School of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine

Admission notice, Academic Year 2017-2018

First-cycle degree taught in English with limited places

ANIMAL CARE

Class L-38 – Class of the degrees in Livestock Sciences and Animal production technologies
1. DEGREE COURSE AND PLACES AVAILABLE

Enrolments for the Academic Year 2017-2018 of the Degree course taught in English with limited places in “Animal Care - Tutela del Benessere Animale” of the School of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine are open. The following places are available for the first year:

◊ 35 places for EU citizens and non-EU citizens legally staying in Italy, who will be selected through a written entry test;
◊ 4 places available for non-EU citizens residing abroad, who will be selected in advance though an online interview.

The course takes place in Legnaro (PD) and it includes two curricula, “Lab Animals” and “Wild Animals”.

To enrol, applicants need to:
1) have earned a secondary school leaving qualification or other qualification taken abroad which is acknowledged as valid for admission to university according to the regulations in place, by 31st July 2017;
2) Be placed in a good place in the merit list, as set forth for selections in section 2 (selection for non-EU citizens residing abroad) and section 3 (selection of EU and non-EU citizens legally staying in Italy).

The normal duration of the course is 3 years at the end of which students have a degree in Animal Care - Tutela del Benessere Animale.


For this course, students can opt to study part-time. For more information, please go to http://www.unipd.it/studiare-tempo-parziale?target=Futuri%20studenti.

2. SELECTION OF NON-EU CITIZENS RESIDING ABROAD (4 PLACES) – ONLINE INTERVIEW VIA SKYPE

The selection of non-EU candidates residing abroad (4 places) is done through an online Skype interview. Here is how to correctly complete the enrolment process for the selection.

2.1 Registration

To log on to the https://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng portal, candidates with no credentials first need to register by going to https://uniweb.unipd.it/AddressBook/ABStartProcessoRegAction.do.

At the end of the registration process each candidate will be emailed a username and activation code. The candidate will then need to go to https://uniweb.unipd.it/password/index.php/en/utenti/identifica/azione/a, choose three security questions and set a password.

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1 Activation of the first year of the degree course depends on accreditation pursuant to D.M. 987 of 12/12/16 and until the minimum number of 10 pre-enrolments is reached. If the degree course is not accredited or the number of pre-enrolment applications is less than 10, the degree course will not be activated. All information on course activation will be published at http://www.unipd.it.
Your username and password will then need to be used to log on to and access the registered area of the [https://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng](https://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng) portal.

### 2.2 Pre-enrolment application and documentation upload

The pre-enrolment application form must be filled in [by 12.00 local time (GMT + 1) on 19th May 2017](http://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng) by logging on to the reserved area of the [https://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng](https://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng) portal.

After logging in, candidates need to click on Home → Admission Test → Proceed with a new pre-enrolment → Pre-enrolment for limited places → Course Type: ‘First-cycle degree’ → Animal Care→ non-EU candidates residing abroad (4 places).

To assess candidates’ qualifications and award them a score for the merit list, candidates need to upload the following documents:

- curriculum vitae and academic curriculum in English, including their Skype ID for the interview;
- cover letter in English;
- any English language certificates;
- copy of an ID document (ID card or passport);
- copy of the payment receipt for the € 30.00 pre-enrolment fee to be paid by MAV or bank transfer (see annex 1).

Further documents will be required during enrolment; for more information, please go to [http://www.unipd.it/en/how-apply](http://www.unipd.it/en/how-apply).

For further information or queries, candidates may contact the University Call Centre, available from Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. local time (GMT + 1) at 0039-0498273131 or write to [imma.uniweb@unipd.it](mailto:imma.uniweb@unipd.it).

### 2.3 Fee-Waivers

The University of Padova offers full fee-waivers for the academic year 2017-2018 to students with a foreign degree who enrol in first- and second-cycle degree courses taught in English.

Prospective candidates can submit the fee-waiver application directly during the pre-enrolment process.

Fee-waivers are offered for 1 academic year.

For more information, please go to: [http://www.unipd.it/en/tuition-fee-waivers-students-enrolling-degree-courses-held-english](http://www.unipd.it/en/tuition-fee-waivers-students-enrolling-degree-courses-held-english).

