Master in
Eco-Social Design

2025/26
Application and Admission

You can find all you need to know in order to apply and gain admission to this study programme by browsing through the information below.

Deadlines and important dates

Early Bird Application
Application: 03/03 - 06/05/2025 (by noon local time)
Language exams (online): 17/03/2025 (registration: 03 – 09/03/2025) and 16 - 17 and 22 - 23/04/2025 (registration: 24/03 – 08/04/2025)
Interview (online): 22/05/2025
Publication of ranking lists: by 27/05/2025
Payment of the 1st instalment of the tuition fees: by 05/06/2025 (by noon local time)
Enrolment: from 11/07 - 05/08/2025 (by noon local time)

Late Application (only for EU citizens)
Application: 28/05 - 03/07/2025 (by noon local time)
Language exams (online): 23 - 27/06/2025 (registration: 28/05 – 15/06/2025)
Interview (online): 16/07/2025
Publication of ranking lists: by 24/07/2025
Payment of the 1st instalment of the tuition fees: by 05/08/2025 (by noon local time)
Enrolment: from publication of the ranking list until 14/10/2025 (by noon local time)

Preparatory courses and Freshers Days
Intensive language courses: 01 - 19/09/2025 (Monday to Friday, 6 h/day)
Freshers Days: 29 - 30/09/2025

1st semester
Classes: 29/09 - 23/12/2025
Holidays: 24/12/2025 - 06/01/2026
Classes: 07 - 24/01/2026
Exams: 26/01 - 03/03/2026

2nd semester
Classes: 02/03 - 02/04/2026

Holidays: 03 - 06/04/2026
Classes: 07/04 - 13/06/2026
Exams: 15/06 - 11/07/2026

Autumn session
Exams: 24/08 - 26/09/2026

Available places

EU citizens and citizens given parity of treatment
Early Bird Application: 15
Late Application: 10

Non-EU citizens (living abroad)
Early Bird Application: 10

Entry requirements

In order to gain admission to this programme you need a bachelor degree in one of the following Italian degree classes:

- M.D. 270/04:

  - L-4 Disegno industriale
  - L-17 Scienze dell'Architettura
  - L-21 Scienze della pianificazione territoriale, urbanistica, paesaggistica e ambientale
- M.D. 509/99:

  - 42 Disegno industriale
  - 04 Scienze dell'architettura e dell'ingegneria edile
  - 07 Urbanistica e scienza della pianificazione territoriale, urbanistica, paesaggistica e ambientale
- If you have another Italian degree, you need 10 credit points in the following scientific disciplinary sectors:

  - ICAR/13 Industrial Design
  - ICAR/14 Architectural and Urban Composition
  - ICAR/15 Landscape Design
  - ICAR/16 Interior and Decorative Architecture
  - ICAR/17 Representation of Architecture
  - ICAR/21 Urban design and landscape
  - L-ART/06 Cinema, photography and television
  - ING-INF/05 Information processing systems
  - INF-01 Informatics

If you have a degree from the Italian old system (prior to D.M. 509/99), or a title from another degree, or a degree obtained abroad*, the selection committee will examine your career to determine your eligibility for admission.

(*) Italian citizen who have obtained their degree abroad must also have a secondary school leaving qualification.

If you have not yet graduated at the time of application:
You can apply, but you will be admitted conditionally and need to submit your diploma by the enrolment deadline.

If you graduate after the enrolment deadline:
You cannot enrol and you will lose your place, which will be offered to the subsequent applicant in the ranking list. In this case you should not pay the tuition fees to secure your admission. You will be able to submit a late enrolment request and, only if there still are available places, you can enrol by 12 December 2025.

To be admitted you must fulfil the language requirements indicated in the section "Language requirements".

According to national regulations, simultaneous enrolment in a maximum of 2 programmes is possible (however, the two programmes must not belong to the same class, e.g., LM-69/LM-69 and must differ for at least 2/3 of the course contents).

