

“Shaping a World-Class University”

CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2024 – 2° call Summer Schools 2025

OBJECTIVES

The University of Padua promotes and renews a strategy of global internationalization, with the aim of making (under)graduate and doctoral programs environments of open, innovative, and international learning; enhancing the university's reputation as a centre of international excellence; and develop the international dimension of the university's social responsibility through strengthening international cooperation activities (see University Strategic Plan 2023-27).

The University intends to foster internationalisation, by supporting face-to-face and blended initiatives aimed at the innovation and digitalisation of curricular activities; promoting the University, as well as other face-to-face initiatives during its Summer and Winter Schools; and supporting the development of structured mobility programs and/or other activities of particular importance¹.

TYPES OF PROJECTS AND FUNDING

This “Shaping a World-Class University” second call for applications 2024 is entirely dedicated to the funding of Summer Schools 2025 (see Annex 1 for details), up to a maximum of 15.000 EUR per initiative.

	Type	Target audience	Funding ARI (max)
A.	Subject-based Summer Schools	High school students and undergraduate students.	10.000 EUR
B.	Interdisciplinary Summer Schools	Graduate students and PhD candidates	15.000 EUR
C.	Other Summer Schools	Diverse target audiences	5.000 EUR

The total funding allocated for the second call amounts to **Euro 150.000,00**.

The funding from the International Relations Area will be made available to the relevant Structure in a single instalment before the start of the project. The Structure will be responsible for the administrative and accounting management associated with the project. Co-financing of projects is allowed through Department/Centre funds or external funding. Additionally, the participation fees (always applicable to Schools of type A and B - see Annex 1 for more information) will constitute an additional source of co-financing.

Within 30 days from completion of the activities, a final report will be requested, including a description of the activities and the results with evidence of the impact for the involved participants and institutions, a plan for the dissemination and exploitation of the results, and sustainability of the activities. If the final report is not submitted within 30 days from completion of the activities, the funding made available by the International Relations Area must be refunded in full.

The objectives, details, and specific requirements related to the different types of projects eligible for funding are defined in the sheet relating to the macro-areas of intervention, attached to this call (Annex 1).

¹ Face-to-face activities will be authorised in compliance with the regulations in force, while monitoring the global socio-political context at all times.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted **no later than 30 September 2024 at 2pm**, solely by filling in the on-line form available on the web page <https://www.unipd.it/en/shaping-world-class-university> to which the following documents in PDF format must be attached:

1. Project proposal
2. Estimate budget
3. Resolution of the Board or Decree of the Director of the Department/Centre of the applicant/relevant University, approving the proposal and confirming that the administrative-accounting aspects of the project will be managed; in case of more than one application, it's mandatory to indicate the priority in order to assist the Commission's selection
4. Letter of interest from the President/Coordinator of the relevant Degree Programs (required only for Subject-based Summer Schools involving multiple Degree Programs).
5. Any other document contributing to demonstrate the quality of the project: letter of support from the institution/partners; invitation/acceptance letter from foreign professors or professional partners, etc.

In the case of co-financing (other than participation fees), the application must be accompanied by a letter of commitment from the proposing/relevant Department/Centre of the University (Resolution of the Council or Director's Decree) or from the external funding Organisation (dated and signed commitment letter).

Please note: the same Summer School coordinator can submit only one application.

SELECTION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA

The selection will be made by a Commission appointed by the Rector, who will examine each proposal and assign funding on the basis of the following criteria:

- Relevance of the project with respect to the internationalisation goals of the University and the Department/Centre
- International relevance of the project proposal (in terms of involvement of international students and faculty; collaboration with international partners; focus on globally significant issues, etc.)
- Quality of the project proposal (quality of the proposed educational program; interdisciplinarity and innovation; quality of the local and international faculty involved; etc.)
- Sustainability of the action (requested resources and co-financing; infrastructure of the Department and/or hosting locations, etc.)
- Impact and dissemination of results.

The presence of a co-funding by the applicant/relevant Department and/or external organisations of the University will be considered as added value of the project, and an indicator of the commitment of the parties involved and demonstration of the feasibility and practical importance of the project.

