UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION - ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/27
MASTER DEGREE
ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE (EPS) (Classi LM-56 R/LM-62 R)
Enrolled in a.y. 2025/2026

HEADING

Degree classification - Denomination and code:	LM-56/62 R
Degree title:	Dottore Magistrale
Length of course:	2 years
Credits required for admission:	180
Total number of credits required to complete programme:	120
Years of course currently available:	2nd
Access procedures:	Open, subject to entry requirements
Course code:	BBF

PERSONS/ROLES

Head of Study Programme

Prof. Tommaso Frattini

Tutors - Faculty

Prof. Francesco Zucchini (Academic guidance tutor)
Prof. Lorenzo Mercuri (Internship tutor)
Prof.ssa Giovanna D'Adda (Erasmus and international mobility tutor)

Degree Course website

https://eps.cdl.unimi.it/en/

Didactic Secretariat

via Conservatorio 7 - 20122 Milano (MI) Italia Email: eps@unimi.it

Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/EPS.EconomicsandPoliticalScience

Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/eps.unimi/

LinkedIn

https://it.linkedin.com/in/msc-in-economics-and-political-science-eps-862068272

Student Registrar

via S. Sofia 9/1 - 20122 Milano (MI) Italia Phone +39 02 5032 5032 https://www.unimi.it/en/study/student-services/welcome-desk-informastudenti

X

https://x.com/eps_unimi

CHARACTERISTICS OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

General and specific learning objectives

The EPS master's programme aims at providing its students with advanced and complete training in both economics and political science. Such training should be comparable to that offered by any leading international master's programme in each of the two disciplines separately taken.

Specifically, the EPS master's programme aims at forming professional economists and political scientists. EPS graduates will not only be endowed with high-level analytical and operational skills, but they will also be characterized by such an open and critical vision of economic, political and social issues, and such a cultural depth that could be hardly achieved by attending a programme centered on a single or a prevailing disciplinary field.

EPS students will be able to reach highly qualified theoretical and applied knowledge and skills in each of the following fields: mathematics, probability and statistics, with applications to economic, political and social sciences; econometrics; game theory; advanced microeconomics; advanced macroeconomics; economic policy; public economics; welfare economics and politics; comparative politics; theory of European integration; positive and normative political theory; social and political choice theory; theory of justice.

Expected learning outcomes

A. Knowledge and comprehension skills

Economic Area

In the area of economics, EPS graduates will have theoretical and operational knowledge and skills at an advanced level in the following fields: microeconomics; macroeconomics; public economics; economics and policy of welfare systems; international economics; development economics; decision theory; game theory.
Courses of study in the area of economics include:
- activities dedicated to the acquisition of specialist knowledge in the fields of economic science and related quantitative methods, as well as of the methods and techniques of economic analysis as a whole;
- the acquisition of advanced knowledge in the field of statistical-mathematical, business and legal sciences;
- knowledge aimed at modelling the economic system;
- advanced knowledge for preparing and conducting projects in the field of economic research.

Students are expected to achieve: i) knowledge of methods, principles and advanced theoretical systems, pertaining the contemporary economic debate; ii) knowledge of different explanations and theoretical perspectives coexisting in economic science; iii) understanding of the most important research strategies in economics; iv) knowledge of the main research results, theoretical developments, and the most relevant contemporary debates in one or more sub-disciplines and specialistic research areas.

Political Science Area

With regard to the area of political science, EPS graduates will have theoretical and operational knowledge and skills at an advanced level in the following fields: economic policy; welfare systems policy; comparative politics; theory of European integration; positive and normative political theory; theory of political and social choice; theory of justice.
Graduates will have a specialised background in the origins, development and functioning of political systems, the diplomatic, economic and political relations between the actors that make up the global political system, the relations between political institutions and public opinion. They will acquire advanced skills concerning:
- the different branches of political science, such as the functioning of national and international political systems, public policy analysis, international relations and the international relations and the science of public opinion;
- comparative social science techniques and methodologies for analysing government and political processes in the contemporary world;
- the historical-theoretical and historical-institutional categories and models needed to understand the dynamics of political-institutional change;
- methods and techniques for comparative, qualitative and quantitative socio-political analysis as well as methods and techniques for economic analysis and
evaluation of public policies;
- the different political, social, anthropological and historical contexts as well as the formation mechanisms of national and international public policies;
- the legal aspects of relations between states.