Language requirements

The official teaching language is English. Therefore, the following language requirements apply, otherwise you will be excluded from the admission procedure:

Entry level (to gain admission)
English: B2

The levels of the Common European Framework of Reference apply.

You can demonstrate your language proficiency in the application portal (in the section "upload language certificates" and/or "enrol for language exams") after you have created an application in the section "create/manage applications".

- In case your final certificate has been awarded by an **Italian** public institution, you need to submit a self-declaration.
- In case your final certificate has been awarded by a **foreign** public institution, you need to upload diploma scanned copy of the original.

You can demonstrate language proficiency through:

1. **the main teaching language in your final high school year**, if English (recognised as C1) **Foreign qualifications**: If the main teaching language is not clearly stated on your hign school diploma, please also upload a letter/document issued by your high school stating the medium of instruction.
2. **a bachelor or master degree** in English (recognised as C1). unibz graduates must upload the language certificates obtained and/or declare that they have passed language exams at the unibz Language Centre (B2, B2+ or C1). **Foreign qualifications**: If the teaching language is not clearly stated on your University degree, please also upload a letter/document issued by your University stating the medium of instruction during your studies.

3. **a recognised language certificate** (see the list of recognised certificates) If you cannot upload the certificates, you can send them by e-mail as PDF files or deliver them in person to the Language Centre by the application deadline (see "Deadlines" section).
4. **language exams organised by the unibz Language Centre**. You can register for these exams online through the application portal (in the section "enrol for language exams") after you have filled out your application in the section "create/manage applications". The registration periods are indicated in the "Deadlines" section. If you start your application outside a language exams registration period, you must return to the portal during one of the periods indicated above in order to register for an exam. Information regarding the structure of the language proficiency exams, their duration, their administration, and typical processing time for the publication of the results can be found on the following webpage.

For information on studying in three languages also visit the following page.

Online application

Your application must be submitted online through the Application Portal. The deadlines are indicated in the "Deadlines" section.

- You need to create an account and upload a valid ID card or passport (front/back). Please note: if your document is invalid, incomplete or unreadable, you will be excluded from the admission procedure;
- Fill in the online form and upload the attachments listed under "Admission procedure";
- If you gained your qualification abroad, you must also upload the diploma of your qualification: if you are not yet in possession of the diploma, you'll need to upload it upon enrolment;
- Complete and submit the online application by the deadline. Once the application has been sent, it cannot be modified. Filled-in forms which have not been sent correctly will not be taken into consideration.

Please note: Mendacious declarations will be criminally prosecuted and will result in the automatic exclusion from the ranking list.

EU-Citizens and equivalent
You might apply for more than one study programme. If you are excluded in the first session, you might apply again in the second one.

Considered as equivalent are:

1. Citizens from Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, San Marino and the Vatican City State;
2. Non-EU citizens with a valid permit to stay in Italy (see article 39, paragraph 5 of decree no. 286 of 25.07.1998: "**permesso di soggiorno**" (residence permit) for work, family reasons, political or humanitarian asylum, religious reasons). In this case, you apply directly to the University as described above and must submit a copy of your valid permit to stay. A permit to stay for study reasons or a visa for tourism is **not valid.** If the permit has expired, you must attach a renewal request. **Please note** that if you do not upload the permit in the application portal, you will be automatically considered a non-EU citizen

living abroad and therefore subject to the admission procedure through the Italian authorities in your country of origin.

Non-EU-Citizens (living outside of Italy)
Only one application period is offered. After the deadline it is not possible to apply anymore. Application fee: € 50.

Once the ranking list has been published, if you have gained admission, secure it by paying the first instalment and then start your visa application on the Universitaly portal. The application on Universitaly is mandatory, otherwise you will not be allowed to enrol. On Universitaly you can apply for one study programme only.

Admission procedure

The admission procedure includes two stages:

Stage 1: Evaluation of the documents
The first step is an evaluation of the documents that must be uploaded by the respective application deadline.

Selection criteria of stage 1:

- Portfolio: **max 20 points**
- outline of a project proposal: **max 20 points**
- In order to be eligible for the second stage, you must have obtained **at least 20 points**.

