

AGREEMENT ON A DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAM

BETWEEN

the University of Udine, represented by its Rector, Prof. Alberto Felice De Toni, with legal domicile at University of Udine, Via Palladio n. 8, 33100 Udine (Italia), codice fiscale 80014550307;

AND

the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, represented by its Vice-Rector for Studies and International Relations Ass. Prof. Dr. Cristina Beretta M.A., with legal domicile at the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Universitätsstraße 65-67, A-9020 Klagenfurt (Austria).

PREAMBLE

This double degree agreement stems from the desire of its signatories, the two institutions mentioned above, in the spirit of European co-operation, to set up and develop a system of academic exchange.

This European awareness, present in both academic institutions, forms the basis for them to co-operate in their dual sphere of teaching and to research within the framework of existing and future programs promoted by the Commissions of the European Community.

Hence, the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt and the University of Udine have decided to institute an exchange of students that will culminate in the award of the degrees of both institutions under the conditions specified hereunder.

Both universities have already established a joint degree program between the study program “**Multimedia Communications and Information Technology**” of the University of Udine and the study program “Information Technology” (whose name was changed to “**Information and Communications Engineering**” with October 2015) of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt. This agreement replaces the established agreement (October 01, 2012).

A careful evaluation of the former agreement, considering the positive and negative aspects, was jointly produced and approved by the teachers’ boards of the two involved study programs.

The final recommendation of this evaluation was to renew the agreement and this double degree agreement refers to this renewal.

The Ministerial Decree n. 270 of 22 October 2004, “Modifications to the regulations about norms concerning the didactic autonomy of the Universities, approved by means of the decree of the Minister of University and Scientific and Technological Research 3 November 1999, n. 509”, provide, in art. 3, paragraph 10, that, on the base of appropriate agreements, the Italian universities can award degrees jointly with other Italian or foreign universities. For Austrian universities the legal basis for awarding degrees jointly with foreign universities is established in UG 2002 §51 Abs. 2 Z 27.

The University of Udine has activated a master’s degree on Multimedia Communication and Information Technology (LM18 & LM19 Class).

The Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt has activated a master’s degree Information and Communications Engineering.

1. Definitions

Within the framework of this agreement:

- “home institution” refers to the institution in which a student is formally enrolled as a degree candidate;
- “host institution” refers to the institution that has agreed to receive students from the home institution for a period of study.
- “UNIUD study program” means the study program for the master’s degree in Multimedia Communications and Information Technology of the University of Udine, Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Physics.
- “KLU study program” means the study program of the master’s degree in Information and Communication Engineering of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt

2. Objectives

The University of Udine and the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt establish to prosecute the collaboration with the final aim to confer a master’s degree on the following disciplinary areas: Multimedia Communication and Information Technology.

This agreement permits students of the University of Udine, Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Physics (DIMA-UNIUD) and the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Faculty of Technical Sciences (KLU), upon the successful fulfillment of the conditions indicated in this agreement, the opportunity of receiving both the academic degree of the home institution and the legal effects of the corresponding academic degree of the host institution.

In reference to this agreement, both partners agree to respect the laws and regulations in force in the two countries.

In particular, upon successful fulfillment of the conditions set forth in this agreement the students of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt shall be awarded the degree “Diplom-Ingenieurin” or “Diplom-Ingenieur” and the legal effects of the degree “Laurea Magistrale” (Multimedia Communications and Information Technology) of the University of Udine. Upon successful fulfillment of the conditions set forth in this agreement the students of the University of Udine shall be awarded the degree “Laurea Magistrale” and the legal effects of the degree “Diplom-Ingenieurin” or “Diplom-Ingenieur” of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt. The University of Udine and the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt shall each issue a certificate on the academic degree according to its regulations.

Besides, the certificates will be accompanied by a bridge document containing relevant facts on the double degree program. To fulfill this agreement, both partners agree to respect the laws and regulations in force in the two countries.

The details of this agreement are reported in Appendices A and B. These appendices may be modified through a written agreement between the Program Coordinators of both institutions (Section 6).

3. Candidates for Double Degree (DD) Program

- a. Students registered as degree candidates at UNIUD or KLU study program shall have access to the DD Program.
- b. Students shall be screened for eligibility for admission as DD Program candidates by their home institution. The home institution shall respect the admission requirements and enrollment constraints of the host institution.

- c. DD Program candidates are to be nominated by their home institution. This nomination shall replace the evidence of university entrance qualification and the legalization. Only students with very good standing at their home institution might be nominated for this program. Details of nomination are pointed out in Appendix A.
- d. DD Program candidates shall be subject to the standard rules, regulations and enrollment constraints of the host institution. They shall register at the host institution only for the parts of the study program which will be carried out under the responsibility of the host institution. They shall, in terms of registration procedure, be granted all privileges for candidates of “mobility programs”. The home institution is in charge of the student’s didactic career management.

