

The Rector

**POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863**

HAVING REGARD TO Politecnico di Milano's Articles of Association;
 HAVING REGARD TO Ministerial Decree 3.11.1999, no. 509;
 HAVING REGARD TO Ministerial Decree 22.10.2004, no. 270;
 HAVING REGARD TO the University's Educational Rules - Regulations;
 HAVING REGARD TO the Regulation for 1st and 2nd level Specialising Masters, Post Graduate Courses and Continuing Education of Politecnico di Milano issued with Rector's Decree no. 6485 of 30.05.2024;
 HAVING ACQUIRED the favourable opinion of the Academic Senate during the meeting on 17.02.2025, on the establishment and activation of proposals for Specialising Masters, including the second level Specialising Master in "DESIGN FOR DEVELOPMENT. ARCHITECTURE, URBAN PLANNING AND HERITAGE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH".

HEREBY DECREES

that the second level Specialising Master in "DESIGN FOR DEVELOPMENT. ARCHITECTURE, URBAN PLANNING AND HERITAGE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH" is established and activated for the years 2026/2027.

ART. 1

Master's features

The second level Specialising Master in "DESIGN FOR DEVELOPMENT. ARCHITECTURE, URBAN PLANNING AND HERITAGE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH" has been set up and activated at the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies.

The Master is provided by POLIEDRA. The reference school is the School of Architecture Urban Planning Construction Engineering.

The Specialising Master's Director is Professor Camillo Magni. The Vice Director is Sonia Pistidda. The Scientific Committee of the Specialising Master's programme is composed by Professors from Politecnico di Milano: Camillo Magni, Laura Montedoro, Sonia Pistidda, Alessio Dionigi Battistella and Andrea Rigon.

ART. 2

Educational objective and employment opportunities

The impacts of globalisation on cities and regions are creating huge socio-spatial imbalances, environmental emergencies and complex urban management problems, particularly in the regions of the Global South and in countries with emerging economies. Operating in these places requires innovative professional skills to be expressly developed to be able to face the challenges of inclusive, sustainable urban development and seize the opportunities offered by transformations to improve physical and social contexts ("make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" - United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Goal 11). The Master's in Design for Development has been devised to meet these demands in the firm belief that the design disciplines can play a leading role in these new urbanisation processes. Indeed, there is ever growing demand from all sides for design experts capable of navigating the challenging contexts of the Global South by bringing skills and expertise that focus on the governability and quality of urban and regional development. With this in mind, the Master's programme sets out to train professionals with an international outlook capable of tackling the most difficult challenges posed by contemporary urban development with skill and creativity, based on an approach that blends research, design and innovation. These new professionals will be offered a broad overview of design at a variety of scales, in which architecture, planning and heritage protection are all aspects of the same approach to design which aims to develop effective strategies for defending

and developing the regions in which they operate in environmental and social terms. The aim of the programme is to produce professionals/consultants in the area of development-related spatial issues who can seek employment at the supranational, national or local scale, whether in the public, private or third sector.

The Master's programme offers a high level of technical specialisation for students wishing to find employment with: - multilateral organisations, and international agencies and networks which promote programmes for sustainable urban development at the global scale (for example UN-Habitat, UNESCO, the FAO, UNICEF, the Cities Alliance, the World Bank, the World Urban Campaign, etc.); - institutions, research centres, companies, foundations and other philanthropic organisations which promote/fund/develop programmes and partnerships between national governments and local administrative bodies in countries of the Global South (for example Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo, Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei; Fondazione Cariplo, Fondazione Lerici, the Aga Khan Foundation, the International Institute for Environment and Development, Istituto Oikos, etc.); - non-governmental organisations (NGOs) operating in field of international cooperation, involved in projects dedicated to the integrated development of local areas and communities (for example Emergency, Coopì, Oxfam, ActionAid, Africa 70, Cesvi, Cospe, Celim, etc.); - non-profit associations, networks and professional studios dedicated to promoting design for spatial and environmental justice and the right to housing (for example Architecture Sans Frontières International and its respective national branches, Ingegneri Senza Frontiere, Architecture for Humanity, Emergency Architecture and Human Rights, Urban Planning for Democracy, Urban Think Thank, TAMassociati, etc.). In order to maximise such opportunities, participants in the Master's programme will complete an internship at organisations that satisfy these profiles.

The Master's will be delivered in English.

ART. 3

Teaching content and organisation

The Specialising Master's will start in **June 2026** and will end in **November 2027**.

