



Executive Summary

The University of Padua is one of the first universities in Europe: it was founded in 1222 and during its history it has seen succeeding teachers such as Galileo Galilei and Andrea Vesalio, students like Francesco Guicciardini and Carlo Goldoni. Its motto is *“Universa Universis Patavina Libertas”*².

The University of Padova is a very large University that offers a variety of study programmes, scientific and cultural activities in a broad range of subjects. It started a reorganization of its administrative procedures in 2018 giving a boost to the responsible autonomy of Departments to adapt services and functions to the strategic objectives of the university. The following numbers underline the size of the University: about 60.000 students, 12.000 graduated students each year, 5.000 scholarships, more than 2 million of books, 41 libraries, about 40 PhD doctorates and the Galilean School of Higher Education recruiting selected students in Italy and abroad,

The University has a strong link with the territory on which it insists, creating a diffuse campus. Among the decentralized sites there is the campus of Agripolis a Legnaro that gathers the departments and the study programmes in agrarian and veterinary fields, the University veterinary hospital and the Agricultural Experimental Company. The training offer for the academic year 2018-19 counts 216 study programmes, of which 80 are of three-year duration, 87 master’s degree study programmes, 9 master’s degree programmes and 40 PhD programmes. The University also counts 32 Departments and 64 centers of the University. Research is also excellent: in the VQR 2011-2015 The University was among best performers in 11 scientific areas and 13 are the Departments of Excellence selected for funding out of fifteen candidates. In the last five academic years the enrollments were generally aligned to national trend, increasing in academic year 2016-2017. The registrations, instead, show a decreasing trend starting from 2015-2016.

The student-faculty ratio is higher than the national average in the scientific-technological area (17 compared to 16.2) slightly lower in the medical-health area (13.8 compared to 14.4), while is lower in the humanistic-social areas (29.6 compared to 33.8).

The Committee of Evaluation Experts (CEV) conducted the document analysis from August to beginning October 2018. The on-site visit took place at the University Padova from 12 to 16 of November 2018. The assessment focused on the quality assurance (QA) system of the University, 15 programmes and 3 Departments. The CEV’s Final Report, transmitted to ANVUR on July the 24th 2019 shows many strength points and few specific areas of potential improvement.

In particular, the following were found to be positive elements:

- Teaching, Research and Third Mission objectives have been clearly identified and they are effectively pursued by the University through strategic guidelines, QA policies and indicators for monitoring and evaluation;
- Awards mechanisms for resources distribution and scholarships assignments have been clearly defined and shared internally at all levels. They have been developed consistently with University strategies and based on objective data;
- Teaching project is clearly shared with main University bodies in charge for evaluating and monitoring study programmes (PQ, Joint teachers and students Committee, other committees);
- Efficiency and effectiveness of the Evaluation Unit and other bodies in charge for Quality Assurance at the level of University and study programmes;
- International reputation of the university.

² *“Tutta intera, per tutti, la libertà nell’Università di Padova”*



Aspects that can be improved are the following:

- Public engagement and technological transfer activities;
- Students' participation in QA and decision processes at University and study programmes level, strengthening their participatory role and enhancing their contributions;
- Teaching and research infrastructures might be improved.

Averaging the scores given by the CEV to the focus points, the assessment of the QA systems of the University (Requirements 1, 2 and 4.A), the evaluated Study Programmes (Requirement 3) and the Departments (Requirement 4.B) are the following:

Main Components of final score	Value	Weight for the final score
Average score of University QA system	7.75	14/20
Average score of evaluated Programmes QA system	7.01	3/20
Average score of evaluated Departments QA system	8.00	3/20

The CEV assessment takes into account the targets autonomously set by the University, their coherence with its initial strengths and weaknesses, the tools employed and the results achieved. On the basis of the CEV assessment and of all other relevant documents, ANVUR Governing Board in the meeting held on 3 January 2020, proposed to the Ministry the accreditation of the University of Padua and all its study programmes for the maximum duration allowed by current legislation with judgement **A – Very Good** and a final score of **7.68/10**.

Final score (Pfin)	Final judgment
$P_{fin} \geq 7.5$	A: Very good
$6.5 \leq P_{fin} < 7.5$	B: Good
$5.5 \leq P_{fin} < 6.5$	C: Satisfactory
$4 \leq P_{fin} < 5.5$	D: Poor
$P_{fin} < 4$	E: Very poor (no accreditation)