Students are expected to master: i) knowledge of methods, principles and advanced theoretical systems, pertaining the contemporary political debate; ii) knowledge of different explanations and theoretical perspectives coexisting in political science; iii) knowledge of the main research results, theoretical developments, and the most relevant contemporary debates in one or more sub-disciplines and specialistic research areas.

Quantitative Area
EPS graduates will have at disposal theoretical and practical knowledge and competencies at an advanced level in the following areas: mathematics, probability and statistics applied to economic, political and social sciences; econometrics. Students are expected to master: i) comprehension and expertise in the principal quantitative and qualitative methods applied in economic and political analyses.

In addition, EPS graduates will acquire transversal skills that will enable them to
- demonstrate interpersonal and organisational skills;
- communicate effectively, in written and oral form, in the ways and forms provided by theoretical and applied work;
- fit readily into work environments, demonstrating the ability to work in a team and to make autonomous decisions;
- competently use the main IT and digital communication tools;
- continually update their theoretical and applied knowledge also in relation to technological and environmental changes in

the context of production, organisational and financial context.

B. Application of knowledge and comprehension skills

EPS graduates must be capable of developing the knowledge and competencies achieved in the above areas to draft, produce and evaluate economic and political actions at local, regional, national and international level, with reference to market regulations, incomes distribution, public assets management, welfare goals achievement, security and social services, up to the regulation of economic and political relationships between countries. Graduates should be able to apply all the competencies and knowledge achieved in function of the management and development of ideologically oriented organizations, non-governmental associations, private and public companies and institutions, with particular emphasis on complex structures with high intellectual content international vocation. Furthermore, EPS students should be able to apply the knowledge acquired throughout the master's programme to analyse and evaluate at a professional level the consequences of political decisions and events on the functioning of the economy and the institutions.

The above-mentioned competences and skills are acquired and enhanced first and foremost through the preparatory work (preliminary, in itinere and subsequent) that students are required to carry out in relation to the courses attended, although the lectures and exercises play a major role in this respect, as they enable lecturers to illustrate and exemplify these competences and skills through their own teaching.
Students' preparation involves reading, interpreting and evaluating relevant literature, including texts and research papers. Teachers interact with students, assessing their work in progress (solving exercises, preparing and possibly presenting short essays, etc.) and providing comments and suggestions. Teachers also interact with students outside the activities more directly related to classroom work, demonstrating their willingness to listen to students and provide advice on study methods, exam preparation, etc., during their own office hours, by means of specific appointments agreed upon or by e-mail.
The preparation of the Master's thesis is a further tool through which students can learn to master the combined application of theoretical principles and empirical methods and can also enhance their analytical skills and understanding of the entire research process.

C. Making judgements

Master students will acquire a full capacity of autonomously providing aware judgements on social, political and economic consequences put in place by local, national and international authorities, as well as on the effects of decisions made by companies, organizations and institutions they work within, with particular emphasis on the ethical implications of such actions and decisions. Furtherly, students? goal will be that of learning professional deontological principles which constitute the basis of interpersonal relations within professional contexts, as well as scientific principles and all those behind the resolution of economic, political and social issues which students could come across in their professional future.

The authentically interdisciplinary nature of the EPS degree course is a distinctive feature of the course, fostering the development of autonomous judgement and critical reasoning skills on the part of the students: in fact, the need to deepen methodological approaches and conceptual systems belonging to highly differentiated disciplinary fields (from formal and quantitative disciplines to the multiple substantive disciplines taught in the course, disciplines characterised by largely autonomous and independent traditions of thought, modes of argumentation and content) will encourage students to develop a cultural depth, depth of thought and critical judgement that is quite unusual in a second-level degree course. Similar considerations also apply to the preparation of the Master's thesis: the thesis, in fact, will normally consist of a dissertation covering several disciplines, in the drafting of which undergraduates will have to demonstrate that they are able to critically combine theoretical reflections and empirical analyses relating to multiple fields of knowledge. Furthermore, students will have to actively participate, also through presentations, in interdisciplinary research seminars planned for the second and third trimester of the second year, seminars that will also serve as a forum for discussion to foster the development of autonomous elaboration skills and critical judgement.

D. Communication skills

EPS students will be capable of clearly discussing their opinions and communicate the results of their analysis and evaluations. Students will also achieve the ability to adopt a suitable technical language as well as the most advanced Information and Communication Technology tools in order to analyse, interpret and present data, also using quantitative models in support of their opinions and decisions proposed within working contexts.

