Planning your arrival
A.Y 2017/2018

International Student Guide

Milano

UNIVERSITÀ CATTOLICA DEL SACRO CUORE
Dear International Student,

Studying in Milan can be an exciting and challenging experience as well as an opening to your social and cultural horizons. This guide has been carefully assembled to provide the essential information to prepare your experience at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. You will find critical information about courses, visas, residency permits, housing, student life and practical tips for your stay here in Milan.

Please regularly check the UCSC International website in order to remain updated on academic issues concerning your stay:
> www.ucscinternational.it

Further information relevant to your day-to-day experience in Italy will be provided during the Orientation Events, however this guide should give you a good idea of what to expect upon arrival.

We hope your stay will be a positive and enriching experience.

UCSC International Staff
Before you leave home

Upcoming communications

International Student Advisors will inform you via email regarding housing, Italian Language Course, Orientation Events, course registration, and leisure activities on and off campus.

Visa requirements

Non-EU residents require a visa for a stay longer than three months (90 days). You need to request a student visa at the Italian embassy or consulate of your jurisdiction. Below you will find the basic application requirements. However, it is important that you verify your consulate’s website for any additional requirements:

- Admission letter sent via mail by Cattolica
- Passport
- Student visa application to be submitted in person
- Proof of enrolment at home institution
- Affidavit of financial support
- Proof of adequate health insurance coverage outside your country
- Flight itinerary

Travel registration

We strongly advise you to register your contact details online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of your jurisdiction. The registered information you provide will be used in the unlikely case of an emergency.

Travel insurance

Your health insurance will likely not cover any damage or loss of belongings during travel and stay in Milan. We highly advise you to insure your most precious and expensive belongings such as laptop and other electronics. A travel insurance would also cover any loss of important documents such as passport, credit cards, etc.

Your travel insurance may also cover emergency medical expenses and medical evacuation. Research and compare the benefits, to see how they complement your health insurance abroad. If you bring your laptop it is important you insure it against damage or theft.

Tip:
Never leave your belongings unattended anywhere on campus, library, computer lab, etc. Do not mail your laptop as it will be held at

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Never leave your belongings unattended anywhere on campus, library, computer lab, etc. Do not mail your laptop as it will be held at
customs and will only be released by paying a customs fee.

Medical insurance

If you are a national from either a EU Member State or an EEA country or you are of Swiss nationality, you should have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), Italian acronym: TEAM obtained in your home country from your national healthcare authority. The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) allows to receive medical treatment in another member state for free, or at a reduced cost. A patient contribution is required for prescriptions, medical examinations, oral and dental care.

Non-EU residents must take out an International Health Insurance which covers costs related to medical treatment and admission to hospital. Always contact your insurance agency before leaving for Italy. If you are travelling with temporary Health Insurance, you may apply for Italian Health Insurance upon arrival. The insurance costs about €49 for a period of 6 months and €98 for a period of 12 months. For more information contact the International Student Services.

Note:
An insurance policy is compulsory if you apply for a residence permit.

Note:
ISEP Students must have ISEP health insurance.
Pre-departure documentations check-list

- Passport/ID
- Health insurance coverage outside your country (for EU students, National Health Insurance Card); any special prescription or medical certificate
- Flight Itinerary/ticket
- Travel Insurance
- Documents/detail regarding your accommodation in Italy
- Credit/debit cards (make sure to inform your Bank of your period abroad)
- Multiple copies of the above documentation

Addition for Non-EU Students

- Valid Student Visa
- Affidavit or financial support
- Admission letter issued by Cattolica

Documentation guidelines

Make additional copies of all your documents, certificates, cards etc. Keep copies in a safe place in your home country, and bring the other copies to Italy. When traveling remember to keep copies in both your hand luggage and check-in luggage. Upon arrival keep all documents in a safe place in your apartment.

For further safety measures, scan all your documents, certificates, cards etc. and email them to yourself as an attachment.

Bring receipts of any electrical goods that you bring such as laptops, cameras, iPods, etc. This ensures when and where the items were purchased.

Packing

Milan is the fashion capital of Italy so remember not to overpack. December to February are the coldest months of the year, whilst April usually brings nice spring weather. Students on campus generally dress informally but you may want to bring with you something more formal for special events.

