Call for selection for admission to the Advanced Training Course in

"Generative AI for business: from basics to breakthroughs"

For the 2025/2026 academic year

GENERAL PART – ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

ARTICLE 1 – ACTIVATION OF THE ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE
Public selection is open for admission to the Advanced Training Course in " Generative AI for business: from basics to breakthroughs" for the 2025/2026 academic year. The course's key features are described in attached data sheet. The course awards 10 ECTS credits.

ARTICLE 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND INCOMPATIBILITY
2.1 Entry qualifications:
To be admitted to an Advanced Training Course, candidates must hold the qualification specified in the data sheet. Other qualifications of the same level (according to the Italian Qualifications Framework – IQF) may also be evaluated by the Examination Committee, provided the candidate holds a high school diploma that allows access to university and has a curriculum consistent with the course objectives.
Candidates who expect to obtain the required degree before the course start date may also apply. In such cases, self-certification of the degree must be submitted to the Postgraduate Office - Short Specialisation Degree and Continuing Education Unit before the course begins.

ARTICLE 3 – PRE-ENROLMENT PROCEDURE
Applications must be submitted online **by 12:30 p.m. on the deadline stated in the attached data sheet**, through the website https://uniweb.unipd.it/.
After the deadline, the link will be deactivated and it will no longer be possible to submit the pre-enrolment application. The service may be temporarily suspended for technical updates.
Instructions for completing the application are available in the file "Instructions for completing the pre-enrolment application" published at https://www.unipd.it/alta-formazione.
Applicants with qualifications obtained abroad must refer to Article 6 of this Call for Applications.
According to the University Regulations for University Master Courses, Advanced Professional Courses and Advanced Training Courses (Article 24, paragraph 6), available at https://www.unipd.it/regolamenti-studenti, technical-administrative staff of the University may enroll as surplus participants, up to 10% of the maximum number of students, to allow continuous and permanent training.
Applicants must include the following documents with their online pre-enrolment application, which requires payment of a €30.00 fee:
1. curriculum vitae
2. any documents required by the specific course
3. copy of a valid personal ID (or passport for non-EU citizens)

The pre-enrolment fee of €30.00 (including the virtual payment of a €16.00 stamp duty) is non-refundable, regardless of course activation or selection outcome.
The application serves as a declaration in lieu of certification of the qualification required for course admission. The University of Padua reserves the right to verify the submitted qualifications with the issuing institutio
All documents must be original or certified copies. Templates for self-certification are available at: https://www.unipd.it/corsi-alta-formazione-modulistica.

In accordance with Article 40 of Presidential Decree 445/2000, as amended by Article 15 of Law 183/2011, in dealings with public administration, certificates and affidavits are always replaced by declarations under Articles 46 and 47 of the same decree.
Non-EU citizens lawfully residing in Italy may use declarations under Articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree 445/2000 limited to statuses, personal qualities and facts that can be certified or attested by Italian public bodies.
The university assumes no responsibility for communication failures due to incorrect applicant contact details or delays in notification of changes, nor for any postal or electronic errors not attributable to the university.

Applicants with disabilities or specific learning disorders (SLDs) may request personalized support for admission tests (if any), by explicitly requesting it through the Student Services Office – Inclusion Unit. To do so, candidates must:
1. Request the individualized test during the pre-enrolment procedure at https://uniweb.unipd.it/;
2. Upload documentation related to the disability or SLD during the same procedure.
Applicants may be contacted if necessary documentation is missing. Applicants residing abroad must upload a certificate attesting to the disability or SLD status issued in their country, accompanied by a sworn translation in Italian or English. A follow-up interview with designated personnel will be held to define the support needed for the test. Further information is available at http://www.unipd.it/accoglienza-prove-ingresso.

ARTICLE 4 – SELECTION PROCEDURE
Selection procedures and evaluation criteria are described in the course's attached data sheet. In case of a tie, preference will be given to the younger applicant. The Organising Committee may conduct preliminary aptitude tests if the number of applications significantly exceeds available places.

