

International Master in Food Sciences for Innovation and Authenticity

2025/26



At a Glance

Degree class: LM-70
ECTS credits: 120
Duration of the course: 2 years
Courses will be taught in English
Places available: 40 EU + 8 non-EU
Campus: Bozen-Bolzano
Tuition fees: ca. € 1200 per year

Course Description

The course aims at training professionals who are able to work confidently in **areas of food sciences**, such as technology, engineering, microbiology, chemistry and sustainability.

After the first year, you can choose among **four different profiles**:

- Applied Food Engineering (offered at unibz);
- Food Quality and Management (offered at University of Udine);
- Nutrition Sciences (offered at University of Parma);
- Food Chemistry (offered at University College of Cork, Ireland).

The **last learning track** is offered in **partnership** with the University College Cork, Ireland. Students will have the opportunity to spend up to two semesters in one of these European partner institutions.

The programme is **supported by industries** belonging to AssolImprenditori Alto Adige - sezione Alimentari - and Südtiroler Bauernbund - Unione Agricoltori e Coltivatori Diretti Sudtirolesi. This partnership will allow students to write their research thesis with **joint tutorship** from both the university and the food industry. Participating companies are: Assolatte, Barilla, Consorzio Gorgonzola, Consorzio Grana Padano, Consorzio Parmigiano Reggiano, Consorzio Prosciutto di San Daniele, Consorzio Montasio, Consorzio Tutela Speck Alto Adige, Despar, Dr. Schär, Forst, Loacker, Mila, Pan, Unione Parmense degli Industriali, VOG Products and Zuegg.

Online Info Session

We offer online information sessions in the coming months during which the master programme will be presented and where interested students can address their questions to professors and students. The Info Sessions take place on the following days:

- Wednesday, 19 March 2025, 17:00 (CET): register here
- Wednesday, 16 April 2025, 17:00 (CET): register here

Structure of the course

The first year mainly includes modules on **Food Technology** and **Food Microbiology**, which are common to all learning tracks. From the second year onwards, modules become specific to the profile chosen and you will be able to choose from **four profiles** and a **range of free choice courses** to customize your study program.

In the study plan you can find the partner university of the courses of your interest. In the course offering instead you can find the course descriptions.

Study Plan - Master in Food Sciences for Innovation and Authenticity

1st Year (at unibz)

Innovation and Authenticity in Food Processing

6 CP Novel Food

6 CP Innovation and authenticity for winery products

8 CP Fermentations as Tools for Making Traditional and Innovative Foods and Beverages

8 CP Environmental chemistry towards food processing

6 CP Food Value Chain Management

3 CP Computer applications in food sciences

6 CP Reaction kinetics in food processing

6 CP Evaluation of Food Quality and Authenticity

Starter and functional microbes for innovation, authenticity and healthy status

6 CP The natural microbial starters for innovation and authenticity

6 CP The food – human axis for driving the gut microbiome

2nd Year - Path “Applied Food Engineering” (at unibz)

6 CP Food Processing Equipment

6 CP Innovative Food Processing Technologies

6 CP Sensors and biosensors for agri-food applications

8 CP Free Choice Courses*

33 CP Thesis

2nd Year - Path “Food Quality Control and Management” (at University of Udine)

6 CP Advanced sample preparation techniques and analysis of food contaminants

6 CP Management systems of food safety and quality

6 CP Food structure and physical properties

8 CP Free Choice Courses*

33 CP Thesis

2nd Year - Path “Nutrition Sciences” (at University of Parma)

6 CP Human Nutrition

6 CP Applied Human Nutrition

6 CP Industrial Microbiology for Food Quality Improvement

8 CP Free Choice Courses*

33 CP Thesis

2nd Year - Path “Food Chemistry” (at University College Cork)

5 CP	Mobility activity 1
5 CP	Mobility activity 2
5 CP	Mobility activity 3
11 CP	Free Choice Courses*
33 CP	Thesis

Free Choice Courses*

Students can choose courses of their choice. Every year the Faculty publishes the list of free choice courses offered.