Participation in lectures and tutorials, together with the advice and suggestions received from lecturers, will enable students to acquire the skills mentioned above. Students will be able to further develop these skills by carrying out the tasks assigned to them. In particular, the writing of short essays provided for in many of the lectures will enable students to strengthen their written expression skills; classroom presentations in many lectures will enable students to enhance their oral expression skills, also in public contexts. Participation in tutorials will offer students the opportunity to develop their ability to work in groups. The writing of the Master's thesis, combined with participation in the research seminars scheduled for the second and third quarters of the second year, will enable undergraduates to enhance their written and oral communication.

E. Learning skills

The EPS master's programme aims to push its students to the outer reach of the research in the economic and political science areas. The programme intends to facilitate the development of learning skills, as well as the achievement of practical and theoretical skills in order to enable students to conduct their research in compliance with international standards; furthermore, EPS provides all the knowledge and competencies to pursue the studies in economics and political science doctoral programmes and similar.

The EPS degree programme is strongly research-oriented and is intended to foster the development of the potential for independent reflection and study by students. These objectives, which are explicitly pursued through the general approach and focus of the lectures and exercises in all subjects in the two-year programme, will become even more central in the second and third trimester of the second year, when students will be called upon to prepare their dissertations in innovative ways, aimed at strengthening the students' independent research skills: in particular, compulsory participation in research seminars is envisaged in order to facilitate undergraduates in their choice of thesis topic and to help them set up their research work along lines tested by the scientific community.

The acquisition of the above-mentioned competences and skills is first of all judged through the assessments made at the end of the various teachings included in the curriculum. For each teaching, the assessment of individual learning results from a combination of judgements based, on the one hand, on the assessment of the activities carried out by the student during the relevant teaching period and, on the other hand, on a final written and/or oral examination; the weights used to weigh the two types of judgement may vary from one course to another. The Master's thesis provides a further opportunity to assess the expected learning outcomes.

Professional profile and employment opportunities

The EPS degree is designed to train students in advanced methodologies, analytical tools and quantitative and qualitative techniques used in all fields of economics and political science. EPS graduates will be ready to undertake a wide array of career paths in multinational companies, political institutions, public organizations, and other professions demanding high intellectual skills, robust technical competencies and versatile knowledge. They will also be well prepared to engage in further academic research in top PhD programmes.

Professional profiles:
The EPS degree is designed to train students in covering the following professional profiles: manager in Public Administrations, companies and institutions; human resources specialist; organization specialist; marketing specialist; economic systems specialist; business economics specialist; researcher in social and political sciences; diplomat.

Function in a work context:
Also due to the fully international orientation of the training received, graduates in Economics and Political Science will be able to find qualified jobs in large and medium-sized companies, especially in those operating in high-tech sectors and with a multinational vocation, in all organizational structures that require high and multifaceted analytical skills, in banks, insurance and financial companies, in central and territorial public bodies, in market regulation and control authorities, in consultancy firms, in freelance activities in all sectors of competence. Master graduates of the EPS course will also have the most suitable training and professional profile to operate at a qualified level in the editorial, cultural and media industries, in financial, political and cultural journalism, in national and international economic organizations, in public and private companies of forecasting and research, in the study centers of banks and insurance companies and in research centers. In particular, the theoretical and methodological training of EPS graduates, as well as their openness to the debate of the international scientific community, makes them suitable for undertaking academic career paths in Italian and foreign universities both in the economic area and in the political science one.

Skills associated with the function:
It is expected that the EPS graduates will be able to propose themselves in the profession as experts of high-level qualification, with multifaceted and versatile knowledge, able to successfully undertake managerial careers in all sectors of economic activity, in private companies, in public bodies, in governmental institutions, but also able to successfully continue their studies as researchers and scientists.

Employement opportunities:
The strong interdisciplinarity of the study path, which combines economics and political science and takes up the challenge of modern societies' complex situations, gives to the master's graduates the concrete possibility of finding employment, for instance, as:
- diplomat
- academic
- officer in international organizations
- officer in public administration
- manager in multinational companies and financial institutions.

Initial knowledge required

The programme is intended for top level international students.

About 40 students are expected to enroll each year, which guarantees an optimal ratio between professors and students.
Admission is based on academic excellence. Applicants should have: a bachelor's degree or equivalent; a strong interest and/or previous studies in economics, political science or related subjects; undergraduate or graduate training in mathematics and quantitative methods; a sound knowledge of spoken and written English. The evaluation process will take into consideration the applicants' prior academic record and their performance at the interview (see below).
Applicants who obtained their bachelor's degrees from Italian Universities are eligible for admission if they hold a degree belonging to any one of the degree classes ("classi di laurea") listed below.
Applicants who completed their undergraduate studies in foreign Universities are eligible for admission if they hold a bachelor's degree in economics, political science, or other broadly related subjects, provided that their bachelor's degree can be regarded as equivalent to one of the Italian degrees listed below.

