



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA**



ulm university universität  
**uulm**

**COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
A DOUBLE DEGREE STUDY PROGRAMME  
IN MOLECULAR MEDICINE  
BETWEEN  
UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI PADOVA, ITALY  
AND  
ULM UNIVERSITY, GERMANY**

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**Introduction**

In order to strengthen bilateral relations and to create an academic structure for the exchange of best practices in the field of Molecular Medicine, Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy, hereinafter referred to as UniPD, with the legal address Via VIII Febbraio 1848, 2, 35122 Padova, Italia, represented by its Rector Prof. Rosario Rizzuto, and Ulm University, hereinafter referred to as UniULM with the legal address Helmholtzstr. 16, 89081 Ulm, represented by its President Prof. Dr.-Ing Michael Weber

agree

to implement a two year Double Degree Program in the field of Molecular Medicine

**Article 1. Description of the Program and National Qualifications**

The proposed Double Degree Program will be called *International Master Molecular Medicine* and it will be based on a two years study program: at least 1 year spent at the home institution and maximum 1 year at the host institution, according to a study plan jointly defined by the home and host institutions. The first semester (6 month) has to be spent at the home university.

The main objective of the program is to train students in the field of molecular biomedical research. Upon successful completion of the two years' program, the students will be awarded the following degrees:

a) In Italy: "Laurea Magistrale in Medical Biotechnologies" Classe LM9. Dm 16/03/2007.

According to the Bologna Process rules and recommendations, this degree corresponds to a second cycle degree, Master level (120 ECTS credits), giving access to "Dottorato di ricerca", a third cycle degree equivalent to a PhD level in Europe.

b) In Germany: "Master of Science in Molecular Medicine" according to The General Regulations for the Bachelor and Master Studies and Examinations at the Ulm University from 11th March 2015 (The Framework Regulation) and the Subject-Specific Study and Examination Regulations for the English Master Study Course Molecular Medicine of the Medical Faculty at the Ulm University from 3rd August 2015 (in particular §2 and §19). According to the Bologna Process rules and recommendations, this degree will correspond to a second cycle degree, Master level (120 ECTS credits), giving access to "Dr. rer. nat.", a third cycle degree equivalent to a PhD level in Europe.

After successful implementation of a common double degree program at both universities, either a common certificate for the award of the Master degree will be issued specifying the nature of the program or two individual certificates will be issued also specifying the nature of the program.

## **Article 2. Structure of the Program and Student Exchange Plan**

- a) Admitted students, who entered the first semester of studies within the **second** cycle degree program-Master level at the home institution, will be able to apply to pursue **their** studies in the above mentioned Double Degree Program.
- b) Studies leading to the Double Degree will last two years totaling 120 ECTS **credits**.
- c) Students will have to obtain minimum 30 ECTS credits at the host institution **according** to the study plan defined in the Annex I.  
In case of substantial changes in the study program of the partner universities, **the Annex I** may be amended before the beginning of each academic year.
- d) Students will have to prepare, to present and to defend a final dissertation.
- e) The host Institution will appoint a tutor for each student for the duration of **the study** period.

## **Article 3. Admission Requirements**

The following eligibility criteria will have to be fulfilled by students applying to the **program**

- a) Regular enrollment in the “Laurea Magistrale in Medical Biotechnologies” **degree** course at UniPD and in the “Master of Science in Molecular Medicine” at UniULM
- b) English proficiency documentation by the successful TOEFL test or by an **equivalent** local test in UniPD.

## **Article 4. Student Selection Process**

The maximum number of exchange students per institution will be 5 per **academic year**.

The selection of exchange students will be based on shared responsibility **between** both parties, as follows:

- a) The home institution will make an initial selection of candidates **followed** by an interview, whenever possible.
- b) The final decision regarding the acceptance of the exchange students will **be done** in agreement between the two parties.
- c) The criteria for selection will be based on academic records. Knowledge **of** language of the country of the host Institution may be considered an advantage.
- d) Both Academic Boards will take care to select only students presumably **able to** complete their Double Degree studies.
- e) The study program for participating students including all of the courses to **be** attended at both institutions, the administrative structure, the course work, the examinations **to be** taken and the length of the master dissertation will have to be approved by prior **agreement** between both institutions.

## **Article 5. Language of Instruction**

The teaching language at both universities UniULM and UniPD will be English.

#### **Article 6. Master's Thesis**

With the purpose of strengthening the scientific cooperation between both institutions, the dissertations will address, whenever possible, problems in areas of common interest for the two universities and will be organized as follows:

- a) The master dissertation will be supervised by a professor or a researcher of either university.
- b) The thesis defence can take place at the home institution or at the partner university according to the national rules. The defence will follow the local rules of evaluation and the result of the defence will be fully and automatically recognized by the partner university.
- c) The master dissertation will be written in English. In addition, the master dissertation will have to include a summary (abstract) in the official languages of both institutions.
- d) The thesis committee will include members from both institutions.

