UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION - ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/26
BACHELOR
BREEDING ABD WELFARE OF COMPANION ANIMALS (Classe L-38 R)
Enrolled in 2025/2026 academic year

HEADING	
Degree classification - Denomination and code:	L-38 R
Degree title:	Dottore
Curricula currently available:	PET BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT / EQUINE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT
Length of course:	3 years
Total number of credits required to complete programme:	180
Years of course currently available:	1st
Access procedures:	Cap on student, student selection based on entrance test
Course code:	HAC

PERSONS/ROLES

Head of Study Programme
Prof. Alessandro Bagnato

Head of Degree Course Coordination Council / Board
Prof. Alessandro Bagnato

Tutors - Faculty
Tutor per l'orientamento: dott.ssa Simona Cannas
Tutor per la mobilità internazionale e l'Erasmus: prof. Gabriele Brecchia
Tutor per i piani di studio: prof. Alessandro Bagnato
Tutor per stage e tirocini: prof.ssa Alessia Giordano
Tutor per laboratori e altre attività: prof.ssa Valentina Lodde
Tutor per tesi di laurea: prof.ssa Alessia Giordano
Tutor per trasferimenti: prof. Alessandro Bagnato
Tutor per riconoscimento crediti: prof. Guido Grilli

Degree Course website
https://abaa.cdl.unimi.it/it

Via dell'Università, 6 Lodi informastudenti nei seguenti giorni: mercoledì dalle 9 alle 12 tramite piattaforma Teams - Giovedì dalle 13 alle 15 in presenza. https://www.unimi.it/it/studiare/servizi-gli-studenti/segreterie-informastudenti

CHARACTERISTICS OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

General and specific learning objectives

The Degree Program in Breeding and Welfare of Companions Animals contains theoretical knowledge and enables the acquisition of the necessary practical skills needed to operate in the technical, hygienic, reproductive and economic management of the pet breeding, including equines, ornamental animals and animals used for sport, assistance and services.
The course provides skills for monitoring and verifying the welfare conditions of animals, in compliance with current legislation and to protect them; graduates are able to assess the physiological, functional and behavioral attitudes of animals.
Graduates are able to manage the reproduction and selection and to apply artificial insemination techniques; also possess skills for the formulation and preparation of diets for animals according to their physiological and health status. They are able to identify pathological conditions that require veterinary intervention and to ensure the correct application of therapeutic prescriptions. Moreover, graduates acquire the main laboratory analysis technique and apply them for the prevention and control of animal diseases.

Descrizioni in inglese degli sbocchi professionali cds

The graduate works as an employee and / or entrepreneur and / or consultant in:

- pet and ornamental animal breeding;
- stables and horse farms;
- feed and pet food companies;
- companies providing services (genetic, nutritional, reproductive) to animal farms, including dog and horse training;
- breed associations and professional organizations;
- public and private associations that use animals for recreational, educational, sporting and assistance activities;
- public and private veterinary analysis laboratories;
- national and international sector organizations.

Professional profile and employment opportunities

The graduate works as an employee and / or entrepreneur and / or consultant in:

- pet and ornamental animal breeding;
- stables and horse farms;
- feed and pet food companies;
- companies providing services (genetic, nutritional, reproductive) to animal farms, including dog and horse training;
- breed associations and professional organizations;
- public and private associations that use animals for recreational, educational, sporting and assistance activities;
- public and private veterinary analysis laboratories;
- national and international sector organizations.

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).

How to participate in Erasmus mobility programs

How to participate in Erasmus+ mobility programmes

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 Core/compulsory courses/activities common to all curricula

Learning activity		Ects	Sector
Anatomy of companion animals		7	VET/01
Biochemistry		8	BIO/10
Chemistry, biology and genetics		11	(3) AGR/17, (5) CHIM/03, (3) BIO/05
English assessment B1 (3 ECTS)		3	ND
Mathematic and physics		10	(4) FIS/07, (6) MAT/02
Principles of business administration and management		6	AGR/01
Veterinary physiology		7	VET/02
	Total compulsory credits	52	

2nd COURSE YEAR (available as of academic year 2026/27) Core/compulsory courses/activities common to all curricula