Eligible candidates must meet the following requirements:

a) Graduates from the following degree classes, as well as the corresponding classes related to D.M. 509/99 and/or 270/04:

L-16 Scienze dell'amministrazione e dell'organizzazione
L-18 Scienze dell'economia e della gestione aziendale
L-20 Scienze della comunicazione
L-33 Scienze economiche
L-36 Scienze politiche e delle relazioni internazionali
L-37 Scienze sociali per la cooperazione, lo sviluppo e la pace
L-41 Statistica

may be admitted to the Master's degree in Economics and Political Science provided they hold at least 24 CFU in SSD: SECS-P/01 to SECS-P/13; SECS-S/01 to SECS-S/06; MAT/01 to MAT/09; SPS/04.

Graduates from other classes will also be able to access the course provided they hold at least 30 CFU in SSD: SPS/01 to SPS/14; SECS-P/01 to SECS-P/13; SECS-S/01 to SECS-S/06 or MAT/01 to MAT/09, of which:
- at least 6 credits in MAT/01 to MAT/09 and/or SECS-S/06;
- at least 6 credits in SECS-P/01 to SECS-P/06 and/or SPS/04.

Those who have not acquired the 6 CFU in mathematical/statistical disciplines (but hold the 6 CFU in the fields of economics or political science), will be able to meet the requirements for admission by attending a pre-course in mathematical/statistical subjects, that will be held before the beginning of the regular classes, or by attending and passing the examination of a single course offered by any university, including the University of Milan. Similarly, those who have not acquired the 6 CFU in the fields of economics or political science (but hold the 6 CFU in the fields of mathematics-statistics), will be able to meet the admission requirements by attending pre-courses in economics-political science, which will be held before the beginning of the regular classes, or by attending and passing the examination of a single course offered by any university, including the University of Milan.
In any case, all the conditions for admission outlined above must be fulfilled before enrolling in the master’s program, which must be completed by 31 December of the year of registration.

b) Proficiency in English at a B2 level or higher per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is required for admission.
The B2-level requirement will be ascertained by the University Language Centre (SLAM) upon admission as follows:
- Language certificate of B2 or higher level issued no more than three years before the date of admission application. 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 when submitting the online application;
- English level achieved during a University of Milan degree programme and certified by the University Language Centre (SLAM) no more than four years before the date of admission application, including levels based on language certificates submitted by the applicant during their Bachelor?s degree at the University of Milan. In this case the process is automatic, the applicant does not have to attach any certificates to the application;
- Entry test administrated by the University Language Centre (SLAM) according to the calendar published on the website: (https://www.unimi.it/en/node/39267/)
All those who fail to submit a valid certificate or do not meet the required proficiency level will be instructed during the admission procedure to take the Entry test.
Applicants who do not take or pass the Entry test will be required to obtain a language proficiency certificate recognized by the University (see https://www.unimi.it/en/node/39322) and deliver it to the SLAM via the InformaStudenti service by the deadline fixed for the master?s programme (https://www.unimi.it/en/node/39267/).
Applicants who do not meet the requirement by said deadline will not be admitted to the master's degree programme and may not sit any further tests.

c) GRE or GMAT results, if provided by applicants, will be taken into account.

Applicants meeting the above requirements will be invited to an online interview.

Compulsory attendance

Students are required to attend at least 50% of teaching activities. Students attending internships or international mobility programs (e.g. Erasmus+, etc.) are exempt. Moreover, students with particular health conditions or motivated job necessities can request a partial exemption to the Didactic Board.

Internship criteria

Students can attend an internship of 3 ECTS, which requires approximately 1 month (or 100 hours) to be completed. More information can be found at: https://eps.cdl.unimi.it/en/study/stage-and-internship

Degree programme final exams

In order to be admitted to the final exam, students must have acquired at least 105 ECTS.
The final exam consists in the public discussion (in front of a committee) of the master's dissertation, which is an original piece of work independently investigated and developed by the candidate under the guidance of a supervisor. A total of 15 ECTS are reserved to the preparation, elaboration and writing of the master's dissertation.

