UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION - ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/27
MASTER DEGREE
MIGRATION STUDIES AND NEW SOCIETIES (Classe LM-90 R)
Enrolled in a.y. 2025/2026

HEADING

Degree classification - Denomination and code:	LM-90 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:	BBM

PERSONS/ROLES

Dean of Faculty

Prof.ssa Chiara Ragni

Tutors - Faculty

Academic Guidance Tutor: Daniele Mandrioli, Cecilia Siccardi; Erasmus Tutor: Chiara Ragni

Degree Course website

https://migrations.cdl.unimi.it/

Didactic Secretariat

Via Conservatorio, 7, first floor Phone 0250321251 Front office by appointment

Front Office International Affairs

Via Passione 13, first floor. Phone 0250321024 Wednesday and Thursday from 10 to 12 Email: Teams: internationalaffairsoffice.dilhps@unimi.it (by appointment) internationalaffairsoffice.dilhps@unimi.it

Student registrar

Via S. Sofia 9/1 - 20122 Milano (MI) - Italia https://www.unimi.it/en/study/student-services/welcome-desk-informastudenti

CHARACTERISTICS OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

General and specific learning objectives

The Master's Degree Course in Migration Studies and New Societies, entirely in English and structured in the form of a of the Joint Degree, is conducted in cooperation with the Universities of Warsaw and Prague (Charles). It is part of the training activities proposed in the framework of the 4EU+ European University Alliance and provides, in compliance with the requirement for Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM), that students acquire at least 30 ECTS (corresponding to one semester) at each partner university (first in Milan, then in Warsaw and finally in Prague, and then decide where to spend the last semester).

The final objectives of Migration Studies and New Societies is to provide students with an in-depth understanding of social and political opportunities and challenges posed by global and intra-EU migration and to enable them to acquire competences and analytical tools for interpreting complex political or socio-economic phenomena in a critical way and for appraising their normative, social, political and anthropological implications.

On the basis of the knowledge acquired during the training course, the graduated students will be therefore able (i) to contribute to the actions of international and national governmental and non-governmental organisations and bodies, (ii) to handle tasks and functions concerning the management of migration flows and the integration of migrants, with particular expertise in the European scenario (thus, in full coherence with the objectives of the degree in European Studies).

Accordingly, the programme supports the acquisition of methodological tools for examining empirical phenomena, for explaining their dynamics, and for anticipating their evolution as well as the reinforcement of logic and argumentative skills.

The interaction between lecturers and students coming from different European countries aims at fostering educational learning pathways based on dialogue between subjects with different nationality, experience and background.

The teaching activities of the Master's Degree in Migration Studies and New Societies are mainly organised in seminars and they are designed to follow a student-centered approach, by using innovative teaching methods (e.g.: flipped classroom,

laboratory teaching, clinics, case-studies, etc.), in full accordance with the guidelines issued by the "4 EU+ European University Alliance" programme.
At the end of their studies, the students will obtain a single diploma for the three universities, which will indicate, for each country, the degree class of reference (for the University of Milan LM-90 Studi europei, for the Charles University: Master's Degree in Social Sciences; for the University of Warsaw: Master's Degree in Artes Liberales).

Expected learning outcomes

The graduates in Migration Studies and New Societies will acquire:

a) Knowledge and comprehension skills

- the capability to address issues related to the phenomenon of migration, thus strengthening the competencies achieved during their first cycle of studies. This unique learning pathway allows students to further develop high awareness, critical thinking and individual capacity to explore new visions, concepts, methods and tools to foster:
- conscious decision-making processes in the promotion of migration policies and regulations;
- the performance and coordination of tasks in the management of migration flows and the integration of migrants;
- the capability to well-contextualize and read the phenomenon of migration through the cognitive and methodological tools of the disciplines of law, sociology, economics, language, geo-politics and anthropology;
- multidisciplinary methodological skills in particular, of a legal, sociological, linguistic and geopolitical nature in order to deal with complex situations and to develop innovative strategies related to the integration of migrants and the promotion of their human rights, always bearing in mind the global and inter-generational dimension characterising the phenomenon of migration.

b) Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

The graduates in Migration Studies and New Societies will be able to:

- use their skills of comprehension and management of migration and cultural diversity in the fields of public administrations, supranational and international institutions, public and private companies (especially those of a transnational nature), law firms, no-profit organisations and public and private centres of research;
- use their scientific knowledge to advance concrete strategies for the management of legal or illegal migration flows. This also entails their capacity of availing of theoretical concepts for the development of many operational aspects regarding the multidisciplinary facets of the phenomenon of migration;
- design, monitor, and evaluate actions aimed at fostering an effective, humanitarian, and safe european migration policy, in full compliance with the objectives set forth by the European Union in this area;
- adopt methodologies, techniques, tools and communication processes designed for addressing innovative, interdisciplinary and multicultural issues related to the phenomenon of migration;
- properly use the English language, both written and spoken, in an international and multicultural work environment, as well as a second language at least at a level sufficient for basic communication.

c) Autonomy of judgement

The graduates in Migration Studies and New Societies will be able to:

- take autonomous and innovative decisions, also on the basis of limited or incomplete information, in order to address the issues concerning the management of migration flows, the integration of the migrants and the related socio-cultural challenges;
- integrate the ethical dimension into decision-making processes and the application of their knowledge and skills.

In this respect, the interaction among students coming from different cultural and disciplinary backgrounds should improve decision-making and reasoning processes free from cognitive bias characterising national background.

e) Communicative skills

The graduates in Migration Studies and New Societies will be able to:

- communicate in fluent English, with appropriate technical language, in an international and multicultural work environment;
- communicate (in English) to migrants coming from very different national, cultural and social backgrounds. This is thanks to the fact that enrolled students will receive an advanced training properly thought for the migration scenario. They will, moreover, be able to choose suitable topics of their interest, in order to develop comprehension and communication skills with particularly vulnerable interlocutors;
- communicate, in a clear and unambiguous manner, their knowledge and research results to specialist and non-specialist interlocutors;
- write (in English) texts, reports and projects dealing with the phenomenon of migration. This capability will be implemented through (i) the drafting of written documents; (ii) their discussion in the classroom with lecturers and the fellow students; (iii) the activities carried out during the compulsory training internship; (iv) and the drafting and discussion of the master's thesis.

f) Learning skills

The graduates in Migration Studies and New Societies will be able to:

- critically elaborate the notions and methodologies learned;
- develop a personal study-method, thus enabling them to keep up-to-date and further develop the knowledge obtained.

These skills are implemented through student-based educational experiences properly designed for empowering the student's awareness in dealing with research and work activities, in particular through (i) the discussion and the deepening in class of current issues about migration; (ii) the drafting of research papers evaluated by the lecturer(s); (iii) the in-depth study of the topics covered during the teachings and, finally, (iv) the writing of the master's thesis.

Professional profile and employment opportunities

The identification of professional opportunities is based on the analysis of the labour market and territorial needs.
In particular, the consultation with the stakeholders revealed a general interest in the integration of graduates with an in-depth knowledge of the migration phenomenon, its dynamics and issues related to the reception and integration of migrants in the field of international organizations, public administration, as well as in the field of integration and reception of migrants, but also in the private sector, in companies where the need for job placement and inclusion of the migrant person is felt.
Interest confirmed by the data concerning more generally the degree class in European studies, which show that 79% of graduates find permanent employment five years after graduation, both in the public sector and in the private sector (see Alma Laurea data, on the degree class in European studies). Unlike the other courses of the same degree class, however, the course aims, as suggested by the social partners, to develop two skills highly required by the labour market:
a) the acquisition of communication skills, including digital, suitable for the context, accompanied by the ability to relate to the migrant in an empathic way and respectful of linguistic and cultural diversity;
b) the acquisition of skills in the field of job orientation and human resources with skills suitable to deal with the specific situation of migrant workers.
This expertise can be made available to the private sector, as well as the public sector.
In the light of the market analysis carried out, the following professional figures are to be trained:

1) Officer in migration policies and flow management in the PA and international organizations

"Function in a work context":
The course aims to train professional figures able to contribute to the development and implementation of public intervention policies in the field of migration, reception, and management of flows. These competences are required in European and international institutions, as well as in public administrations at ministerial, regional, and local level.

"Competences associated with functions":
The interdisciplinary skills learned during the course provide the graduate with a holistic approach useful for identifying the most effective strategies to promote and implement policies in this field.
Specifically, the course aims to develop the skills required by international organizations and public administrations to implement effective policies. Particular attention is paid to the enhancement of digital, communicative, and linguistic skills with particular reference to the migration context.
In addition, thanks to the skills acquired in the course offered, the graduate can conduct research and prepare reports in relation to applicable legislation and policies.