The Commission reserves the right to award lower amounts of funding than requested.

Project selection will take into account a general criteria of diversification of the projects both in terms of field of study and Summer School type, in order to encourage a variety of activities as wide as possible.



PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PROCEDURE AND INFORMATION

The person in charge of the administrative procedure is Mrs. Alessandra Gallerano, Head of the Projects and Mobility Office.

This Call for Proposals, including the annexes, and the results of the selection will be published on the University website on the page <https://www.unipd.it/shaping-world-class-university>.

For further information please contact the Projects and Mobility Office:

e-mail international.projects@unipd.it, tel. 049 827 6699, or 049 827 6139

Padua,

The Rector
Prof. Daniela Mapelli

ANNEX 1

Macro-area of intervention: 1. CURRICULUM INTERNATIONALIZATION

Type of project: Blended & Face-to-face Summer Schools

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

In response to a growing demand for Summer Programs from both students and international partners, as well as in response to an increasing interest in intensive interdisciplinary programs that can engage students in tackling global challenges, the University of Padua aims to develop a highly innovative and interdisciplinary portfolio of **Summer Schools**, fully taught in English², which represent a competitive learning activity at international level. The primary goal is to attract international students (including exchange students) and promote the University's educational offerings on an international scale.

2. TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECTS

A. Subject-based Summer Schools

- a. **Description:** thematic Summer Schools offered to secondary school international students (aged 16-18) and undergraduate international students. The aim is to provide students from around the world with the opportunity to attend courses offered by the University of Padua, developing knowledge and skills in a specific field and/or promoting the learning of the Italian language. These courses can be structured as "preparatory" activities for an international study program (Bachelor's or Master's) or as introductory and promotional sessions. The School also serves as a tool for guiding university choices, allowing participants to better understand the academic environment, teaching styles, and disciplines.
- b. **Recipients:** secondary school international students (aged 16-18) and undergraduate international students
- c. **Project duration:** 1 - 4 weeks (a module-based structure is encouraged)
- d. **Timing:** July 2025
- e. **Applicant:** the school must be proposed by a faculty member affiliated with a Department of the University of Padua (Summer School Coordinator), in agreement with the coordinator(s) of one or more international study programs. The project can be submitted in collaboration with other faculty members of the University. It is possible to propose a single application per Department, which includes different modules offered by various international study programs, or a proposal submitted by a Department that includes different modules offered by international study programs of the same level (Bachelor's or Master's) provided by other Departments. In these cases, a letter of interest from the president/coordinator of the relevant study programs is required.
- f. **Teaching Delivery Modes:** (i) Face-to-face, including case studies analysis, group work, workshops, exercises, seminars, laboratory activities, and educational visits, totalling at least four hours of educational experience per day; (ii) Blended - Combination of face-to-face and virtual teaching, utilizing innovative digital technologies and methodologies.
- g. **Credit Allocation:** credit-bearing schools are encouraged (from 3 to 6 ECTS), whose allocation should be properly defined by the relevant study programs/Departments of the University.

² Exception made for modules dedicated to Italian Language

- h. **International Partnerships:** the School may be organized in collaboration with partner institutions and/or involve international faculty and researchers.
- i. **Venue:** the School must be organized in Padua or in other decentralized locations/facilities of the University (e.g. Treviso, Rovigo, Asiago, Brixen, etc.). Other locations within the regional/national territory may be proposed and will be evaluated during the selection phase.
- j. **Participation Fee:**
 - i. 500 EUR/student for 1-week courses
 - ii. 1000 EUR/student for 2-week courses
 - iii. 1300 EUR/student for 3-week courses
 - iv. 1500 EUR/student for 4-week courses.Fees will be centrally collected by the International Relations Division and redistributed to the proposing Department(s). Fee waivers (partial and full) will be available for students from partner universities.
- k. **Funding:** the maximum budget that can be requested for this type of Summer Schools is **10.000 EUR**.
- l. **Roles and Responsibilities:**
 - i. The **International Relations Division** will be responsible for promoting the Summer Schools, collecting applications through a dedicated portal, and transferring funds to the coordinating Department.
 - ii. The coordinating **Department** will be responsible for delivering the teaching, selecting candidates, and providing general support to students before, during, and after the School (teaching, course program, practical information, logistics, etc.).