### 2.4 Publication of results

After the online interviews, on 5th June 2017 the assessment results will be published at [http://www.unipd.it/en/assessment-results](http://www.unipd.it/en/assessment-results).

Should the number of applications be higher than the number of places available, a merit list with an overall score based on an assessment of the applicant’s career will be published.

Admission is conditional on the verification of the qualifications claimed, on their actual awarding in case candidates have not obtained them yet, and on submission, on behalf of the candidates, of the documents listed at [http://www.unipd.it/en/how-apply](http://www.unipd.it/en/how-apply).

Along with the results, enrolment terms and conditions will also be published.

Should any places remain vacant, they will be made available by taking the test as per section 3.
3. SELECTION OF EU CITIZENS AND NON-EU CITIZENS RESIDING IN ITALY (35 PLACES)
– ENTRY TEST

The selection of EU candidates and non-EU candidates residing in Italy (35 places) is done through a written entry test. Here is how to correctly complete the selection enrolment process.

3.1 Registration

To log on to the https://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng portal, candidates with no credentials first need to register by going to https://uniweb.unipd.it/AddressBook/ABStartProcessoRegAction.do. At the end of the registration process each candidate will be emailed a username and activation code. The candidate will then need to go to https://uniweb.unipd.it/password/index.php/en/utenti/identifica/azione/a, choose three security questions and set a password. Your username and password will then need to be used to log on to and access the registered area of the https://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng portal.

3.2 Pre-enrolment application

The pre-enrolment application form must be filled in from 30th June to 12.00 local time (GMT + 1) of 23rd August 2017 by logging on to the reserved area of the https://uniweb.unipd.it/Home.do?cod_lingua=eng portal.
After logging in, candidates need to click on Home → Admission Test → Proceed with a new pre-enrolment → Pre-enrolment for limited places → Course Type: ‘First-cycle degree’ → Animal Care- EU and non-EU candidates residing in Italy (35 places).
After final confirmation of the application, candidates need to print the summary in which the place and date of the test are specified and also print the MAV payment form to pay the € 30,00 fee. Payment can be made from any Italian bank. If the candidate is abroad, they need to use the bank transfer form in annex 1.
After the deadline of 12.00 of 23rd August 2017, the link will be deactivated and it won’t be possible to submit any other applications or amend any choices made. The service may be temporarily unavailable during maintenance operations.
If candidates encounter any difficulties during the online process, they may write an email to imma.uniweb@unipd.it or call the University call centre at 049/8273131 from Monday to Friday from 9.00 to 17.00.
Candidates without IT access may use the IT kiosks available in the Enrolment Office in Padova (Via Venezia, 13) and in Treviso (Complesso San Leonardo, Riviera Garibaldi 13/e) during the days and times on the following page www.unipd.it/ufficio-immatricolazioni.

3.3 Entry Test

The entry test will take place on 30th August 2017 at 11.00. Candidates must come at 9.30 with a valid ID document and the original copy of the proof of payment through MAV so that the necessary checks can be made. Once the test starts, candidates showing up late will not be allowed to take the test.

The entry test has 64 multiple-choice questions with only 1 possible correct answer per question, on the following topics:

- 29 questions on analytical, quantitative and memory skills,
- 7 questions on biology,
7 questions on chemistry,
7 questions on physics,
7 questions on Maths,
7 questions to check the candidate’s knowledge of English at a B2 level which are not necessary for the merit list but to determine the need of additional learning requirements (ALR).

Candidates have 105 minutes to take the test.

The test topics are listed in annex 2 of the present admission notice.

The final score, expressed in hundredths, is split in the following way:
- a) 80 points max for the test result;
- b) 20 points max for the mark in the school-leaving examination.

To determine the test score described in the previous point a), candidates are awarded:
- ◊ 1.25 points for every correct answer
- ◊ minus 0.4 points for every wrong answer
- ◊ 0 points for every skipped answer

The score is calculated by a computer program.

