



University of Messina

Department of Biomedical and Dental Sciences and Morphological and Functional Images

**TEACHING REGULATIONS FOR THE SINGLE CYCLE DEGREE COURSE IN MEDICINE
AND SURGERY (CLASS LM-41)**

Art. 1 - Premise and content

1. The Department of Biomedical and Dental Sciences and Morphological and Functional Images announces the opening of the Single Cycle Medicine and Surgery Degree abbreviated as SCMSD and classified as LM-41 in accordance with the current University regulations.
2. The degree program belongs to Class LM-41 and lasts 6 years with 360 credits, with budgeted admission.
3. This document defines the teaching activity of the SCMSD as well as any other subjects or requirements transmitted from legal or regulatory bodies.
4. It also defines the organization of the degree program according to present regulations applied to freedom of teaching and the rights and duties of instructors and students.

Art. 2 - Learning objectives

The principal objective of the Single Cycle Degree Course in Medicine and Surgery is to train medical doctors who will have theoretical and practical multidisciplinary knowledge as well as methodological expertise; they will demonstrate professional abilities in decision-making and operational autonomy for health promotion, prevention and the treatment of diseases in Italy and internationally. The Course trains students in the methodological foundations of scientific research and forms the basis for lifelong learning.

Art. 3 - Professional Reference Profiles

Graduates will be prepared to carry out the task of health promotion and disease prevention. They will also be able to diagnose diseases, implement the appropriate therapeutic treatment, and monitor treatment in compliance with medical ethical and responsibility principles.

Students will acquire the necessary skills to properly perform in the profession.

Main employment opportunities after passing the national qualification exam and enrolling in the medical register include:

- Practice in public and private health companies and hospitals;
- Private medical practice;
- Health and humanitarian Organizations.

The Degree is also a prerequisite for admission to the:

- Specialization Schools in Medicine, Surgery and Clinical Services;
- Specific Learning Courses in General Medicine.

Graduates can pursue their studies in Second Level Master's Programs and PhD programs. They can also work in the fields of basic medicine, translational medicine and clinical research.

The following ISTAT code is provided: Medical Doctor (2.4.1.1.0).

Art. 4 - Curriculum articulation

The Single Cycle Degree Course in "Medicine and Surgery" does not articulate with other curricula.

Art. 5 - Admission requirements and verification of preliminary coursework

1. An Italian secondary school diploma or certified equivalent of a foreign qualification is required to enroll in the Single Cycle Degree Course in Medicine and Surgery in English. The applicant is also required to have: a) knowledge of the cultural prerequisites as defined by Ministerial Decree concerning the procedures regulating the admission test and reported in the annual admission call; b) knowledge of the English language either as mother tongue or holding an official certificate at a minimum level of B2 (Common European Framework of Reference of languages - CEFR). The scientific and technical terms used in the course access test (International Medical Admission Test - IMAT) are considered of an higher level than the B2 level of English required for students applying to the international Degree Program in Medicine and Surgery. Students who are not

native Italian speakers and have no basic level of Italian required for admission must acquire a minimum level of the Italian language at the B1 level to guarantee productive learning during the professional activities with Italian speaking patients. Italian language courses are organized, already from the first year of the course, at the CLAM, or equivalent Organization. It will attest the achievement of the B1 (CEFR) level.

2. Knowledge is considered to be held in full (Ministerial Decree 270/04, art. 6, clause 1) through admission to the Degree Program by achieving a score equal to or higher than the threshold defined by the annual Ministerial Decree concerning the modalities and contents of the admission tests for the degree programs with access programmed at national level. In the event that the Ministerial Decree does not determine the above threshold for admission, the Degree Program will indicate the minimum threshold beyond which the possession of the expected cultural prerequisites has to be verified. If the performed test at national level demonstrates deficiencies in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, evaluated with a score of less than 25% of the maximum score for each discipline, or students have not reached the minimum threshold, then the Degree Program will assign additional learning requirements (ALRs) to be satisfied in the first year of the course.

3. The methods for recovering any deficiencies in the initial preparation are published on the Degree Course website. In case of non-fulfillment, the student will be enrolled in the first repeating year.

