Here are the answers to the most frequently asked questions. If you don't find the answers to your doubts, contact the Course Director or the Tutor. You can find their <u>contact information on this page</u>.

What are the specialization areas of the International Master's Degree in Physics at Unimore?

How to enroll?

Do I have to wait until I have completed the bachelor's degree to request the evaluation of the curriculum?"

How is the interview taking place?

Are there elective courses? Do I have to decide at the beginning of the master or can I change my mind?"

Is it possible to recognize courses from previous university studies?

Do you have international mobility programs? Can I participate in Erasmus?

What does international study program mean?

Is a certification of English language proficiency required?

Is the International Master's Degree in Physics a closed-number program?

Is It possible to enroll in the Master's Degree in Physics with a bachelor's degree in a field different from physics."

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How many enrolled students are there?

I'm a working student. Is there a possibility to attend classes online? Is there a specific program designed for me?"

What does enrolling part-time mean?

What is the students' opinion of this study program? Is it possible to speak with the professors and obtain further information?

What are the specialization areas of the International Master's Degree in Physics at Unimore?

The International Master's Degree in Physics is organized into three curricula:

- <u>Theoretical and Computational Physics</u>
- Experimental Nano-physics and Quantum Technologies
- Biophysics and Applied Physics

Within each curriculum, it is possible to design a highly flexible personalized study plan, for instance by specializing in one of the following areas:

- <u>Theoretical physics of fundamental interactions</u>
- <u>Theoretical-computational physics of condensed matter</u>
- Nanophysics and nanotechnologies
- Quantum science and technologies
- <u>Physics of biological systems</u>

The courses are taught by recognized experts in their respective research fields, including visiting professors from foreign scientific institutions, thanks to a dense network of international collaborations.

How to enroll?

The call is published annually <u>on this page</u>. Registrations typically open in July. To enroll, it is sufficient to register on <u>ESSE3</u> and request the evaluation of the study curriculum. Subsequently, the admission committee may summon the candidate for an interview, which may also take place online.

Do I have to wait until I have completed the bachelor's degree to request the evaluation of the curriculum?"

"No. It is actually advisable to request the evaluation of the curriculum in advance. In the case of a positive evaluation, which is naturally non-binding for the student, enrollment can be completed after obtaining the bachelor's degree."

How is the interview taking place?

"The possible admission interview is aimed at guiding candidates in choosing the study plan that best suits their scientific and cultural interests."

Are there elective courses? Do I have to decide at the beginning of the master or can I change my mind?"

Physics is a particularly flexible Master's program, with few or no mandatory exams (depending on the chosen curriculum). Most courses can be chosen from a wide range of elective courses, and the selection can be revised each semester. Additionally, each curriculum includes two 'free choice' exams that can be taken from other curricula or study programs (e.g., mathematics, engineering, chemistry, etc.) for a genuinely interdisciplinary education. Of course, it is also possible to take exams in excess to gain recognition for a specific competence not already part of one's curriculum."

Is it possible to recognize courses from previous university studies?

Yes. After enrollment, it is possible to request the recognition of **courses** completed within other Master's level study programs in Italy or abroad."

Do you have international mobility programs? Can I participate in Erasmus?

Yes. It is possible to participate in the Erasmus program (you can find <u>information on our Erasmus network and calls here</u>). Additionally, you can take part in the <u>double-degree program</u> with Radboud Universiteit in Nijmegen, earning both the Italian <u>Master's degree in Physics and the Dutch M.Sc. in Physics and Astronomy from the Redboud Universiteit in Nijmegen</u>."

What does international study program mean?

It means several things:

- All teaching activities are conducted in English (lectures, exams, thesis defence);
- Foreign students are admitted;
- Some of the teaching staff consists of visiting professors from foreign universities;
- The study program has a <u>double-degree agreement</u> with the <u>M.Sc. Physics and Astronomy program in</u> <u>Nijmegen</u>.

Is a certification of English language proficiency required?

No. The language proficiency may be assessed during the admission interview. The University Language Center offers <u>free English language courses at the B2 level</u> for students enrolled or intending to enroll in Physics.

Is the International Master's Degree in Physics a closed-number program?

No. The International Master's Degree in Physics is an open-access study program.

Is It possible to enroll in the Master's Degree in Physics with a bachelor's degree in a field different from physics."