You can find everything in Milan so don’t worry if you forget to pack something.

You will need to purchase a plug/power converters for your electrical devices. Electricity in Italy and Europe comes out of the wall socket at 220 volts. The Italian plug is a two or three round-prong socket.
Medical assistance

Medication
You should verify the availability of certain drugs in Italy, but we suggest that you stock up from home on any specific medication you will need during the stay. Control the customs restrictions for importing medication from outside the EU as you do not want to have your medication confiscated at customs. For safety measures, obtain a letter from your General Practitioner specifying the medication you will bring with you and reasons for taking that medication.

Pharmacies
Many medications that you purchase over-the-counter in other countries may be available only by prescription in Italy.

Health Centre at Cattolica
There is a Health Centre on campus which provides all registered students with medical and nursing care, and psychological counselling. If you require medical assistance, contact the International Student Services who will arrange an appointment with the Health Centre and make sure an English speaking nurse will be available if needed. The Health Centre is open from Monday to Friday, 9.00am - 5.00pm.

Hospitals
If you require more serious medical assistance you will need to visit the hospital. Remember to always bring a copy of your health insurance. Always inform the International Student Services and they can arrange an English speaking assistance if needed. A range of hospitals and medical centres offer English speaking assistance.
Cattolica also has a psychological counselling centre students can access on a fee-paying basis for a maximum of 10 appointments.

Accommodation in Milan

According to your exchange program included benefits you will either be automatically placed in Cattolica housing (MIL Service) or be provided with information about housing options before your arrival. Please check with your home institution advisor what benefits are included between the universities agreement.

Cattolica housing: MIL Service
- Off campus apartment
- Single dorm room with bathroom

If you will not automatically be placed in Cattolica housing, then you will have to find alternative housing solutions.

Other housing options
- Assistance by ESN, the International Students Association
- The University housing announcement board on level 3 of Via Carducci
- Individual research

Useful links:
- www.dotstay.com/
- housinganywhere.com/
- www.spotahome.com/

Attention:
Please be aware that we highly recommend to NOT process pre-arrival online transaction payment requests, as this could lead to fraud and in reality does not guarantee your apartment/room availability upon arrival.

Useful items to pack
- Chargers
- Adaptor
- Check the weather and temperature accordingly to your departure season in order to bring appropriate clothes
- Adequate students clothes and few elegant items for special occasion
- Travelers wallet
- Passport size pictures (4 colored and original, dimension 3 X 4cm/2 X 2 inch)

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Milano International Living Service (MIL Service) was founded in 2007 in order to respond to the high demand for housing: every year more and more students come to Milan from all around the world to spend a semester or a whole year studying at one of the most prestigious universities in Milan.

MIL Service allows its customers to focus on their academic life, while leaving the housing related matters to its care. The housing options provided by MIL Service makes it possible to fully experience the new international student life by introducing the student to the reality of a real citizen: live MILAN while living in Milan.

Its young, dedicated and professional team is committed to guaranteeing an unforgettable stay to all its tenants, which is what makes MIL Service competitive within the housing market.

The team tries to understand students’ needs and provides them with the best residential experience.

Prices

In your housing package you will receive many other services, such as fully furnished apartments, 24/7 internet connection and bi-monthly cleaning of the accommodation. Before their arrival, most of the students who are placed in any of the housing options will be asked to pay a refundable security deposit: €300 for apartments and €400 for dorms. In any case, they will be notified by MIL Service staff.

MIL Apartments

- Academic semester (5 months): from €2500 to €3500 according to the apartment typology and its location
- Full academic year (10 months): from €5000 to €7000 according to the apartment typology and its location

Dorms

Academic semester (5 months): €3250 just for the housing. (Prices still have to be confirmed). Please note that, according to the agreement between your home institution and Cattolica, accommodation may be included in your study abroad benefits. Prices do NOT include the refundable security deposit.