The following documents need to be uploaded in the application portal:

1. academic background:

- **if graduated in Italy**: diploma supplement or substitute-declaration (following the Italian D.P.R. no. 445/2000) of the degree awarded, final grade, exams passed with corresponding grade, the dates in which the exams were passed, the credit points, the subject areas, and the teaching hours;
- **if graduated abroad**: diploma supplement or final degree certificate issued by the foreign university (to be translated into English if in a language other than Italian, German or English) detailing the final mark, exams passed as well as corresponding grades, the dates in which the exams were passed, the credit points, and the teaching hours. A description of the contents of single courses is recommended; it is advisable to attach a declaration of value or similar document by the university with the indication of the lowest grade needed in order to achieve the degree as well as the highest mark obtainable;
- if not graduated yet: please upload the list of your passed exams (see the section entitled "Confirmation of Study Place and Enrolment").

2. **curriculum vitae** in English (pdf);

3. outline of a project proposal (pdf), on which you would want to work for a semester. In max. two A4 pages, the main points must be explained and visualized concisely and appealingly. You may include text, images, graphics, etc. The required language is English;

The project outline should describe and contain:

- Ecological and social relevance and potential transformation
- Creative thinking (we appreciate unconventional ideas and approaches)
- Framing and quality of the visual storytelling (we want to understand quickly the essentials, and still get an idea of the profound thinking behind)
- Tangible project idea(s) (we do not expect perfect solutions, but concrete proposals)

4. portfolio in English (pdf) max file size 20 MB

It can contain also non-design projects in relevant fields (activism, social work, culture, volunteering, etc.)

The works in the portfolio should show:

- the ecological and social relevance and potential transformation
- Innovative and creative thinking
- Formal design qualities (aesthetics, functionality, details)
- Framing and quality of the (visual) storytelling

Based on the documents received, the commission will decide, after judging the attitude and experience, which applicants will be admitted to the second stage of the admission process.

Stage 2: Interview
Max. 20 points

The second stage consists in an online interview designed to have a dialogue to get a deeper understanding on the candidate's ideas, experiences, motivations and points of view.

In the interview we will discuss:

- Experience in the field of the study programme:
- Inter- and transdisciplinary experiences
- Innovative and creative thinking
- Ability to work in a team
- Ability to discuss and to reflect critically

Candidates must achieve a minimum score of 30/60 total points to be eligible for the enrolment.

Priority criteria
In the event of equal total points, priority shall be given in the following order:

- score obtained for the draft project proposal
- score obtained for the interview
- score obtained for the portfolio

Only in case of equal scores, the youngest candidate will be chosen.

Ranking lists
The Admission Committee will only evaluate the documents uploaded in the portal by the application deadline. The ranking lists with the admitted students will be published here: https://www.unibz.it/en/applicants/ranking-lists/ and are only valid for the respective

academic year.

Secure your admission and enrolment

If you have been admitted to more than one study programme, you can secure your admission for a maximum of 2 programmes by paying the designated rate twice. By confirming your place, you renounce admission to the other programmes.

1. Choose the study programme and pay the fees (to secure your admission) in the application portal.

The deadlines are indicated in the "Deadlines" section.

If you do not meet this deadline, you will automatically be excluded and the next applicant in the ranking list will be admitted.

For EU citizens and citizens given parity of treatment only: any remaining places of the early bird application, will be offered in the late application.

Please note: Paying university fees does not confer student status, which is only obtained by enrolling. If you pay but do not enrol, you are not entitled to a refund, except for non-EU applicants living abroad who do not obtain the necessary documents for enrolment from the Italian authorities in their country.

2. Enrol online in the application portal.

The deadlines are indicated in the "Deadlines" section.

Enrolment is recommended as early as possible, so you have the possibility to upload incomplete documents before the deadline.

If you do not meet the enrolment deadline, you will be excluded and the next applicant in the ranking list will be admitted.