The Master's programme is promoted by DASTU (the Politecnico's Department of Architecture and Urban Studies), which is acknowledged as one of the most prestigious research centres in the field of architecture and urban planning in Italy and abroad. The programme constitutes one of the Department's actions in the field of international research and higher education dedicated to inclusive, sustainable urban development in the cities and regions of the Global South. The syllabus will be taught by a team of DASTU teachers and researchers specialising in the themes and fields of application of the course, with the participation of prestigious teachers from other universities and world-renowned experts from research centres, multilateral organisations, and national and international NGOs operating in the contexts of the Global South. The Master's programme takes an original approach to teaching and learning, founded on: a) tight integration of theory and practical application through a learning-by-doing approach; b) a global perspective on understanding and interpreting urban phenomena; c) a specific design-oriented approach at the various scales, integrating architecture, planning and heritage protection; d) ample space dedicated to practical experience "on the ground" through a five-week design workshop; e) an internship at an organisation operating in the Global South, designed to offer a potential route into employment in the field. The Master's programme has a duration of 1,500 hours in total, consisting of lectures, exercises, visits, workshops and individual study, and an internship of 300 hours. The Master's programme is organised into six different modules: MODULE A _THEORY /6 ECTS, MODULE B _TOOLS /6 ECTS, MODULE C _DESIGN STUDIOS /12 ECTS, MODULE D _ON THE GROUND DESIGN WORKSHOP /16 ECTS, MODULE E_ INTERNSHIP/PROJECT WORK /14 ECTS, MODULE F_ FINAL THESIS /6 ECTS.

The master's is a **60 ECTS** programme and teaching will be organised as follows:

A. THEORY		MANDATORY Courses		
Courses	Area	SSD	Total Hours	ECTS
Mapping humanitarian sector and Introduction to the Theory of change	CHALLENGES FOR INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH (Theory)	ICAR/14	25	1
		ICAR/21		

Theories and criticism	CHALLENGES FOR INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH (Theory)	ICAR/18	25	1
		ICAR/14		
Heritage in Danger		ICAR/19	25	1
From emergency to recovery		ICAR/14	25	1
		ICAR/12		
Climate change and Urban resilience thinking		ICAR/21	25	1
		ICAR/20		
Slum upgrading housing		ICAR/14	25	1
		ICAR/21		

B. TOOLS		MANDATORY Courses		
Courses	Area	SSD	Total Hours	ECTS
Technologies and self construction	CHALLENGES FOR INCLUSIVE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH (Tools)	ICAR/12	50	2
Theory of Change and Project Cycle Management		ICAR/14	50	2
Territorial analysis and mapping		ICAR/21	50	2

C. DESIGN STUDIOS		MANDATORY Courses		
Courses	Area	SSD	Total Hours	ECTS
Planning strategies for integrated regional development of rapidly urbanising areas	DESIGN STUDIO 1	ICAR/21	100	4
Architecture in for development	DESIGN STUDIO 2	ICAR/14	100	4
Strategies for protecting and enhancing cultural heritage in urban-rural areas in transition	DESIGN STUDIO 3	ICAR/19	100	4

D. ON THE GROUND DESIGN WORKSHOP		MANDATORY Courses		
Courses	Area	SSD	Total Hours	ECTS
Preparatory exercises	WORKSHOP ON THE GROUND	ICAR/14	50	2
Design for development: experience on the ground		ICAR/19	250	10
Postproduction and final critics		ICAR/21	100	4

E. INTERNSHIP or PROJECT WORK (*)		MANDATORY Courses		
Courses	Area	SSD	Total Hours	ECTS
Internship		n.a	350	14
Project work		n.a	350	14

(*) Internship or Project work are alternatives

F. FINAL THESIS		MANDATORY Courses		
Courses	Area	SSD	Total Hours	ECTS
Final thesis		n.a	150	6

ART. 4 Admission requirements

The 2nd level Specializing Master's course is reserved for candidates with Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale (equivalent to Master of Science). Equivalent foreign qualifications in their respective University Systems will be considered valid.

The maximum number of admitted students is 25. The selection process is carried out by the Scientific Committee.

ART. 5 Formal requirements

The **admission application** must be submitted starting from the day after the date of this Decree and **no later than one month BEFORE the start of the program.**

The extended information on data processing and data subject rights is available on the website www.polimi.it/privacy

The managing authority delivering the program must provide students with all the necessary set of forms and information on how to correctly apply to the Master's.

Once the validity of the qualification has been verified, the Managing Body will advise the student on the documentation needed to prove the authenticity of their qualification, in accordance with the MIUR/MAE's note "Procedures for entry, residency and enrolment of international students and the respective recognition of qualifications, for higher education courses in Italy for the academic year 2024/2025.

In particular, the Managing Body can request the following documents:

*** Italian/foreign citizens having graduated in Italy**

- copy of the identity document
- copy of the Diploma Supplement or copy of the degree diploma or self-certification through the appropriate form provided by the Master's Managing Authority.