The score described in point b) is awarded as per the following table which shows the mark in hundredths and the proportional score of the school-leaving examination:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100/100</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99/100</td>
<td>19.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98/100</td>
<td>19.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97/100</td>
<td>18.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96/100</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95/100</td>
<td>17.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94/100</td>
<td>17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93/100</td>
<td>16.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92/100</td>
<td>16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91/100</td>
<td>15.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90/100</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89/100</td>
<td>14.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88/100</td>
<td>14.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87/100</td>
<td>13.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86/100</td>
<td>13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85/100</td>
<td>12.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84/100</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83/100</td>
<td>11.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82/100</td>
<td>11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81/100</td>
<td>10.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80/100</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79/100</td>
<td>9.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>78/100</td>
<td>9.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>77/100</td>
<td>8.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>76/100</td>
<td>8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>75/100</td>
<td>7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74/100</td>
<td>7.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>73/100</td>
<td>6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72/100</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71/100</td>
<td>5.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70/100</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69/100</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68/100</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67/100</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66/100</td>
<td>3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>65/100</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64/100</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63/100</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62/100</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61/100</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Should more candidates have the same merit for the last place available in the merit list, the candidate with the highest school-leaving examination mark will be given priority; if candidates still have the same merit, the youngest candidate will be given priority.

3.4 Test Commission, test regulations, request for an individual test

All information regarding the Test Commission and test regulations is available at [http://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi](http://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi). Candidates with disability or specific learning disability (SLD) can request an individual test when doing the enrolment process on Uniweb (pursuant to laws no. 104/1992 and no. 170/2010).

The request must be filled in by sending the proper documentation in case of SLD diagnosis, the certificate must not be more than 3 years old and issued by the NHS or specialists and
clinics recognised by the NHS) together with an ID document and with a statutory declaration (dichiarazione sostitutiva di atto di notorietà) to the University Disability and Dyslexia Service. In the Statutory declaration the candidate declares that what stated in the certificate has not been revoked, suspended or modified (as set forth by Legislative Decree no. 5 (art. 4, comma 2) of 9 February 2012 converted to law no. 35 on 4 April 2012). All forms can be printed as pre-compiled directly from Uniweb and are available at http://www.unipd.it/en/students-special-needs. Depending on the documentation submitted, any aids or supports to be used during the test will be evaluated, possibly by interviewing the candidate. The request must be received by the University Disability and Dyslexia Service in via Portello, 23 Padova (fax no. 049-8275040) by 12.00 of 23rd August 2017.

3.5 Additional Learning Requirements (ALR or OFA) – Biology, Chemistry Physics, Maths, English at a B2 level

Students who do not get a minimum score of 3.8 during the entry test in each of the following subjects - Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths, English at a B2 level - will be given additional learning requirements for each subject to be met by passing a specific test for each subject.

Examples of how ALR are calculated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 correct answers</th>
<th>4 correct answers</th>
<th>3 correct answers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.25*4=5</td>
<td>1.25*4=5</td>
<td>1.25*3=3.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 wrong answers -0.4*3=-1.2</td>
<td>4 skipped answers 0</td>
<td>4 skipped answers 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 3.8 so there are no ALR</td>
<td>Total 5&gt;3.8 so there are no ALR</td>
<td>Total 3.75&lt;3.8 so there are ALR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ALR in English can be met by passing a specific test or by submitting one of the certificates listed at http://cla.unipd.it/test-linguistici/certificazioni by the deadlines which will be specified.

Passing the ALR is essential in order to take the exams in the relevant subjects. Students who have not met their additional learning requirements by 30th September 2018, will be enrolled as repeating the first year but can take second year exams once they meet the ALR, provided there are not any preparatory requirements or blocks.

4. PUBLICATION OF MERIT LIST, ENROLMENT AND ENSUING ASSIGNMENTS

The merit list of “accepted” and “non-accepted” candidates (who may be accepted during the following assignments o repechage), including any additional learning requirements to be met, will be published as from 6th September 2017 at http://www.unipd.it/graduatorie-ammissione; such notice will serve as official notice to the candidates.

All information regarding the enrolment procedure, how to change course and how to transfer from another university will be published at http://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi and http://www.unipd.it/graduatorie-ammissione before enrolments open. Enrolments will result in having to pay the first instalment of university fees which is of € 561.00.

4.1 Merit list publication prospectus, ensuing assignments and repechage
The following table shows the dates of publication of the merit list and ensuing assignments, including the deadlines of the enrolment process, change course or transfer from another university.

