



UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION - ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/26
BACHELOR
Political Sciences (Classe L-36)
Enrolled from 2014/2015 to 2024/2025 academic year

HEADING

Degree classification - Denomination and code:	L-36 Political science and international relations
Degree title:	Dottore
Curricula currently available:	
Length of course:	3 years
Total number of credits required to complete programme:	180
Years of course currently available:	2nd , 3rd
Access procedures:	Cap on student, student selection based on entrance test
Course code:	B19

PERSONS/ROLES

Head of Interdepartmental Study Programme

Prof. Andrea Ceron

Tutors - Faculty

Prof. Andrea Pedrazzani – (vicepresidente)
Prof.ssa Maria Letizia Giorgetti - (presidente Commissione paritetica)
Prof. Andrea Cassani– (studenti stranieri ed Erasmus)
Prof. Enzo Colombo – (Stage/Laboratori)
Prof. Andrea Cassani - (Gestione pratiche studenti)

Degree Course website

<https://spo.cdl.unimi.it>

Prof.ssa Lucia Musselli – (presidente Commissione paritetica)

Degree Programme e-mail:

Email: spo@unimi.it

Information on services for students with disabilities can be found here:

<https://www.unimi.it/it/studiare/servizi-gli-studenti/servizi-studenti-con-disabilita>

Information on services for students with SLD can be found here:

<https://www.unimi.it/it/studiare/servizi-gli-studenti/servizi-studenti-con-dsa>

CHARACTERISTICS OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

General and specific learning objectives

The BA in Political Science offers the substantive competencies and the methodological skills typical of an interdisciplinary degree at the intersection of economics, law, political science, sociology and history. Such competencies and skills are essential for the analysis and understanding of the structures and processes of contemporary societies from a comparative perspective. Four distinct curriculums allow the students to choose and deepen specific disciplinary and thematic approaches with the appropriate conceptual and methodological tools.

Expected learning outcomes

During the first two years of the programme, compulsory courses aim at providing students with solid knowledge and methodological skills typical of an interdisciplinary training, covering five main areas (political, sociological, economic, legal and historical). This interdisciplinary background allows students to acquire a comprehensive understanding of the functioning of the fundamental structures and processes of contemporary societies from a comparative perspective. Further, foreign languages courses equip students with lexicological and grammatical competences, which are key to be employed in international working environments, in a plurality of fields. Curricular courses, during the second and third year, are aimed at deepening different disciplinary and thematic perspectives, providing specific conceptual and methodological tools.

The achievement of the expected learning outcomes is promoted and verified through a variety of didactic tools, such as

lectures, workshops, seminars and group work. The acquisition of knowledge and the ability to apply knowledge and understanding is ascertained through the exams and the preparation of the final exam. The exams, either in written and / or oral forms, as well as the preparation of the final exam, also allow to promote and verify the ability to present and communicate in an effective way.

Professional profile and employment opportunities

Graduates in Political Science have skills and competences to work in various fields, including national and multinational private companies and organizations, public administrations and institutions, supranational and international organizations, non-governmental and third sector organizations, research centres, consulting agencies, journalism and publishing houses.

Initial knowledge required

Admission to the degree programme requires applicants to have a high school diploma or an equivalent suitable qualification from abroad.

To be admitted to the course students must sit an examination to check their linguistic-communication capabilities, in addition to taking an online test (TOLC-E) organised by the Consortium of Interuniversity Integrated Access Systems (CISIA). Subject knowledge for admission will be deemed acceptable if the scores in the selection band have been achieved. Students whose score is lower than the value stated in the selection band, limited to the area of verbal comprehension, will be assigned an additional learning obligation (OFA), which must be met and approved within the first year of the course.

The University organises specific tutoring support for the successful completion of the OFA. Additional information is available on the University study portal of the Faculty of Political, Economic & Social Sciences.

If students fail to satisfy the OFA within the required timescale, the following year they will be unable to sit the examinations for the years subsequent to the first year.

