstone in academia, plagiarism is strictly prohibited. Plagiarism is defined as “the presentation of another person’s thoughts or words or artefacts or software as though they were a student’s own” (Honor Code, School of Social Science, 2013).

Beyond copy-pasting, plagiarism also includes copying someone else’s ideas or words without giving credit to the author, failing to put quotation marks, giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation, changing words but copying the structure of a sentence, copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of the work submitted.

In this sense, students are strictly prohibited from copy-pasting someone else’s work or ideas and presenting it as theirs (independently of the nature of this work), but also from employing a ghost-writer, and finally from recycling all or part of previous essays. In order to ensure this, students’ essays and theses are checked by plagiarism detection software.

When joining the MISS Programme, students are required to understand and sign the University’s anti-plagiarism and data protection policy. In the case of a violation, disciplinary measures will be taken by the School of International Studies. Violations will first lead to convocation by the Programme Committee, and after two formal admonishments, if another violation is committed, the PhD Programme Committee will propose the **expulsion of the student**.

In the case where a student is assessed in a highly negative manner, the student could be expelled immediately.

Please be aware that plagiarism is also sanctioned according to the Italian law.

Plagiarism beyond “copy-pasting”: intellectual honesty and tips to avoid getting into trouble

Students often think of plagiarism as **the intentional copy-pasting of someone else’s work** (article, book, etc). This practice is indeed strictly forbidden. However, as Master’s students, you are supposed to develop **a strong understanding of what plagiarism is**. This is important at MISS but also for your professional future. For example, plagiarism can take other forms:

- **Bad paraphrasing:** you rephrased an author’s point, but it is still too close to the original.

How to avoid that: re-phrase again until acceptable (replacing keywords with synonyms is considered to be plagiarism), and if you do not manage to do it, then use direct quotation with brackets.

- **Rephrasing an idea without quoting the author:** you used an idea and rephrased it properly, but you did not quote the author because you thought it was rephrased well enough.

How to avoid that: very simply, always quote the author of the idea you are using. This is one of the pillars of academia.

- **You forgot to put quotation marks**: you used a quote from a text, but you did not remember whether it was part of your own notes or a direct citation, and you forgot to put brackets and cite the author. **This can lead to serious problems since there is no way to determine if you plagiarise intentionally or unintentionally.**

How to avoid that: be a good note-taker, and always use brackets for citations – including in your notes and drafts. When in doubt, re-read the original material.

- **Open-source plagiarism**: you thought that since you are using open-source, multi-author (or anonymous) materials, then it is acceptable not to credit the authors.

How to avoid that: even open-source materials such as Wikipedia need to be properly cited (citing Wikipedia in your work is not a good idea though, you may find other sources). Have a look at how to cite anonymous materials or websites depending on your citation style (Zotero can help you!), and apply it.

- **Self-plagiarism**: you copy-pasted from previous works you did and re-submitted them in a new essay. This is not a legal issue because you did not breach someone else's rights, but it is a lack of respect for your teacher and it is punished at the University of Trento.

How to avoid that: Rephrase, adapt, and take this as an opportunity to deepen your knowledge and improve yourself.

If you wish to make sure you have a clear idea of what plagiarism is, you can take these short tests:

- [Cornell University plagiarism test](#) for students;
- [Turnitin "Aiming for Integrity" test](#).

Last, concerning artificial intelligence, the University of Trento has committed to an ethical, fair, legitimate, aware, safe and responsible use of generative AI tools. Students are expected to follow the University's "General Policy on using generative artificial intelligence tools" and their instructors' guidelines. Further information can be found [here](#).

If you have questions or doubts, or you want to discuss the results of these tests, please do not hesitate to talk about it with the MISS Tutor, or with your teachers or supervisor.

Reporting issues

At the University of Trento as in any other place, issues can arise during the course of the Degree. These issues can be personal (health or family issues, harassment, etc) as they can be collective (i.e. organisational problems shared among a students cohort). Although those are hypothetical situations that we hope will not happen, the University and the MISS staff still take them very seriously.

