



UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION - ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/26
IN
GLOBAL POLITICS AND SOCIETY (GPS) - Classe LM-62
Enrolled 2024/2025

HEADING

Degree classification - Denomination and code:	LM-62
Degree title:	Dottore Magistrale
Length of course:	2 years
Credits required for admission:	180
Total number of credits required to complete programme:	120
Course years currently available:	2nd
Access procedures:	open, subject to entry requirements
Course code:	B76

PERSONS/ROLES

Head of Study Programme

Prof. Manlio Cinalli

Tutors - Faculty

Prof. Enzo Colombo (academic tutor)
Prof.ssa Lisa Dorigatti (tutor for Erasmus programme and Double Degree)
Prof.ssa Ilaria Madama (academic tutor)
Prof.ssa Orsola Razzolini (tutor for internships)

Degree Course website

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

Degree Course E-mail

Email: info.gps@unimi.it

Services for students with disabilities

<https://www.unimi.it/en/study/student-services/services-students-disabilities>

Services for students with Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD)

<https://www.unimi.it/en/study/student-services/services-students-specific-learning-disabilities-sld>

CHARACTERISTICS OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

General and specific learning objectives

Global Politics and Society (GPS) is a two-year master's degree programme, entirely taught in English. Students of this programme will benefit from a multidisciplinary training of the highest quality, aimed at preparing highly-qualified professionals, able to understand and interpret complex social and political dynamics arising in the wake of globalization, within a scenario of increased international interdependences. Core modules will bridge cutting-edge concepts and skills necessary to address key contemporary questions, extending from global geopolitics dynamics to the transformation of societies, from developments in international political economy to changing patterns of social inequalities. Students will then have the opportunity to strengthen their preparation in specific thematic areas, choosing from a wide range of options made possible thanks to the several lines of research that characterize the Department of Social and Political Sciences, which stands out as one of the best performing department for social and political sciences research in Italy.

During the last decades, globalization processes have been challenging the functioning of western societies across a wide range of domains: from political participation and representation to welfare states' structures and labour market regulation; from citizenship's rights and migration, to the threats concerning novel forms of discrimination and exclusion. The complexity, as well as the interdependent nature of those challenges, require professionals able to understand and interpret, in a way that is at the same time rigorous, theoretically informed and methodologically sound, how and in which directions globalization processes are affecting the functioning of contemporary societies and polities.

The master's degree in Global Politics and Society addresses the above-mentioned task, relying on a genuinely

multidisciplinary approach, developed through a coherent path consisting of:

- a core package of six compulsory courses - meant to provide an advanced training in the fields of political science and sociology, complemented by key competences in the area of law and economics (48 credits);
- five elective courses, that allow students to strengthen their competences in specific thematic areas, within a rich offer of options (36 credits);
- other additional elective and optional activities (15 credits);
- a research dissertation (21 credits).

Expected learning outcomes

GPS aims at providing students with the theoretical tools and empirical knowledge necessary for an in-depth and critical understanding of the functioning of contemporary societies and polities. To this end, the master's programme will offer an advanced training in the fields of political science and sociology, complemented with key competences in the area of law, economics and political philosophy.

The programme is designed to achieve the following learning outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding:

By the end of their studies, GPS students will have acquired an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the most recent theoretical developments in various disciplinary fields, ranging from political science and sociology to law, economics and political philosophy, with a view to seize crucial developments for ongoing public debates and policy-decisions. The acquired knowledge and understanding will allow for critical and creative thinking in relation to the global challenges affecting the functioning of contemporary societies and polities, including migration, wars, climate change, poverty and economic recession.

Applying knowledge and understanding:

By the end of their studies, GPS students must have developed the ability to apply the knowledge and understanding acquired to:

- the analysis of global politics and society, identifying major global crises and challenges to be tackled as well as where major opportunities stand for progress in a global world;
- the elaboration of policymaking in all its various stages, with a view to address global crises, challenges and opportunities.

Making judgements:

By the end of their studies, GPS students must be able to make accurate assessments of relevant reasons behind various recipes to address global crises, challenges and opportunities, including different normative understandings about what are the best practices and good standards.