Exchange programmes and internships

Currently we offer exchange programmes partner universities all over the world as part of a large network of collaboration with industries in Italy and abroad where you can complete your internship. In particular, this master offers **one dedicated path** with the University College Cork, Ireland (5 available places with possible grants from local food companies) and two Erasmus programmes with two globally leading universities in food sciences, the Technical University of Munich (TUM) and Wageningen University & Research (WUR).

Employment prospects

Graduates of the programme are placed in companies in the **food industry**, and specialise in research and development; food processing; product design and development; management and control of food processing; food automation technology; the development of methods to guarantee food authenticity; quality control; and the development of innovative processes to enhance the nutritional value of foods and the sustainability of the food chain.

The course provides students with the tools to pursue a career as a **consultant** or to work in **managerial roles**, mainly in the food industries, and in companies that link the food supply chain, from manufacturing to storage and distribution, including large-scale retailers, and public and private centres dedicated to planning, managing and improving processes. Our graduates design and innovate all food processes and products to guarantee and enhance the **sensory, nutritional and sustainable quality** of the food chain.

Well prepared and ready for the job market. On the website of AlmaLaurea you can check statistical data about graduates’ satisfaction and their employability.



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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)

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 - 14/10/2025 (by noon local time)

Late Application (only for EU citizens)

Application: 28/05 - 21/08/2025 (by noon local time)

Language exams (online): 23 - 27/06/2025 (registration: 28/05 - 15/06/2025) and 28/07/2025 (registration: 11 - 20/07/2025)

Publication of ranking lists: by 04/09/2025

Payment of the 1st instalment of the tuition fees: by 12/09/2025 (by noon local time)

Enrolment: from publication of the ranking list until 14/10/2025 (by noon local time)

Additional Application Session (only for EU citizens)

The faculty can open additional application sessions for single study programmes in August and in September if there are available places. More information on additional sessions will be published in due course.

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

Exams (extraordinary session): 11 - 23/12/2025

Holidays: 24/12/2025 - 06/01/2026

Classes: 07 - 24/01/2026
Exams: 26/01 - 21/02/2026

2nd semester

Classes: 02/03 - 02/04/2026
Holidays: 03 - 06/04/2026
Classes: 07/04 - 13/06/2026
Exams (extraordinary session): 14 - 23/05/2026
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: 30
Late Application: 10

Non-EU citizens (living abroad)
Early Bird Application: 8

The programme will only be offered if a minimum of 12 newly enrolled students is reached.

Entry requirements

In order to gain admission to this programme you need one of the following qualifications:

1. an adequate knowledge of the basic disciplines of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology and fundamental knowledge of the subjects preparatory to the fundamental disciplines of this degree class.
2. a bachelor degree in one of the following Italian degree classes:
 - L-25 ex D.M. 270/2004 (Agriculture and Forestry) or the corresponding class ex D.M. 509/99;
 - L-26 (Food Sciences) or the corresponding class ex D.M. 509/99;
 - L-38 (Animal Production Sciences and Technologies) or the corresponding class ex D.M. 509/99
 - L-GASTR (Sciences, cultures and policies of Gastronomy)
3. the previous career must have covered at least 30 ECTS credits in one or more of the following scientific sectors*:
 - MAT/01-09 - Mathematical Logic; Algebra; Geometry; Mathematics Education and History of Mathematics; Mathematical Analysis, Probability and Statistics; Mathematical Physics; Numerical Analysis; Operations Research
 - FIS/01-08 - Experimental Physics; Theoretical Physics and Mathematical Models and Methods; Physics of Matter; Nuclear and Subnuclear Physics; Astronomy and Astrophysics; Physics of the Earth and of the Circumterrestrial Medium; Applied Physics; Didactics and History of Physics
 - CHIM/01-07 - Analytical Chemistry; Physical Chemistry; General and Inorganic Chemistry; Industrial Chemistry Science and Technology of Polymeric Materials; Organic