"Career opportunities":
The expert in migration policies can find an adequate professional position, after passing any competition tests where provided, within European and international organizations, as well as state administrations (national, regional, and local), public bodies, public companies.
The course is addressed, on the one hand, to the traditional actors operating in the migration landscape, primarily international and European organizations (such as, among others, the UNHCR, the IOM, the European Commission) and national institutions (Ministry of the Interior, prefectures, territorial commissions); on the other hand, the course aims to respond to the request for new professionals competent in the management of the migration phenomenon, which can be used in public bodies (even if not specifically operating in the reception sector).

2) Operator in the field of the third sector, reception, and integration

"Function in a work context":
The course aims to train experienced operators who can operate in non-profit organizations (including non-profit organizations, NGOs, associations, and social cooperatives), established at local, national, European and international level, and in associations working in the world of hospitality and integration.
The graduate will perform functions of consultancy and design of reception paths and support in the field to the activities of the reception centers.

"Competences associated with functions":
The course aims to provide interdisciplinary, legal, sociological, psychological, anthropological linguistic skills, to prepare the graduate for the multiple challenges that the reception of the migrant poses. Thanks to the skills acquired in the course, the student will be able to face both the phases of the first reception and support for the presentation of the application for protection, and the phases that aim at integration, job placement, access to services (welfare) and the stay of the migrant. Particular attention is paid to the strengthening of linguistic and relational skills with reference to reception procedures.

"Career opportunities":
The operator can find a professional place within associations, social cooperatives, non-profit organizations, including non-profit organizations, NGOs established at local, national, European, and international level, which operate in the field of reception and integration of migrants.

3) Specialist and consultant in diversity management and job orientation

"Function in a work context":
The course aims to train professional figures in the field of job orientation and human resources with skills suitable to deal with the specific situation of migrant workers. The graduate can be employed both in the business world and in the public sector in various activities such as: job orientation, management of employment contracts, participation in union negotiations, the development of corporate welfare plans, considering the needs of migrant workers.

"Competences associated with functions":
The course aims to develop legal skills (at international, European, comparative), economic, sociological, and linguistic level for the management of the employment relationship in its different phases, for the management of personnel, individual and collective disputes with specific reference to migrant workers.

"Career opportunities":
The expert in diversity management and job orientation can find a place, both in the public sector and in the business sector, as an operator of employment services and active labour policies, as a consultant for job orientation, in the management of human resources and labour strategies.
In addition, the graduate will be able to find space as a consultant within institutions and organizations in public administrations or third sector bodies, which offer, for example, counter services. Furthermore, advice can also be carried out in the context of the profession, in favour of individuals or companies.

4) Expert on migration issues in the field of communication

"Function in a work context":
The course aims to train professional figures in the field of communication and media, with specific skills in relation to the representation of the migration phenomenon. These skills are required both in journalism (on paper, radio, television, online), and in the field of public, institutional, and political communication. The graduate in Migration Studies and New Societies will be able to prepare informed studies and reports based on studies and research conducted with the methodologies provided by research in the social and anthropological field, to guarantee a correct representation of the migrant.

"Competences associated with functions":
The courses taught during the course aim to train methodological, linguistic, digital communication skills to study and represent the migration phenomenon in an informed, correct, aware and effective way.

"Career opportunities":
The graduate will be able to find a position as an expert in journalism and multimedia communication, as a social media manager, or as an expert in political and institutional communication in different sectors: in the world of journalism, in newspapers on paper, online, or radio; in communication agencies; in public administrations or third sector bodies that intend to develop a conscious communication on migration, in the field of scientific research, also in the academic context.

Initial knowledge required

The candidates applying for the Joint Master's Degree in Migration Studies and New Societies must:
- meet specific curricular requirements;
- be proficient in English;
- have adequate personal knowledge and background.

In particular, candidates must:

1) Hold, or obtain before 31 October 2025, at the latest, a first cycle degree (three years/bachelor = 180 ECTS), released in Italy or abroad, in other disciplines, providing that the candidate has adequate competences in at least two of the following academic fields: Political Science, Economics-Statistics, Law. For student holding an Italian first cycle degree, it implies to have acquired at least 42 ECTS in one or more of following scientific sectors, defined in accordance with national classification:
- for LAW: IUS/02 Comparative private law; IUS/08 Constitutional law; IUS/09 Public law; IUS/13 International law; IUS/14 EU law; IUS/21 Comparative public law.
- for ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS: M-GGR/02 Economic and political geography; SECS-P/01 Economics; SECS-P/02 Economic Policy; SECS-S/01 Statistics; SECS-S/03 Economic Statistics; SECS-S/04 Demography; SECS-S/05 Social Statistics.
- for POLITICAL SCIENCE: SPS/04 Political Science; SPS/07 General Sociology; SPS/08 Sociology of culture and

communication; SPS/09 Econonomic Sociology and Sociology of work and organizations.

