



“Shaping a World-Class University”

CALL FOR PROPOSALS - YEAR 2024

OBJECTIVES

The University of Padua promotes and renews a strategy of global internationalisation, with the aim of fostering study courses as open, excellent and innovative international learning environments, while at the same time increasing the visibility, attractiveness and reputation of the University for an even better placement in international rankings.

The University intends to foster internationalisation, by supporting face-to-face and blended initiatives aimed at the innovation and digitalisation of curricular activities; promoting the University, as well as other face-to-face initiatives during its summer and winter schools; and supporting the development of structured mobility programmes and/or other activities of particular importance¹.

TYPES OF PROJECTS AND FUNDING

Within these areas of intervention, the University is publishing a Call for Proposals for a total of **EUR 150.000,00** to support the following specific initiatives:

	Project type / specific initiatives	Budget/Project (max)	Tot Budget (max)
1. CURRICULUM INTERNATIONALISATION	1.1. Short-term visiting professors (face-to-face activity)	2.500,00 € for visiting professors non-resident in EU 1.500,00 € for visiting professors resident in EU	150.000,00 €
	1.2 Virtual & Collaborative programmes (virtual teaching activities)	2.500,00 €	
	1.3 Support for the development of structured mobility programmes (credit or degree)	2.500,00 €	
	1.5 Blended & Face-to-face Winter Schools	10.000,00 €	
2. DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION	2.1 Development cooperation activities (face-to-face activity)	5.000,00 €	

Funded activities shall take place from 1 June 2024 to 31 May 2025.

¹ Face-to-face activities will be authorised in compliance with the regulations in force, while monitoring the global pandemic and socio-political context at all times.

Funding from the International Relations Division will be made available to the relevant Department in a single instalment before the project starts. The Department manages the administrative and accounting aspects. Co-funding of projects is permitted, either through Department/Centre funds of the University or external bodies.

Within 30 days from completion of the activities, a final report will be requested, including a description of the activities and the results with evidence of the impact for the involved participants and institutions, a plan for the dissemination and exploitation of the results, and sustainability of the activities. If the final report is not submitted within 30 days from completion of the activities and in any case not later than 30 June 2025, the funding made available by the International Relations Area must be refunded in full.

The objectives, details and specific requirements related to different types of projects eligible for funding are established by the data sheets of the macro-areas of intervention, attached to this Call for Proposals (Annexes 1-2-3-4-5).

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted **no later than 6 May 2024 at 2:00 pm**, solely by filling in the on-line form available on the web page <https://www.unipd.it/en/shaping-world-class-university> to which the following documents in PDF format must be attached:

1. Project proposal
2. Prediction of the requested budget
3. Resolution of the Board or Decree of the Director of the Department/Centre of the applicant/relevant University, approving the proposal and confirming that the administrative-accounting aspects of the project will be managed; in case of more than one application, it's mandatory to indicate the priority in order to assist the Commission's selection
4. Any other document required for the different types of project, as specified by the attached data sheets

In the case of co-funding, the application must be accompanied by a letter of commitment of the applicant/relevant University Department/Centre (Board Resolution or Director's Decree) or the external funding Organisation (dated and signed letter of commitment).

A second call will be published in summer 2024 and will be devoted to finance exclusively the design of the Summer Schools 2025 (including a new typology of inter-disciplinary Summer Schools). The funding available for the second call is 150.000 EUR.

SELECTION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA

The selection will be made by a Commission appointed by the Rector, who will examine each proposal and allocate the contributions on the basis of the following criteria:

- Relevance of the project with respect to the internationalisation goals of the University and Department/Centre
- Quality of the proposed project
- Quality of the partner(s) involved and international importance of the proposal
- Sustainability of the action
- Impact and dissemination of results

Priority will be given to proposals from lecturers who have not already received funding under previous Calls for Proposals 'Shaping a World Class University' and to projects involving partner universities of the Arqus Alliance.

Any additional specific requirements and priority criteria for selection are provided by the data sheets attached to this Call for Proposals.

The presence of a co-funding by the applicant/relevant Department and/or external organisations of the University will be considered as added value of the project, and an indicator of the commitment of the parties involved and demonstration of the feasibility and practical importance of the project.

The Commission reserves the right to award lower funding than requested.

Selections will take into account a general criteria of diversification of the projects both in terms of the disciplinary context and type, in order to encourage a variety of activities as wide as possible.

PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PROCEDURE AND INFORMATION

The person in charge of the administrative procedure is Mrs. Alessandra Gallerano, Head of the Projects and Mobility Office.

This Call for Proposals, including the annexes, and the results of the selection will be published on the University website on the page <https://www.unipd.it/shaping-world-class-university>.

For further information please contact the Projects and Mobility Office:

e-mail: international.projects@unipd.it , Tel. 049 827 1248

Padua,

The Rector
Prof. Daniela Mapelli

ANNEX 1

Macro-area of intervention: 1. CURRICULUM INTERNATIONALISATION

Type of project: 1.1. Short-term Visiting Professors

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Enrich and internationalise the University's courses through the contribution of international teachers/experts with high level scientific/professional qualifications for innovative, face-to-face seminar activities-

2. TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECTS

- a. Contents: include high-level face-to-face seminar activities, that are particularly innovative or involve cutting-edge topics, in Degree Courses, single-cycle and Master's degrees, or PhD courses;
- b. Duration of activity: minimum 4 - maximum 8 hours/week;
- c. Recipients: teachers, researchers or experts with proven scientific/professional qualifications, belonging to a foreign University, Institution, Organisation or Company, who in the three years prior to the deadline of the Call for Proposals have not resided or carried out their main activity in Italy for more than twelve months, even if not consecutive;
- d. The flat-rate contribution allocated is intended as gross of all taxes, and social security contributions, provided by the current national law.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

- a. Applicant: Lecturer at the University of Padua
- b. Submission procedure: one application per applicant may be submitted, including the resolution of the Department Council or decree of the Director of the relevant Department.

4. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITIES

Priorities:

- Lecturers/experts from partner institutions in the networks/alliances of particular importance for the University: ARQUS, COIMBRA GROUP, UNIMED, T.I.M.E., VIU, etc.
- Importance of seminar activities in the curriculum.

5. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO ATTACH TO THE APPLICATION

- a. Letter of acceptance by the Visiting Professor;
- b. Curriculum Vitae of the Visiting Professor including bibliometric indicators;
- c. Description of seminar activities to be carried out in Padua.

ANNEX 2

Macro-area of intervention: 1. INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE CURRICULUM

Project type: 1.2 Virtual & Collaborative programmes

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Enrich, internationalise and make the University's courses more accessible and inclusive through innovative activities, organised and offered in a virtual, collaborative and creative manner, to develop high quality learning environments.

2. TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECTS

- a. Contents: virtual initiatives, organised and offered as new stand-alone activities/modules, included in existing teaching courses, or whose purpose is to improve the quality of the Study Course as a whole (Bachelor's degree, Master's Degree, single cycle Master's degree, PhD). The proposed activities should be characterised by a strong spirit of collaboration and should actively involve learners.

Those initiatives may take place at different stages of the courses and have different purposes:

- CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT: (i) joint thematic modules, preferably credit-bearing (min. 3 ECTS) with international partners; (ii) initiatives to enhance the transversal skills of students (*project management, creativity, critical thinking, teamwork, leadership, entrepreneurship, intercultural communication, etc.*); (iii) virtual laboratory activities;
 - INDUCTION: (i) creation of introductory modules or other activities to support students in filling knowledge and skill gaps towards the successful completion of the Degree Programme; (ii) activities related to guidance, welcome and information on the educational environment, inter-cultural and networking activities to support the integration of students at the start of their Degree Programme;
 - NETWORKING & PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT: activities towards the creation of a network among Alumni and the economic-social and research environment, to support of the Degree Programme and promote connections with the job market (testimonials from professionals/companies/Alumni), participation and professional integration of graduates;
 - QUALITY & MANAGEMENT: any other initiative whose purpose is to improve the organisation, efficiency and quality of Degree Programme, involving teaching and professional staff: exchange of good practices and implementation of joint activities in double degrees/joint programmes above all in terms physical mobility (*Staff Exchange*).
- b. Duration of project: at least 5 days, continuous or over several periods of the academic year.
- c. Recipients: teachers, students (Bachelor, Master, single-cycle Master, PhD), academic and professional staff
- d. Other specific requirements:
- Organisation of activities for groups of students of different nationalities, scientific and cultural backgrounds, thus promoting an intercultural and inter-disciplinary learning dimension;
 - Involvement of at least one international partner in the project.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

- a. Applicant: Lecturer, President of the Degree Programme or of the Double Degree /Joint Programme
- b. Submission procedure: one application per applicant may be submitted, including the resolution of the Department Council or decree of the Director of the relevant Department.

4. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITIES

The following will be considered as added value to the project:

- Credit-bearing activity (minimum 3 ECTS) for CURRICULM ENHANCEMENT activities;
- Use of virtual exchange methodology (<https://www.unipd.it/en/virtual-exchange>);
- Activities tackling one of the topics "Climate Change and Sustainable Development", "Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation", "European Identity and Heritage" for activities involving Arqus partner universities;
- Use of the 'Challenge Based Learning' approach (<https://www.challengebasedlearning.org/>);
- Developed teaching modules and materials available as open educational resources.

5. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO ATTACH TO THE APPLICATION

Any other documentation that demonstrates the quality of the project: letters of intent from partners, CVs of teachers/professionals involved in the project, etc.

6. TRAINING IN 'VIRTUAL EXCHANGE' METHODOLOGY

Teachers proposing 'Virtual & Collaborative programmes' projects to be funded under this call will be offered the opportunity to attend a specific training course on the 'Virtual Exchange' methodology.

ANNEX 3

Macro-area of intervention: 1. CURRICULUM INTERNATIONALISATION

Type of project: 1.3. Support for the development of structured mobility programmes (credit or degree)

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To support lecturers to develop new structured mobility programmes for credits (*mobility windows*) or joint programmes aiming at awarding double degrees / joint degrees, so to enrich and expand the international courses of our University.

2. TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECTS

- a. Contents: projects whose purpose is to develop a structured mobility programme for credits (*mobility windows*) or joint programmes (double degrees / joint degrees) with one or more partner universities (European and/or international). On completion of the project, the promoter must submit the double degrees / joint degrees / *mobility window* agreement at an advanced stage of negotiation.
- b. Project duration: N/A
- c. Eligible expenses:
 - Visits to the partner's offices to plan the course together (preparatory activities)
 - Tutoring to support the preparation of the course curriculum and/or preparatory teaching activities
 - Costs for dissemination of results

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

- a. Applicant: Lecturer, President of the Degree Programme or of the Double Degree /Joint Programme
- b. Submission procedure: one application per applicant, including the resolution of the Department Council or decree of the Director of the relevant Department, may be submitted

4. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITIES

Priorities:

- Partner institutions with previous cooperation (e.g. Erasmus+ study agreements, joint publications, etc.)
- Partner institutions within networks/alliances of particular importance for the University: ARQUS, COIMBRA GROUP, UNIMED, T.I.M.E., VIU, strategic partners (Université de Lausanne; University of St Andrews; Monash University)
- Departments with little or no experience with double / joint degrees
- Departments with a small number of students who participate in international mobility programmes

5. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO ATTACH TO THE APPLICATION

Any other documentation that demonstrates the quality of the project: letters of intent from partners, CVs of teachers/professionals involved in the project, etc.

ANNEX 4

Macro-area of intervention: 1. CURRICULUM INTERNATIONALISATION

Type of projects: 1.4. Blended & Face-to-face Winter Schools

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To support innovative short-term projects whose purpose is to enhance educational opportunities, both in the field of research and teaching, through blended or face-to-face courses in Padua or at off-campus branches of the University of Padua. The project must be of international importance and is open to any geographical area.

2. TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECTS

- a. Contents: short, high-quality intensive courses, organised in a either blended or face-to-face format. Activities may focus on specific subjects or on the development of transversal skills (e.g. inter-cultural skills, interpersonal and collaborative skills, teamwork, project management and creative thinking, problem-solving approach, etc.). If addressed to first cycle students, courses may be structured as a 'preparatory' activity for an international LM course or as a 'presentation' of the course (*Summer Term*). Courses may be organised in cooperation with partner institutions. University credits may be awarded, as established by the relevant University curriculum;
- b. Project duration: at least 1 week;
- c. Recipients: first, second and third cycle students, young researchers, professionals and public or private employees, both Italian and international;
- d. Teaching formats: (i) Face-to-face, with analysis of case studies or working groups, workshops, exercises, seminars, laboratory activities and visits for a total of at least six hours of learning a day; (ii) Blended - Combination of face-to-face and virtual teaching, using innovative digital technologies and methodologies.