Art. 6 - Teaching activities

1. Teaching activities include: courses, laboratories, seminars, conferences, internships, traineeships, and appropriate outside courses held in other public and/or private institutions in Italy or abroad. They can be courses that deal with IT, foreign languages, or any other area that is coherent with the Degree Program. They must be recognized by the Degree Course Council.

2. For general information about university credits refer to the current University Teaching Regulations.

3. University studies are measured in ECTS (European Credits Transfer System).

4. Each ECTS corresponds to 25 hours of student study.

5. In respect to the art. 10, clause 5, of the current University Didactic Regulations, the teaching load that corresponds to 1 ECTS is equal to 12.5 hours of frontal lessons or equivalent, 20 hours for practical course review and laboratory activity whereas 1 ECTS equals 25 hours for professional training, internship and final exam.

6. No learning or training activity can be carried out without some type of corresponding ECTS.

7. The credits assigned to each teaching activity are acquired by the students upon passing an exam or some other form of evaluation, according to the type of activity pursued.

8. The chosen teaching activities are given in the following areas:

a) basic disciplinary fields required in the Degree Program;

b) basic courses required in the Degree Program;

c) related or supplementary disciplinary areas;

d) all of the SCMSD students, between the 5th and 6th year of the course must attend a training course with Doctors of General Medicine in their office practices.

9. There are electives, activities for the preparation of the final exam, activities related to foreign language knowledge, learning activities for internships and / or traineeships.

10. The academic offer, the list of courses and other teaching activities with the ECTS indicated, the articulation of modules and the duration in hours, are reported in the Student Course Catalogue of the academic year of enrollment.

Art. 7 - Attendance and modes of instructional delivery

1. Attendance is mandatory. The attendance records of each Integrated Course will be issued following the achievement of at least 75% attendance, as long as the hours attended for each discipline within the Integrated Course are not less than 50%. In the event that a student has not reached the required percentage of attendance, the Degree Course Council will determine the possibility of make-up classes with terms and procedures that will be established in agreement with the Coordinators of the Integrated Courses.
2. The teaching activities are divided into lectures and possibly also in exercises, workshops and seminars.
3. SCMSD promotes the development of multidisciplinary seminars that allow students to compare knowledge and methodologies.
4. The Degree Course can provide educational experiences in "e-learning" mode.
5. The individual years of the Course are divided into two instructional periods, defined as semesters, established according to the university calendar with approval of the Department Council. These periods are separated by a reasonable interval in order to allow the completion of exams.
6. The courses are usually offered semi-annually.
7. The teaching period of the lessons, exams and the final exam are established by the instructional Calendar approved annually and available on the institutional website of the Department.

Art. 8 - Propaedeutic courses

1. Propaedeutic courses are:
 - "The Living Matter" for "Microbiology", "Physiology", "Neurophysiology", "Clinical Laboratory Medicine";
 - "Molecular and Cellular Biology" for "Microbiology", "Human Anatomy" and "Neuroanatomy";
 - "Genetics" for "Microbiology", "Human Anatomy" and "Neuroanatomy";
 - "Histology and Embryology" for "Human Anatomy" and "Neuroanatomy";
 - "Body Architecture" for "Human Anatomy" and "Neuroanatomy";
 - "Human Anatomy" for "Neuroanatomy";
 - "Medical Physics, Statistics and Bioinformatics" for "Physiology" and "Neurophysiology";
 - "Human Anatomy" for "Physiology";
 - "Neuroanatomy" for "Neurophysiology";
 - "Physiology" for "Neurophysiology";
 - "Physiology" for "Mechanisms of Disease";
 - "Neurophysiology" for "Mechanisms of Disease";
 - "Microbiology" for "Mechanisms of Disease" and "Clinical Laboratory Medicine";
 - "Mechanisms of Disease" for "Clinical Semiotics";
 - "Clinical Semiotics" for the exams of years 3, 4, 5 and 6;
 - "Pathology" for "Hematology and Oncology", "Neuroscience", "Obstetrics and Gynecology & Fetal Development Abnormalities", and exams of year 6;
 - "Pharmacology" for the exams of years 5 and 6.

