



DIPARTIMENTO  
DI GEOSCIENZE

1222·2022  
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UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA

## Annex no. 1

### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR No.20 PLACES FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE Arqus PROJECT, A.Y. 2020/21

The University of Padua, within the Erasmus+ Programme Key Action 2, European Universities, 'Arqus – European University Alliance' (612247-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-EPPKA2-EU-UNIV), announces a call for maximum 20 places for virtual mobility from 12 April to 15 May 2021 (Spring School) and, if applicable, from 22 to 26 February 2021 (Winter School), to participate in the project 'Rethinking climate risk: the Venice paradigm'.

#### Art. 1 Content of the project

This project offers an educational experience within the 'Arqus Challenge-based learning programme' coordinated by the University of Bergen (Norway) and run in collaboration with the University of Padua (Italy), the University of Granada (Spain), the University of Graz (Austria), Leipzig University (Germany), the Université de Lyon (France), and Vilnius University (Lithuania). The educational experience is broken down into the following activities:

1. **Winter School** 'Rethinking climate risk' (22-26 February, blended teaching mode<sup>1</sup>: online and face-to-face teaching in Padua, on a full-time basis), reserved for 6 students selected with this call for applications. The Winter School is held at the seven Arqus partner Universities simultaneously and includes lectures and workshops to be run both together with the groups of students from the partner universities and separately with the University of Padua's group. The Winter School includes the following units (days):
  - a. Rethinking climate risk and science
  - b. Mapping the natural causes of climate risk
  - c. Making connections: climate risk and social transformation
  - d. Scenarios of responding to climate risk
  - e. Climate risk and European Citizenship

At the end of the Winter School, the participants will discuss their work (mapping local conditions, developing scenarios, etc.) produced at local level. The acquired knowledge and working methods will be used and expanded in the Spring School.

2. **Spring school** 'Rethinking climate risk: The Venice paradigm' (12 April – 15 May, blended teaching mode<sup>1</sup>: online and face-to-face teaching in Padua and Venice, approximately 6 hours of lectures/workshops per week); this activity is mandatory for all selected candidates. The Spring School is broken down into the following units/weeks:
  - a. The Venice Lagoon: morphological features, hydrodynamics of the lagoon system, man-made changes;
  - b. The regulatory framework: 'International Disaster Law', the role of agencies, institutions, and local communities;
  - c. The perception of the climate problem and its consequences in the city governance;
  - d. The psychological effects in environmental emergency;
  - e. The role of voluntary work, with specific reference to the associations operating in the city of Venice.

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise provided for in the legislation applying to the SARS-COV-19 emergency.

3. The teaching activities of the Spring School aim at providing knowledge and competences in the following areas:
  - Detailed knowledge of aspects concerning climate change and their social impact from a European perspective;
  - Understanding of the complexity of climate change effects on social, environmental, political, and economic level;
  - Tools for managing social and environmental contexts as specific as the city of Venice and its lagoon;
  - Application of problem-solving methods, risk assessment and ethical aspects;
  - Planning and management of a scientific study in interdisciplinary research teams;
  - Planning and management of projects and activities involving collaboration and exchange of knowledge between institutions and the world of civil society and associations;
  - Communication, exchange, and interaction skills in international and intercultural contexts.

The teaching and research activity of the Spring School aims at producing research/intervention projects to be assessed within the Arqus Challenge-based learning programme. The assignments of the working groups will also be presented at the Arqus Student-led Forum, which will take place in 2021, with the support of the University of Bergen. The students are divided into 3 heterogeneous groups, with the support of professors and a tutor, and work on interdisciplinary research projects, also in collaboration with the students of Arqus partner universities attending similar courses. Part of the teaching and training materials will be produced and made available to partners by the Arqus Alliance.