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

- a. Applicant: Lecturer
- b. Submission procedure: one application per applicant, including the resolution of the Department Council or decree of the Director of the relevant Department, may be submitted

4. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITIES

- a. Specific requirements:
 - Contribution of lecturers from international institutions
 - Minimum number of participants: 20
- b. Priorities:
 - For Blended Winter School, the use of the *virtual exchange* approach is prioritized, so to encourage constructive and structured interaction between individuals or groups, with the support of digital technology;
 - Use of the 'Challenge Based Learning' approach (<https://www.challengebasedlearning.org/>);
 - Participation of international partners is an added value;
 - The participation of professional partners is an added value.



5. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO ATTACH TO THE APPLICATION

Any other documentation that is considered to be useful to demonstrate the quality of the project: letter of support from the partner institution(s); letter of invitation/acceptance of foreign lecturers or professional partners, etc.

ANNEX 5

Macro-area of intervention: 2. DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Type of project: 2.1. Development cooperation activities

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

In order to meet the epochal challenges that the 2030 Agenda has set with its 17 goals, the University of Padua is funding projects that aim at attaining sustainable development in environmental, social and economic fields.

Expected Actions:

Development cooperation and capacity building activities, to be carried out face-to-face, that contribute to one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>).

2. TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECTS

Cooperation projects with academic institutions, research institutions or public or private non-profit organisations based in the Countries indicated below as 'Eligible countries', are admissible.

Eligible activities:

- a) Research activities and dissemination of results (at UNIPD or the partner institution);
- b) Teaching activities (courses and seminars at UNIPD or at the partner institution);
- c) Laboratory activities;
- d) Other activities related to the fulfilment of the sustainable development goals (e.g. third mission activities).

3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

- a. Applicant: Lecturer;
- b. Submission procedure: one application per applicant may be submitted, including the resolution of the Department Council or decree of the Director of the relevant Department;
- c. Certificate of cooperation by the international partner;
- d. Any other documentation considered to be useful;
- e. Eligible expenses: travel expenses from/to eligible partner countries; short scholarships at UNIPD for professors/researchers from partner countries (where applicable), expenses for publications, dissemination of results, etc.

4. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITIES

- Impact of the initiative on the internationalisation process of the University and consistency with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Adequacy of the budgeted expenses in comparison with the activities planned.

5. ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS TO ATTACH TO THE APPLICATION

Any other documentation that is considered to be useful to demonstrate the quality of the project: letter of support from the partner institution(s); letter of invitation/acceptance of foreign lecturers or professional partners, etc.

Eligible countries

Least Developed Countries	Low Income Countries which are not LDCs	Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories which are not LDCs	Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories which are not LDCs
Afghanistan	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Algeria	Albania
Angola	Syrian Arab Republic	Belize	Argentina
Bangladesh		Bolivia	Armenia
Benin		Cabo Verde	Azerbaijan
Bhutan		Cameroon	Belarus
Burkina Faso		Congo	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Burundi		Côte d'Ivoire	Botswana
Cambodia		Egypt	Brazil
Central African Republic		El Salvador	Colombia
Chad		Eswatini	Costa Rica
Comoros		Ghana	Cuba
Democratic Republic of the Congo		Honduras	Dominica
Djibouti		India	Dominican Republic
Eritrea		Indonesia	Ecuador
Ethiopia		Iran	Fiji
Gambia		Kenya	Gabon
Guinea		Kyrgyzstan	Grenada
Guinea-Bissau		Micronesia	Guatemala
Haiti		Mongolia	Guyana
Kiribati		Morocco	Iraq
Lao People's Democratic Republic		Nicaragua	Jamaica
Lesotho		Nigeria	Jordan
Liberia		Pakistan	Kazakhstan
Madagascar		Papua New Guinea	Kosovo
Malawi		Philippines	Lebanon
Mali		Samoa	Libya
Mauritania		Sri Lanka	Malaysia
Mozambique		Tajikistan	Maldives
Myanmar		Tokelau	Marshall islands



Nepal		Tunisia	Mauritius
Niger		Ukraine	Mexico
Rwanda		Uzbekistan	Moldova
Sao Tome and Principe		Vanuatu	Montenegro
Senegal		Vietnam	Montserrat
Sierra Leone		West Bank and Gaza Strip	Namibia
Solomon islands			Nauru
Somalia			Niue
South Sudan			North Macedonia
Sudan			Panama
Tanzania			Paraguay
Timor-Leste			Peru
Togo			Saint Helena
Tuvalu			Saint Lucia
Uganda			Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Yemen			Serbia
Zambia			South Africa
			Suriname
			Thailand
			Tonga
			Turkey
			Turkmenistan
			Venezuela
			Wallis and Futuna