



Admission procedures graduate degree programme

Faculty of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences

Degree programme in **Agricultural and food economics** (Class LM-69/LM-70)

Academic year 2024/2025 - Cremona Campus

English language programme

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1. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To access the graduate degree programme in Agricultural and food economics is subject to the admission requirements set out in the following paragraphs.

1.1 Curricular requirements

To access the graduate degree programme in Agricultural and food economics, **it is necessary to have the requirements under A or the requirements under B:**

A. **Undergraduate degree** in one of the following classes under Ministerial Decree 270/04 (or in the corresponding classes provided for in the former Ministerial Decree 509/99) obtained, or to be obtained, by the **last graduation session of the home university in the academic year 2023/2024:**

- L-2 Biotechnology (formerly D.M. 270/04 or class 1 ex M.D. 509/99);
- L-13 Biological sciences (formerly D.M. 270/04 or class 12 ex M.D. 509/99);
- L-18 Economics and business management sciences (ex D.M. 270/04 or class 17 ex M.D. 509/99);
- L-25 Agricultural and forestry sciences and technologies (ex D.M. 270/04 or class 20 ex M.D. 509/99);
- L-26 Agro-food sciences and technologies (ex D.M. 270/04 or class 20 ex M.D. 509/99);
- L-33 Economics (formerly D.M. 270/04 or class 28 ex M.D. 509/99);
- L-38 Zootechnical sciences and animal production technology (ex D.M. 270/04 or class 40 ex D.M. 509/99);
- L-GASTR Science, culture and politics of gastronomy;

B. **Undergraduate degree** (ex D.M. 270/04 or ex D.M. 509/99) obtained, or to be obtained, by the **last graduation session of the home university in the academic year 2023/2024** and at least **32 ECTS** in the study plan of an undergraduate degree or of a first-level university specialising master, or as single courses passed, from the scientific-disciplinary fields below:

- at least 8 ECTS in basic science and agri-food technology: AGR/01, AGR/02, AGR/03, AGR/04, AGR/07, AGR/11, AGR/12, AGR/15, AGR/16, AGR/17, AGR/18, AGR/19, BIO/01, BIO/02, BIO/04, BIO/05, BIO/10, CHIM/01, CHIM/02, CHIM/03, CHIM/06, CHIM/10, FIS/01, FIS/02, FIS/03, FIS/07, MED/42, MED/49;
- at least 8 ECTS in mathematical and statistical disciplines: MAT/01, MAT/02, MAT/03, MAT/05, MAT/06; SECS-S/01, SECS-S/03, SECS-S/04, SECS-S/06, INF/01;
- at least 8 ECTS in the analysis of economic and organisational mechanisms in the agri-food system: SECS-P/01, SECS-P/02, SECS-P/06, IUS/03, IUS/04, IUS/13, IUS/14;
- at least 8 ECTS in economics and business management: SECS-P/07, SECS-P/08, SECS-P/09, SECS-P/10, ING-IND/35.

Up to 16 ECTS may be missing from those required. The degree programme coordinator reserves the right to assess whether the required teaching content has been covered in the programme syllabus and, if necessary, to define an ad hoc study plan. Candidates will receive appropriate communication.

The syllabus of candidates with a pre-reform university degree or a three-year university degree or a diploma from a three-year school for special purposes of pre-Ministerial Decree regulations 509/99 or integrated specialisation/graduate degree programme from post-Ministerial Decree 509/99 - MINISTERIAL DECREE 270/04 is assessed by a special Committee appointed by the Faculty.



1.2 Knowledge of the English language

In addition to the **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS** listed above, it is mandatory to have an adequate knowledge of English, corresponding to at least a B2 level. It is therefore necessary to hold one of the following **English language certifications obtained as of 1 January 2022**:

- TOEFL/IBT (with a score of at least 84);
- Academic IELTS (with a score of at least 6.0);
- Cambridge English: First - FCE;
- Cambridge English: Advanced - CAE;
- Cambridge English: Proficiency - CPE;
- Cambridge English: Business English Certificate (BEC Vantage and BEC Higher);
- Trinity College London: Integrated Skills in English (from ISE II);
- Pearson PTE Academic (with a score of at least 65)

or one of the following requirements:

- an undergraduate degree obtained or to be obtained in English;
- undergraduate profiles/programmes taught in English at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore;
- coming from one of the undergraduate degree programmes (ex D.M. 270/04) of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore with an English Language test (SeLda) in the study plan with level B2.

In case of lack of the indicated certifications or requirements, it is necessary to take an *online English language proficiency assessment test*, within the deadlines for opening the application form (see paragraph 3 **ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES**), organised by the SELDA Language Service of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. The dates and how to register are indicated in the appropriate [notice](#).

Only after having reached at least a B1+ level will it be possible to proceed with the booking of the interview to verify the adequacy of personal preparation.