- Chemistry; Chemical Foundations of Technology
- CHIM/10-11 - Food Chemistry; Chemistry and Biotechnology of Fermentations
 - BIO/01-05 - General Botany; Systematic Botany; Environmental and Applied Botany; Plant Physiology; Zoology
 - BIO/09-11 - Physiology; Biochemistry; Molecular Biology
 - BIO/13 - Experimental Biology
 - BIO/18-19 - Genetics; General Microbiology
 - MED/07 - Microbiology and Clinical Microbiology
 - MED/42 - Hygiene and Public Health
 - AGR/01-04 - Agricultural Economics and Rural Appraisal; Agronomy and Field Crops
 - Arboriculture and Fruitculture; Vegetable and Ornamental Crops
 - AGR/07 - Agricultural Genetics
 - AGR/09 - Agricultural Machinery and Mechanization
 - AGR/11-13 - General and Applied Entomology; Plant Pathology; Agricultural Chemistry
 - AGR/15-19 - Food Science and Technology; Agricultural Microbiology; Livestock Systems
 - Animal Breeding and Genetics; Animal Nutrition and Feeding; Animal Science
 - VET/04 - Inspection of Foods of Animal Origin
 - VET/06-07 - Parasitology and Animal Parasitic Diseases; Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology
 - ING-IND/10 - Thermal Engineering and Industrial Energy Systems
 - ING-IND/13-17 - Applied Mechanics; Mechanical Design and Machine Construction; Design Methods for Industrial Engineering; Manufacturing Technology and Systems; Industrial Mechanical Plants
 - ING-IND/23 - Applied Physical Chemistry
 - ING-IND/25 - Chemical Plants
 - ING-IND/34 - Industrial Bioengineering
 - ING-INF/01 - Electronics
 - ING-INF/05 - Information Processing Systems
 - SECS-P/13 - Commodity Sciences
 - SECS-S/01/02 - Statistics; Statistics for Experimental and Technological Research

*If you have graduated abroad, the correspondence of credit points awarded to scientific sectors will be based on the contents of the exams passed during your previous study career.

Until your graduation, you will be admitted conditionally. You must have achieved your degree by the enrolment deadline, otherwise you will be excluded.

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-70/LM-70 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 high 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**. 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 University portal. The application on University is mandatory, otherwise you will not be allowed to enrol. On University you can apply for one study programme only.

Admission procedure

If the number of eligible applicants exceeds the maximum number of available places (see section "Available places"), you will be assessed for admission based on your academic qualifications.

The Admission Committee can assign up to a max. of 95 points based on the:

- final bachelor grade expressed out of 30 (for applicants already graduated)
 - weighted grade average expressed out of 30 (for applicants not graduated yet)
- The Admission Committee will assign 2 points to candidates who graduated with honors (cum laude).

Candidates who possess at least a C1 certificate in the official teaching language of the course (English) will be assigned 3 points.

Minimum score for admission is 55/95 points

If scores are equal, applicants who have already graduated take precedence over applicants who have not graduated yet.

In the event of further equal score, the younger applicant will be given priority (art. 3 L. 127/1997).

In the application portal, you must upload:

1. Qualification:

- **if graduated in Italy:** diploma supplement or self-declaration (following the Italian D.P.R. no. 445/2000) of the degree awarded with the final grade and passed exams (if graduated) or, if not graduated yet, a certificate listing the exams passed;
- **if graduated abroad:** diploma supplement or final degree certificate with the passed exams (if graduated) or transcript of records (if not graduated yet) in Italian, German or English.

The above must contain the following information: final grade, passed exams with indication of grade and date of passing, credit points, scientific fields (the latter only for Italian titles).

For qualifications obtained abroad, also: scale of grades awarded by the university of provenance (with a minimum final grade to obtain the qualification and a maximum final grade achievable).

The Faculty reserves the right to request a description of the contents of the courses and/or teaching hours where necessary.

2. Excel file: Please use the file available in the application portal.

3. English language certifications (at least of level B2)

Please note: mendacious declarations will be sanctioned by criminal law and will result in your automatic exclusion.

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 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

- 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, to be downloaded from the ARDI - Automatic Recognition Database – Italy
- 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 University, 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).

Advisory Service

Universitätsplatz 1 - piazza
Università, 1
Italy - 39100, Bozen-Bolzano
Tel +39 0471 012100
Fax +39 0471 012109
apply@unibz.it

Opening Hours

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

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