English OFA

In order to fulfil the Additional Learning Requirement (Obbligo Formativo Aggiuntivo – OFA) for English and sit the English-language exam required by the study plan, students must achieve B2 proficiency per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This proficiency level may be certified as follows:

- By submitting a language certificate attesting B2 or higher level in English and issued no more than three years before the date of submission. You will find the list of language certificates recognized by the University at: (<https://www.unimi.it/en/node/39322/>). The certificate must be uploaded during the enrolment procedure, or subsequently to the portal <http://studente.unimi.it/uploadCertificazioniLingue>;

- By taking a placement test offered by the University Language Centre (SLAM) between October and December of the first year (or in January for single-cycle programmes). Students who fail the test will be required to take a SLAM course.

The placement test is mandatory for all those who do not hold a valid certificate attesting to B2 or higher level.

Those who have not taken the placement test by the end of December or fail the end-of-course exam six times must obtain the necessary certification privately in order to fulfil the OFA and sit the English exam.

Compulsory attendance

Course attendance is highly recommended.

Degree programme final exams

The final exam is an individual training moment to complete the course of study and consists in the drafting of a written paper on a topic chosen from the courses followed.

To be admitted to the final exam to obtain the qualification, it is necessary to acquire 174 credits.

The thesis must be prepared under the supervision of a teacher in the role of supervisor and is evaluated by a Commission composed of the supervisor and another teacher indicated by him/her. The theme dealt with in the final thesis is agreed with the supervisor, and usually concerns a topic of particular interest to the student or a particularly topical issue, within the framework of the educational objectives of the degree course. The aim of the final exam is also to develop the student's analytical and drafting skills, through constant dialogue with the reference teacher. The Commission can assign a score ranging from 0 to 6 points to the final work, taking into account various factors, including the mastery of the theme, the capacity for critical analysis, the clarity of presentation and the degree of autonomy demonstrated.

The written paper, subject to agreement with the supervisor, can also be presented in English.

The Study Program makes materials available and organizes meetings aimed at providing detailed information and supporting students in preparing the final thesis, regarding the definition of objectives and the retrieval of information, the use of databases, library catalogs and repertoires, to the practical and stylistic rules for drafting the text. These materials also serve to clarify what constitutes a good final thesis in the context of the different areas and disciplines in which the course is organized.

Campus

via Conservatorio, 7 – 20122 Milano

Notes

OFA

In order to fulfil the Additional Learning Requirement (Obbligo Formativo Aggiuntivo ? OFA) for English and sit the English-language exam required by the study plan, students must achieve B2 proficiency per the Common European

Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This proficiency level may be certified as follows:

- By submitting a language certificate attesting B2 or higher level in English and issued no more than three years before the date of submission. You will find the list of language certificates recognized by the University at: (<https://www.unimi.it/en/node/39322/>). The certificate must be uploaded during the enrolment procedure, or subsequently to the portal <http://studente.unimi.it/uploadCertificazioniLingue>;

- By taking a placement test offered by the University Language Centre (SLAM) between October and December of the first year (or in January for single-cycle programmes). Students who fail the test will be required to take a SLAM course. The placement test is mandatory for all those who do not hold a valid certificate attesting to B2 or higher level.

Those who have not taken the placement test by the end of December (end of January for single-cycle programmes) or fail the end-of-course exam six times must obtain the necessary certification privately in order to fulfil the OFA and sit the English exam.

Computer skills

Students who are supposed to earn 3 credits (CFU) for basic computer skills, as provided by their degree programme, have to attend the "Computer Science Course" through the e-learning platform of the project called "3CFU Informatica" accessible at the following link: <https://3cfuinformatica.unimi.it>.

It is a blended course with a compulsory final exam.

The first exam session is scheduled for January, and more will follow according to a calendar to be made available on the course delivery platform.

Students who have already fulfilled an ICT Assessment during their previous studies should submit the related certification to their degree Secretariat, seeking its acknowledgement: it will be evaluated and they will receive a positive or negative feedback.

The "Computer Science Course 3CFU" course is managed by the CTU - Teaching and Learning Innovation and Multimedia Technology Centre.

EXPERIENCE OF STUDY ABROAD AS PART OF THE TRAINING PROGRAM

The University of Milan supports international mobility by providing its students with the opportunity to spend study and internship periods abroad. It is a unique chance to enrich your educational path in a new exciting environment.

