



FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION

MASTER'S DEGREE COURSE IN *STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION*

ORGANISATION AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR THE FINAL EXAMINATION FOR MASTER'S DEGREE COURSES – ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

1. Characteristics of the Final Examination

The Final Examination consists in the writing and presentation of a degree thesis with the typical characteristics of a scientific publication, in which students will have to demonstrate their ability to apply the theoretical and critical knowledge acquired during their studies and to show that they are able to implement independent research methods, in order to elaborate an analytical in-depth approach to one of the characteristic topics covered by the Master's degree course. The degree thesis, seen as the ideal completion of the course of studies, may be integrated with images, films or other multimedia aids that document, in addition to scientific knowledge, also the technical, professional and methodological skills acquired by the student. Without prejudice to the obligations regarding originality, the updating of bibliographic materials, critical evaluation skills and methodological accuracy, the dissertation may be based on methods of research carried out on current scientific literature, or it may be a more markedly original work capable of presenting a personal contribution to research on the subject.

Students graduating on the Master's degree course in Strategic Communication will have to produce a work in English. The presentation will also be made in English.

For their presentation students will be allowed to use multimedia supports.

2. Assignment and registration of the title of the Master's Degree thesis

The title of the Master's thesis is assigned – subsequent to the request presented by students who have acquired and registered at least 60 CFU credits at the start of the final year of their course or in any case at least six months prior to the start of the degree session during which they intend to take the Final Examination - by a Professor (the "Supervisor") officially teaching a course included in the candidate's Study Plan. Students may also choose from elective courses as long as they are consistent with their main training programme. The form for registering the title is available on the personal online page in the section "*Laurea > Conseguimento titolo*".

After agreeing on the definitive title of the thesis with their Supervisor, students may complete registration procedures through the [Online services](#), in the section "*Laurea > Conseguimento titolo*", in accordance with the following deadlines:

- **10th February 2022 for students intending to take the Final Examination in the July 2022 session**
- **31st May 2022 for students intending to take the Final Examination in the November 2022 session**
- **29th September 2022 for students intending to take the Final Examination in the March 2023 session**

The Professor assigning the title of the Master's degree thesis is also responsible for approving the written work in which the student summarizes the results of the research carried out, and, together with a co-supervisor appointed by the Head of Faculty, acts as Supervisor for the thesis during the Final Examination.

Students whose title was approved more than five years ago (titles approved before 1 July 2017) are required to contact their supervisor to check that their title is not obsolete. Failure to do so will render it invalid..

3. Admission to the Final Examination

Students who have received approval of the title and who have acquired (or expect to acquire) all the CFU credits required in accordance with the teaching programme for their Study Plan, must present their application for admission to the Final Examination ("degree application") to the Registrar's Office at least two months before the start of the degree session during which they intend to take the Final Examination. The degree application form is available on the personal online page in the section "*Laurea > Conseguimento titolo*". After agreeing on the registration of the degree application with their Supervisor, students may complete registration procedures through the [Online services](#), in the section "*Laurea > Conseguimento titolo*", in accordance with the following deadlines:



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- 8th June 2022 for students intending to take the Final Examination in the July 2022 session
- 22nd September 2022 for students intending to take the Final Examination in the November 2022 session
- 9th February 2023 for students intending to take the Final Examination in the March 2023 session

The registration of the degree application requires the payment of the graduation fee and the compilation of the AlmaLaurea questionnaire.

The Examination Boards for the Final Examination and for awarding the degree are appointed by the Head of Faculty. The Examination Boards are chaired by the Head of Faculty or, in their absence, by the highest ranking or most senior Professor.

The Examination Board shall give a brief qualitative evaluation of the Final Examination (unsatisfactory, satisfactory, quite good, good, very good, excellent), taking into account both the evaluation of the thesis as expressed by the supervisor and the co-supervisor, and the presentation of the thesis by the student. This evaluation gives the right to the acquisition of the required CFU credits. In the event of a negative evaluation, the student is required to repeat the Final Examination.

The mark for the Master's degree will be expressed collectively by the Examination Board as a mark out of 110 on the basis of the following criteria:

Points to be awarded based on assessment of Master's Degree thesis:

- *unsatisfactory (insufficiente): the student must repeat the Final Examination*
- *satisfactory (sufficiente): 1 point*
- *quite good (discreto): 2 points*
- *good (buono): 3 points*
- *very good (ottimo): 4/5 points*
- *excellent (eccellente): 6 points*

Points to be awarded based on curriculum:

- *at least 4 'distinctions': 1 point*
- *experience abroad (international mobility programmes which recognize CFU credits): 1 point*
- *unpaid participation on University Boards and Committees: 1 point*
- *participation on IULM University Equal Opportunities Committee for at least 12 months: 1 point*
- *certified participation in the cultural initiative called "Badge of Honour" (at least 6): 1 point (assigned according to the Commission's evaluation – Academic Senate deliberation of 16 march 2022)*

In any case candidates may not be awarded more than 1 point in total based on curriculum

A maximum of 7 points may be awarded. The Examination Board may, if all members unanimously agree, award the degree *cum laude*.

The Faculty Board may also assign **negative scores** as specified below:

- *presence of disciplinary measures: up to 2 points less;*
- *suspension of examinations as a result of irregularities: up to 2 points less.*

Head of Faculty
Prof. Luca Barbarito