> www.milservice.com
> info@milservice.com
Università Cattolica offers two different curricula of study with a wide variety of courses. You can choose to create your own semester of study by selecting courses from the two curricula:

**UCSC International Curriculum**

**Language of instruction:** English

**Calendar:**
September/December - February/May

**UCSC University Academic Curriculum**

**Language of instruction:** English/Italian

**Calendar:**
September/February - February/July

Please note that courses from the School of Economics, English coursework, are organized in quarters:

- 1st quarter: September - December (exams included)
- 2nd quarter: January - April (exams included)
- 3rd quarter: April - July (exams included)

**More Info:**
> www.ucscinternational.it/spend-a-semester-with-us/exchange-in-milan#program-options

Studying at Cattolica

As an International Student you can take any course within any faculty at any level, Laurea Triennale (Undergraduate) and Laurea Magistrale (Graduate).

**UCSC University Academic Curriculum**

The courses bear ECTS credits. For more info regarding the ECTS credits and the Italian grading system check the following link:

> www.studyitaly.it/images/stories/EUROPEAN_CREDIT_TRANSFER_SYSTEM.pdf

**More Info:**
> www.ucscinternational.it/spend-a-semester-with-us/exchange-in-milan#ucsc-university-academic-curriculum

The World Around

Team
UCSC International Curriculum

The courses within the UCSC International Curriculum will be mainly offered on a semester basis (both Spring and Fall); however, as changes may occur, applicants will be advised on the effective and definitive list of courses available two months before the semester starts. The courses bear 6 ECTS credits within the European Exchange Framework, which correspond to 3 US credits. The conversion from ECTS credits to your credit system is defined by your home institution.

Erasmus+ students are allowed to take a maximum of 1 course from the International Curriculum and will likely have to complement their course load with UCSC Academic Curriculum courses to satisfy their home institution course load requirements. Please check with your home university advisor the policy that applies to your mobility.

You can pick courses from the following field of studies:
- Business and Economics
- International Relations
- Italian Culture: Literature, Theatre, Cinema, Music and Philosophy
- Fashion and Design
- Media, Communications, Sociology and Psychology

For more info regarding courses please visit the following link:
www.ucscinternational.it/spend-a-semester-with-us/exchange-in-milan#ucsc-international-curriculum

For more info on Academic policies please visit:
www.ucscinternational.it/files/Semester/2017-Academic_Policies.pdf

For more info on US/ECTS credits please visit:
www.ucscinternational.it/files/Semester/2017-US_Credit_System.pdf

Italian Language Course

UCSC International organizes Italian Language Courses, designed for students who want to learn, study and explore the Italian language. The language course is not compulsory but highly recommended.

According to your Exchange Programs’ included benefits, you will be automatically registered into the Italian Language Course or be provided with information about the payment options before your arrival. Automatically registered students will be asked to take the online placement test. The test is mandatory for all the students including absolute beginners.

Pre-session intensive course
(45 units - 6 ECTS): held at the beginning of each semester.

Semester course
(45 units - 6 ECTS): run throughout the semester and in conjunction with other academic coursework.

More info:
www.ucscinternational.it/student-services-at-cattolica/students-services-in-milan-campus/italian-language-culture-course-in-milan
Orientation Events

UCSC International has scheduled two Orientation sessions per intake (Fall Semester and Spring Semester). Please make sure your scheduled arrival allows you to attend one of the two sessions organized per semester.

The Orientation Event is an exclusive 2 days event organized at the beginning of the semester to provide students with all the necessary information for their stay at Cattolica. During the orientation students will be informed on how to organize their course schedule, select courses, find classrooms, have access to campus facilities (cafeteria, library, health center and sport service etc.). They will also meet student associations who will take students on a university tour. Students will also receive their Cattolica student card / badge along with a personalized kit.

The Orientation events and structured as follows:
- **Day 1:** UCSC International welcome address; Collection of your personalized kit with student ID, orientation program, certificate of enrolment, etc.; Social activities; Italian language course oral interviews; campus tour (for students not involved in Italian Language oral interviews); International students will also meet representatives of the student association.
- **Day 2:** Two information sessions on campus services, and Academic and International Curriculum courses; Permit of Stay; the University campus tour (for students involved in Italian Language interviews the day 1)

**Orientation Event 1**

MANDATORY for students:
- Enrolled in the pre-session intensive Italian Language Course
- Applying for the Language Assistant Program

**Orientation Event 2**

MANDATORY for students:
- That did not attend the pre-session intensive Italian Language Course
Public transport in Milan

The Azienda Trasporti Milanesi (ATM) operates within the metropolitan area, comprising of a metro, bus and tram network.

