



**POLITECNICO**  
MILANO 1863

SCUOLA DI ARCHITETTURA URBANISTICA  
INGEGNERIA DELLE COSTRUZIONI

**POLITECNICO DI MILANO  
SCHOOL OF  
ARCHITECTURE, URBAN PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION  
ENGINEERING**

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**SUPPLEMENTARY FINAL EXAM REGULATIONS  
FOR THE LAUREA MAGISTRALE (EQUIVALENT TO MASTER OF SCIENCE)  
PROGRAMME  
IN SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN**

### **1. Introduction**

The purpose of the present supplementary regulations is to set out the procedures relating to the Laurea Magistrale (equivalent to Master of Science) Exam for the Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design Programme of Study without prejudice to the provisions of the General Regulations of which it is an integral part.

#### **1.1 - Characteristics of the Final Exam**

The Laurea Magistrale Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design Study Programme concludes with a final exam involving presentation and discussion of the laurea thesis. This thesis is developed under the guidance of a member of the School's teaching staff in the role of supervisor called on to approve its contents. Theses can be discussed only on prior approval by the supervisor who is freely chosen by the candidate on the basis of his or her affinity with the subject matter of the thesis.

#### **1.2 - Allocation**

Students wishing to move on to graduation arrange an appointment with one or more School teaching staff members. In this initial interview the task of teaching staff is to assess students' ideas and guide them on the choice of thesis subject and method, give their own availability or suggest colleagues better suited in their opinion to following the work.



## **2. Final Exam and Granting of Qualification**

For admission to the Laurea Magistrale exam students must have obtained all the educational credits required by their approved study plans. They must also be registered on the academic year relevant to laurea sessions.

### **2.1 - Final Exam Registration, admission conditions and methods**

For admittance to the graduation examination students must:

- register for a laurea session via Online Services;
- submit a thesis online in PDF format via Online Services within the deadline;
- obtain thesis approval. Theses must be officially validated by supervisors via Online Services.

The online deposit of the final version of the thesis in PDF format via the platform BiblioPolimi at the link: <http://www.biblio.polimi.it/>, in: Resources> Thesis> Deposit

### **2.2– Type of Final Exam**

Laurea theses select and develop a subject theme coherent with the educational content of students' programme of study and demonstrate the analytical, critical and design skills acquired by students over their entire programme of study in both written form and discussion. Theses must be developed with reference to one of the fundamental themes of architectural design and urban and environmental planning with special attention to issues relating to landscape design, regeneration and re-use of public spaces in urban and suburban contexts and to the requalification of open spaces and infrastructure.

Theses can be design or theoretical/experimental in type.

- Design theses must consist of an original proposal to be presented by candidates by means of graphic elaborations on a suitable scale accompanied by theoretical support dissertations and, if appropriate, other means of formal expression (PowerPoint, video). Analogue and/or digital and plastic scale models using the most appropriate materials to the thesis are also to be recommended.
- Theoretical/experimental theses must take on a significant and innovative theme and contain an original analytical, assessment and criticism component in addition to an appropriate bibliography. Theoretical theses, too, can be accompanied by graphic and iconographical elaborations and be presented in PowerPoint.

### **2.3 - Authors**

Dissertations can be individual or group with a maximum of 3 authors studying on the same study programme. In the case of group theses the individual contributions of the various authors must be clearly stated and evident.



### **2.3.1 - Co-authors**

Co-authors whose theses have been presented at a prior exam session must clearly state:

- whether the thesis is identical;
- if the thesis has been extended or in any way modified.

If the thesis has been extended or modified its title must be changed. In either case the personal contribution of the individual author being assessed must be clear.

### **2.4 - Supervisors**

Supervisors must be chosen from among the School's tenured teaching staff and researchers who have taught at the university in the five previous academic years or from teachers contracted to teach at the school.

In the event that theses require specific in-depth study, one or more co-supervisors may be required. Where supervisors are not part of the Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design LM Study Programme Board, a co-supervisor belonging to this Board will be required. A co-examiner is not required.