Art. 9 - Exams and other forms of evaluation

1. Student evaluation is carried out at the end of each learning activity, based on the discretion of individual instructors and published on UNIMESSE3.
2. For disabled students, suitable equivalent tests and the use of assistants for autonomy and/or communication in relation to the degree and type of their disability are allowed. Disabled students

take exams with the use of the necessary aids. The University guarantees specific technical and teaching aids, as well as the support of specialized tutoring services where established, on the basis of available financial resources, subject to agreement with the professor of the subject.

3. Exams can be oral and/or written and/or practical, in relation to what is determined by the Degree Course Council and pursuant to art. 22 of the University Teaching Regulations. A minimum score of 18/30 is required to pass an exam. The possible award of honors, in addition to the maximum score of 30/30, is subject to the unanimous evaluation of the Examining Commission.

4. The student is allowed to withdraw from a written exam at any time during the exam. The student is allowed to withdraw during an oral exam until the Commission has expressed the final evaluation. The student who has withdrawn is allowed to repeat the exam in the following exam session.

5. The student who has not obtained an evaluation of sufficient is allowed to repeat the exam in the subsequent appeal, provided that between the first and second appeal there is a time interval of at least thirty days.

6. Exams and evaluations related to elective courses, as courses freely chosen by each student, can be considered for the purposes of counting the final grade average as corresponding to one unit.

7. Evaluations related to activities aimed at acquiring relational skills, extracurricular linguistic knowledge, IT skills or other skills necessary for success in the work place are not counted in the required number of exams.

8. The ECTS acquired following examinations possibly sustained with positive results for additional courses with respect to those that can be counted for completing the learning course (free and extra-curricular courses) remain recorded in the student's transcript and may be recognized according to current regulations. The evaluations obtained are not included in the calculation of the average exam scores.

9. Instructors also have the opportunity to carry out written and/or oral tests during the course as part of the overall evaluation of the course. The use of such intermediate tests must be established and published on UNIMESSE3.

10. The exam commission is nominated by the Department Director as proposed by the SCMSD Coordinator. It is composed of at least two members, one of which must be the assigned instructor for the course.

11. The exam commission is chaired by the assigned instructor (President of the Commission), or in the case of multi-module courses or integrated examinations, by the Professor or Researcher indicated in the appointment decision. In case of absence or impediment of the President, he/she is replaced by another instructor.

12. The commission can also be composed of professors and researchers of relevant sectors, adjunct professors and, in the case of insufficient number of commission members, experts in the field as proposed by the Degree Course Coordinator.

13. The Department Director establishes the date of the calls for the various sessions. Any change of date must be justified and promptly requested by the President of the Examining Commission to the Department Director who must authorize the change. Once the date has been set, it cannot be changed to an earlier date.

14. Digital registration of exams are based on the University Teaching Regulations.

Art. 10 - Electives

1. The credits chosen by the student can be obtained as follows:

a) through exams related to disciplines activated in the University, independently chosen by the student.

b) through participation in seminars, conferences, conventions, internships in clinical departments or in research laboratories, cinematographic or theatrical activities, study trips, guided tours,

sports activities etc.; these initiatives must be organized by professors and / or University facilities or, in any case, recognized by the latter.

c) through a combination of a) and b).

2. The initiatives promoted by the University will be validated by the Degree Course Council, upon presentation of a request for recognition by the student, with attribution of ECTS in the amount approved by the Collegial Bodies.

3. Initiatives of interest to the Degree Program and / or Department in which it is based may be proposed. The request for recognition of the initiatives must be presented by one or more professors of the University, to the Degree Course or Department, through a detailed request that contains all the necessary data (program, time commitment, attendance recording method, performance of a written report by the student with the corresponding time commitment and eventual final verification). The Councils involved decide the recognition of the activity and assign proposing professors to the task of releasing the certification needed for the recognition of obtained ECTS by the students, according to the procedures provided for in the following paragraphs 4 and 5.

4. Only the activities carried out during the period of university enrollment can be evaluated, without prejudice to the possible recognition of exams taken in a previous university career and / or of activities carried out under specific agreements stipulated between the University and upper secondary institutions, in which the requesting students participated.

5. ECTS allocated for the activities referred to in paragraph 1, letter b) are assigned at 25 hours for 1 ECTS.

Art. 11 - Curricular activities of training and "internships and traineeships in companies, public or private bodies, professional orders" and methods for verifying results

1. The curricular activities of training and of "internships and traineeships in companies, public or private bodies, professional orders" are aimed at putting the student in contact with the most suitable working realities for his preparation and his professional enrichment.