As a general way of proceeding, it is best to first report issues to the students' representatives, the MISS Tutor and the MISS Secretariat. These people will likely be able to solve most common problems and/or suggest specific services to contact. They also act as "bridges" between you and other members of the staff and will refer to the MISS Coordinator and the School Director when necessary. If this does not solve the issue, students and/or the aforementioned members of staff can contact the Coordinator and the School Director. However, contacting them directly is not particularly efficient because they will probably need to contact the representatives/Tutor/Secretariat in order to better understand the situation. Please, keep in mind that the SIS has direct control over a limited number of processes, whereas most matters are under the exclusive (or shared) competence of higher-level Offices, Committees and Boards in the University.

We encourage you to report your problems as early as possible: most issues can be solved quite easily but this can take time. Moreover, MISS staff do not bargain with rules: fairness and equity are fundamental principles at the University of Trento, and they will indeed be essential to your future career too.

During your time at Trento, if you have some constructive feedback to make, please do not hesitate to do so by contacting the MISS Tutor and/or Secretariat. Your input will be highly valued!

Academic and Career Opportunities

SIS Events, Seminars, and Guest Lectures

Please be informed that all events organised by the School of International Studies (SIS) are visible in the Event Calendar, which you can access on the [School's homepage](#) (see the "Events" column). Also, as details are confirmed, we ensure regular updates on the [dedicated page for seminars and events](#).

Alongside the taught courses the School of International Studies runs a rich series of guest lectures and seminars held by visiting professors of international standing and by professional practitioners working in distinguished international organizations. Attendance at these events is important also because it has an impact on the School's reputation and on the individual opportunities for the students.

Attendance at a minimum of four sessions per semester is mandatory. These must be selected from events such as the Rotari and Targetti Lectures, guest lectures, and practitioner talks. Events organized as part of societal engagement programmes (*Terza Missione*) intended for the general public and held in Italian are not included in this count.

Students who do not comply will lose recognition of the thesis point at a rate decided by the MISS coordinator.

MISS students are encouraged to participate also in the many other events organised at the School, including conferences, professional workshops, debates, careers talks and fairs.

Unless otherwise specified, neither credits nor punti tesi are assigned for attendance to seminars and events. Attendance and active participation to these events, that are organized to the benefit of students, are part of their regular activities.

The "Applied Workshops on Global Affairs" (SAWGA)

The "Applied Workshops on Global Affairs" (SAWGA) aim at bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical skills. The Workshops introduce students to specific problems of international relations, European affairs and policies, and international security by adopting a practical approach and innovative teaching methods. Students are involved in simulations, debates, role-play, etc., by qualified instructors with direct knowledge in the relevant field.

Workshops take place each year in September and February, before the kick-off of the courses, and are open to a limited number of students, who would like to gain specific skills

and experience, under the guidance of qualified practitioners, concerning the management and resolution of practical cases.

Upon completing three workshops and submitting a final report, students can earn 3 credits.

Mentoring and Career Advice

[The Job Guidance office](#) offers several training opportunities throughout the whole academic year, regarding different soft skills such as public speaking among others. It also promotes the Mentoring Programme, a service providing professional guidance and involving the [Alumni network](#). Furthermore, Job Guidance Corner offers students individual meetings and provides them with [advice on career choices and internships](#).

University Library Services

UniTrento libraries [organise lessons and courses](#) on the use of bibliographic research for students.

UniTrento @ ECIU

The University of Trento is a member of the European Consortium of Innovative Universities, [providing students with additional opportunities](#) of innovative learning (micro-modules, challenges) and short-term international mobility.

Student Life at The University of Trento

Trento is a lively city, and there are plenty of things to do outside the classroom – mountains, museums, and much more. In this section you will find some information about student life in Trento. These are only indicative, of course, and there is much more to do.