4. Tuition fees and duties

On the basis of reciprocity, the host institution shall waive the DD Program candidates of the tuition fees related to those parts of the study program, which will be carried out at the host institution.

5. Courses, Exams and Theses

- a. Exams for individual courses follow the rules of the institution where the course was audited and is examined. Final exams shall be organized under the responsibility of both institutions. The examination boards shall be composed of chaired professors.
- b. DD Program theses shall be supervised jointly by both institutions. DD Program candidates can choose one main supervisor from the institution where the theses work is carried out and shall be allocated a second supervisor from the other institution. Both supervisors shall be members of the examination board for the final exam. If the main supervisor comes from the “host institution” he/she may join the examination board by teleconferencing.
- c. Details about courses to be audited and examined will be pointed out in Appendix B.

6. Conditions for Obtaining the certificate on the academic degree

- a. The DD Program degree shall only be awarded after the student has completed his/her studies at the home institution, and has additionally fulfilled the following requirements:
 - i) award of at least 30 ECTS credit points under the responsibility of the host institution, and
 - ii) completion of a diploma/master thesis; and
 - iii) successful completion of the oral (and, if applicable written) final exams.
- b. After the completion of the master exam, the University of Udine and the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt shall each issue a certificate on the DD Program Degree according to its regulations.
- c. For the purpose of international mobility, the DD Program Degree will be accompanied by a diploma supplement according to art. IX 3 of the Lisbon Recognition Convention of 11 April 1997.

7. Reimbursements

Expenses for travel and accommodation will be remitted to the students’ account. The host institution engages to help students in their incoming procedures and in obtaining the same facilities available for their students and/or scholars.

Before students' departure, the home institution must guarantee that exchange students have purchased the required insurance.

8. Program Coordination and Student Counseling

- a. Each institution will nominate a program coordinator to ensure that the DD Program proceeds according to a reasonable schematic plan, and that the terms of this agreement are carried out.
- b. Each program coordinator will ensure that a substitute or replacement of this institution's coordinator is named. Each program coordinator will ensure that the partner institution has all information appropriate to the promotion of the program available.
- c. Further on, the host institution will appoint, for each student a tutor to whom he/she may apply for advice or assistance during his/her stay in the host country.
- d. The persons responsible for the program at both institutions shall meet at least once a year in order to:
 - review the effectiveness of the teaching programs;
 - examine the academic results achieved by the students in the light of the institutions' joint effort;
 - propose further actions.

9. Resolution of Conflicts

The parties agree to solve in a friendly manner any dispute arising out of or in connection with the present agreement, including the validity, interpretation, implementation and effect of it. In the event that the disagreement cannot be resolved, the issue(s) will be submitted for arbitration; each party will appoint a member of the arbitration panel, and one member will be chosen by mutual consent.

• Duration, Amendment, Review and Termination of Agreement

- a. This agreement shall be in force from the 1st of November 2016 and will be binding upon the parties for a period of three years. In the absence of substantial changes it may be renewed at the same conditions and for the same period by a written agreement between the two parties, according to subsequent clause b).
- b. The agreement may be terminated at the request of either institution, provided such request is made in writing at least twelve months before renewal is to become effective. Any termination of the agreement must take into account the rights of students already participating or accepted for any exchange to complete the parts of the study program which will be carried out under the responsibility of the host institution.
- c. An evaluation of this agreement will be initiated by both institutions at least twelve months prior to its expiration to ascertain if the program should be continued and, if so, how it might be improved. The agreement shall be subject to revision or modification or after proper evaluation by mutual written agreement.

10. Support for this program

The Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt and University of Udine shall take all necessary joint actions vis-à-vis governments and the Commissions of the European Community to secure financial aid for this program.

11. Promotion of the program

In order to promote joint actions in education and research, both, the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt and University of Udine shall encourage:

- the exchange of students, university staff and researchers;
- study sessions, workshops, and seminars on previously agreed subjects;
- the exchange of information, documents and scientific publications;
- student exchange involving work in practice or visits to companies.

The exchange of persons shall comply with the regulations and procedures in force at the home institutions.

12. Waiver of financial obligations

The signing of this agreement does not entail any financial obligation for the parties.

For the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt

Ass. Prof. Dr. Cristina Beretta M.A., e.h.
(Vice-Rector for Studies and International
Relations)

For the University of Udine

Prof. Alberto Felice De Toni, e.h.
(Rector)

Klagenfurt, *the 28.10.2016*

Udine, *the 25.11.2016*

Appendix A

to the Agreement on a Double Degree Program between the University of Udine (Italy) and the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt (Austria).

Nomination of candidates for a double degree program

1. Precondition

The home institution will nominate only students that have already obtained their bachelors degree (or an equivalent degree) and are admitted to the master's degree program at the home institution.