2. The curricular activities of training can be carried out at public administrations or private bodies and companies, both Italian and foreign, with which the University has entered into a specific agreement; they can also be carried out at University facilities or at external facilities, if managed by Department professors through a regular concession or collaboration agreement with the specific bodies in charge.

3. The curricular activities for "internships and traineeships in companies, public or private bodies, professional orders" must necessarily be carried out outside the University, at public administrations or private bodies and companies, Italian and foreign, which have stipulated a special agreement with the University.

4. The curricular activities of training and of "internships and traineeships in companies, public or private bodies, professional orders" are approved in advance and individually authorized by the Degree Course Coordinator or by one of his / her Delegates.

5. The curricular activities of training and "internships and traineeships in companies, public or private bodies, professional orders" are carried out under the supervision of a Professor of the Degree Program who is responsible for the activity.

6. The Department establishes and publishes the Guidelines relating to the modality of request, approval and recognition of training, orientation, internship and traineeship in companies, public or private bodies, professional orders on the institutional website.

Art. 12 - Mobility and studies completed abroad

1. The Degree Course promotes and encourages the participation of students and instructors in international mobility and exchange programs recognized by the University.
2. The Degree Course Council can recognize any activities carried out abroad as curricular activities of "training and orientation".
3. The Council undertakes to recognize the ECTS earned abroad by students who have participated in the Erasmus program, subject to the opinion of the contact person for international mobility of the Degree Course and according to the procedures established by the University Regulations and the specific Current Regulation on the recognition of ECTS earned abroad.
4. In the case of students who have carried out a specific activity of "preparation of the thesis" abroad, the Council can recognize a number of ECTS not lower than 2/3 of the total ECTS required for the final exam as ECTS earned at foreign institutions.
5. The international mobility contact person of the Degree Course may provide for the recognition of further ECTS for the final examination as "internship ECTS gained abroad", to be converted into Type F ECTS (other educational activities of the University of Messina) or D (electives), in the amount of 1 ECTS for each month of stay dedicated entirely to the preparation of the thesis.

Art. 13 - Final exam

1. In order to be admitted to take the final exam for the achievement of the SCMSD, the student must have acquired all the ECTS required by the Student Course Catalogue, with the exception of those assigned to the final exam, and be current with the payment of university fees and contributions.
2. The student who has earned all the ECTS required by his / her study plan can obtain the Degree regardless of the number of years of enrollment at the University.
3. To obtain the Degree, the student must submit an application to the Student Secretariat, signed by the Supervisor, via the Director, at least 6 months before the start of the first graduation session. To this end, the date of the entry protocol will prevail. For students on mobility this last requirement will be certified by the contact person for international mobility.
4. When submitting the application the student indicates the Supervisor selected from among the professors of the University of Messina and the subject of the thesis. The substitutes and the professors assigned a teaching contract in the academic year of submission of the application may also play the role of Supervisor.
5. The final exam for obtaining the Degree consists in the public discussion of the thesis, related to an original work done by the student. The thesis should preferably be of an application, design or experimental nature, from which the Commission can assess the cultural and scientific maturity as well as the quality of the work performed.
6. The student and the supervisor can avail themselves of the collaboration of a Co-Supervisor in the preparation of the thesis. The Co-Supervisor can be a professor of another university, even abroad, or be a professional, even of another nationality, outside the University. In the latter case, when submitting the thesis application, a certificate must be produced signed by the Supervisor regarding the scientific and / or professional qualification of the Co-Supervisor in relation to the dissertation being examined. The specific task of the Supervisor and any Co-Supervisor is to coordinate the activities of the student in the preparation of the thesis in relation to the number of ECTS provided for this activity.
7. The thesis, written entirely in English, accompanied by the Supervisor's signature, must be presented by the candidate to the competent administrative offices at least 7 days before the final exam. At the same time, the student must deposit a summary of the thesis of the width of a page, in paper and electronic format (MS Word or PDF), at the Department's Educational Secretary

which, in turn, will forward it to the individual examination Commissioners attached to the call for the final test session.