### **2.5 - Language of the Final Thesis**

Thesis dissertations can be written and discussed in Italian or English as preferred by candidates who will be required to communicate their decision to the Laurea Board Registrar's Office at the moment of thesis session registration.

### **2.6 - Joint Laurea Agreements between Universities.**

As specified in the general regulations, in the event of agreements between the Politecnico di Milano and other universities on the subject of joint laurea, candidates are required to respect the provisions of the agreement as far as choice of supervisor and thesis writing, presentation and discussion are concerned.

## **3. Implementation of the Final Exam - Final Assessment**

Theses are presented and discussed publicly before the Laurea Board by means of a presentation of the material produced. Discussions must be in Italian or English.

### **3.1 - Presentation methods and dissertation submission.**

In presenting theses candidates must make use of digital, audio-visual or paper supports. The maximum time available to students for thesis presentation and discussion is approximately 20 minutes for each individual candidate and 30 minutes for groups. This must comprise a brief introduction by the supervisor and any questions by the Board. When the number of candidates is especially high on a session, the Board may fix different time frames in order to facilitate progress. Candidates must make at least two paper copies of their thesis files available during the discussion to the Board's members.



### **3.1.2 – Synthesis elaboration**

Starting from the September 2016 Laurea session, in addition to copies of their theses, students must write up a thesis synthesis to be included in a digital archive of the Programme of Study's thesis work. Material may be used to assign prizes and mentions to the best laurea theses in each individual exam session. Syntheses must be written in English.

Detailed information on the procedures to be followed will be made public on the Programme of Study's site <http://www.architettura.polimi.it/>.

### **3.2 - Exam Session Calendar.**

The Laurea Magistrale Study Programme exam session calendar is published on the university site: <http://www.polimi.it/>

Furthermore the notifications section (<http://www.polimi.it/studenti/avvisi/>) contains guidelines on the applications presentation deadlines, the last available date for registration of exam tests and report submissions at the Registrar's office and exam session dates.

### **3.3 - Laurea mark calculation procedures.**

As specified in Art. II 3.2 of the general regulations, points scores will be based on a marks average drawn from exams with the exception of magna cum laude as supplied by the Registrar's Office and thus approximating them to unity [for example average 83.12 (less than 83,50) = 83; or 83.78 (higher or equal to 83.50) = 84].

The Board may add from - 1 to +8 points for the thesis to this score. For Single Cycle Five Year (Old System) Programme students this addition is from 0 to 10 points. The increase is made up of the average of the assessments expressed personally by each individual member of the Board. Where maximum marks are assigned, the Board will consider attributing magna cum laude which requires a unanimous vote from all Board members.

Magna cum laude is awarded for a student's whole course of study not exclusively to the thesis.

In the case of theses presented by more than one author, assessments may be unitary or take account, with different marks, of the different design, analytical, critical and general maturity skills demonstrated by each single candidate.

## **5. Students registered on deactivated Programmes of Study or PSPAs**

### **5.1 Specialist Laurea and Single Cycle Five Year (Old System) Programmes.**

Students enrolled on programmes relating to regulations pre-dating the 270 regulations must refer to Laurea and Laurea Magistrale regulations in addition to these Supplementary Regulations.



## **5.2 PSPA in extinction**

For Final Exam implementation methods students enrolled on deactivated PSPA relating to the Mantua and Piacenza campuses:

-Architecture and Preservation (MN)

-Architecture (MN)

-Sustainable Architecture of Multi-Scale Project (PC)

must refer to the provisions of the Supplementary Regulations for active Study Programmes Architectural Design and History - Architectural Design and History (1086) for Mantua campus and Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design (1085) for Piacenza campus.

## **6. Work organisation**

During the presentation and discussion phases each sub-board must have at least five members including supplementary members.

## **7. USEFUL LINKS**

<http://www.auic.polimi.it/didattica/esami-di-laurea-e-laurea-magistrale/>

<http://www.polimi.it/studenti/carriera/esame-di-laurea/>

[http://www.polimi.it/uploads/media/Guida\\_Carriera\\_2015\\_01.pdf](http://www.polimi.it/uploads/media/Guida_Carriera_2015_01.pdf)