Admission with reservation:

If you do not have the required academic qualification, you will be given a conditional offer for a study place and you must submit your qualification upon enrolment. If you achieve your qualification after the enrolment deadline, you cannot enrol, and you will lose your place which will be offered to the subsequent applicant in the ranking list. **Advice**: If you achieve your qualification after the enrolment deadline, you should not pay the tuition fees to confirm the study place. You will be able to submit a late enrolment request and, only if there are study places still available, you can enrol by 12 December 2025.

Students intending to transfer from another Italian University to unibz must submit to the Student Office - at the beginning of the academic year - a copy of the transfer application presented at the university of provenance.

3. If you have a foreign university degree, during enrolment you must upload:

- degree diploma of your Bachelor
- official translation of your degree into Italian (not necessary if the documents have been issued in German or English)
- Diploma supplement, where it must be indicated: that you have achieved at least 180

credit points (ECTS) and that the qualification gives access to a master programme

Depending on the foreign education system your degree belongs to, you must also upload:

a) EU countries, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein:

- Statement of **Correspondence** of your Bachelor degree, to be downloaded from the ARDI - Automatic Recognition Database – Italy

b) Non-EU countries that are signatories to the Lisbon Convention:

- Statement of **Correspondence** of your Bachelor degree, to be downloaded from the ARDI - Automatic Recognition Database – Italy **and**
- Statement of **Verification** of your Bachelor degree, issued by the Italian Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence (CIMEA)

c) Non-EU countries that are not signatories of the Lisbon Convention:

- Statement of **Comparability** of your Bachelor degree, issued by the Italian Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence (CIMEA) **and**
- Statement of **Verification** of your Bachelor degree, issued by the Italian Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence (CIMEA)

unibz performs the necessary checks on your foreign qualification and in case of doubt reserves the right to request additional documents.

Please note that if you do not possess a valid admission qualification, you can be excluded with Rector's decree even after enrolment.

If you are a non-EU citizen living abroad:

If you are eligible for admission (check the ranking lists) and have also applied on Universitaly, the Italian Authorities in your own country will issue you the entry visa for studies/university.

This will allow you to arrive in Italy to enrol for the study programme that you have applied for, after passing the admission procedure.

According to Italian law, within 8 working days of your arrival in Italy, you must have applied for the residence permit: as soon as you arrive, get in touch with the Advisory Service and you will be given the necessary information for starting the procedure.

Once you will obtain your residence permit (permesso di soggiorno), you have to hand it in at the Student Office personally or via e-mail.

Tuition fees

Fees amount to **€ 1200**

- **1st instalment (€ 600):** includes the revenue stamp of € 16.
- **2nd instalment (€ 600):** must be paid by March of the following year

Delayed payment of the second instalment will result in a fine being levied. If you have not paid the tuition fees, you will be unable to take exams and will not be able to transfer to other

universities or other study programmes.

If you drop out of a programme, interrupt your studies or are excluded from studies, you are not entitled to reimbursement of the fees.

Exemption from the tuition fees is granted to:

- Students with a disability recognized under article 3, paragraph 1, of Law No 104/1992, or with a disability up to or exceeding 66%: the disability certificate, issued by the health authorities, must be handed in at the beginning of the academic year.
- Foreign students who have been granted a scholarship from the Italian government.

Students who benefit from a scholarship granted by the Autonomous Province of Bozen-Bolzano are entitled to receive a refund of the tuition fees.

Recognition of credit points from previous studies

Credit points from previous university studies can only be recognised after enrolment if the exams taken at the university of provenance are equivalent in content to those offered at unibz. You can fill out the application after enrolment.

The Advisory Service provides support regarding your choice of study. In many cases a simple call or a short request is enough to get the relevant information (Tel. +39 0471 012100).

Subject to change.
Latest update: 30.06.2025

Advisory Service
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Fax +39 0471 012109
apply@unibz.it

Opening Hours
Tuesdays: 14:00-16:00
Thursdays: 10:00-12:00

Alternatively, you may call us throughout the week or book an online appointment