2) Show proficiency in English at a B2 level or higher per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).
The B2-level requirement will be ascertained by the Admissions Board upon admission as follows:
- Language certificate of B2 or higher level issued no more than three years before the date of admission application. The list of language certificates recognized by the University may be consulted 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 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.

3) Have strong personal competencies.
The adequacy of the candidates' competencies is assessed by the Admissions Board:
- based on the academic performance of the candidate and consistency of the programme with her/his previous studies, professional or other relevant experiences, and career plans;
- through a personal interview to be held by the Admissions Board exclusively from remote provided that the applicant satisfies the curricular and language requirements. Applicants selected for the interview will receive a notification with all the relevant instructions (date, time, online platform to use).

The Admissions Board is composed by at least one teacher for each partner University.

Compulsory attendance

Attendance of at least 70% of classes is compulsory for all taught courses. Motivated exceptions and waivers may be requested to the Didactic Board in exceptional circumstances.

Internship criteria

Students must attend an internship with learning objectives that are consistent with the programme, as determined by the Didactic Board.
Internships may be carried out in Italy or abroad.
While students are required to find autonomously the internship opportunities which meet their interests and expectations, the Programme may facilitate this process by disseminating information on relevant available positions, including those reserved to the students of the Master.
The duration of the internship (150 hours) corresponds to a certain number of hours for ECTS (usually 25 hours = 1 ECTS), which can be carried out either as part of an internship experience in institutions, companies, public or private organizations, or through participation in workshops activated at each of the partner universities in collaboration with stakeholders.

Degree programme final exams

Once earned at least 105 credits for the learning activities included in his/her study plan, a student may be admitted to undertake the final exam leading to the award of the Joint Master’s degree.
A total of 15 credits are reserved to the design, preparation and writing up of the master’s dissertation. The preparation includes the attendance of a Diploma Seminar at the Charles University, which is aimed at providing students with methods and research tools. The dissertation must be an original piece of work of an adequate level of originality and persuasiveness, written by the candidate under the supervision of one Professor of the Programme. It elaborates on a topic covered by the programme and should preferably be developed in connection with the work done during the internship.

The formal assignment of 15 ECTS can only take place when the dissertation is completed, publicly discussed and when the final exam is passed.
A final graduation mark is assigned by the Graduation Board. It takes into account the student’s academic performance (average marks) and the assessment of the final exam

Campus

The lessons of the Master's degree in Migration Studies and New Societies are carried out in person and are mainly organised in seminars, following a student-centered approach and using innovative teaching methods (e.g.: flipped classroom, laboratory teaching, clinics, case-studies, etc.), in full accordance with the guidelines issued by the "4EU+ European University Alliance" programme.

The schedule and the venue of the courses will be shared with students at the beginning of each semester and published also on the website of the partner Universities - Charles University (Prague) and University of Warsaw.

The number of examination sessions depends on the administrative rules of each of the partner university. In any case, a minimum of five sessions distributed in different periods of the academic year is generally expected.

Notes

To obtain the degree, those who do not hold an Italian high school diploma or degree must demonstrate proficiency in Italian at the A2 or higher level per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This level must be

demonstrated prior to completing the course programme 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;

- via 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 to the show of proficiency of digital competences, students must attend a course organized by the University of Warsaw in the second semester of the first year and to obtain the final certification released upon successful attendance.

EXPERIENCE OF STUDY ABROAD AS PART OF THE TRAINING PROGRAM

Students must attend an internship with learning objectives that are consistent with the programme, as determined by the Didactic Board.

Internships may be carried out in Italy or abroad.

While students are required to find autonomously the internship opportunities which meet their interests and expectations, the Programme may facilitate this process by disseminating information on relevant available positions, including those reserved to the students of the Master.

The duration of the internships depends on the number of ECTS to acquire:

9 ECTS for students holding an Italian Language Certificate (see above);

6 ECTS for those that must attend an Italian course.

The duration of the internship corresponds to a certain number of hours for ECTS (usually 25 hours = 1 ECTS), which can be carried out either as part of an internship experience in institutions, companies, public or private organizations, or through participation in workshops activated at each of the partner universities in collaboration with stakeholders.