Learning activity		Ects	Sector
Comparative animal nutrition and nutritional evaluation of feedingstuff		8	AGR/18
Elements of stables building and technologies for animal management		6	(3) AGR/09, (3) AGR/10
General comparative pathology and laboratory analysis		9	VET/03
General microbiology, immunology and farming hygiene		9	VET/05
genetic improvement of companion animals		6	AGR/17
Morpho-physiology		6	(3) VET/01, (3) VET/02
Parasitology and toxicology		13	(7) VET/07, (6) VET/06
	Total compulsory credits	57	

3rd COURSE YEAR (available as of academic year 2027/28) Core/compulsory courses/activities common to all curricula

Learning activity		Ects	Sector
Animal welfare legislation		6	VET/08
Breeding, management and morphological evaluation		12	AGR/19
Marketing and business strategy		6	AGR/01
Practical training		6	NA
	Total compulsory credits	30	

Elective courses common to all curricula

	3	AGR/18
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Alternative, innovative and unconventional feeds	3	AGR/18
Analysis of food of animal origin for food safety purposes	3	VET/04
Basic concepts of molecular pathology	3	VET/03
Biochemical techniques for the analysis laboratory	3	BIO/10
Breeding management of oultry local breeds	3	AGR/20
Breeds and products of animal origin	3	AGR/17
Ecoparasitology and interaction between domestic and wild animals	3	VET/06
Evolution of petfood palatability	3	AGR/18
Feed legislation	3	VET/08
Laboratory methods for infectious diseases prevention	3	VET/05
Management of animals in Animal Assisted Interventions	3	AGR/19
Management of animals in Animal Assisted Interventions	3	VET/02
Neonatal management in dogs, cats and horses	3	VET/10
Physiology, Behaviour and Welfare of Dogs and Cats in their interactions with humans.	3	VET/02
Practical aspects to interact and manage efficiently the beef and dairy cattle farms	3	AGR/18
Principles of hygiene and prevention of infectious and parasitic diseases of unconventional pets	3	(1.5) VET/06, (1.5) VET/05
Protection of the health and welfare of dogs, cats and unconventional pets	3	VET/08
Protection of the health and welfare of equids	3	VET/08
Reproductive and Embryo technologies for biodiversity preservation in companion animals	3	(1) VET/10, (2) VET/01
Small ruminants: nutrition and products quality	3	AGR/18

End of course requirements common to all curricula			
Final exam		5	NA
	Total compulsory credits	5	

ACTIVE CURRICULA LIST

PET BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT Course years currently available: 1°
EQUINE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT Course years currently available: 1°

Procedure for choosing a curriculum

The choice of curriculum can be made by submitting the study plan within the deadlines indicated on the site: https://XXX.cdl.unimi.it/it/studiare/presentato-piano-di-studio

CURRICULUM: [HAC-A] PET BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT

3rd COURSE YEAR (available as of academic year 2027/28) Elective courses Curriculum-specific elective courses for PET BREEDING AND MANAGEMENT		
Bioethics and informatics	6	(3) M-FIL/03, (3) INF/01
Cat and dog feeding and petfood production	6	AGR/18
Management of inherited diseases behavior and welfare of cat and dog	6	(3) AGR/19, (3) AGR/17
Prevention of infectious and parasitic diseases of cat and dog	6	(3) VET/06, (3) VET/05
Rearing, management and feeding of non-conventional pet animals	6	(3) AGR/18, (3) AGR/20
Reproduction of cat and dog	6	VET/10

CURRICULUM: [HAC-B] EQUINE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT

3rd COURSE YEAR (available as of academic year 2027/28) Elective courses Curriculum-specific elective courses for EQUINE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT		
Elements of podology and equine macalcia	6	VET/09
Equine genetics, behaviour and welfare	6	(3) AGR/19, (3) AGR/17
Feed raw materials, nutrition and feeding of horses	6	AGR/18
Functional and metabolic evaluation of the sport horses	6	VET/08
Horses reproduction	6	VET/10
Prevention of infectious and parasitic equine disease	6	(3) VET/06, (3) VET/05

COURSE PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

The course contains the following obligatory or advised prerequisites

Learning activity	**Prescribed foundation courses**	**O/S**
Comparative animal nutrition and nutritional evaluation of feedingstuff	Biochemistry	Core/compulsory
Parasitology and toxicology	Anatomy of companion animals	Core/compulsory
	Veterinary physiology	Core/compulsory
General comparative pathology and laboratory analysis	Anatomy of companion animals	Core/compulsory
	Veterinary physiology	Core/compulsory