Communication skills:

By the end of their studies, GPS students will be comfortable with the technical languages of different disciplines related to global politics and society. In particular, the programme is aimed at the acquisition of soft skills, such as teamwork, the ability to present in public (including both expert and non-expert audiences) and effectively discuss topics related to political and social dynamics in a globalized scenario.

Learning skills:

By the end of their studies, GPS students will have gained full confidence with use of bibliographic and documentary sources, allowing for further individual development and specialization beyond the life of their studentship within the GPS programme (whether this is about entering the labour market or otherwise continuing tertiary education by undertaking a Ph.D. programme).

Professional profile and employment opportunities

Analyst of social and political phenomena in the global scenario

Function in a work context:

Graduates in Global Politics and Society will be able to analyse - contextualizing them in the global scenario - complex socio-economic and political phenomena that characterize the relational and institutional structure of societies contemporary and pertain to different areas of public policy. The areas of expertise include: the analysis of the transformations induced by the processes of globalization and their own implications both on a global and local scale, the dynamics of discrimination and empowerment processes of discriminated social categories, welfare and anti-poverty policies, labour policies, rights humans.

Skills associated with the function:

Through the educational path, graduates acquire broad critical knowledge of the main social theories of the globalization processes, contemporary dynamics relating to democratization and cooperation processes and development, of intercultural relations and transformation of citizenship, also in relation to social and public rights Work. He also has solid methodological skills, both qualitative and quantitative. The profile of magistrate graduates is characterized by an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the social dimensions, political, juridical, economic and cultural aspects of globalization processes, both as regards relations international and local effects.

The master's graduate in Global Politics and Society therefore possesses advanced knowledge and skills for understand and evaluate the functioning of political institutions in different socio-economic contexts and the implications generated by processes that occur on a global scale.

Employment opportunities:

Global Politics and Society master graduates will be able to pursue several professional careers in one multiplicity of

sectors, proposing themselves as specialists capable of interpreting political, economic and social issues in the global scenario and to develop medium and long-term strategic plans: 1) in the field of research applied, in the field of social and political sciences; 2) at national and international institutions and organizations non-governmental; 3) in public, private or third sector companies operating on the global market; 4) in the sectors information, publishing and cultural industries.

By way of example, they may apply to hold positions of responsibility in public, private or third party bodies sector, inserted in national and international contexts or in the global market, including: public bodies and governmental bodies (Ministries, General Directorates, institutions and bodies responsible for the design, implementation and evaluation of policies social and labour, anti-discrimination policies and cooperation and development policies (both local and international); community and transnational bodies (multilateral agencies of the United Nations, the European Union, the World Bank, the OECD, etc.); non-governmental and third sector bodies engaged in subsidiary actions of implementation of social and labour, cultural, educational and development cooperation policies.

Master's graduates in Global Politics and Society will also acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to access second level masters and/or to continue training at doctoral level, in Italy and abroad.

Pre-requisites for admission

The programme is intended for top-level international students.

Admission is based on academic excellence. Applicants should have a bachelor's degree or equivalent; a strong interest and/or previous studies in political science, sociology or related subjects; a sound knowledge of English language.

The evaluation process will take into consideration the applicants bachelor degree score (or equivalent) as well as the entrance test. The calendar of this entrance test, as well as all details about its delivery, will be posted every year by early spring on the UNIMI website (<https://www.unimi.it/it/corsi/corsi-di-laurea/global-politics-and-society-gps>) as well as on the specific GPS website (<https://gps.cdl.unimi.it/en>). Candidates who do not pass the entrance test can sit again the test the following year.

Applicants who obtained their bachelor's degrees from Italian Universities are eligible for admission only if they hold a "laurea" degree belonging to any one of the "classi di laurea" (degree classes) listed below under the heading "Note 1".

Applicants who completed their undergraduate studies in foreign Universities are eligible for admission if they hold a bachelor's degree in political science, sociology, economics or other broadly related subjects (from history to legal studies, philosophy, and so on), provided that their bachelor's degree may be regarded as equivalent to one of the Italian "laurea" degrees listed below (Note 1).