ARTICLE 5 – SELECTION RESULTS, ENROLMENT AND REPLACEMENTS
5.1 Publication of results: The ranking list will be published at https://uel.unipd.it/master-e-corsi/.
<u>Publication serves as official notification to applicants.</u>
5.2 Enrolment: Successful applicants must complete enrolment procedures following the instructions available at https://www.unipd.it/alta-formazione. Failure to enrol within the established timeframe will be considered as withdrawal.

5.3 Replacements: any places becoming available due to withdrawal or forfeiture of enrolment rights will be assigned according to the ranking list until exhausted. Eligible candidates will be contacted by the Postgraduate Office - Short Specialisation Degree and Continuing Education Unit

ARTICLE 6 – APPLICANTS WITH A DEGREE OBTAINED ABROAD AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
Applicants with a foreign degree equivalent to the Italian entry requirement may apply, subject to administrative and academic evaluation. Pre-enrolment must be completed online via https://uniweb.unipd.it/.
Documents to be uploaded with the application include:
    1. Curriculum vitae;
    2. Qualifications and other required documents;
    3. Copy of high school diploma with declaration of value or comparability certificate issued by ENIC-NARIC centres;
    4. Transcript of records with grades (if applicable);
    5. Diploma Supplement (for EU qualifications);
    6. Any other supporting documentation (e.g., European CV);
    7. Translation into Italian or English (if not already in a working language);
    8. Valid ID or passport copy (if non-EU).
Failure to submit the application by the deadline will result in exclusion from the selection.
Enrolment instructions are available at https://www.unipd.it/alta-formazione. Non-EU students must also comply with the requirements detailed at http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/ (see General Part and Part VII).
Admission is subject to academic recognition of the degree and successful completion of the selection process. Additional information is available from the the Postgraduate Office - Short Specialisation Degree and Continuing Education Unit: formazionecontinua.lauream@unipd.it.

ARTICLE 7 – ATTENDANCE, SUSPENSION, WITHDRAWAL AND FINAL CERTIFICATE
7.1 Attendance: Students must attend at least 70% of classes and internships and pass the final examination. Failure to meet attendance requirements leads to forfeiture of student status.

7.2 Suspension:Suspension is permitted only in cases of prolonged illness, pregnancy or parental leave, upon request. Re-enrolment may be allowed in the following academic year, if the course is reactivated.

7.3 Withdrawal: Students may withdraw at any time by submitting a written and signed request using the appropriate form ("Withdrawal from studies") available at: https://www.unipd.it/corsi-alta-formazione-modulistica. Fees paid will not be refunded, and any outstanding fees remain due.

7.4 Final certificate: At the end of the course, a certificate of attendance is issued, subject to the acquisition of the required ECTS credits and completion of the final examination.

ARTICLE 8 – PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PROCEDURE
Pursuant to Article 4 of Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990 (New regulations on administrative procedures and the right of access to administrative documents) and subsequent amendments, the person responsible for the Advanced training course on administrative procedures relating to the selection process is the Course Director, Professor Gianmaria Silvello. Applicants are entitled to exercise their right of access to the records of the selection tests according to the provisions of D.P.R. (Presidential Decree) no. 184 of 12 April 2006 (Regulation governing access to administrative documents pursuant to Chapter V of Italian Legge (Law) no. 241/90). The Director of the Postgraduate Office, Andrea Crismani, is appointed as the Person in Charge of the Administrative Procedure.

ARTICLE 9 – SPECIAL CASES
9.1 Course activation: If the minimum number of enrolled participants is not reached, the course will not be activated. In such cases, the enrolment fee will be refunded.

ARTICLE 10 – BENEFITS
10.1 Discounts: students with a disability recognised by the National Health Service Committees of between 66% and 100% or with recognition of a disability pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 1, of Legge (Law) no. 104 of 5 February 1992 are totally exempt from the registration fee. However, they are still required to pay the pre-registration fee (€30.00), insurance (€6.50) and stamp duty (€16.00).
Students with disabilities are invited to contact the secretariat of the Course in which they are enrolled for information regarding attendance arrangements.

10.2 Discounts for technical-administrative staff category of the University of Padua: the registration fee for technical-administrative staff of the University of Padua is 20% of the fee foreseen for enrollment in the Course.