Associations

Are you looking for friends and activities to do in your free time? UniTrento student associations are there for you! Student associations are essential to university life not only with their study-oriented activities, but also because they represent students and organize and promote social, cultural, sport and leisure events. They play a fundamental role in improving social relations and their involvement in academic life and in the initiatives supported by departments and centres. They are created by students to respond to their needs, continue to exist thanks to their commitment, and are open to anyone who wants to be part of them.

The University of Trento welcomes these student initiatives and supports the events they organize, providing spaces and rooms, funding and specific media. The University of Trento and Opera Universitaria also provide funding for cultural and social initiatives proposed by students – in particular in the areas of cinema, theatre, music, visual arts (painting, sculpture, photography, etc.), fiction and poetry, publishing - that will take place during the year.

The list of student associations and their contacts is available [here](#). There is something for everyone!

Do you have a specific question? You can contact:

Opera Universitaria (cultural activities, accommodation, services)

[Opera Universitaria](#), established in 1991, supports students throughout their university journey by removing barriers to full access to education. In close cooperation with the university, local community, and public institutions, it responds concretely to students' needs by providing housing and dining services, awarding scholarships and grants, and promoting cultural, sports, and recreational activities for university and higher-education students.

Opera Universitaria Desk
Via della Malpensada, 82
+39 0461 217445
rtommasini@operauni.tn.it

Opening Hours: from Monday to Friday 9.30 – 12.00, Tuesdays 14.00 – 16.00

Student Services Office

Via Verdi, 6
+39 0461 282332
Uff.ServiziAlloStudio@unitn.it

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 10.00 - 12.00, Wednesdays 14.30 to 16.00
In August the Office will be open only during the morning, please write to them using your university email (@studenti.unitn.it)

Student card badge

The Student Card allows you to get access to cafeteria services and other services. Students can collect their Student Card **from Monday to Friday, from 9 am to 12 pm, and Tuesday and Thursday from 2pm to 4pm** at:

- Opera desk at Sanbàpolis - via Malpensada 140 - first floor – International Student welcome and issuance of the Student card
- Extraordinary desk at the Mayer Residence - piazzetta Solesin, 1 - Issuance of the Student card (it is usually open for a limited time at the beginning of the lectures during the first semester)

To access the building you are requested to schedule an appointment through the app [OPERA4U](#). For additional [detailed information](#) please consult the website.

Free circulation pass

"[Free circulation](#)" is the yearly pass with a special rate for public transport for students and PhD students of the University of Trento.

University canteens in Trento downtown

Tomaso Gar (via Tomaso Gar, 18)

Prices:

full meal: 4.90 euros

small meal: 4.40 euros

snack: 3.10 euros

XXIV Maggio (via XXIV Maggio, 13). Temporarily closed, but students should monitor the Calendar for any changes.

UniSport Trento

Looking for some physical activities? UniSport Trento is here for you. It promotes, organizes and manages sport events and activities throughout the semester. You can join its membership program which will give you access to its gym rooms (at the University and at the student residence San Bartolameo); or you can decide to join one of their many classes. If you wish to do so, remember to bring a health certificate (with ECG) for sport practices when you go to the registration.

The list of their classes is available [on their website](#). You can also meet them at:

UniTrento Sport C.U.S. Trento

via Prati 10 - Trento

custn@unitn.it

0461 281855-1856

Monday-Friday 9.30-12.00

Tuesday afternoon 14.00-16.00

Borrow a bike

If you are in an Opera Universitaria accommodation you can borrow a bike free of charge. All you have to do is provide the payment receipt of the accommodation deposit and ID/Passport to the Housing office. Remember, you are responsible for ordinary maintenance of the item (damages, the substitution of parts etc.) Should the bike be stolen or damaged you will have to pay 140 euros. If the bike is later found in relatively good condition, the amount will be returned to you.