Bus

Buses are always orange or green. The wide network of buses covers the entire city. It will allow you to access all major city attractions within 30 minutes.

Metro

(Also termed: subway/underground) The metropolitana (metro) has four primary lines: red (M1), green (M2), yellow (M3), and lilac (M5). Metro entrances are marked with a red square sign with a white “M.” The Milano metro runs 6:15 until 00:14.

Tram

(Also termed: trolley car) Run throughout the city. The older trams are orange whilst the modern trams are yellow with green interior. Tram stops as well as bus stops are marked by tall orange poles with a diagram of the tram or bus route.

Ticket

All tickets for the public transportation system can be purchased at news kiosks, tabacco shops, or in the metro stations from machines or ticket booths. The same ticket can be used on all three types of transport for up to 90 minutes, however cannot enter twice in the underground with the same ticket even within the 90 minutes. Note: You can not purchase tickets on the bus or trams.

Ticket costs

- One ride is €1.50 each and is valid for 90 minutes.
- Carnet 10 rides of 90 minutes €13.80 (one per person, cannot be shared)
- We recommend that you purchase the monthly transportation pass for €22 (plus a €10 subscription fee). Information will be given at the Orientation Events.

For further details on the Milan public transportation system visit www.atm-mi.it
How to reach UCSC International upon arrival

Departing the airport

From Malpensa Airport

Via train: Malpensa Express
Catch directly from Terminal 1. Connects Malpensa Airport to:
- Cadorna Railway Station (final stop) - which then connects you to the metro red (MM1) and green (MM2) lines
- Centrale Railway Station (final stop) - which connects you to the metro green (MM2) and yellow (MM3) lines.

Trains depart every 30 minutes and travel time varies from 29-36 minutes. Cost of a single ticket is €13. You must purchase and validate your ticket before entering the train.

> www.malpensaexpress.it

From Linate Airport

Via Bus
You can catch bus #73 outside the airport to San Babila metro station red (MM1) line.

Via Starfly buses
Connects Linate Airport to Centrale Railway Station, which then connects you to the metro green (MM2) and yellow (MM3) lines.

> www.orariautobus.it/autobus-milano-linate.html

From Orio Al Serio (BG) Airport

Via bus
This is the furthest airport from Milan centre. Connects Orio to Centrale Railway Station, which then connects you to the metro green (MM2) and yellow (MM3) lines.

Cost:
Single ticket is €4.

> www.orioshuttle.com

Getting to UCSC International

Address
Via Giosuè Carducci 28/30, 20123
Level 3: International Student Services

Via Metro
Our campus is located close to the metro green (MM2) line.
Stop: Sant'Ambrogio
Direction: Abbiategrasso/Assago.
Centrale Railway and Cadorna Railway Station are both located on the metro green line.

Via Bus
Bus #94 stops outside Via Giosuè Carducci.

Via Taxi/Cab
- Malpensa - Milano: €90 (fixed rate)
- Orio al Serio - Milano City Centre: about €100/€120
- Linate - Milano: €25 - €50 (depending on distance)
Residency permit requirements

All Non-EU residents require a visa for a stay longer than three months (90 days). Within eight (8) days of your arrival in Italy you are required to submit the application for a Permessi di Soggiorno, Permit of Stay which will be issued by the Questura, local police.

You will require the following documents:

- An Application Form which you will be given by UCSC International upon arrival
- Passport
- Photocopy of personal data page of the visa
- Four recent and identical passport size photographs
- VISA documentation and any letter issued and stamped by the Consulate (make additional photocopies)
- A certificate of enrolment issued by UCSC International (provided upon arrival)
- Photocopy of health insurance coverage
- A Marca da Bollo, revenue stamp, of €16 to purchase upon arrival. It’s possible to purchase it from tabacco shops.
- Address of your apartment in Milan including the zip code. After submitting the form, obtain your receipt. The administrative costs will be a total of €77,96. A special orientation session will be organized to assist you.
Student life

As you may have already heard, being an exchange student is not only an academic experience but at the same time an enjoyable, social, and fun experience.