Notes

Among the electives, those who do not hold an Italian high school diploma or degree can obtain 3 credits in Additional language skills: Italian by demonstrating A2 level in Italian per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This level can be assessed in one of the following ways:
- by submitting a certificate of A2 or higher level issued no more than three years prior to the date of submission. You will find the list of language certificates recognized by the University at: https://www.unimi.it/en/node/349/). The language certificate must be uploaded through the dedicated Platform: http://studente.unimi.it/uploadCertificazioniLingue;
- by an entry-level test administrated by SLAM that can be taken only once and is compulsory for all students who do not have a valid language certificate. Those who fail to reach A2 level will have to attend one or more than one 60-hour Italian course(s) geared to their level. Those who do not take the entry-level test or fail to pass the end-of-course test after six attempts will have to obtain language certification privately in order to earn the 3 credits of Additional language skills: Italian.
As an alternative, they can modify their course programme by choosing a different elective.

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 organisations.

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

The University of Milan is a member of the 4EU+ European University Alliance that brings together eight public multidisciplinary universities: University of Milan, Charles University of Prague, Heidelberg University, Paris-Panthéon-Assas University, Sorbonne University of Paris, University of Copenhagen, University of Geneva, and University of Warsaw. The 4EU+ Alliance offers integrated educational pathways and programmes to promote the international mobility of students (physical, blended and virtual).

Study and internships abroad

The degree in Economics and Political Science offers the opportunity to study at several European universities, where students will be able to attend lectures and obtain credits for their degree.
Our partners are selected among the most prestigious academic institutions in France (SciencesPo), Germany (University of Konstanz, University of Heidelberg), Norway (University of Oslo), and other European countries. A bilateral agreement with the Catholic University of Louvain and the Université de Namur (Belgium) allows a limited number of students to obtain a Double-Degree in Sciences Economique and Economics and Political Science issued by the participating institutions.
The modules offered by partner Universities include core subjects and disciplines of Economics and Political Science such as Industrial Organization, Welfare Economics, European Law, Comparative and International Politics. The choice of modules is made by students before their departure in collaboration with the programme coordinator; the credits are recognized officially and included in the curriculum at the end of the exchange period.
The degree in Economics and Political Science also offers the opportunity to participate in internship programmes at institutions such as the OSE - Observatoire Social Européen, and other similar positions at the Social Platform in Brussels. Internships may also award student credits to be included in their curriculum.

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 organises 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;
Student Desk booking through InformaStudenti

1st COURSE YEAR (disactivated from academic year 2026/27) Core/compulsory courses/activities common

Learning activity		Ects	Sector
Advanced Macroeconomics		6	SECS-P/01
Advanced Microeconomics		6	SECS-P/01
Comparative Politics		9	SPS/04
Game Theory		6	SECS-P/01
International Economic Law		6	IUS/13
Mathematical Methods		6	SECS-S/06
Statistics, Econometrics and Logic for Economic and Political Sciences		12	(6) SPS/04, (6) SECS-P/05
	Total compulsory credits	51	

Elective courses

Students must earn 9 credits by selecting one of the following alternatives:

Comparative Welfare States		9	SECS-P/03
Empirical Methods for Economics and Policy Evaluation		9	(3) SECS-P/03, (6) SECS-P/01

2nd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities common

Learning activity		Ects	Sector
Firms in International and Developing Markets		12	SECS-P/08
Positive Political Theory		9	SPS/04
	Total compulsory credits	21	

Elective courses

Students must earn 6 credits by selecting one of the following alternatives:

Governance of the European Union		6	SPS/04
Social Justice in a Global World		6	SPS/04

Further elective courses

Students must earn 15 credits for elective activities.

Second year students may choose, among others, the following elective activity for 6 credits:			
Dynamic Macroeconomics		6	SECS-P/01
Students must earn 3 credits by selecting one of the following alternatives: Foreign Language - advanced; Computer skills - advanced; Internship; Laboratory; Orientation Seminar.			
Additional Language Skills: Italian (3 ECTS) *Optional, for foreign students holding a foreign qualification*		3	NN
Advanced Computer Skills		3	INF/01
Advanced Language Skills: French (3 ECTS)		3	NN
Advanced Language Skills: German (3 ECTS)		3	NN
Advanced Language Skills: Spanish (3 ECTS)		3	NN
Laboratory: Introduction to Coding and Data Management for Economics and Political Science		3	INF/01
Orientation Seminar		3	SECS-P/01
End of course requirements			
Final Exam		15	NN
	Total compulsory credits	15	