

## Rules governing Final Examinations

### International Master's Degree in Language, Society and Communication (LSC)

For students enrolled up to and including the 2018/19 cohort (enrolled in their first year of study up to and including the 2018/19 academic year).

In the case of transfers/transfers/abbreviations of courses, the rules of the year in which the transfer is made apply.

While the general set of rules laid down by the University Teaching Regulations (*Regolamento didattico d'Ateneo*) are maintained, the International Master's Degree in LSC hereby stipulates the following:

1. Students must agree upon a topic with their Supervisors: the graduation thesis must be related to a subject pertaining to a Scientific-Disciplinary Sector among those offered by the Degree Course Teaching Regulations (*Regolamento didattico del Corso di Studio*). Hence, while choosing the field of inquiry, the student must refer to the courses of his/her study plan; in any case, the topic must be connected with one of the two foreign languages and cultures that she or he has studied.

Students are required to agree on the topic with their Supervisor within a reasonable time, no later than six months before applying for graduation. Candidates must organise their research responsibly and must progressively submit the sections of their thesis on a regular basis: when they apply for graduation they must ensure that their Supervisor already possesses all the necessary elements to assess the work on the basis of an almost completed version. In any case, students must hand in the definitive version of their thesis no later than 7 days before the Admission Requirements Deadline.

2. Supervisors: professors of subjects belonging to a teaching activity falling within the Teaching Planning of the University of Bologna, as long as their research activity is coherent with the Degree Course Objectives. This Degree Programme Board is entitled to evaluate this coherence.. Co-Supervisors: these may also be merely experts of the subject (*Cultori della materia*) or professors/researchers from other Universities (including foreign Universities). All students must have both a Supervisor and a Co-

Supervisor: at least one of them must belong to the Department of Languages, Literatures and Modern Cultures and preferably to the Master's Degree in Language, Society and Communication (LSC).

The Degree Course Council may consider special cases, provided that they are adequately motivated. In those cases, as soon as the Supervisor and Co-Supervisor have been identified, a specific request must be sent by e-mail to the Degree Course Director, both in hardcopy and electronic form (PDF or signed document scanning).

3. With reference to Art. 1, the Final Thesis must deal with a topic related to one of the two foreign languages and cultures that the student has studied, at least to some extent: such topics must be investigated in a written paper of a minimum of 50 to a maximum of 60 pages (not including possible appendices, text corpora, material documentation etc.)

4. The discussion on the final thesis will be held:

- in one of the two languages that the candidate has studied (if the topic she or he has chosen is related to one of the two languages): in this case either the Supervisor or the Co-Supervisor must necessarily belong to a Scientific-Disciplinary Sector of "Language and Translation" or must be perfectly capable of carrying out this task. In particular circumstances, the Supervisor can choose to have a second Co-Supervisor who is a language expert.
- In English, if the topic is related to a non-linguistic activity.

In both cases, the abstract must be written in English.

In particular circumstances, the Supervisor can choose to have a second Co-Supervisor who is a language expert.

5. The thesis is assessed on the basis of several criteria: textual clarity, argumentative consistency, formal accuracy, originality of results, research autonomy – e.g., in compiling one's bibliography, in structuring and developing one's work, as well as in writing up the thesis. The student's performance in the discussion will also affect the global assessment.

With reference to these considerations, the final mark will be determined. This – in accordance with the University Teaching Regulations – is not strictly bound by the weighted average of marks obtained in exams. Although this average is taken into account, the final examination mark will be based on the written dissertation and its oral exposition when the thesis is discussed.

In the event that the thesis commission agrees that the work deserves a higher mark, the weighted average can be integrated up to a maximum of 7 points (including any bonus for international mobility, as specified below). The bonus for mobility abroad is awarded to students who have completed mobility abroad through one of the mobility programs offered by the University of Bologna (including field agreements and / or framework agreements) starting from the academic year 2010/11 until the students enrolled in the cohort of academic year 2018/19 and have obtained the recognition of:

- at least 12 CFU for a period of study in mobility at the Russian State University for Humanistic Studies (RSUH), the University Friendship of Peoples (RUDN) in Moscow and the State University Jugozapadnyj of KURSK - RUSSIA , the Federal University of Kazan
- at least 9 CFUs for a mobility study period with exchange projects with China (Dalian University of Foreign Languages; China's University of Political Science and Law (CULP); East China University of Science and Technology (ECUST)) or Japan

Under all other mobility programmes:

- at least 18 CFU for a period of study in mobility per study;
- or
- at least 6 CFU for a period of internship in mobility;
- or
- at least 12 CFU for a period of mobility for the preparation of the final exam (including recipients of scholarships for theses abroad).

6. Any honours ('lodi') obtained in the examinations will not add to the final score: the 'Summa cum laude' merit awarded to the final grade of 110/110 – which shall be agreed between the Supervisor and the Co- Supervisor in any case – can be given exclusively at the request of one of the

commission and must be unanimously approved by all members of the commission.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

A teacher on leave cannot be either Supervisor or Co-supervisor. An untenured teacher can be either Supervisor or Co-supervisor.

A retired teacher cannot be a Supervisor, he\she can be a Co-supervisor only if declared "Cultore della materia".

*Approved by decree of the Coordinator of the Course of Study on 04.07.2019, it modifies, cancels and replaces the previous versions.*