The agreements entered into by the University with over 300 universities from the 27 EU member countries under the European Erasmus+ programme allow regularly enrolled students to carry out part of their studies at one of the partner universities or to undertake internships at companies, training and research centres and other organizations.

Similar international mobility opportunities are provided outside Europe, through agreements with a number of prestigious institutions.

Study and internships abroad

We strongly suggest to take advantage of the possibilities offered by the Erasmus+ project.

Our students may spend up to three terms (two semesters) in a foreign university, in the framework of the Erasmus+ agreements signed by the University of Milano. Students can follow the courses offered in partner universities, take their exams, complete their research and write the essay for their final thesis. All these activities will be recognized as part of their duties according to their predefined "Learning agreement".

Our Bachelor program has Erasmus+ exchange agreements with 8 European foreign universities, in the field of social and political sciences, economics, history and law. Some of these agreements are in common with other Ba programmes of the Faculty of Political, Social and Economic sciences. More specifically, we offer up to 24 exchange positions with universities in Spain, 14 in Germany, 14 in France, 5 in Denmark, 2 each for Norway, Portugal and Spain, and 1 in the United Kingdom. In the period abroad students must obtain at least 18 Ects. Before leaving, they will have to prepare their "Learning agreement" together with professor Beatrice Magni, in charge for the Erasmus+ program. After their return, they will have to complete the procedure for the recognition of the Ects earned abroad with the Erasmus office of the Department of Social and Political Sciences.

PROGRAMMA ERASMUS+ TRAINEESHIP

There is even the possibility of paid internships in foreign companies or organizations, for a period of up to 12 months, according to the Erasmus+ placement framework.

How to participate in Erasmus mobility programs

The students of the University of Milan can participate in mobility programmes, through a public selection procedure.

Ad hoc commissions will evaluate:

- Academic career
- The candidate's proposed study programme abroad
- his/her foreign language proficiency
- the reasons behind his/her application

Call for applications and informative meetings

The public selection for Erasmus+ mobility for study generally begins around February each year with the publication of a call for applications specifying destinations and requirements. Regarding the Erasmus+ Mobility for Traineeship, the University of Milan usually publishes two calls a year enabling students to choose a destination defined by an inter-institutional agreement or to find a traineeship position on their own.

The University organizes informative meetings to illustrate mobility opportunities and rules for participation.

Erasmus+ scholarship

The European Union grants the winners of the Erasmus+ programme selection a scholarship to contribute to their mobility costs, which may be supplemented by the University funding for disadvantaged students.

Language courses

Students who pass the selections for mobility programmes can benefit from intensive foreign language courses offered each year by the University Language Centre (SLAM).

<https://www.unimi.it/en/node/8/>

Learn more at <https://www.unimi.it/en/node/274/>

For assistance, please contact:

International Mobility Office

Via Santa Sofia 9 (second floor)

Tel. 02 503 13501-12589-13495-13502

Contacts: InformaStudenti; mobility.out@unimi.it

Student Desk booking through InformaStudenti

1st COURSE YEAR (disactivated from academic year 2025/26) Core/compulsory courses/activities common to all curricula		
Learning activity	Ects	Sector
Contemporary History	9	M-STO/04
History of Political Theories	6	SPS/02
Logics and argumentation	3	M-FIL/02
Microeconomics	9	SECS-P/01
Political Science	9	SPS/04
Public Law	9	IUS/09
Sociology	9	SPS/07
Total compulsory credits		54
Elective courses common to all curricula		
Students must obtain 6 ECTS in one of the following courses		
Advanced Language Skills: Anglo-American is reserved for those who have a placement or certification of English level B2		
Additional Language Skills: French (6 ECTS)	6	ND
Additional Language Skills: German (6 ECTS)	6	ND
Additional Language Skills: Spanish (6 ECTS)	6	ND
Advanced Language Skills: Anglo-American (6 ECTS)	6	ND
2nd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities common to all curricula		
Learning activity	Ects	Sector
Language in Politics	9	L-LIN/12
Macroeconomics	6	SECS-P/01
Political Philosophy	6	SPS/01
Private Law	6	IUS/01
Social Research Methodology	6	SPS/07
Statistics	9	SECS-S/01
Total compulsory credits		42
Further elective courses common to all curricula		
Students must obtain 12 ECTS from elective courses.		
Students must obtain 3 ECTS in one of the following activities: further training activities; internships; workshops		
Computer Science Course	3	INF/01
End of course requirements common to all curricula		
Final Exam	6	NA
Total compulsory credits		6