Student Support and Well-being – University Based

School of International Studies' delegate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: prof. [Anna Casaglia](#)

Confidential Counseling

[The Confidential Counselor](#) provides support and assistance to individuals who have experienced mobbing, straining, moral or sexual harassment, and direct or indirect discrimination. Specifically, the Counselor:

- Listens to those who feel they have been subjected to mobbing, straining, harassment, or discrimination, offering guidance on the most appropriate course of action to address and resolve the situation. If necessary, they initiate the university's internal mediation process as part of the informal procedure.
- Provides information and training to raise awareness on the different types of workplace harassment.

Email: consiglieradifiducia@unitn.it

Anti-violence support center

At the [Anti-Violence Center](#), women experiencing abuse and mistreatment—whether physical, psychological, or economic—as well as those subjected to stalking or cyberstalking, and victims of the non-consensual distribution of intimate images, will be welcomed in a private and safe space. Two professional operators will be available to provide information, offer counseling, and suggest ways to break free from situations of violence occurring in family, social, or university settings.

Email: equitadiversita@unitn.it

Inclusion Services

UniTrento is committed to ensuring that all students, including those participating in international mobility programs, can fully engage in all aspects of university life, from lectures to recreational activities.

If you have a [disability](#), a specific learning disorder, special needs, or a temporary impairment, you can contact the service to access measures and tools that can support your studies and improve accessibility to university facilities.

Email: inclusionone.studente@unitn.it.

[Student community inclusion service | UniTrento](#)

Office in via Verdi, 6 38122 – Trento (3rd floor, Molino Vittoria)

Opening hours: Monday - Friday - 10.00 - 12.00, Monday – Thursday 14.30 – 15.30
please call to make an appointment: 0461 282128

Psychological Counseling

During your studies or time at UniTrento, you may encounter challenges that require support. You can rely on the Psychological Counseling Service for students - a dedicated space for listening and support, designed to help prevent and address difficulties that anyone may

experience. The Student Counseling Service is organized jointly by the University and Opera Universitaria, and aims to provide help and support to students during their studies. The Advisory service for Italians abroad is designed specifically for students who need psychological support while they are in a foreign country for academic reasons..

The Psychological Service is also the right place to submit ideas for student activities, to encourage human relations in the student community and to enhance university life (through seminars and group work).

The service offers both individual counseling sessions and group meetings. The latter provides an opportunity to engage with other students facing common university-related challenges, such as exam anxiety, interpersonal communication, or cohabitation issues, with the guidance of a professional.

What does the service offer?

- one to one counselling with a psychologist on problems that students are having during their studies, including if they are participating in exchange programmes abroad;
- group meetings to discuss the students' difficulties, their motivations and university life (anxiety, interpersonal relations, problems with roommates etc.). **This includes a seminar on how to manage anxiety in your studies.** The seminar takes place exclusively in Italian, please contact them if you wish to join!
- seminars on psychological issues

Email: consulenzapsicologica.studenti@unitn.it

Web: [Psychological counselling | UniTrento](#)

Located in Trento, at 13 via Santa Margherita; in Rovereto, at 5/B via Matteo del Ben, home to the Dipartimento di Scienze della Cognizione e della Formazione.

The service offers counselling via Skype to students who are studying abroad.

Phone: 0464-808116, from Monday to Friday, 9.30 to 17.30; you can leave a message out of office hours.

You can also drop a note in the Psychological counselling service boxes at 13 via Santa Margherita in Trento.

Office of the Ombudsperson for Students

For any questions, issues, or guidance regarding relationships between students, faculty, and administrative staff, as well as matters related to academic life, you can consult the [Student Ombudsperson](#), the institutional point of reference for the entire student community.

The Student Ombudsperson reviews reports of actions or behaviors - including omissions - deemed to be in violation of the University's Student Honor Code. They oversee the proper application of regulations concerning teaching, administrative management of student records, and academic services. Additionally, upon student request, they work to ensure that student representation in academic bodies is fully upheld and effective.

