Open call for admission to the *Foundation Course*

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021**

**THE RECTOR**

**CONSIDERING** the Statute of this University, issued with R.D. no. 2845 dated 07/12/2011 as amended and supplemented;

**CONSIDERING** Art. 6, paragraph 1 of Italian Ministerial Decree 270/2004 for the university sector and Art. 7, paragraph 2 of Italian Presidential Decree 212/2005 for the AFAM sector, under which the higher education institutions may hold preparatory educational activities for admission to Bachelor's and Master's degree courses, offering foundation course even shorter than one year, in order to fill the admission requirement gap for those who wish to enroll in Italian higher education courses;

**CONSIDERING** the 2020 Italian Interministerial provisions, namely "Procedures for the entry, residence and enrollment of foreign/international students to higher education courses in Italy for the academic year 2020-2021";

**CONSIDERING** that a foundation course is a tool to increase the appeal of the international attractiveness of universities by recruiting students from countries where pre-university education is shorter than twelve years;

**CONSIDERING** the University Academic Regulations;

**CONSIDERING** the positive experience of the Foundation Course successfully completed during the previous editions;

**CONSIDERING** the Student Administration Regulations for the Academic Year 2020/2021;

**CONSIDERING** the resolution of the Academic Senate dated 15 September 2020 and the resolution of the Board of Directors dated 17 September 2020

**DOES HEREBY DECREE THE FOLLOWING**

**Art.1**

*(General provisions)*

The application procedure for admission to the *UNISS Foundation Course* (FC) is officially launched. International students coming from countries where compulsory pre-university education is shorter than 12 years, that is the minimum amount of school years required to enroll at the University in Italy, will fill the educational gaps resulting from the differences of the two national education systems.
The UNISS Foundation Course will develop the knowledge, skills and abilities which are necessary to attend university courses. FC activities are preliminary and preparatory for a degree course and they may not be validated as part of the university course to be attended.

In addition, the FC is open to foreign students who have a secondary school diploma and who are temporarily subjected to personal freedom restriction measures, provided that such measures allow them to attend at least 75% of the total hours included in the current program. Attendance may be carried out in class by those inmates who are granted prison furlough, or by remote learning, using the IT rooms which are currently being created in the prisons of Northern Sardinia included in the UNISS Prison University Network (CR Alghero, CC Nuoro, CC Sassari, CR Tempio).

**Article 2**

**(Admission requirements)**

Applicants may attend the FC and granted access to the final test, if they have:

- a secondary school diploma, with a certified translation into Italian, including a declaration of value issued by the Italian Embassy or Consulate of the country where the diploma was issued, or as a substitute for the comparability and/or verification certificates of qualifications issued by ENIC-NARIC centers;
- a valid identity document including a photography;
- a copy of the residence permit or a photocopy of the payment receipt issued by a post office, as a proof of application to receive a residence permit;
- a copy of the pre-enrollment application made via the Universitaly portal: https://www.universitaly.it/

In order to allow the participation to the selection also to those who are not able to submit the above-mentioned documents within the deadline of the call, the Selection Panel reserves the right to temporarily accept the certifications submitted. If admitted, the candidate will not be awarded the final diploma if he or she fails to provide the documents required for admission.

If the applicant was awarded a secondary school diploma in Italy, such certificate may be self-certified.

**Article 3**

**(Applying to the admission test)**

Admission test applications must be submitted using the form attached to this open call, to "Università degli Studi di Sassari, Ufficio Protocollo, Piazza Università, 21, 07100, Sassari" by **January 08, 2021, 12:00 pm**.

Application may be submitted in a sealed envelope showing the sender's name and the wording "Partecipazione all'ammissione al Fondazione Course A.A. 2020/2021" or via PEC certified e-mail to the official PEC address of the University of Sassari: protocollo@pec.uniss.it

If applicants have no access to PEC registered e-mails, they may submit their applications via standard e-mail by sending them to selezioni@uniss.it

The postmark of the accepting postal office will not serve as proof; the date of registration by the Registrar's Office (Ufficio Protocollo) of this University will serve as proof.
Article 4
Selection procedure

Admission to the FC is granted to those who successfully pass the interview in Italian or, as an alternative, in French or English. Applicants must prove to have the skills required by the school education offered in their country.

The ranking list will be made according to the results of the applicants' interviews. The test procedures, the criteria for the assessment of qualifications, and the scores which may be awarded by the Admission Panel appointed by the Teaching Staff Board, will be published on January 18, 2021 on the UNISS website page dedicated to the UNISS Foundation Course. The course will only be confirmed if a minimum of 12 students apply.

Through its scientific committee and governance, the University reserves the right to consider fewer of them, based on specific educational requirements, also related to internationalization.

Article 5
(Invitation for applicants)

The admission test will take place on-line on January 21, 2021, 9:30 am. Applicants are required to connect strictly following the instructions published on the University website. Failure to do so will result in the exclusion from the admission test. Applicants are also required to have with them a valid identity document including a photograph, from 9:15 am on.

Article 6
(Ranking list)

The list of admitted students will be published by January 26, 2021. Admitted students must register by the terms set when the list is published.

Article 7
(Educational activities)

The Foundation Course is designed for international students:
- who have a secondary school diploma but have not attained the minimum school years necessary for enrollment at Italian universities under current regulations.
- who need to fill any educational or language gaps, choosing individual modules from the list of modules offered by the Foundation Course.