The ensuing assignments depend on whether any places are left to be assigned in the degree course at the date of publication.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates, web address of merit lists and ensuing assignments</th>
<th>Deadline of online enrolment, change of course and transfer from another university</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First publication of merit lists with additional learning requirements: 6/09/2017 at <a href="http://www.unipd.it/graduatorie-ammissione">http://www.unipd.it/graduatorie-ammissione</a></td>
<td>12.00 of 11/09/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First re-assignment: 14/09/2017 at <a href="http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati">http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati</a>, selecting the desired course</td>
<td>12.00 of 18/09/2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2 Repechage and ensuing assignments

The repechage process, which means that the candidate will declare if they are still interested in enrolling, will be activated on 21st September 2017, after publication of any vacant places at http://www.unipd.it/graduatorie-ammissione.

The process will be activated even with no places available in case the situation changes in the ensuing assignment.

All candidates who took part in the entry test can fill in the repechage application, provided they have not been delisted because they did not meet the enrolment deadlines, as from 21 September and by 12.00 of 25th September 2017, (final deadline) by going to their reserved area on www.uniweb.unipd.it and selecting Home → Pre-enrolment for limited places. Once the repechage process is over, any other assignments will be published following the merit list and only for those who have filled in the repechage application.

The following table lists the date of publication of the assignments with their deadlines to complete the enrolment, change course of transfer from another university:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates and internet addresses where after repechage assignments will be published</th>
<th>Deadline of online enrolment, change of course and transfer from another university</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First re-assignment after repechage: 26/9/2017 at <a href="http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati">http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati</a>, selecting the desired course</td>
<td>12.00 of 29/9/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second re-assignment after repechage: 3/10/2017 at <a href="http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati">http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati</a>, selecting the desired course</td>
<td>12.00 of 5/10/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third re-assignment after repechage: 9/10/2017 at <a href="http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati">http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati</a>, selecting the desired course</td>
<td>12.00 of 11/10/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth re-assignment after repechage: 13/10/2017 at <a href="http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati">http://didattica.unipd.it/offerta/risultati</a>, selecting the desired course</td>
<td>12.00 of 16/10/2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After the last assignment, enrolments for the Academic Year 2017/2018 will be considered closed.

5. CREDIT TRANSFER REQUESTS

To transfer credits and for any academic transfer credit evaluation, a preliminary assessment application can be submitted for the academic year 2017/2018.
Conditions and terms to submit the application are available at [http://www.unipd.it/domanda-valutazione](http://www.unipd.it/domanda-valutazione).

As this is a new course, admission is only to the first year and it depends on passing the entry test.

Instructions to complete the papers are available at [http://www.unipd.it/domanda-valutazione](http://www.unipd.it/domanda-valutazione).

### 6. FOREIGN STUDENTS AND ITALIAN STUDENTS WITH A FOREIGN DEGREE

Foreign and Italian students with a foreign degree are admitted as per the provisions set forth by the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research and available at [http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/](http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/).

To add their school leaving final mark, which is necessary to calculate the score for the merit list, to the pre-enrolment application, all candidates with a foreign qualification must contact the Foreign qualification Office (Ufficio Titoli Esteri) of the Student Office, [segstud.titolisteri@unipd.it](mailto:segstud.titolisteri@unipd.it) within 7 days before taking the test; no extensions will be granted to submit the documents necessary to enrol.

### 7. PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PROCEDURE, PRIVACY, REMARKS AND WARNINGS

1) Pursuant to art. 4 of law 241 of 7 August 1990 (New norms on administrative procedures and right to access administrative documents) and subsequent amendments, the President of the Assessment commission is appointed as person in charge of the administrative procedure.

2) Person in charge of the Procedure to access the records: head of the Student Office, Donato Sigolo. Candidates may exercise their right to access the competition records following the procedures set forth by Presidential Decree no. 184 of 12 April 2006.

3) Same-time enrolment: information on same-time enrolment is available at [http://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi](http://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi).

4) Regulations in place about statements: should false or mendacious statements by the candidate emerge, it being understood the sanctions provided for by the criminal code and special laws in place (art. 75 and 76 of presidential decree 445/2000), the candidate will automatically be unenrolled. The University will seek to be refunded for any benefits (e.g. scholarships) given to the candidate and will not reimburse any of the university fees paid by the candidate. The mendacious statement will also entail compensation for damages by the parties involved.