L-05 Filosofia;

L-11 Classe delle Lauree in Lingue e Culture Moderne;

L-12 Classe delle Lauree in Mediazione Linguistica;

L-14 Classe delle Lauree in Scienze dei Servizi Giuridici;

L-16 Classe delle Lauree in Scienze dell'Amministrazione dell'Organizzazione;

L-18 Classe delle Lauree in Scienze dell'Economia e della Gestione Aziendale;

L-20 Classe delle Lauree in Scienze della Comunicazione;

L-33 Classe delle Lauree in Scienze Economiche;

L-36 Classe delle Lauree in Scienze Politiche e delle Relazioni Internazionali

L-37 Classe delle Lauree in Scienze Sociali per la Cooperazione, lo Sviluppo e la Pace;

L-39 Classe delle Lauree in Scienze del Servizio Sociale;

L-40 Classe delle Lauree in Sociologia;

L-41 Statistica;

L-42 Classe delle lauree in Storia.

Non-native English speakers must be able to demonstrate their knowledge of English. At least a B2 level is required. The possessing of a IELTS or TOEFL will be taken into account. Candidates can also prove their knowledge of English if they have at least one year of university studies at institutions where English is the main language.

The GPS admissions committee will ascertain the B2-level requirement

Programme structure

Teaching modalities and organization

The GPS degree consists in a multidisciplinary programme, by which students must earn 120 ECTS credits to fulfil all requirements. Teaching activity takes place mainly in the form of in-class courses which include frontal lessons, class discussions and class presentations. Further teaching is carried out through occasional lectures, seminars and workshops. In addition, online teaching is possible for supporting in-person teaching as well as the achievement of specific learning objectives

Courses organization

Each GPS course is organized through the delivery of individual modules. Multi-disciplinary courses can be divided into several teaching units that are assigned to different lectures.

Study plan definition and submission

The plan of study refers to the list of academic activities (mainly courses, but also workshops and other elective activities) that a student must complete in view of final graduation. The plan of study is shaped by students themselves, who chose their academic activities in line with GPS formal requirements. Each student must submit at least one plan of study before applying for graduation: the plan of study can be changed by submitting a new one the following year. Submission must be delivered online in February through the Unimia page. Further information on the plan of study is available on the University website: <https://www.unimi.it/en/study/bachelor-and-master-study/following-your-programme-study/plan-study> Further information on other elective activities to develop students' transversal skills are available at <https://www.unimi.it/en/study/bachelor-and-master-study/following-your-programme-study/soft-skills> Furthermore, there are other elective activities introduced by the University project aimed to develop students' transversal skills. Students need to register these activities in their study plan; transversal skills activities have a limited number of seats and students can apply for one of these seats only if the Course of Study has integrated these activities into the program. For further details, please visit the following webpage: Soft Skills | Università degli Studi di Milano Statale ([unimi.it](https://www.unimi.it))

Calendar of teaching activities

Teaching activities are normally divided into three terms. The first term runs from September to December, the second from January to March, the third from April to June. Some elective activities may follow a different calendar.

Lectures timetable

Timetable of academic activities, with the indication of classrooms, is available at https://easystaff.divisi.unimi.it/PortaleStudenti/?view=home&include=homepage&_lang=en

Exams

Click here for information about exam sessions calendar: <https://gps.cdl.unimi.it/en/study/exams>

Compulsory attendance

Attendance is highly recommended

Internship criteria

GPS students can rely on a tutor who can be contacted at info.gps@unimi.it.

As regards more specific information on the Erasmus+ programme, on the Double Degree as well as on internships and other mobility programmes, students will need to contact the dedicated tutors.

Degree programme final exam

Having earned at least 99 credits for the learning activities contemplated by his/her study plan, a student may be admitted to undertake the final exam leading to the award of the master's degree.

A total of 21 credits are reserved to the design, preparation and writing up of the master's dissertation.

The formal assignment of these credits can only take place at the moment when the dissertation is completed and discussed and the final exam is passed.

The final exam consists in the submission and public discussion, in front of a committee, of a master's dissertation.

The master's dissertation is an original piece of work, written by the candidate under the guidance of a supervisor.

EXPERIENCE OF STUDY ABROAD AS PART OF THE DEGREE 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

The degree in Global Politics and Society offers the opportunity to study at several European universities, where students will be able to attend lectures and obtain credits for their degree.