B. Inter-disciplinary Summer Schools

- a. **Description:** high-quality, intensive, interdisciplinary, and innovative courses open to second and third-cycle university students. Through active student involvement and engagement with external partners (companies, local organizations, etc.), these Schools aim to foster the development of “transversal skills” (e.g. intercultural competence, relationship and collaboration skills, teamwork, project management and creative thinking, problem-solving approach, etc.). They may be combined with Italian-language modules.
- b. **Recipients:** second and third-cycle university students
- c. **Project duration:** 1 - 4 weeks (it is recommended to agree on the duration with international partners, where applicable). Please note: some universities (e.g. UK universities) may prefer 4-week Schools in order to support participating students with national funding for mobility (e.g. UK Touring program).
- d. **Timing:** July 2025
- e. **Applicant:** given the interdisciplinary nature of these Schools, the course must be proposed by a faculty member affiliated with a Department of the University of Padua (Summer School Coordinator), in collaboration with at least one other faculty member from another Department/Centre of the University (Summer School co-Coordinator). The Department to which the School coordinator belongs will be responsible for the educational and administrative management of the course.
- f. **Teaching Delivery Modes:** (i) Face-to-face, including case studies analysis, group work, workshops, exercises, seminars, laboratory activities, and educational visits, totalling at least four hours of educational experience per day; (ii) Blended - Combination of face-to-face and virtual teaching, utilizing innovative digital technologies and methodologies.

- g. **Credit Allocation:** credit-bearing schools are encouraged (from 3 to 6 ECTS), whose allocation should be properly defined by the relevant study programs/Departments of the University.
- h. **International Partnerships:** the School may be organized in collaboration with partner institutions and/or involve international faculty and researchers.
- i. **Venue:** the School must be organized in Padua or in other decentralized locations/facilities of the University (e.g. Treviso, Rovigo, Asiago, Brixen, etc.). Other locations within the regional/national territory may be proposed and will be evaluated during the selection phase.
- j. **Participation Fee:**
 - i. 500 EUR/student for 1-week courses
 - ii. 1000 EUR/student for 2-week courses
 - iii. 1300 EUR/student for 3-week courses
 - iv. 1500 EUR/student for 4-week courses.Fees will be centrally collected by the International Relations Division and redistributed to the proposing Department(s). Fee waivers (partial and full) will be available for students from partner universities.
- k. **Funding:** the maximum budget that can be requested for this type of Summer Schools is **15.000 EUR**.
- l. **Roles and Responsibilities:**
 - i. The **International Relations Division** will be responsible for promoting the Summer Schools, collecting applications through a dedicated portal, and transferring funds to the coordinating Department.
 - ii. The coordinating **Department** will be responsible for delivering the teaching, selecting candidates, and providing general support to students before, during, and after the School (teaching, course program, practical information, logistics, etc.).

C. Other Summer Schools

Other types of Summer Schools that do not fit into the aforementioned categories (in terms of content, target audience, duration, and/or period) may still be submitted. However, priority will be given in the selection process to the Summer Schools mentioned above (Type A and B).

The management of Type C Summer Schools will be entirely the responsibility of the Department, including promotion, collection of applications, etc., in line with the standard practice for Summer and Winter Schools funded in previous editions of the 'Shaping a World-Class University' Call.

The maximum budget that can be requested for this type of Summer Schools is **5.000 EUR**. Priority will be given to proposals from faculty who have not received funding under previous 'Shaping a World-Class University' Calls.

3. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITIES

- a. Specific requirements:
 - i. Minimum number of participants: 20
- b. Priorities:
 - i. For Blended Summer School, the use of the virtual exchange approach is prioritized, so to encourage constructive and structured interaction between individuals or groups, with the support of digital technology;
 - ii. Use of the 'Challenge Based Learning' approach (<https://www.challengebasedlearning.org/>);
 - iii. Participation of international partners is an added value;
 - iv. The participation of professional partners is an added value.