

STUDYING AT THE SCUOLA SUPERIORE SANT'ANNA

The Italian university system: a brief profile

- The first cycle (*Laurea - LA*) takes 3 years for a total of 180 ECTS. It leads to a Bachelor of Science equivalent degree (UK);
- The second cycle (*Laurea Specialistica / Laurea Magistrale - LS*) takes 2 years for a total of 120 ECTS. It leads to a Masters of Science equivalent degree (UK);
- The third cycle (*Dottorato or Perfezionamento*) takes 3 years for a total of 180 ECTS. It leads to a PhD equivalent;
- In addition to the first cycle, the Italian system provides a 1-year course (minimum of 60 ECTS) leading to a first level Specializing Masters (MA);
- In addition to the second cycle, the Italian system provides a 1-year course (minimum of 60 ECTS) leading to a second level Specializing Masters (MA).

Specializing Masters do not give access to third-cycle programmes. The credits earned with a Specializing Masters may in some instances be recognised as part of an LS degree.

For further information visit: www.study-in-italy.it and www.cimea.it/

What courses are on offer at Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna?

The Scuola offers the following advanced courses for university students, graduates and professionals in these areas: Agricultural Sciences, Engineering, Medical Sciences, Economics and Management, Law, Political Sciences. Please visit www.sssup.it for an up-to date list of the courses available. To ensure standards of excellence, admission to courses is subject to a public competitive examination.

- Starting from academic year 2009/10, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna is offering Masters Science jointly with other Italian or foreign universities, which lead to

Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, the main entrance





The cloister of the Scuola

Master Degrees (Laurea Magistrale) jointly awarded by Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna together with the other university involved. Courses are totally taught in English

- Undergraduate Courses (Corsi ordinari) – for *Honors College Students* attending the University of Pisa. Although several courses at Scuola are taught in English, regular courses at the University of Pisa are taught in Italian. Therefore knowledge of Italian is mandatory for foreign students wishing to enrol as Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna *Honors College Students*.
- The Scuola offers Doctoral Programmes both in the form of “*Corsi di Perfezionamento*”– leading to a degree fully equivalent to a PhD as well as International Doctoral Programmes, often involving various forms of collaboration and joint ventures with foreign universities. Doctoral Programmes focus on research areas of particular scientific and social importance, special attention being paid to innovation and the uses of new technologies. Under a special agreement, students can obtain a joint degree from the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna and a foreign university. Most of the Scuola PhD courses are taught in English.
- The Scuola offers a wide variety of “Masters” (Master of Arts (MA) degrees): after an LA or an LS, students can attend a specialization MA, at a first or second level respectively (usually of one- year duration / 60 credits), which will generally include an internship. University Masters and international Masters courses are aimed at furthering knowledge and expertise in innovative areas with strategic importance for the manufacturing and industrial world as well as for the national institutions and international organisations. All the Masters courses have a strong interdisciplinary and applied approach. Please note that the MA degrees are not equivalent to a Masters of Science equivalent degree (UK). Most of the Scuola master courses are taught in English.
- The Scuola offers short Training Courses on various issues (Peace-keeping, Human Rights, insurances, social policies, health and management, environment, etc.) mostly open to students coming from any part of the world.

How can I enrol?

Students may enrol as as *Honors College Students* only after having successfully completed a highly selective competition. The Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna publishes calls for applications (www.sssup.it) for competitive examinations, stating the number of students that will be admitted and the selection methods for admission to the specific course or programme.

Do I have to pay a tuition fee?

Honors College Students (Students attending Corsi ordinari) do not have to pay a tuition fee and will be hosted totally free of charge at the Scuola Colleges.

Students enrolled in a Master of Science should pay a tuition fee; fellowships may be available for talented candidates of any citizenship.

The students attending Master courses usually have to pay a tuition fee as well, although fellowships are often available. PhD students usually receive a fellowship. For more detailed information please visit www.sssup.it.

Do I need to come to Pisa for the entrance exams?

Only if you are interested in enrolling as an *Honors College Students* ("Laurea") you need to spend several days in Pisa to take both the written and oral exams.

Admission to the other courses is based on an entrance exam for students from European countries, while students from non-European countries are usually selected on the basis of their CV and proposed research programme (see www.sssup.it for details). Detailed rules for admission are available on www.sssup.it.

I am interested in the student exchange programmes: can I spend several months at Scuola Sant'Anna?

The Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna Courses, Programmes and activities are open to visiting and foreign students: the Scuola envisages and fosters the widening of its International relations as a condition for a complete and innovating education.

In addition to several international agreements with prestigious institutions and universities, since 2007 the Scuola was conferred the EUC (European University Charter) and is therefore able to participate to the activities settled by the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) as a strategic mean to develop mobility of students and professors.



Scuola, the main Campus



Interiors of the Scuola



Entrance of Palazzo Toscanelli

Can I do an internship in a company in Italy or abroad during my stay at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna?

Both *Honors College Students* and doctoral students can spend an internship period in Italy or abroad as provided for by courses rules and grants are envisaged for the aforesaid period. The Placement Service (e-mail: placement@sssup.it) provides full-time and post-graduate students with the necessary support to establish relationships of collaboration with the world of labour. In particular, this service:

- collects and announces the offers for periods of training and of vacancies;
- collaborates with the companies as regards their recruitment needs;
- organizes meetings with the companies;
- makes the knowledge of professional roles easier to understand;
- offers a documentation centre.

Is career counselling available?

Every student is assisted by a tutor throughout the whole course period. It is an important help offered to the students, created in order to provide the necessary educational guidance and establish a direct and informal relationship between the student and the professor, creating concrete opportunities and chances for early contacts and experiences in research and Laboratory activities.