Yes. To enroll, it is necessary to have acquired 50 ECTSs (University Credits) in different physics sectors. These can be obtained, at least partially, within study programs in other disciplines (Engineering, Mathematics, Chemistry, etc.). The recognition of physics ECTSs is assessed case by case, taking into account the detailed programs of the completed exams.

Those who have already decided to apply for enrollment in the Master's Degree in Physics during their bachelor studies usually can acquire missing credits among the elective exams of their bachelor's degree program. Those who have already obtained a bachelor's degree can acquire missing CFUs before enrolling in the Master's Degree in Physics by registering for individual courses (up to three single courses). Alternatively, they may be admitted with the condition of attending and passing specific courses.

It is always advisable to <u>contact the Course Director or Tutor</u> well in advance to assess own situation and receive personalized guidance, preferably before completing the bachelor's studies.

Are there special programs available for particularly motivated students?

Yes. Those interested in international mobility, in addition to the <u>Erasmus program</u>, have access to a <u>double-degree program</u> leading to the attainment of both the Master's Degree in Physics from Unimore and the <u>M.Sc.</u> <u>in Physics and Astronomy</u> awarded by <u>Radboud Universiteit</u>. Additionally, there is an <u>Honors program</u> dedicated to students who have excelled during their first year of study, a program conducted in collaboration with the <u>Graduate School in Physics and Nanoscience</u> to attend an additional educational program on the most current topics in physics research, which is recognized as a qualification in admission applications to the Graduate School in Physics and Nanoscience."

Exactly what is this double-degree program?

It is an international study program agreed upon between the International Master's Degree in Physics at UNIMORE and the <u>M.Sc. in Physics and Astronomy</u> awarded by <u>Radboud Universiteit</u> (Nijmegen, NL). It allows students to attend one year at each of the two institutions and simultaneously obtain both degrees. Admission to the double-degree program is through a selection process at the beginning of the master's biennium. You can find more information and contact the reference professor <u>on this page</u>.

How is the academic degree obtained? How is the thesis conducted?

After completing almost all the exams, it is possible to start the path leading to the degree by contacting individual professors to discuss a possible thesis project. Every year, meetings are held for all students to illustrate the scientific research directions of the department's groups, with specific indications for possible thesis projects. Typically, the student is integrated into a research group and carries out planned daily activities under the supervision of the advisor or other members of the research group. At the end of a period that usually lasts about six months, the thesis is written in English to present the results of the project. The thesis is

finally presented through a seminar open to the public. The procedures for obtaining the degree are explained in detail <u>on this page</u>.

What happens after the master's degree?

The <u>employment situation for master's graduates in physics</u> is particularly favorable. The degree opens doors to numerous areas of the job market. Master's physicists are quickly absorbed by companies in all high-tech sectors, even in the local area. The professors' extensive connections with companies facilitate an effective job placement. Physics studies are also an excellent choice for those motivated to teach, with specific courses recognizable in the teacher training program. Those aspiring to a career in scientific research can continue their education with a Ph.D. at the <u>Graduate School in Physics and Nanoscience</u>.

How many enrolled students are there?

The Master's Degree in Physics welcomes around twenty new students each year. The faculty-to-student ratio is high, and a daily interaction with professors and other researchers is possible, especially during the thesis project. The <u>Director and the Tutor</u> are always available to provide personalized guidance in the choice of studies.

I'm a working student. Is there a possibility to attend classes online? Is there a specific program designed for me?"

The classes are all held in person. However, attendance is not mandatory, and it is possible to graduate without attending (except for laboratory classes). Professors **will** provide all the materials for independent study, and they are always available for discussions and clarifications. Working students often choose to enroll part-time: the courses for each year are spread over two years, with a personalized study plan. The annual fees are also distributed over two years."

What does enrolling part-time mean?

It means dividing an academic year into two. For each part-time year, the exams to be taken are spread over two years, with a personalized study plan. Accordingly, the annual fees are also distributed over two years. This is a choice often made by working students or those who, for any reason, cannot attend and study regularly.

What is the students' opinion of this study program? Is it possible to speak with the professors and obtain further information?

You can find the <u>results of anonymous surveys completed by students</u> at the end of each course. The satisfaction level is very high. It is always possible to contact the <u>Course Director or the Tutor</u> for a personal or online meeting, obtain further information, or visit the departmental facilities.