*** Italian/EU citizens with qualification obtained abroad**

- copy of the identity document
- **copy of the academic qualification** in original language and its translation into Italian/English/French or Spanish
- copy of transcripts with the list of exams in the original language and their translation into Italian/English/French or Spanish or Diploma Supplement in English language (**when enrolling, the students have to submit:**
 - **the Declaration of Value issued by the relevant area's Italian Representative abroad** or
 - **the Diploma Supplement with digital signature or electronic time stamp** or, in case of absence of digital signature/electronic time stamp, **the Diploma supplement with apostille** or
 - **a certificate issued by the Enic/Naric Centres** or
 - **a certificate issued by the World Education Services - WES).**

Under Art. 75 of Italian Presidential Decree 445/2000, if the Administration, after carrying out suitable checks, finds that the content of the declarations made by the applicant is untrue, the declarant forfeits any benefits obtained through the untrue declaration.

* Non-EU citizens having graduated abroad

Non-EU foreign citizens must submit the following documents to the Managing Authority:

- **copy of the degree** in the original language and its translation into Italian/English/French or Spanish;
- **copy of the transcripts** with the list of exams in the original language and their translation into Italian/English/French or Spanish (**when enrolling, the students have to submit:**
 - **the Declaration of Value issued by the relevant area's Italian Representative abroad** or
 - **the Diploma Supplement with digital signature or electronic time stamp** or, in case of absence of digital signature/electronic time stamp, **the Diploma supplement with apostille** or
 - **a certificate issued by the Enic/Naric Centres** or
 - **a certificate issued by the World Education Services - WES).**
- **copy of a valid passport)**

After the acceptance from the University, and only after confirming to the Managing Authority their participation to the programme in accordance with its procedures, students will have to register on the Ministerial portal <https://www.universitaly.it>. Once the registration has been completed, the student will have to inform the Managing Authority, so that the application can be sent to the authorities responsible for issuing the entry visa.

The managing authority informs Politecnico di Milano Masters and Continuous Educations unit, about the starting date of the course AT LEAST two months before the starting date.

ENROLMENT PROCESS:

Students admitted to the Master's Programme must obtain the access credentials to Politecnico di Milano's online services on the website www.polimi.it, enter their personal data and attach valid identity document (passport for non-EU citizens). Students already registered are expected to update their personal details, if these are obsolete.

Portal access credentials must be safely kept since they will be required for the access to all Politecnico di Milano's services. Lost credentials can be autonomously restored or obtained through an OTRS ticket.

In order to proceed with the enrolment, students admitted to the Masters' must pay the enrolment fee as well as the enrolment stamp via Politecnico di Milano's online services.

In addition to the above documentation, **non-EU citizens must upload a copy of a valid entrance document as well as the residence permit, on their online services personal data record.**

In order to be enrolled at Politecnico di Milano, regardless of the Master's delivery mode (in person, online/distance learning), **non-EU citizens must upload a copy of a valid passport on their online services personal data record.**

ART. 6

Degree and award recognitions

ISSUED CERTIFICATION

In order to be able to take the final exam, students admitted to the Master's final examination have to pay the due fee through the online services of Politecnico di Milano.

At the end of the Programme, upon completion of the course and after passing the final test, the student will be awarded the first level specialising Master in "Design for development. Architecture, urban planning and heritage in the global south, in English language.

STUDENT OBLIGATIONS

Attendance is compulsory for at least 75 per cent of the programme activities.

Withdrawal from the Programme must be communicated in written form. The training period cannot be suspended for any reasons.

TESTING METHODS

Final Thesis to be agreed with the Master's Committee and presented in a final public seminar. The contents of the thesis will concern a case study and a project proposal related to one of the topics covered during the Master.

ART. 7

Tuition fees and contributions

The cost of this Specialising Master programme is € 10,500.00 divided as follows:

- Politecnico di Milano enrolment fee is € 500.00 per student.
- Participation fee is € 10,000.00 per student

Politecnico di Milano enrolment fee will not be refunded under any circumstances.

As far as the Specialising Master participation fee is concerned, it will be the managing authority responsibility to define the procedures.

ART. 8

Personal data processing

Under EU Regulation no. 2016/679 on data protection, the University processes personal data only for purposes related to the master's admission, enrolment and management, and you agree to the disclosure of your personal information to third parties, particularly:

- public and private entities possibly interested in recruitment;
- to academic programme backers; Politecnico Treasurer for services related to tuition fees;
- to Managing Authorities managing loans, housing, flexible employment contracts, cultural, recreational and/or sport activities.
- I authorise the use of the data for statistical purposes in respect of the procedures and authorisations required by the cited regulation.

The extended information on data processing and data subject rights is available on the website www.polimi.it/privacy.

ART. 9

Publication

This Decree is made public on Politecnico di Milano's website at <https://www.polimi.it/corsi/master-universitari-e-corsi-post-laurea/>.

FOR CLARIFICATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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The Rector
(prof. Donatella Sciuto)
Signed Donatella Sciuto