Further information on our privacy policy and regulations in place for enrolments is available at [http://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi](http://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi).

Any amendments or additions to the content of this admission notice will be:

◊ published on the Official University Register;

Current regulations in place apply in relation to any issues not expressly addressed in this admission notice.

Padova, 20 April 2017

The Rector
Prof. Rosario Rizzuto
# ANNEX 1 – PRE-ENROLMENT FEE BANK TRANSFER

**CREDIT TRANSFER REQUEST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount:</th>
<th>€ 30.00 (Thirty euros)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reason for payment/Notes:*</td>
<td>XX2017120030</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) Information for the bank: insert the note with no interruptions

| Beneficiary: | Università degli Studi di PADOVA  
              | Via 6 Febbraio, 2 - 35122 Padova |
|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Bank name:   | Cassa di Risparmio del Veneto - Gruppo Intesa Sanpaolo |

International Bank Account Number(IBAN):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IT</th>
<th>81</th>
<th>V</th>
<th>06225</th>
<th>12186</th>
<th>100000300875</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COUNTRY</td>
<td>CHECK DGT</td>
<td>CIN</td>
<td>ABI</td>
<td>CAB</td>
<td>ACCOUNT NO.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BIC/SWIFT code for international transfers: IB SPIT2P

Please make the transfer by:

- ☐ payment in cash
- ☐ Direct Debit from account no. ________________

Payer:

Surname/Name: ________________________________

Place and date of birth ________________________

On ___/___/_______

Tax Code: ________________________________

Full Address: ________________________________

Identity Document: __________________________

Date: ___/___/_______

Signature: ________________________________
ANNEX 2 – PROGRAMS FOR THE ENTRY TEST

1. Basic skills

a) Verbal skills
Among the different types of verbal skills, two are those deemed most effective to determine the quality of the studies required by the present notice:
- **reading comprehension**: the candidate must be able, e.g. to identify the single passages where a fact is presented, illustrated and developed, in addition to being able to establish logical connections between the different passages and summarising the information provided in the text;
- **lexical comprehension**: the candidate must be able, e.g. to understand the similarity among lexical terms and locate the contrary of a given term.

b) Analytical skills
Among the different analytical skills, those of logical reasoning are relevant. The candidate must be able to demonstrate, e.g. their ability to understand structural sets of relations, deduce new information from them, analyse and assess arguments, decide precise and accurate inferences and identify possible causal explanations.

c) Quantitative skills
They are basically skills to understand and produce quantitative type of reasoning requiring basic mathematical knowledge and not complicated calculations. The candidate must be able, e.g. to realise quantitative comparisons, solve problems posed in quantitative terms, interpret graphs and tables...

d) Memory skills
These skills include the ability to memorise certain notions such as e.g. those acquired during a lesson or those resulting from reading a text, and the ability to recover and effectively use part of these notions for specific problems encountered or specific tasks done.

2. Maths
Basic knowledge of:
- Numerical structures, arithmetic.
- Basic algebra (common denominator, algebraic expressions, reductions).
- Equations and inequalities.
- Trigonometry.
- Geometry (lengths, surfaces, volumes); analytical geometry.
- Functions (graphical representation of elementary functions).
- Probability theory (elementary applications).

3. Physics
Basic knowledge of:
- Kinematics and dynamics
- Statics
- Thermodynamics.
- Magnetism and waves.

4. Chemistry
Basic knowledge of:
- Matter, its constitution and properties.
- The atom and subatomic particles.
- The periodic system of elements.
- Aqueous solutions and their properties.
- Representation, nomenclature and properties of some inorganic compounds.
• Main classes of organic compounds.

5. Biology

Basic knowledge of:
• Macromolecules of biological systems: nucleic acids, lipids and carbohydrates.
• Enzymes, photosynthesis and respiration.
• Cellule as basic element of life: prokaryote and eukaryote organization.
• Mitotic e meiotic division.
• How animal and vegetable organisms work, in general terms.

6. English at B2 level

At a B2 level, students are expected to be able to understand the main ideas of complex texts on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in their field of specialisation. They can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. They can produce clear, detailed texts on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.