WARNING: Candidates who pass the online English language proficiency assessment test at B1+ level or hold one of the following **English language certificates obtained after 1 January 2022**:

- TOEFL/IBT (with a score of at least 75);
- Academic IELTS (with a score of at least 5.5);
- Cambridge English: PET with merit;
- Cambridge English: Business English Certificate (BEC Preliminary with merit);
- Trinity College London: Integrated Skills in English;
- Trinity College London: Integrated Skills in English (from ISE B1+);
- Pearson PTE Academic (with a score of at least 50)

a curricular supplement of English language is assigned at the interview.

1.3 Adequacy of personal preparation

The adequacy of the personal preparation referred to in Art. 6(2) of Ministerial Decree 270/2004 **is not directly recognised** and an **interview** is scheduled in accordance with the procedures set out in section 4 below **INTERVIEW TO VERIFY THE ADEQUACY OF PERSONAL PREPARATION**.

2. NUMBER OF PLACES

For the graduate degree programme in Agricultural and food economics, places are **open access**, within the limits of available resources.

3. ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES



The places on the graduate programme in Agricultural and food economics are allocated following **interview to verify the adequacy of personal preparation**, within the limits of available resources.

Applicants with an Italian qualification must use the [Enrolment Portal](#), for the procedure to follow please consult the [Enrolment Portal User Guide](#).

Applicants with a foreign qualification must comply with the provisions issued by the Ministry of University and Research, which have been made public in an appropriate note. For information on admission to the graduate degree programme in **Agricultural and food economics**, candidates should contact the International Admissions Office and check the admission procedures at <https://international.unicatt.it/ucscinternationa-graduate-programs-2-year-graduate-degrees-in-english>

3.1. Interview to verify the adequacy of personal preparation

APPLICATION SUBMISSION: from 12 February 2024 to 4 December 2024

Candidates:

- possessing the curricular requirements under A
- possessing **all** curricular requirements under point B
- in the **absence** of certain curricular requirements under point B, within the limits indicated above;
- possess at least B1+ Knowledge of the English language

must book **an interview to verify the adequacy of their personal preparation** through the [Enrolment Portal](#) from **10:00 a.m. on 12/02/2024 until 11:59 p.m. on 04/12/2024**.

Candidates will receive the outcome by e-mail at the end of the interview: if the outcome is positive, they can **reserve their place in chronological order**, paying the first instalment of university fees through the [Enrolment Portal](#) within 7 days, after which the candidate is considered to have withdrawn and loses access priority. If, on the other hand, the result is negative, they may not enrol in the programme (see section 4 INTERVIEW TO VERIFY THE ADEQUACY OF PERSONAL PREPARATION).

To know more about the interview booking and place reservation procedure, candidates must consult the [Enrolment Portal User Guide](#)

4. INTERVIEW TO VERIFY THE ADEQUACY OF PERSONAL PREPARATION

Without prejudice to the possession of the ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS, candidates must undergo **an interview** to verify the adequacy of their personal preparation aimed at ascertaining the possession of basic knowledge and skills, with particular reference to the subject areas that characterise the graduate degree programme. It will only be possible to book the interview once the English language level is at least B1+. The candidate is deemed suitable if he/she demonstrates sufficient basic knowledge of the required topics, is able to make connections between them, shows sufficient independence of judgement and is able to communicate in an appropriate language.

In the event that the interview is concluded positively but with evidence of knowledge gaps in the areas indicated in paragraph 1.1. CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS, curricular integrations will be assigned. The interview is conducted online, through the Microsoft TEAMS platform. No later than the day before the date of the interview, candidates receive the invitation by e-mail from the coordinating professor. During the interview, candidates must show a valid identity document and any documentation deemed useful for the purpose of verifying their study plan (e.g. programmes of courses taken during their three-year degree pathway).

The outcome of the interview is communicated at the end of the interview. Successful candidates **can reserve their place within** the specified deadlines. Unsuccessful candidates cannot enrol in the



programme. Those who were absent may book a new interview to verify the adequacy of their personal preparation through the [Enrolment Portal](#).

For information on booking an interview and reserving a place through the [Enrolment Portal](#), please consult the [Enrolment Portal User Guide](#).

5. ENROLMENT AND PRE-ENROLMENT

Graduated applicants without curricular integrations, must book their place, by paying the first instalment of university tuition fees, by the deadlines indicated in paragraph 3 “ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES” and proceed to **enrolment** through the [Enrolment Portal](#).

For those who reserve their place by **12 August 2024**, the deadline for enrolment is **12 September 2024**. If the place is reserved **after 12 August 2024**, the deadline for enrolment is **30 days from the date the place is reserved** and no later than 31 December 2024.

Applicants should consult the Enrolment Portal Guide to learn about the [Enrolment Portal User Guide](#)

Graduated applicants with curricular integrations and graduating candidates must reserve their place by paying the first instalment of university tuition fees through the [Enrolment Portal](#), by the deadlines indicated in paragraph 3 “ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES” and immediately proceed with **pre-enrolment** through the [Enrolment Portal](#).

Pre-enrolment to the graduate degree programme, which must in any case take place no later than 31 December 2024, is accepted under reserve and is subject to:

- the fulfilment of the curricular integrations assigned, by the deadlines set out below;
- the attainment of the undergraduate degree within the deadlines envisaged by the admission procedures.