ESN (Erasmus Student Network)

Adapting to a different culture can be exciting yet challenging. Student association, ESN (Erasmus Student Network) is also going to welcoming you in Milan upon arrival, during the Orientation Events, and they will assist you throughout the semester.

Some of the activities organized throughout the semester include:
- Language sharing
- Assistance in finding an apartment
- Trips
- Aperitivo and dinner
- Cultural events
- Sporting activities
- City tours
- Nights out

Useful links
ESN
› www.esnunicatt.it

Moreover, International Students can benefit from a number of different sport activities, thanks to Centro Sportivo Universitario (CUS) and a special partnership Cattolica has in place with a trendy gymnasium located in different areas of Milan, cultural activities such as joining the Studium Musicale di Ateneo “Note d’inChiostro,” a music association on Campus and, volunteering activities thanks to our Centro Pastorale.

Buddy program

UCSC International in collaboration with ESN is offering to International Students the opportunity to join the Buddy Program. The Buddy Program is aimed at creating the opportunity for incoming International Students to meet Cattolica domestic students in order to simplify the transition into Cattolica campus life and to help them get the best out of their cultural and social life during their study abroad experience. In addition, the program encourages Cattolica domestic students, offering them the opportunity to meet International Students, whilst developing intercultural communication and linguistic exchange. International Students will receive specific communication before their arrival inviting them to subscribe to the Buddy Program if they are interested in having a UCSC Mentor.

Mentor program

Università Cattolica offers to all semester students the opportunity to extend their stay and join our Summer/Winter Program as a group Mentor. You will be supporting the International Office staff with activities for new comers, whilst sharing your “expertise” on the city with the new students in an attempt to help get them adjusted. Additionally, the Mentor will be asked to write the My Cattolica Guide - how to become a “genuine” Italian in less than 10 days. This is an informal mini guide, listing the best things to do, the top monuments to see, the tastiest restaurants to try, the coolest clubs to visit, as well as the dos and don'ts. The Mentor will be asked to present the guide during the Orientation event. As a gratitude of the students participation and support, Mentors will receive 50% off the summer/winter tuition.

Ambassador program

Are you going to miss Università Cattolica after your experience in Italy? Do not miss the chance to talk about your study abroad experience and promote the internationalization on your campus! If you want to join this program, you will be asked to organize at least three events per semester such as exhibiting at study abroad fairs, hosting an information session or presentation. In this way you will gain valuable experience for your resume, receive a UCSC Ambassador Certificate and a discounts for future programs at Università Cattolica.
Living in Milan

Milan: a city of movement

People walk everywhere. Their sense of style ranges from casual sophistication to elegant design. Milan is a modern and progressive city, the commercial heartland of Italy, and headquarters to many of Italy’s multinational corporations and world famous brands. Yet despite the opportunities which accompany a busy and successful city, the essence of Milan is as true today as in centuries past. In short, Milan is a beautiful, cultured and dramatic city, a city which offers a multitude of features that tourists rarely discover.

Milan is the real Italy, from courtyards and window boxes to small and intimate museums, churches and laneways. Milan is a city to explore and a place to reflect.

Milan is a city of trams and smart cars. Where beautifully dressed people ride scooters to work, where thousands of runners exercise daily in the parks.

Milan is a city of people. A city full of life. The menus of Milanese restaurants have influenced the world’s finest cuisines. And the creations of Milanese designers have placed Milan alongside New York, Paris and London as a home of global fashion.

Milan is a living, breathing, exciting city. A friendly and welcoming city. A bustling city on the one hand; yet quiet, contemplative and conducive on the other.

M-ID Card

You can enjoy Milan with an M-ID Card, starting from your arrival and continuing throughout your stay.

You can view the offers and benefits as well as read the latest news by browsing the Study in Milan website www.studyinmilan.net/

UCSC International will send you the code to activate your personal M-ID Card few days before your arrival in Milan.