8. The Commission for the evaluation of the final exam is appointed by the Director on the proposal of the Coordinator of the Degree Course. The Commission is composed of at least seven members; the majority is made up of full professors from the University who are teaching staff in the Department. Role professors, substitute professors or contract professors, researchers, tenured professors and assistants of the role to exhaustion, can be part of the Commission even if they are from another Department, as long as they are in compliance with Art. 24 paragraph 2 of the University Teaching Regulations. Teachers from other universities and experts from research institutions can also be part of the Commission.

9. As a rule, the President of the Commission is the Director or Coordinator of the Degree Program or, alternatively, the full professor with the longest seniority in the role. It is up to him to guarantee the full regularity of the performance of the exam and the adherence of the conclusive assessments to the general criteria established by the Degree Program.

10. The minimum score of 66/110 is necessary to pass the final exam. The maximum score is 110/110 with possible attribution of honors.

11. The degree exam score is equal to the sum of the basic score and the evaluation score referred to in the following paragraphs 12 and 13. The basic score is given by the weighted arithmetic average compared to the ECTS and converted in one hundred and ten (communicated by the Student Secretary) of all educational activities with a mark expressed in thirty, provided for in the candidate's study plan, with rounding of tenths to the nearest higher or lower unit; thirty marks with honors are awarded with a value of 31.

12. For the attribution of the points for the curricular vote the Commission has at its disposal up to a maximum of 4 points, which can be assigned by adopting the following criteria:

- International mobility with ECTS acquisition.
- Conclusion of ongoing studies; the score is awarded in the event that the last exam was taken within the session of December and the Degree is obtained by the last useful session of the last year of the course;
- Acquisition of at least two honors in basic and distinctive learning activities;
- Extracurricular training and orientation internships at companies or research institutions.

13. For the attribution of the thesis evaluation mark, the Commission has up to a maximum of 7 points available and can be assigned by adopting the following criteria:

- the quality of the thesis work;
- the extent of the commitment made in the completion of the paper;
- the student's knowledge of the topics of the thesis and the main reference bibliography and ability to link them to the themes that characterize the course of study;
- the ability to express the topics of the paper in a fluid manner and to draw conclusions consistent with the results obtained;
- the ability to summarize, in a timely and exhaustive manner, the work performed and the results achieved, within the time allotted for the exhibition;
- the ability to answer the questions posed by the Commission in an easy and relevant manner.

14. Honors can be assigned, on the proposal of the Supervisor and with the unanimous judgment of the Commission, only for the theses that are in the opinion of the Commission of high quality.

15. The performance of the final Degree exam is public and there is a public proclamation of the final result as well.

16. The modality of the final exams requires the presentation of the thesis, also using multimedia support, and a discussion also with questions addressed to the student.

17. The time allowed for presentation and discussion must be the same for all candidates and for all graduation sessions, regardless of the number of candidates.

18. At the end of the final examination the Graduation Commission communicates the mark.
19. The student who intends to withdraw from the final examination for obtaining the Degree must make it known to the Commission before the President closes the thesis discussion.
20. The proclamation takes place with a short public ceremony, immediately after the conclusion of all the final exams, or in the following days. The place, date and time of the proclamation ceremony will be communicated to the Teaching Secretariat of the Department by the Coordinator together with the communication of the date of the final exam.
21. The final exams for obtaining the Degree are divided into at least three calls.
22. Diplomas are handed out on the occasion of collective ceremonies on the dates indicated in the Teaching Calendar.

Art. 14 - Transfers and recognition of ECTS

1. In the case of transfer of students already enrolled in the same degree course from another Italian, EU or non-EU university or already enrolled in Single Cycle Master Degree Courses in Medicine and Surgery or Dentistry and Dental Prosthesis, for which it is provided that students pass the same admission test, the University will verify the possession of the language requirement (level of English language B2 CEFR, if the admission test has not been performed in English) and the Degree Course Council will decide on the recognition of the ECTS acquired by the student.
2. The Degree Course Council ensures the recognition of the largest possible number of ECTS earned by the applicant, if these have been acquired in the same SDS as the Student Course Catalogue, validating the corresponding exam.
3. In the event that the ECTS were acquired more than 8 years before the date of the request for recognition, the Council, also through a specific Commission, will evaluate the possible obsolescence of all or part of the ECTS acquired for which validation is requested, taking into account the exam programs presented by the applicant and the outcome of a verification interview, as required by art. 23 of the University Teaching Regulations.
4. The Council, on a proposal from the Commission, will decide on any additional tests, including the adoption of an individual study plan.
5. If a student has fewer ECTS given in the same SDS but from another university, the Council will confer with the professor in charge of such discipline, and establish the procedures for integrating the examination for the acquisition of missing ECTS.
6. The Council, by reasoned resolution, can also validate ECTS acquired in different SDS from those given in the course, provided that there is substantial correspondence of content between the learning activity already carried out and the learning activity required by the Student Course Catalogue.
7. The extra ECTS that are not validated can be considered to be "electives", in compliance with the provisions of art. 14, paragraph 5 of the University Teaching Regulations. The Council will utilize the Teaching Committee for recognition of credits as well as organization of teaching activities. The number of Committee members will be determined according to need.

