

Rep. n. 544/2024

Prot. n. 47896

del 15/06/2024

AGREEMENT

ON DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAMME COOPERATION

Premise

Provided that

- On May 23rd, 2018 the University of L'Aquila and the University of Twente signed an Agreement of Interuniversity Cooperation for the granting of a second cycle double degree (a two-year duration programme of 120 EC) in the field of Business Administration;
- Since the entry into force of the Agreement, 21 students enrolled in the double degree programme;
- The 2019-20 academic year saw the completion of the first cycle of the double degree programme in which 11 students successfully completed the programme in due time; followed by 6 students in 2020/2021;
- Both Universities have positively evaluated the complementary advantages and the results achieved and are interested in renewing the Agreement to continue their collaboration in this double degree programme.
- This agreement is the 2nd edition, followed after the positive evaluation of the DDP and collaboration,

It is agreed and stipulated as follows:

1. The Contracting Parties

I. University of L'Aquila (hereinafter referred to as "UA")

Post address: Palazzo Camponeschi, piazza Santa Margherita 2, 67100 L'Aquila Italy
Phone: +39 0862432762
E-mail: uri@strutture.univaq.it

II. University of Twente (hereinafter referred to as "UT")

Post address: P.O.Box 217
7500 AE Enschede
The Netherlands
Phone. +31 53 4893 499
E-mail: i.vanhaare@utwente.nl

Hereinafter UA and UT are referred together as the "Parties" and each individually as the "Party".

2. Background and Scope of the Agreement

The Parties of this Agreement are wishing to cooperate for the benefit of their respective study programmes, and thus the Parties agree on the following Double Degree Programme ("DDP") in Administration, Economics and Finance (AEF) / Management track (UA) and in Business Administration (BA) / HRM track (UT).

This Agreement covers following specializations:

- Management (Master of Science in Administration, Economics and Finance LM-77) at UA, and
- Human Resource Management (Master of Science Business Administration) at UT.

The content and structure of the DDP are described more specifically in the Appendix 1 of this Agreement.

3. Cooperation

UA and UT will work together to stimulate and facilitate the realization of the DDP.

- Upon successful completion of the DDP the students will be awarded diplomas from both Parties.
- For the master thesis guidance of a DDP student, UT and UA assign their supervisors according to the rules and regulations within their respective Quality Assurance procedures. The thesis is written in English.

4. Admission Criteria and Annual Intake Quota

- To enter the DDP, students first have to be admitted to the Master of Science programme at their Home University and then, they can apply to participate in the DDP.
- Each Party will launch a call for applications for the selection of the candidates for the DDP.
- Both Parties agree to nominate students in good academic standing for participation in the proposed DDP.
- Each Party ("Host University") will accept the students nominated by the other Party ("Home University"), as long as nominated students meet the admission requirements of the Host University. The Host University reserves the right to make final judgment on the admission of the nominated students, based on its admission requirements. DDP coordinators from both universities will make final judgments on the admission of the nominated students.
- The Home University will provide to the Host University, on the date agreed between the Parties, a written notification including the names of the nominated students and other relevant information regarding their academic records.
- Annually, both Universities may nominate up to 15 students to study at DDP. The number of DDP students can be adjusted upon mutual discussions.

- Students participating in the DDP will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Host University during their studies in the Host University.
- The Host University will inform the students regarding suitable housing. The Host University will assist the students regarding the visa application, if needed.

5. Admission requirements

To be admitted into the DDP students have to meet the admission requirements of the Home University. The admission requirements for the MSc in BA of the UT are published in its Teaching and Examination Regulations, and on the web-site www.utwente.nl. The admission requirements for the MSc in AEF of UA are published in its Teaching and Examination Regulations, and on the web-site www.univaq.it.

To be admitted to the MSc BA at UT, students must have obtained an approved English language qualification (a minimum of TOEFL 90 iBT, IELTS 6.5 or Cambridge CAE-C (CPE).

To be admitted to the MSc AEF, Management track at UA, students must have obtained an approved English language qualification of minimum B1 (European Language Framework).

UT students are expected to earn minimum 15 ECTS of master courses at UT before they are nominated for the DDP at UA. The UA students are expected to earn minimum 30 ECTS including the English Language B2 at UA before they are nominated for the DDP at UT.