Pre-enrolled candidates reserve their place with the right to attend the graduate degree programme courses from their beginning. They are required to complete their enrolment immediately after graduation and/or completion of the curricular integrations.

To find out about the pre-enrolment and enrolment procedure candidates should consult the [Enrolment Portal User Guide](#)

Curricular integrations: candidates who have been assigned curricular integrations, once pre-enrolled, are required to complete them from the September/October 2024 examination session and by the April 2025 examination session. Failure to pass these will affect enrolment in the graduate degree programme. Students may attend lectures on the subjects included in the study plan, but may not take the relevant examinations before the integration and finalisation of enrolment.

6. CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES OR SPECIFIC LEARNING DISORDERS (SLD)

Candidates with disabilities or Specific Learning Disorders (SLDs) are required to upload, in the appropriate profile section of the [Enrolment Portal](#), their disability report or certificate relating to SLD.

For further information, candidates may contact the **Services for Inclusion** secretariat. Students with a **certified disability equal to or greater than 66% and/or students with a recognised disability pursuant to art. 3, paragraph 1 or paragraph 3 of Law 104/1992 are entitled to total exemption from enrolment fees and university tuitions** and are required to pay €100 when reserving a place on the programme. In order to obtain the exemption, the disability report must be uploaded in the appropriate section of the "Profile" in the [Enrolment Portal](#).

7. TRANSFER FROM ANOTHER UNIVERSITY, SECOND DEGREE AND RESUMPTION OF CAREER

Candidates wishing to transfer from another university, enrol in a second degree or resume their university career must meet the ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS and comply with the deadlines and procedures set out in section 3 ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES.

Candidates must apply for admission to the graduate degree programme in **Agricultural and food economics** via the [Enrolment Portal](#).



Following admission, it is necessary to reserve the place by paying the first instalment and the secretarial fees and to submit the Application Form via the [Enrolment Portal](#) by the deadlines indicated in paragraph 3 ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES.

Candidates who transfer from another university, after having reserved their place, may sit other examinations, at their university of origin, until they submit their **Transfer Application**, which must normally be submitted **no later than 16 December 2024**. The place is reserved when the submitted documentation is validated by the Student Services Centre.

The competent teaching structure will only assess examinations taken and recorded up to the submission of the Transfer Application.

Candidates enrolling for a second degree, after reserving their place by paying the first instalment and secretarial fees, must submit an **Application for a Second Degree**, which must normally be submitted no later than **31 December 2024**. The degree from the home course must necessarily be obtained by 31 December 2024. The place is reserved when the submitted documentation is validated by the Student Services Centre.

Candidates resuming their careers, after having paid the first instalment and the secretarial fees, must submit an **Application for Resumption of Career**, which must normally be submitted no later than **16 December 2024**. The place is reserved when the submitted documentation is validated by the Student Services Centre.

The year of admission will be assessed by the Faculty Council or a delegated committee, which will take into consideration the candidate's entire academic career. The place is reserved when the submitted documentation is validated by the Student Services Centre.

At least 30 validated ECTS_{are} required for admission to the 2nd year of the programme.

8. PROGRAMME CHANGE WITHIN UNIVERSITÀ CATTOLICA

Candidates wishing to change programme/profile within Università Cattolica must meet the ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS and comply with the deadlines and procedures indicated in section 3 ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES.

Candidates must apply for admission to the **Agricultural and food economics** degree programme via the [Enrolment Portal](#)

Following admission to the programme, a place must be reserved by making the first instalment and secretarial fee payments and submitting the application via the [Enrolment Portal](#) within the deadlines set out in section 3 ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES.

After reserving a place, it is possible to take other examinations of the programme/profile of origin until the start of the Change procedure, which is done by clicking the "**Proceed with Change**" function in the [Enrolment Portal](#), normally no later than **16 December 2024**.

The competent teaching structure will only assess the examinations taken and recorded until the start of the Change procedure.

The year of admission will be assessed by the Faculty Council or a delegated committee, which will take into consideration the candidate's entire academic career.

At least 30 validated ECTS_{are} required for admission to the 2nd year of the programme.

9. CONTACTS

For further information, candidates may use the "[Request for information on graduate programmes](#)" or consult the [FAQ](#).

Candidates who need support in using the [Enrolment Portal](#) can use the "Assistance" button within the Portal itself. Applicants with foreign qualifications may use the CONTACT US service: <https://unicattolica.tfaforms.net/217939>.



10. FINAL NOTES AND PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PROCEDURE

The General Regulations for Determining University Tuition Fees 2024/25' apply to enrolled students.

Students are required to take note of any additions, amendments, updates to these procedures published on the Università Cattolica website.

Applicants must ensure that they have correctly completed all the necessary steps for admission to the programme.

Pursuant to law no. 241/1990, the person responsible for this admission procedure is Annalisa Castellani (Student Career Services Manager)

Cremona, 5 February 2024