Art. 15 - Guidance and tutoring

1. Orientation activities are organized by the Referent and/or the Guidance and Tutoring Commission of the Department.
2. Each year the Commission assigns a tutor to each new student chosen among the teachers of the Degree Course. This activity can be carried out by the Referent of the Degree Course. The tutor will have the task of following the student throughout his/her training programme, to guide, assist, motivate and actively participate in the learning process, in order to remove obstacles to a

profitable attendance to courses, through initiatives that are congruent with the needs and attitudes of individuals.

3. The tutoring of students enrolled in the Degree Course is part of the institutional duties of the instructors.

4. The names and office hours of the tutors can be found on the Department's institutional website.

5. The procedures for completing the tutoring service are established by the Department Guidance and Tutoring Commission.

Art. 16 Out-of-course students, repeating students, interrupting their studies and forfeiting them

1. The student is considered to be out of course when he has not acquired, within the normal duration of his course, the number of ECTS necessary to obtain his Degree.

2. The Study Program can organize tutoring and support for out-of-course students.

3. Out-of-course students will lose their status as a student if they have not passed any exam required by the academic system for eight consecutive academic years.

4. As regards the possibility of student renouncement of studies, please refer to the provisions of art. 28, paragraph 6 of the University Teaching Regulations.

5. Who are not mother tongue Italian speakers may be enrolled in the third year of the course if they present certification of having achieved a B1 (CEFR) level of knowledge of the Italian language.

6. Students enrolling in the 4th year of the course are admitted if, at the end of the September session and before the start of the 1st semester courses, they have passed all the exams included in the third year and previous years, with a maximum debit of four exams. Students with a debit higher than four exams will be enrolled in the 3rd year as repeating student.

7. Students must pass all the exams of the first three years before they can take 4th year exams.

8. Students enrolling in the 5th year of the course are admitted if, at the end of the September session and before the start of the 1st semester courses, they have passed all the exams included in the study plan for the 4th year and previous years, with a maximum debit of six exams. Students with a debit above six exams will be enrolled in the 4th year as repeating student.

9. It is not possible to attend lectures and/or practical activities in advance and/or take the course exams required in successive years from the current year of enrolment.

10. Students with an attendance debit will be enrolled as repeating students with the obligation to make up missed attendance.

5. The Study Program does not provide for the repeating student, except as determined in article 5, paragraph 3, of this regulation and the non-fulfillment of attendance obligations.

Art. 17 - Degree Course Council Coordinator Nomination and Election

1. The Degree Course Council is chaired by a tenured professor, who is Coordinator, elected among its members by secret ballot and appointed by rectoral decree.

2. In the first vote, the candidate who has obtained the majority of the votes of those entitled to vote is elected.

3. In the event that no candidate reaches the aforementioned quorum, a second ballot is taken, with the result that the candidate who has obtained the majority of validly cast votes is elected.

4. White cards are considered valid votes cast.

5. Where no candidate obtains the majorities required for two votes, the ballot between the two candidates with the highest number of votes shall take place. The ballot vote is valid regardless of the number of voters

6. In case of a tie, the candidate with the highest seniority in the role is elected and, with equal seniority, the oldest by age.
7. The Coordinator position lasts three years and can be re-elected consecutively only once.
8. The Coordinator can suggest a Vice-Coordinator.

Art. 18 - Final provision

For anything that is not expressly regulated by these Regulations, please refer to the current national and University regulations.