Both Parties will endeavour to provide students for admission to the respective programmes.

Non-Visa students from UA should apply for UT enrolment no later than 1 July. Visa students from UA should apply for UT enrolment no later than 1 May. The nominations of double degree candidates should be provided one month ahead of the application deadline.

Students from UT should enrol at UA no later than 28 February. The nominations of double degree candidates should be provided 2 weeks ahead of the enrolment deadline.

6. Degrees and Qualifications

Students are required to gather 120 EC in total.

After successful completion of the programme, the graduates will be awarded two degrees consisting of

- Master of Science (MSc) in Administration, Economics and Finance from UA
- Master of Science (MSc) in Business Administration (HRM specialization) from UT.

UA will transfer the credits obtained by students in the UT MSc BA towards the degree awarded by UA. UT will transfer credits obtained by students in the UA MSc AEF towards

the degree awarded by UT. Students will be informed in advance regarding this exchange of personal information. Each Partner will issue its own degree and graduation documents. A diploma supplement will be provided with mention of double degree programme.

7. Student failure

If a student from UA fails to complete the second year of the Double Degree programme at UT, he/she has an option to return and finish his/her study at UA. UT will issue a transcript of records that mentions the UT courses successfully completed by the student and his/her study results. Those courses and grades are transferred to the UA systems. Students will be informed in advance regarding this exchange of personal information. If a student who failed the second year of the Double Degree programme at UT successfully completes the second year at UA, he/she will only be awarded the UA Master of Science degree in AEF. If a student from UT fails to complete the second and third semesters of the Double Degree programme at UA, he/she has an option to return and finish his/her study at UT. UA will issue a transcript of records that mentions the UA courses successfully completed by the student and his/her study results. Those courses and grades can be transferred to the UT systems. Students will be informed in advance regarding this exchange of personal information. If a student who failed his/her second and third semesters of the Double Degree programme at UA successfully completes the fourth semester at UT, he/she will only be awarded the UT Master of Science degree in BA.

8. Quality Assurance

a. Internal quality assurance system, internal review

Both programmes comply with the quality assurance procedures and policies adopted by the UA and the UT respectively.

Courses are regularly evaluated with students' evaluation questionnaires, and these evaluations are taken into consideration in the yearly process of safeguarding quality of the programmes.

b. External quality assurance; accreditation

The Master of Science in Business Administration (BA) at UT has been accredited by the Dutch-Flemish Education Accreditation body (NVAO) since 2003, and by the European Federation for Management Development with EPAS, - since 2013. BA is registered in the Dutch Central Register for Higher Education Programmes ("CROHO") with the code 60644. The latest re-accreditations of the BA programme at UT took place in 2014 by NVAO; and in 2016 – by EPAS.

The University of L'Aquila and the Master of Science in Administration, Economics and Finance (AEF) at UA have been accredited by the Italian Ministry of Education University and Research (MIUR). The latest periodic accreditation of the AEF programme at UA took place in 2017 by MIUR (Ministry of Education, University and Research Decree of Accreditation n. 556 02/08/2017). AEF is registered in the MIUR Portale for Higher Education Programmes "Universitaly" (<https://www.universitaly.it>) among the second cycle degrees in "Scienze economico-aziendali" / "Management" (Class Denomination "Scienze economico-aziendali" / "Management"; Class code LM-77).

9. Financial Arrangements

Students will be personally responsible for all costs relating to the DDP, including but not limited to following:

- All travel expenses
- Compulsory insurance, including health and travel insurance
- Accommodation and living expenses
- All costs associated with applying for and obtaining appropriate visas and travel documentation
- All costs associated with studies (textbooks etc.)
- All other debts incurred during the course of their stay

Students will pay their fee in the University where they are studying, that is one year at the home university and one year – at the host university as foreseen by the local institutional regulations. UT students need to stay registered at UT during the year they study and pay tuition fee at UA, during that year their tuition fee at UT will be reduced to 0.