10.3 Cumulation of benefits: a student enrolled in a Higher Education Course may not benefit from more than one discount in the same course and academic year

ART. 11 NOTES AND WARNINGS

11.1 Any changes and additions to the content of this call for selection will be made known by means of publication on the University of Padua website: http://www.unipd.it/alta-formazione.

11.2 All applicants are conditionally admitted to the selection procedure and attendance of the Advanced training course. The university administration may at any time, with reasoned decision, order the dismissal of a student for failure to meet the prescribed requirements. This measure will be notified to the person concerned by registered letter with return receipt or PEC certified email.

11.3 If the documentation submitted reveals false statements, untrue information or the use of false documents, the applicant shall be automatically dismissed from the short specialisation degree and shall forfeit any benefits that may have been received, without prejudice to any criminal sanctions envisaged by the Italian Criminal Code and the specific laws on the subject (Articles 75 and 76 of D.P.R. (Presidential Decree) no. 445/2000). The aforementioned false statement shall result in exposure to action for damages by counterclaimants, and the registration fees paid by the interested party shall not be refunded.

11.4 Registration fees and refunds: the advanced training Course has a registration fee divided into two instalments. The 2nd instalment must be paid by the date indicated in the course's data sheet. Failure to comply with the aforementioned deadlines for payment of the second instalment shall entail the payment of a late fee of €21.00 up to 15 days late and €54.00 from the 16th day onwards.

I**The registration fee is non-refundable** except in the case envisaged in Article 10.1.

A student who has completed enrolment in an Advanced Training Course covered by this call is not entitled to a refund of the fees paid.

11.5 Processing of personal data: the processing of the personal data provided by applicants and collected for the purposes identified in this call is done in compliance with the provisions of EU Regulation no. 679 of 27.04.2016 (General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR), see link http://www.unipd.it/privacy).

ART. 12 RELEVANT LEGISLATION

The courses referred to in this Notice are governed by the Regulations for Short specialization degree courses, Advanced Training Courses and Higher Education Courses at the University of Padua, which can be consulted at the following link: http://www.unipd.it/regolamenti-studenti.

For anything not specified in this call for selection, reference should be made to the regulations in force.

FOR INFORMATION:

For assistance with completing the online application form:
University Call Centre on 049 8273131 during the following hours: Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm; email: callcentre@unipd.it.

For information on teaching:
Contact the course administrative office at the number indicated in the "For information" section.

For further information, please contact:
Postgraduate Office - Short Specialisation Degree and Continuing Education Unit at 049 8276373/6374 - Via Ugo Bassi 1 - 35131 Padua
(telephone hours: Monday to Friday from 10 am to 12.30 pm)
(help desk hours: Monday to Friday from 10 am to 1 pm, Tuesday also from 3 pm to 4.30 pm, Thursday from 10 am to 3 pm)
Email: formazionecontinua.lauream@unipd.it

This selection notice is available on the website https://www.unipd.it/alta-formazione and at the Postgraduate Office - Short Specialisation Degree and Continuing Education Unit - Via Ugo Bassi, 1 - 35131 Padua.