The Foundation Course has a maximum duration of one year and allows students to obtain a certificate proving the skills necessary to enroll in a degree courses at the University of Sassari, for the A.Y. 2020/2021. It includes two study domains:

Foundation Course in Human Science (HUMANITIES AREA)
(60 University Credits)

It includes modules in: Italian language and culture courses, Civic Education and History, English Language, Basic Mathematics and Computer Science, specific courses chosen by the student, according to the future university course, including Art History, Sociology, subjects of scientific area. At the end of the course, a final test will be administered.
Foundation Course in scientific subjects (TECHNICAL-SCIENTIFIC AREA)
(60 University Credits)

It includes modules in: Italian language and culture courses, Civic education and geo-history, English language, Basic mathematics and computer science, specific courses chosen by the student, according to the future university course, including Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Economics.

At the end of the course, a final test will be administered.

Both curricula provide for the award of a total of 60 educational credits (CF). However, tailored courses may be provided depending on the specific skills recognized to the candidate.

Attendance to the Foundation Course can be secured via distance learning and/or in presence, at the University of Sassari.

Subject to the approval by the Academic Board, candidates may customize their curriculum by blending distance and presence learning.

Distance learning includes three learning modes:
- Synchronous: via Microsoft Teams, available free of charge to students, with video lessons lasting between 25-30 minutes;
- Asynchronous: via UNISS Moodle platform, on alert forums (news) or topic-specific forums or tests (entry tests or continuous assessment), or multimedia resources (audio-video) or PPT presentations, pdf’s or self-evaluation and final tests;
- Mixed: via both platforms

The following equalization parameter between class and distance learning will be used: 1 distance learning CFU is equivalent to 25 hours of study, that is, 2-3 hours of distance learning, either in synchronous, asynchronous or mixed modes.

Each course includes 4 modules:
- Basic
- Research programme;
- Elective course;
- Final test

Both educational courses include a total of 300 hours, which are equivalent to 60 credits. The hour/credit ratio is equal to 5 to 1, for both lectures and for practicals, both delivered in Italian.

Students are required to collect the credits provided by the course and specified in the individual program, achieving a level of proficiency in Italian language equivalent to Level B1, as defined by the Common European Language Framework (CELF).

The credits of each subject are obtained through:
- passing the intermediate test(s), either in class or distance learning mode, and evaluated in thirtieths, and honors if applicable;
- attendance will be certified both in class and distance learning, according to the delivery mode chosen by each student.

The minimum grade necessary for the attainment of credits for each subject is equal to 60% of the maximum achievable grade, and CFU credits for each module are awarded by obtaining the CFUs of each subject tat is part of the module.
The final exam may be taken by students who have a secondary school diploma and have passed all the subjects required by the area. The exam includes the drafting and defense of a paper that will be evaluated by a special Panel.

The final test may be carried out in physical presence at the University of Sassari or on-line, on the basis of justified reasons.

The procedures will be published on the University website: https://www.uniss.it/

The minimum grade required for the award of the certification is equal to 60% of the maximum grade possible.

The final grade will be expressed in sixtieths (60/60).

**ART. 8**

*(Teaching staff panel)*

The organization and coordination of educational activities are entrusted to the Teaching Staff Board, including three professors of the University of Sassari, one of which will be appointed as Director of the Foundation Course.

The Teaching Staff Board will be responsible for the recruitment of teaching staff and it may be supported by external experts chosen among secondary school staff.

The Teaching Staff Committee will be supported by classroom tutors, who will support students during the entire educational process by organizing teaching activities.

**ART. 9**

*(Fee)*

The amount of the registration fee is € 2,500.00, including a € 475.15 University fee, a € 16.00 stamp duty and a € 80.00 insurance fee.

The University will offer scholarships and it may consider the partial or total fee exemption for specific student categories.

**ART. 10**

*(Processing of personal data)*

The personal data provided by candidates during the application process for individual courses will be processed, stored and archived by the University of Sassari, in accordance with Article 13 of EU Regulation (EU) 2016/679, regarding the operating, administrative and accounting procedures, and/or procedures of other nature, related to the management of this procedure and the requirements connected with legal obligations and the start of the academic career of each student.

The granting of this data is mandatory in order to assess participation requirements, under penalty of exclusion from the selection process.

The data controller is the University of Sassari, that guarantees to the parties concerned the right of access and amendment of personal data, pursuant to art. 15-18 of EU Regulation (EU) 2016/679. Applicants have the rights to access their personal data, to amend them and supplement them, as well as restrict their use, by filing a request to the University of Sassari by mail to: helpesse3@uniss.it.

For further details, see https://www.uniss.it/protezione-privacy.
ART. 11
(Transparency of the procedure)

The provisions of this call which ensure the transparency of all stages of the procedure comply with Italian Law no. 241 dated August 7, 1990 as amended and supplemented.

The person responsible for the administrative procedure is Dr. Vivaldo Massimiliano Urtis.

For any matters not expressly provided in this call, please refer to current Italian laws, regulations and ministerial degrees.

An appeal against this open call may be filed to the Administrative Court or the President of the Italian Republic, respectively, within 60 days or 120 days respectively, from the date of publication.

THE RECTOR
(Prof. Massimo Carpinelli)