ACTIVE CURRICULA LIST

Democracy, Public Policies, Justice Course years currently available: 2°, 3°

Law, Integration and Markets Course years currently available: 2°, 3°

Society, Culture, Social Change Course years currently available: 2°, 3°

CURRICULUM: [B19-I] Democracy, Public Policies, Justice

2nd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities Curriculum-specific features Democracy, Public Policies, Justice

Learning activity	Ects	Sector
Applied social research	6	SPS/07
Comparative social policy	9	SPS/04
European Union politics and the European social model	9	SPS/04
Total compulsory credits		24

3rd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities Curriculum-specific features Democracy, Public Policies, Justice

Learning activity	Ects	Sector
Comparative Politics	6	SPS/04
Italian Political System	9	SPS/04
Philosophy and Politics of Law	9	IUS/20
Public Philosophy	9	SPS/01
Total compulsory credits		33

CURRICULUM: [B19-L] Law, Integration and Markets

2nd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities Curriculum-specific features Law, Integration and Markets

Learning activity	Ects	Sector
Comparative private law	9	IUS/02
International Law	6	IUS/13
Law and social change	9	IUS/20
Total compulsory credits		24

3rd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities Curriculum-specific features Law, Integration and Markets

Learning activity	Ects	Sector
European integration and market regulation	9	IUS/05
European Union Law	9	IUS/14
Immigration law	9	IUS/09
Total compulsory credits		27

Elective courses Curriculum-specific elective courses for Law, Integration and Markets

Students must obtain 6 ECTS in one of the following courses

Administrative Law	6	IUS/10
Comparative Public Law	6	IUS/21

CURRICULUM: [B19-P] Society, Culture, Social Change

2nd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities Curriculum-specific features Society, Culture, Social Change

Learning activity	Ects	Sector
Applied social research	9	SPS/07
Media sociology	6	SPS/08
Social Inequality, Stratification and Mobility	9	SPS/07
Total compulsory credits		24

3rd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities Curriculum-specific features Society, Culture, Social Change

Learning activity	Ects	Sector
Culture and Society	9	SPS/08
Institutions, Markets and Society	9	SPS/09
States, Nations and Democracy	9	SPS/11
Total compulsory credits		27

Elective courses Curriculum-specific elective courses for Society, Culture, Social Change

Students must obtain 6 ECTS in one of the following courses

Intimate Relationships, Family and Life Course	6	SPS/08
Sociology of Labour	6	SPS/09

COURSE PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisites between courses:

- a) Private law is preparatory to the Comparative Private Law of Persons and Markets;
- b) Public law is preparatory to Administrative Law, European Union Law, International Law, Comparative Public Law, Immigration Law, Philosophy and Policy of Law;
- c) Microeconomics is preparatory to Macroeconomics;
- d) Political science is preparatory to Comparative Social Policy, Italian Political System, European Political System and Social Model, Comparative Politics;
- e) Sociology is preparatory to Methodology of social research; Culture and society; Inequality, stratification and social mobility; Institutional companies, markets; Emotional relationships, families and life courses; Sociology of communication; Sociology of work; States, nations, democracy; f) Statistics is preparatory to applied social research;
- g) Methodology of social research is preparatory to Applied Social Research;
- h) Contemporary history is preparatory to History and culture of law, History of political and social movements, History of migrations and migration policies, Political and social history of the modern age, History of work.

It is also strongly recommended to take the Statistics exam before Social Research Methodology.

The fulfillment of the additional training obligations (OFA) relating to the access disciplinary skills is preparatory to the second and third year exams.

The fulfillment of the B2 level linguistic training obligations is preparatory to the Language in Politics exam.