4. The University of Padua will award the following credits:
  - a. 6 ECTS credits,<sup>2</sup> to all the participants who successfully complete the Spring School: provided the course 'Rethinking climate risk: the Venice paradigm' has been added to the student's study plan as free-choice activity (freely-chosen ECTS credits) of the *general course* category;
  - b. 9 ECTS credits (6 ECTS credits are awarded according to the criteria above; the remaining 3 ECTS credits are recognised as curricular internship credits for the Bachelor's and Master's degree programmes that have this as an option): to the students who participate in the Winter School and also complete the Spring School:
5. Upon completion of the Spring School, the students get a mark expressed in a thirty-point scale. The mark is given in accordance with the following criteria:
  - Attendance on a regular basis and active participation in the units and related activities (20%)
  - Individual participation in online activities (contribution to forum discussions, exchanges with participants in other programmes at partner universities, etc.) (20 %)
  - Contribution to the peer review of other groups' projects (10 %)
  - Assessment of the project carried out by the student's own group (50 %).
6. Upon completion of the Winter School, the students will have 3 ECTS credits registered as 'curricular internship' and marked as 'approved'.
7. When applying, students are required to state their intention of also applying for the Winter School.
8. The first 6 out of the 20 students selected for the Spring School can participate in the Winter School, provided that they have applied for it.

The educational tracks and project are detailed at <https://www.unipd.it/en/arqus-calls>

## **Art. 2** **Admission requirements**

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<sup>2</sup> As approved by the Council of the Department of Geosciences on 22 October 2020.

Students are eligible to apply for the programme if, at the time of application and by the closing date of this call for applications, 18 December 2020, they meet the following criteria:

- a) they are duly enrolled, for a.y. 2020/2021, in the last year of a Bachelor's degree programme (three years), or in the last two years of a Single-cycle degree programme, or in a Master's degree programme;
- b) they are enrolled at the University of Padua when applying and for the entire duration of the activities;
- c) they prove their proficiency in English language by providing:
  - a certificate attesting at least a B2 level in English, in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, awarded by a recognised institution; *or*
  - a statement proving they are enrolled in, or have successfully completed, an English-taught Bachelor's, Master's or Single-cycle degree programme.

### **Art. 3 Application procedure**

Applicants must fill out the online application form and enclose the following documents:

- a) copy of a valid ID card;
- b) for non-EU citizens: copy of a valid residence permit;
- c) copy of the language certificate or other document attesting the applicant's language level, as set forth by art. 2(d);
- d) document (available for download on Uniweb) certifying the number of examinations passed, the number of ECTS credits and the weighted average grades; or the transcript (showing all the examinations and marks) of the degree programme that gave the applicant access to the first year of a Master's degree programme;
- e) presentation/motivation letter in English (up to 1000 characters, with spaces);
- f) any additional qualifications which may be relevant to the assessment by the Committee.

The application and its annexes must be uploaded on Moodle platform <https://elearning.unipd.it/geoscienze/course/view.php?id=620> **by 1.00pm on 18 December 2020.**

### **Art. 4 Selection procedure and publication of the ranking list**

The members of the selection Committee are listed below:

Massimiliano Zattin (member)

Paolo De Stefani (member)

Elisa Facciolo (minute-taker)

The Committee is appointed by the Head of the Department of Geosciences to examine all the applications received and select students. Applicants are ranked in accordance with the selection criteria concerning their proficiency in English, their merit factor<sup>3</sup> (if applicable), their motivation letter and any additional qualifications provided.

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<sup>3</sup> The merit factor is calculated by adding up the percentage change of the average of ECTS credits gained by 10 August, compared to the average of ECTS credits for their degree programme/university system (V%

Should candidates rank the same, the student who has not already benefited from international mobility funding is given priority, in line with the aims of the project. In case of a further tie, priority is given to the student enrolled in a Master's degree programme and, should the tie still subsist, to the student with the highest number of ECTS credits.

Should the Committee deem it necessary, a face-to-face or online interview may be arranged: if this is the case, candidates will be notified of the time and place of the interview. Failing to attend the interview will result in the automatic exclusion of the candidate from the selection.

Should the number of applications received be higher than 100, the Committee reserves the right to run a pre-selection considering the merit factor.

Once the Committee has fulfilled its task, the ranking list of selected candidates will be published only at: <https://www.unipd.it/en/argus-calls> from 15 January 2021.

Should a selected candidate withdraw the place, the following eligible candidate on the ranking list shall be awarded the place.

#### **Art. 5 Economic provisions**

Participation in virtual mobility does not entail any fee for participants. Additionally, there are no scholarships to participate in the course.

#### **Art. 6 Person appointed to oversee the procedure and information**

Dott.ssa Paola Saracino is appointed to oversee the administrative procedure.

For further information:  
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Padua,

The Head of the Department of  
Geosciences  
Prof. Fabrizio Nestola

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Exams), and the percentage change of the weighted average marks of the student's examinations compared to the one set for their degree programme/university system (V% Marks); the total is divided by 2.