- For UA: The yearly fee paid by students at UA is composed by:
 - Regional tax equal to € 156.00 (for 2022/2023)
 - University fee (Contributo Onnicomprensivo Annuale, COA). The university fee can range from a minimum of € 0.00 to a maximum of € 1,700.00 (for 2022/2023) depending on the student's income/economic status certified by fiscal documents (ISEE). Further information on how to obtain income-based reductions are published in the UA website.

- For the UT: EU/EEA students pay the statutory tuition fee, determined by the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

The exact and most up-to-date annual statutory tuition fee for EU/EEA students is published on the UT website. NON EU/EEA students pay the institutional tuition fee. The exact and most up-to-date institutional tuition fee for NON EU/EEA students is published on the UT website.

10. Entry into force and the validity of certain provisions

This Agreement is not intended to place any legal obligations on either Party.

This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature of both Parties, and is valid from academic year 2022-2023 to academic year 2024-2025. The Agreement will be evaluated in the academic year 2023-2024. This Agreement may be terminated by informing the other Party in writing. The Agreement will end thirty (30) days after the Party has sent the termination notice to the other Party. Such termination of the Agreement has no effect on the on-going double degree activities between the Parties.

11. Settlement of Disputes

The Parties shall attempt to solve their disputes by negotiation. Any disputes arising under or in connection with this Agreement which cannot be resolved by amicable discussions between the Parties shall be referred to the Rectors of the Parties or their nominees. If the dispute has not been resolved by such negotiations in reasonable time, the Parties shall be free to submit the dispute to a court of the respondent's place of business. The applicable law is the law of the country where the court of jurisdiction is situated.

12. Basic learning routes for students

- 1 ECTS is 28 hours in the BA Programme at UT, and 25 hours in the AEF Programme at UA.
- Semesters (terms) at UA are not divided in quartiles; each semester is closed with an exam session. Semesters at UT are divided in quartiles; each quartile is closed with an exam session.
- Both Parties offer the courses to DDP students in English.
- UT students start their DDP in February in Twente with BA / HRM courses; after the first semester/ term (two quartiles) the UT students continue their programme at UA for two semesters. They finalize the DDP at UT with their 4th semester. The UT courses are recognized by UA.
- UA students start their DDP at UA and study for the full first academic year at UA (1st and 2nd semesters/terms). They continue their programme at UT. They finalize their DDP in UT where they complete the full second academic year (3rd and 4th semesters / terms) (Appendix 1). The UT courses are recognized by UA.
- The MSc Programme in AEF at UA complies with requirements for second cycles degrees in "Scienze economico-aziendali" / "Management" (Class code LM-77) established in the Italian Legislation (D.M. n.270 22/10/2004; • D.M. 16/03/2007 – "Disciplina delle classi dei corsi di laurea magistrali"). The DDP structure is built with respect to these requirements.

- Both UT and UA require a final Master thesis. The thesis, written in English, will be one for both institutions and will be supervised jointly, by at least one supervisor from UT and at least one - from UA. DDP students will preferably conduct an empirical / field research. UA students and UT students in the DDP will defend the final thesis at UT (where they complete the 4th semester) according to UT regulations and quality assessment rules. The graduation committee will include a UA supervisor that will participate in the thesis defence either in person or virtually, or with a written report and a suggested grade. UA students will be provided with all documentations needed for the registration of their academic career including the thesis defense in order to be awarded the UA Master of Science Degree in EAF.

13. Contact Persons / DDP Coordinators

Contact persons at UA are Prof. Walter Giulietti (AEF programme director), Prof. Alessia Sammarra (DD programme delegate), Prof. Bruno Rubino (Pro-Rector for International Affairs) and the Supervisor of the International Relations Office Fausta Ludovici (fausta.ludovici@univaq.it).

Contact persons at UT are Dr. Anna Bos-Nehles (BA programme director), Dr. Jeroen Meijerink (coordinator of the HRM track) and the Coordinator Internationalization Faculty of Behavioural, Management and Social Sciences Inge van Haare, MSc (i.vanhaare@utwente.nl).

14. Final provisions

This Agreement supersedes all previous negotiations, commitments, and documentation that pertain to the Agreement in question.

15. Amendments

Amendments to the appendices of this agreement must receive mutual consent by the departments/faculty and be stated in writing before the end of April of each year, for the following academic year.