Advanced training Course in "Generative ai for business: from basics to breakthroughs"	
Division of reference	11 - Ingegneria dell'Informazione
Proposing party	Dipartimento di Ingegneria dell'Informazione – DEI
Duration	3 months
ECTS credits	10
Language	English
Director	Silvello Gianmaria Dipartimento di Ingegneria dell'Informazione - DEI 3497381157 gianmaria.silvello@unipd.it
Deadlines	Registration application submission deadline: **27 October 2025 (12.30 pm, deadline for completing the online application)** Publication of ranking list: from 30 October 2025 Registration deadline: by 4 November 2025 Deadline for replacements: by 5 November 2025
For information (teaching, selection tests, calendar, etc.)	Dipartimento di Ingegneria dell'Informazione - DEI Via Gradenigo, 6/b - 35131 Padova **Contact**: UniSMART Fondazione Università di Padova **Telephone**: 0498278961 **Email:** formazione@unismart.it **Website:** https://genaicourse.bitsei.it/
Registration fee	**First instalment:** €1,222.50 **Second instalment:** € 690.00 **(Total fee €1,912.50)**
Benefits	Registration fee for students with disabilities: **€22.50**
Places available	Min: **12** Max: **60** Extra places for students with disabilities (recognised disability level of 66% or more): **2**
Objectives	The course trains qualified professionals with a distinctly engineering-oriented approach to Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI), tailored for business applications. This profile is increasingly in demand intoday'sindustrial landscape, where digital transformation and intelligent automation are key drivers of innovation.Participants will develop both theoretical understanding and hands-on expertise in areas such as natural language processing, knowledge representation, retrieval-augmented generation (RAG), evaluationandoptimization of large language models (LLMs) and chatbots, information extraction, and reinforcement learning.The course places particular emphasis on integrating LLMs into real-world pipelines and designing custom AI solutions using a combination of commercial platforms, open-source frameworks, and state-of-the-arttechniques.By combining technical knowledge, sound methodologies, and practical tools, the program equips participants with a comprehensive, application-ready skill set.
Profile, occupational and professional opportunities	The advanced training course is designed to equip professionals with skills aligned with current market needs and continuous learning objectives. Students acquire advanced competencies in Natural Language Processing (NLP), essential for developing chatbots and virtual assistants that enhance human-machine interaction. The program explores knowledge representation through the use of knowledge bases and ontologies—essential skills for organizing and querying large volumes of structured and semi-structured data. These competencies are central to optimizing decision-making and operational processes in complex business environments. Techniques such as Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) and information retrieval models are employed to increase the accuracy

	and relevance of AI-generated responses, thereby improving the quality of both internal communications and user-facing interactions. A dedicated module focuses on Reinforcement Learning (RL), a core paradigm for training intelligent agents through interaction with their environment. Students will learn how to apply RL, including the RLHF (Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback) approach, to enhance the performance of generative models in real-world applications. Through hands-on activities—such as chatbot development, integration with corporate data, and performance evaluation—the course prepares professionals capable of strategically and effectively applying GenAI solutions, combining theoretical knowledge with operational skills sought after in today's job market.
Organisation	**Mandatory attendance**: 70% **Schedule:** The advanced training course is structured to offer flexible attendance options, accommodating the schedules of working professionals. Participation requires a minimum attendance of 70%, emphasizing both practical and theoretical sessions. The course is conducted online, allowing participants to access content from any location. Classes are held on Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, facilitating attendance for those occupied during weekdays. The course runs from November 2025 to January 2026, enabling students to plan their educational commitments effectively. **Exams:** Progress is evaluated through multiple-choice quizzes, providing clear insights into student development. This course design aims to maximize learning effectiveness, equipping participants with the necessary skills to meet the challenges of the AI industry **Final examination:** written exam **Additional information:** Optional hands-on computer-based activities are strongly encouraged to ensure active, applied learning.
Location	Dipartimento di Ingegneria dell'Informazione - DEI Via Gradenigo, 6/b - 35131 Padova
Start date	Lessons: from 22/11/2025 to 24/01/2026
Entry qualifications	**Degrees awarded under the former Italian system:** physics; computer science; telecommunications engineering; electronic engineering; computer engineering; mathematics; information science; statistics and business computer science. **Three-year university diplomas:** computer science; automation engineering; telecommunications engineering; electronic engineering; computer engineering; computer engineering (distance learning); computer and automation engineering; computer and automation engineering (distance learning); mathematics; mathematics for engineering sciences; statistics and computer science for business management; statistics and computer science for public administration. **Bachelor's degrees:** information engineering; computer science and technology; mathematical sciences; statistical sciences; statistics **Specialised Degrees pursuant to D.M. (Ministerial Decree) 509:** physics; computer science; automation engineering; telecommunications engineering; electronic engineering; management engineering; computer engineering; mathematics. **Master's degrees pursuant to D.M. (Ministerial Decree) 270:** computer science; automation engineering; telecommunications engineering; electronic engineering; management engineering; computer engineering; mathematics; cybersecurity; statistical sciences; data science.
Selection	**Documents**: curriculum.
Broad criteria for the evaluation of qualifications and/or selection tests and their weighting	Curriculum: 100 (maximum score) Overall score: min: 55 - max: 100