Email: garantestudenti@unitn.it

Other services and resources

- [Transport and Mobility](#)
- [Healthcare Services](#)
- [Discounts and Benefits](#)
- [Emergency Contacts and Campus Staff](#)
- [Malfunctions and Repairs](#)
- [On-Call Service](#)
- [Locations: Contacts and Opening Hours](#)
- [Student Citadel Parking](#)
- [Conference Rooms and Event Spaces](#)
- [Health and Safety](#)
- [Privacy and Personal Data Protection](#)

For international students and students [coming to UniTrento](#) for the first time from other cities and countries: (please scroll down to the section "All you need to know"). Recurrent queries relate to:

1. How to get [Italian Tax code | UniTrento](#) ("Codice Fiscale")
2. How to calculate [Tuition fees for individuals with citizenship of EU and related countries | UniTrento](#)

Glossary

To facilitate exchanges with the Administrative Staff and to ease your way through your academic career, it may be helpful to understand some important terms. As most procedures are set up by national and local regulations, the Italian terms are used where necessary alongside a functional translation in English.

Gruppo di Autovalutazione (Self-Assessment Group), chaired by the Degree Coordinator, further Faculty members and at least one student representative, with administrative support from the Degree secretary. This Committee is responsible for the annual Quality Assurance Report (Scheda di Monitoraggio Annuale/*Rapporto di Riesame*) which is submitted to the Ministry each year and outlines the strategies and initiatives the Degree Programme intends to undertake in the following academic year.

Commissione Paritetica Docenti-Studenti (Student-Teacher Committee), composed of 4 Faculty Members (including the President) and 4 students. The *Commission* discusses any issues arising during the academic year and possible strategies and solutions to address these issues and further enhance the quality of the programme. The *Commission* drafts an annual report (*relazione annuale*) which is an official Quality Assurance Document.

Consiglio della Scuola di Studi Internazionali (the School of International Studies Council), presided over by the School Director, consists of the Faculty Members, post-doc researchers, and student representatives from the PhD and Master's programmes. The *Consiglio* is the main decision-making body of the School.

Esami Sovrannumerari (Extra exams): should students wish to take more classes and courses than those necessary to graduate, these can be included in the study plan provided that they are at master's level. These do not provide any further *punti tesi*, nor do they increase the final grade point average. However, they are included in the transcript of records and become an integral part of the student's academic CV.

Learning agreement: This is an official document of an international exchange programme, whose purpose is to record course/module choices at destination. The learning agreement must be approved by the sending and receiving institutions prior to departure.

Manifesto annuale del Corso di Laurea Magistrale: Master's Degree Course Programme - this is an annual document which contains a list of all the mandatory and elective courses in any given academic year, as well as any relevant restrictions, and specifies the name of the professors in charge of the various courses.

Piano di studi individuale: The study plan is a document that each and every student has to prepare before he/she can sit any exams. Students must specify which elective courses they intend to choose.

Punto tesi (additional thesis point): granted to those students who graduate before December of the calendar year following their second year of studies.

Regolamento del Corso di Laurea Magistrale: Master's Degree Regulations - this founding document of the degree course contains the core features and structure of the MISS programme, such as the list of compulsory exams, the credits for elective activities, the requirements to graduate, learning objectives and outcomes, etc.

Tesi: In order to graduate, students are expected to write a final dissertation under the supervision of a professor at the University of Trento. External advisors (who are not members of the University of Trento) can co-supervise, but not substitute the supervision of a local professor. The dissertation is publicly defended during the graduation session. The Commission awards a number of points which go towards the final graduation mark.

Voto di laurea: The final graduation mark depends on three components: the average course mark (min 66 - max 110), the points awarded for the final dissertation (up to 8) and an additional point to those who graduate before December of the calendar year following their second year of studies (i.e., December 2027 for students enrolling in the first year in the academic year 2025/26).