#### **Article 7. Recognition Mechanism and Final Degrees Awarded**

Examinations will be performed at the same University where the course units will have been attended and will be based on LOCAL RULES. The ECTS grading scale will be adopted. The ECTS credits for a course unit will be gained if the student passed the exam according to the local rules.

Both parties fully and automatically recognize courses and related ECTS credits developed for the master as well as examinations passed at the partner institution.

Upon successful completion of the Double Degree Study Program as defined in the present agreement and validated by the Academic Boards, students will be awarded a Double Degree according to the specifications of Article 2 and the Diploma Supplements describing the double degree program followed.

#### **Article 8. Extension of the Mobility Period**

In case of a student not completing the expected study plan within his mobility period, the Academic Boards of both Institutions will jointly decide about a possible extension.

#### **Article 9. Enrollment, Tuition Fees, Insurance and Services to Students**

- a) The home institution will ensure that students have the necessary valid insurance policies before their departure.
- b) Students are responsible for all their travel, accommodation and living expenses.
- c) The universities will agree that they will not charge tuition fees for incoming students for the participation in the program. Administrative fees apply according to the current regulations of each partner. The host institution will undertake to facilitate the arrival of the students and to put at their disposal all existing services and study grants, if available.

#### **Article 10. Cooperation Aspects and Monitoring**

Each partner will appoint a *local academic coordinator* to ensure that the requirements of the home Universities will be met.

Each university will commit itself to implement a joint procedure for managing the program efficiently.

The two parties will produce the Transcripts of Records of the exchange students reporting the marks according to the ECTS scale.

Both parties will make every possible effort , namely before National and European institutions and companies, to obtain the maximum financial support for the program.

In addition, the *local academic coordinators* of both institutions will meet on a regular basis in order to:

- Assess the pertinence of the teaching programs in both institutions.
- Report on the cooperation and the academic results of the students.
- Propose new initiatives.

#### **Article 11. Promotion of the Program**

The promotion of the program will be the responsibility of both parties.

Each member institution will agree to the use of its name and logo for purposes of promotional material, program literature and other documentation of the program.

#### **Article 12. Contract Validity**

The present contract will come into effect upon signature by both contracting parties and will be valid until Academic Year 2019/2020, after this minimum term the agreement will be extended always for 12 months periods unless the agreement is terminated according to the last sentence of this article.

Either party may terminate the present agreement with a notice of one hundred and eighty days. In the event of the agreement being terminated, any activities in progress will be allowed to run to completion.

#### **Article 13. Conflict Resolution**


The parties will resolve any controversy arising from the interpretation of these terms and conditions by mutual agreement.

#### **Article 14. Financial Obligations**

No financial obligations will arise out of this agreement for either party. Two originals of the present agreement will be signed, one for each of the signatories of the contract. Each original will have equal validity.

Date 28 MAR. 2016


For the Università degli Studi di Padova,

  
The Rector

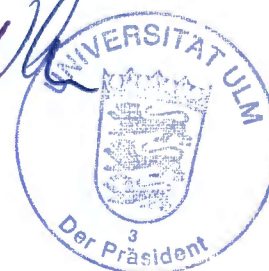
Prof. Rosario Rizzuto



For the University of Ulm

  
The President

Prof. Michael Weber



**ANNEX I**  
**Study programme**  
**International Master Molecular Medicine**

**SEMESTER 1: STUDENTS AT HOME INSTITUTION**

*a. Study Programme for UNIPD STUDENTS*

Activity	ECTS
PHARMACEUTICAL BIOTECHNOLOGY: DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF BIOPHARMACEUTICALS	6
LABORATORY MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIES AND MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS	14
<i>1 free choice exam among the following:</i>	
a) ADVANCED BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES	8
b) LABORATORY ACTIVITIES	8
SEMINAR	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>

*b. Study Programme for ULM STUDENTS*

Activity	ECTS
CURRENT CONCEPTS IN STEM CELL BIOLOGY AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE	6
BIOINFORMATICS AND SYSTEMS BIOLOGY	6
NEW DRUG DISCOVERY, DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION	5
PRACTICAL TRAINING IN LABORATORY METHODS AND CORRELATIVE IMAGING	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>

**SEMESTER 2: all students at ULM**

Teaching Unit at ULM	ECTS
GLP/GSP BIOETHICS	6
MOLECULAR ONCOLOGY	12
TRAUMA RESEARCH AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>

**Semester 3: all students at UNIPD**

Teaching Unit at UNIPD	ECTS
PHARMACOLOGY AND MOLECULAR THERAPIES	4
	6
	4
EXPERIMENTAL MODELS IN VIVO AND VITRO	4
STEM CELL BIOLOGY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF DEVELOPMENT	2
	4
PROTEOMICS AND BIOINFORMATICS	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>

**Semester 4: students at home or host institution**

ACTIVITY	ECTS
Final Thesis	30 at ULM 31 at UNIPD