Furthermore, GPS is part of a prestigious inter-university network: the network of European Masters in Labour Studies – EMLS. The other partners of the network are: Université catholique de Louvain, Universität Bremen, Universität Trier, University of Warwick, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Université Toulouse, University College Dublin, Università degli Studi di Firenze, University of Amsterdam, Instituto Universitario de Lisboa, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration of Romania, Univerza v Ljubljani. Each partner has agreed to recognize the teaching and evaluation methods of partner institutions as well as the equivalence of their curricula. Students may attend a semester in one of the EMLS partner universities. Accordingly, any examination passed at any university in the network is fully and automatically recognized.

GPS students may also obtain a double degree, jointly recognized by the University of Milan and the University of Bremen, following a specific path, focused on welfare and employment matters, and attending the first year at University of Bremen.

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

ADMISSION CRITERIA: 1ST YEAR OPEN, SUBJECT TO ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Application and enrolment information and procedures

Applicants, both foreign and Italian holding a bachelor's degree or expecting to obtain it by December 31st, 2024, must apply for admission to the GPS programme from January 22nd to May 31st 2024.

Non-EU applicants not resident in Italy holding a bachelor's degree or expecting to obtain it by December 31st, 2024, must apply for admission to the GPS programme from January 22nd, 2023 till April 30th, 2024 and must submit a pre-application at the Italian Embassy of their own country.

Applicants eligibility will be assessed by their prior academic record, their bachelor degree score (or equivalent) as well as their performance in a written test aimed at ascertaining the applicants' knowledge and competences in the core areas of the GPS programme. As regards applicants expecting to obtain their bachelor degree by December 31st, they cannot be assessed on the basis of their bachelor degree score: in its place, the selection procedure will consider the average score on exams which applicants have taken during their bachelor degree.

Links to enrolment information and procedures:

<https://www.unimi.it/it/node/183/>

Further info's may be found at this link: <https://gps.cdl.unimi.it/en/enrolment>

N° of places reserved to non-EU students resident abroad

30

1st COURSE YEAR (Cancelled since academic year 2025/26) Core/compulsory courses/activities		
Learning activity	Ects	Sector
Global social dynamics	9	SPS/07
Global social inequalities	9	SPS/09

Globalization and cultural diversity		6	SPS/08
International political economy and the welfare state		12	(6) SPS/04, (6) SECS-P/02
Multi-level legal system		6	IUS/07
	Total number of compulsory credits/ects	42	
<i>Elective courses</i>			
Students must earn 18 credits by selecting two of the following alternatives			
Comparative politics and development		9	SPS/04
Economic and social regulation of global workforce		9	SPS/09
Global citizenship		9	SPS/07
Globalization, social justice and human rights		9	SPS/08
Human Rights at Work in International and Comparative Law		9	IUS/07
International migration and immigration policies		9	SPS/10
<i>2nd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities</i>			
Learning activity		Ects	Sector
Global politics		6	SPS/04
	Total number of compulsory credits/ects	6	
<i>Elective courses</i>			
Students must earn 18 credits by selecting three of the following alternatives			
Consumer culture		6	SPS/08
Datatified society		6	SPS/08
Differences, inequalities and the politics of law		6	IUS/20
Employment, inequalities and discrimination in the global labour market		6	(3) IUS/07, (3) SPS/09
Global challenges to democracy		6	SPS/04
Global public policy and the knowledge society		6	SPS/04
Journalism, media and politics		6	SPS/08
Labour markets and globalization		6	SPS/09
Social justice in a global world		6	SPS/01
The welfare state and social innovation		6	SPS/04
Value change and global societies		6	SPS/07
<i>Further elective courses</i>			
Student must earn 6 credits by selecting among the following activities: Foreign language: advanced 3 CFU; Stage 6 CFU			
Advanced Language Skills: French (3 ECTS)		3	ND
Advanced Language Skills: German (3 ECTS)		3	ND
Advanced Language Skills: Spanish (3 ECTS)		3	ND
Data lab		3	SPS/04
Dissertation lab		3	SPS/07
Lab: Asylum from the field: borders, struggles, and integration practices		3	SPS/10
Students must earn 9 credits for elective activities			
Among these activities, students can choose also "Research methods in social and political science"			
Research methods in social and political science		9	(3) SPS/04, (3) SPS/07, (3) SPS/09
<i>End of course requirements</i>			
Final exam		21	NA
	Total number of compulsory credits/ects	21	