16. Original copies of the Agreement, dates and signatures

This Agreement has been signed by the Parties in two (2) original copies, one (1) for each Party.

UNIVERSITY OF L'AQUILA

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE

Date, _____

Date, _____

Prof. Edoardo Alesse
Rector

Prof.Dr. Vinod Subramaniam
President Executive Board

APPENDICES



Firmato digitalmente da:
alesse edoardo
Firmato il 15/04/2024 08:23
Seriale Certificato: 1646477
Valido dal 25/07/2022 al 25/07/2025
InfoCamere Qualified Electronic Signature CA

Prof. dr. Vinod Subramaniam
Prof. dr. Vinod Subramaniam
Date: 2024.04.11 16:13:29 +02'00'

Appendix 1 The content and structure of the Double Degree Programme

DDP structure for UT students:

The DDP (120-credit programme) entails a total of four semesters. Students are expected to stay at each university for two semesters.

UT students can only start per February with the MSc Business Administration programme (1st semester/term) and go to UA (IT) per the next September where they spend the full academic year (2nd and 3rd semesters/terms). They finalize their DDP at UT where they complete the 4th semester/term.

Term 1 (February-July) Twente (NL)	30
(Co) Business Valuation and Corporate Governance	5
(El) HRM and Innovation	5
(El) HRM and Technology Design	5
(Co) Quantitative and Design Methods in Business Research	2.5
(Co) Qualitative Research and Business Skills	2.5
Master thesis BA Research Proposal (Part 1) with joint supervision	10
Term 2 (September-February) L'Aquila (IT)	27
Italian language and culture for foreigners (level A1)	3
(EC) Applied International Economics	9
(BU) Leadership Skill & Organizational Behaviour	9
(BU) Project work	6
Term 3 (February-July) L'Aquila (IT)	33
(LA) International Labour Law	9
(BU) Design and Management of Inter-Organizational Networks	9
(EC) Labour Economics	6
(SM) Statistics for Business & Economics	6
Italian language and culture for foreigners (level A2)	3
Term 4 (September-January) Twente (NL)	30
(Co) Entrepreneurial Leadership & Responsible Organizational Design	5
(El) Strategic HR Analytics	5
(El) Global Talent Management	5
Master thesis BA Research Project (Part 2) with joint supervision	15
TOTAL	120

Notes:

Co = Compulsory courses

El = Elective courses

SM = Courses in Statistical-Mathematical disciplinary field

EC = Courses in Economics disciplinary field

BU = Courses in Business disciplinary field

LA= Courses in Law disciplinary field

DDP structure for UA students:

The DDP (120-credit programme) entails a total of four semesters. Students are expected to stay at each university for two semesters.

UA students start in September with the MSc Economics, Administration and Finance programme (Management track) at UA where they stay the first academic year (1st and 2nd semesters/terms), and go to UT (NL) per the next September where they spend the full second academic year (3rd and 4th semesters/terms).

Term 1 (September-February) L'Aquila (IT)	30
(BU) Programmazione e controllo	6
(EC) Applied International Economics	9
(BU) Leadership Skill & Organizational Behaviour	9
English Language (level B2)	6
Term 2 (February-July) L'Aquila (IT)	30
(LA) International Labour Law	9
(BU) Design and Management of Inter-Organizational Networks	9
(SM) Statistics for Business & Economics	6
(EC) Labour Economics	6
Term 3 (September-January) Twente (NL)	30
(Co) Entrepreneurial Leadership & Responsible Organizational Design	5
(El) Strategic HR Analytics	5
(El) Global Talent Management	5
(Co) Quantitative and Design Methods in Business Research	2.5
(Co) Qualitative Research and Business Skills	2.5
Master thesis BA Research Proposal (Part 1) with joint supervision	10
Term 4 (February-July) Twente (NL)	30
(Co) Business Valuation and Corporate Governance	5
(El) HRM and Innovation	5
(El) HRM and Technology Design	5
Master thesis BA Research Project (Part 2) with joint supervision	15
TOTAL	120

Notes:

Co = Compulsory courses

El = Elective courses

SM = Courses in Statistical-Mathematical disciplinary field

EC = Courses in Economics disciplinary field

BU = Courses in Business disciplinary field

LA= Courses in Law disciplinary field