The selection of nominees will be based on academic results, i.e. nominated students have to be of very good standing at their home institution. Further, knowledge of English and/or the language of the host country (German or Italian) is an important side condition.

Nominated students are entitled to continue their curriculum in the first and second years of the master's degree studies at the host institution.

The candidates from the University of Udine that ask for the registration to the first year of the DD Program for achieving a master's degree must meet all the eligibility criteria requested for the enrollment in the "UNIUD study program" as mentioned in the Manifesto degli Studi; and have the knowledge of a foreign language of European Union in both oral and written form;

2. Quota

Every year a maximum of 10 exchange students per institution will be admitted to this program and pay no fees to the host institution for the entire period of the exchange. At the Alpen-Adria-Universität, fees for special programs like German language courses or sports courses at the University's Sport Institute may arise.

Students exceeding the above-mentioned number will not partake in this program but have the possibility to be normally enrolled in each institution as international degree-seeking students.

The quota of students per year mentioned above will be subject of observation and review. In case this number proves impractical, it might be changed by written agreement signed by the respective rector (or vice-rector in charge) of both institutions.

3. Procedural requirements

Nomination takes place in two phases:

- a. The home institution informs the host institution about the number of students it will nominate according to this program for the succeeding semester no later than December 31 and June 30, respectively.
- b. The nominees for the next semester will be named and copies of their documents will be sent at the latest one month before the start of the host-semester.

4. Preparatory steps

Each nominated student has to be formally enrolled by the host institution. Further, students are advised to arrange the details of the courses to be studied at the host institution before start of the semester with both, the program coordinator of the home and of the host institution in order to obtain advice and approval.

Appendix B

to the Agreement on a Double Degree Program between the University of Udine (Italy) and the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt (Austria).

Courses, Exams and Theses

1. ECTS-Credits

The DD Program joining the degree of Multimedia Communication and Information Technology at the University of Udine and the degree of Information and Communications Engineering at the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt comprises 120 ECTS credits.

The semesters of the master's program spent at either home or host institution shall be fully recognized. The examinations of the courses taken at the host institution, considered as equivalent to examinations taken at the home institution, are specified below (section 2).

For each exam, the grading achieved at the host institution shall be converted by the home institution according to the ECTS grading scale defined by the European Commission.

Students have to acquire at least 30 ECTS at the host institution. At most 60 ECTS acquired at the host institution can be recognized for the degree program at the home institution.

Upon successful fulfillment of the conditions set forth in this agreement the students of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt shall be awarded the degree "Diplom-Ingenieurin" or "Diplom-Ingenieur" and the legal effects of the degree "Laurea Magistrale" (Multimedia Communications and Information Technology) of the University of Udine. Upon successful fulfillment of the conditions set forth in this agreement the students of the University of Udine shall be awarded the degree "Laurea Magistrale" and the legal effects of the degree "Diplom-Ingenieurin" or "Diplom-Ingenieur" of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt.

2. Courses followed at the host institution

The courses eligible for the DD program will be held in English.

The courses eligible for the DD program study may change with time according to the policy of either institution. In any case, each institution will guarantee an adequate courses offer to permit the student's selection.

For each study year, each institution will provide a list of available courses for DD students.

Students from the University of Udine should select courses in total of at least 24 ECTS credits from at least two specialization areas ("Technischer Schwerpunkt") of the master program Information and Communications Engineering from the following list:

- Embedded Systems and Signal Processing
- Mobile and Wireless Systems
- Pervasive Computing
- Media Engineering
- Intelligent Transportation Systems

The remaining courses required to reach the minimum requirement of 30 ECTS credits, always in technical fields, can be selected from the electronic course dictionary of the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt.

Students from the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt shall select courses in total of at least 24 ECTS credits from one of the three specialization areas of the master's degree on Multimedia Communication and Information Technology (LM18 & LM19 Classes) from the following list:

- Multimedia Systems and Interaction Design
- Digital publishing and Music
- Smart Multimedia Technologies.

The remaining courses required to reach the minimum requirement of 30 ECTS credits can be selected from the electronic course dictionary of the University of Udine.

Students are advised to clarify the details of the courses to be pursued at the host institution before start of the semester with both the program coordinator of the home and host institution.

3. Theses

At the end of their study program, the students nominated for the DD Program shall produce a master thesis written in English. This thesis shall be presented at both institutions.

Students participating in this DD Program can complete their master thesis in either the home or the host institution. The DD Program candidate can choose one main supervisor from the institution where the theses work is carried out and shall be allocated a second supervisor from the other institution. Both supervisors should be members of the examination board for the master exam. If the main supervisor comes from the "host institution" he/she may join the examination board by teleconferencing.

Variations of the exam procedure and board composition may be adopted according to changes of the corresponding procedures of either institution.

4. Miscellaneous

Minor adaptations of the rules for recognizing courses, exams and theses specified in this agreement can be arranged jointly by the program coordinators of both institutes.