Useful links:
  » www.ucscinternational.it
  » www.atm-mi.it
  » www.vivimilano.it
  » www.easymi.it/index
  » www.comune.milano.it
  » www.hellomilano.it/hm/

Money matters

You may keep your bank account at home and use your visa check card at any Bancomat around the city.

Note:
“ATM” (Azienda Trasporti Milanesi) is the acronym used for the public transportation system in Milan, not to be confused with Automatic Teller Machine. Bancomat is an Automatic Teller Machine.

When withdrawing money from a Bancomat be attentive to the people around you. We advise you use Bancomats that are inside banks and not those right off the street. Unless necessary do not use Bancomats inside or near stations. If you wish to open a bank account or rent an apartment you will need a Codice Fiscale, Tax code.

This card is issued by the Ufficio Unico delle Entrate - Via della Moscova 1, under presentation of a valid identity document and a copy of your Visa if you are not an EU resident.

Average costs (per semester)

Accommodation*: €2,700 to €3,900

Books:
€200

Local Transportation: €102

Note:
* Cost may vary depending on the area, single or double room and possible program benefits.

** University provides you with a badge which allows students to eat in the cafeteria at discounted prices.

Average single priced items

- Pizza + Beer: €15
- Cinema ticket: €7.50
- Gelato: €3
- Panino, sandwich: €5
- Caffè, coffee: €1.00

Personal expenses: €200 to €400 per month

Books:
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Local Transportation:
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Connecting you

Mail

To locate a post office look for the yellow and blue “PT” sign. For mailing cost information consult the Italian Post web site:
> www.poste.it

If you need to mail fragile materials we would advise you send them by recommended mail, courier, or through express mail services, such as DHL, UPS or FedEx. Receiving packages from the USA via priority mail can cost a lot in terms of taxes. Postal & customs taxes are very high depending on the weight and the value of the package’s content.

Telephone

The most convenient way to keep in touch with your new Italian friends and family back home is the cell phone. You can purchase an unlocked GSM phone back home and get an Italian SIM card at cell phone providers such as TIM, Vodafone or Wind.

Only triband and quadband phones will work in Europe. Check with your home cell phone service provider to find out if your current cell phone (once unlocked) can support a foreign SIM card. Once in Italy, you may look into signing up for a plan or simply getting pre-paid/rechargeable service. If you do not have a GSM phone purchased at home you may also buy one at a reasonable cost once in Italy.
At Cattolica we have so much to offer. Much more than be contained in the few pages of this brochure. The people to take you to these faraway places are the same people who will first bring you to the unique land of Italy.

On paper they are just names. But once you are enrolled at Cattolica, Laura, Francesca DM, Gloria, and Francesca P will soon become your advisors, mentors and friends. International Student Advisors are not only responsible for promoting the attractions and benefits of Cattolica, they are there for the duration of your time at Cattolica. And beyond.

Many of our past students have since started international networks endorsing the benefits of our beautiful and supportive university as a study destination, whether for a semester, a year, or years.

The International Student Service has a sign which says welcome. And we mean it. Whether your need or concern relates to your studies, accommodation, experiences or needs, our mandate is to be both your first port of call and in the vast majority of cases, your answer.

We have specialist staff to address all areas of need. And we have a unique understanding of the challenges experienced by International Students, not least because most of us have been International Students ourselves.

International Student Services gives support and advice to all international students at the University and helps you have a happy and successful time in Milan.

Incoming Student Advisors run a daily drop-in service where students are welcome to come in to ask for information and advice about:

- Visa/Permit of stay
- Course registration
- Cultural adaptation and homesickness
- Anything else that is worrying you

Should you have any problem or inquiry, please do not hesitate to contact the Incoming Student Advisors:
> international.advisor@unicatt.it

Office hours:
Monday to Friday every morning from 9.30 am to 12.30 am and afternoon from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm (Friday afternoon closed).
International exchange and study abroad students
Mailing Address
Global Engagement and International Education
Via Carducci 28/30, I-20123 Milano - Italy
Tel. +39 02 7234 5217
Fax +39 02 7234 5806
› www.ucscinternational.it
› international.inquirySA@unicatt.it