Study and internships abroad

The Master's degree in Migration Studies and New Societies offers experiences of student-mobility of the duration necessary to get the 30 ECTS at each of the partner universities.
In order to ensure a great and effective support for students, this Master Degree has been structured following all the requirements provided by the Erasmus+ Guidelines for the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's Degrees. During the time required for obtaining the EMJM grants, students may rely on Erasmus+ scholarships, allocated on the basis of the specific agreements concluded with the partner universities involved the 4EU+ European University Alliance (https://www.unimi.it/en/international/university-milan-world/international-agreements), which may be supplemented by the University funding for disadvantaged students.
It is therefore expected that students will spend at least one of the four semesters at each of the partner universities. The University of Milan dedicates special services, including front office services, for the students attending the international programs, such as the Master’s Degree in Migration Studies and New Societies (International Mobility and Promotion Office; Front office Erasmus Desks in different areas). Highly qualified administrative staff, with specific expertise both on disciplinary areas and on individual mobility programs and initiatives, may help students in dealing with all the issues related to student-mobility.
As already told, then, the course provides for the achievement of a Joint Degree. At the end of their studies, the students will obtain a single diploma for the three universities, which will indicate, for each country, the reference degree class (for Italy the LM-90 – Studi europei).

How to participate in Erasmus mobility programs

Information can be found at the following link: 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 2026/27) Core/compulsory courses/activities common

Learning activity		Ects	Sector
Constitutional Rights of Migrants in a Comparative Perspective		9	(6) IUS/08, (3) IUS/21
Economics of Migration		6	SECS-P/01
European and International Migration Law		9	(6) IUS/13, (3) IUS/14
Geopolitics of Migrations		6	SPS/04
Narrating and Negotiating Identities		6	(3) L-LIN/10, (3) L-LIN/12
Political Philosophy of Migration		6	SPS/01
Social Science Methods		6	SPS/07
	Total compulsory credits	48	

Elective courses

Students may choose one of the following learning pathways:
A) International Migration and Policies
B) Civil Society and Integration
C) Social Anthropology of Space and Mobility

A) It is part of the learning pathway "International Migration and Policies" the following course:		
Globalization as Risk and Opportunity	6	SPS/04
B) It is part of the learning pathway "Civil Society and Integration"the following course:		
People on the Move in Fiction and Non- Fiction Literature	6	L-FIL-LET/14
C) It is part of the learning pathway "Social Anthropology of Space and Mobility" the following course:		
Social Partecipation and Intercultural Communication	6	M-DEA/01

3 ECTS:
The credits are obtained as follows:
Students not having previously obtained a degree in Italy: knowledge of Italian language (level A2).

2nd COURSE YEAR Core/compulsory courses/activities common

Learning activity		Ects	Sector
Diploma seminar 6 ECTS		6	NN
	Total compulsory credits	6	

Elective courses

Students may choose one of the following learning pathways:
A) International Migration and Policies;
B) Civil Society and Integration;
C) Social Anthropology of Space and Mobility

A) They are part of the learning pathway "International Migration and Policies" the following courses:		
Migration Policies	9	SPS/10
Policy Analysis	9	SPS/04
Policy Analysis Methods	6	SPS/08
B) They are part of the learning pathway "Civil Society and Integration" the following courses:		
International Migration and Social Integration	9	SPS/10
Migration and Media	6	SPS/08
C) They are part of the learning pathway "Social Anthropology of Space and Mobility" the following courses:		
Ethnography in Practice	6	M-DEA/01
Transnational Lives and European Identities	9	M-DEA/01
Understanding Identity and Belonging	9	SPS/07

Further elective courses

3 ECTS - Other useful skills for entering the job market: a module among the following offered by UNIW:
Visual representations of migrants and diaspora cultures;
Ethics of vulnerability;
Human rights: a juridical and philosophical perspective

Elective Activities chosen by the students: 12 ECTS. Students – at their discretion – may take the following suggested activities.		
EU Labour Migration Law	6	IUS/07
Medicolegal Aspects of Migration	6	MED/43
Workshop:"Human Traffiking/Smuggling"	3	SPS/07
Show of proficiency of digital competences: 3 ECTS		
Internship		
Internship (students not having previously obtained a degree in Italy)	6	NN
Internship: (students having previously obtained a degree in Italy)	9	NN

End of course requirements

Final exam		9	NN
	Total compulsory credits	9	