

This document serves as a guide for students enrolled in the first year of the Master's Degree Programme in Neuroscience

Attendance at lectures is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of 30% absence. Online attendance is allowed only for students who have formally requested authorization from the Rector and who are in specific circumstances, such as maternity, serious illness, or employment certified under an Italian national contract.

Students residing abroad may attend lectures online only in exceptional cases. One such case applies during the enrolment period when, despite having paid tuition fees, students have not yet arrived in Italy, have not obtained their visa, and have not completed the required administrative procedures at the academic office.

All courses include a final examination. In Italy, final examinations are generally conducted orally; however, in some cases, a written component may be added. Students may choose to sit for examinations when they feel adequately prepared. Examination sessions are held in June–July, September, and November (the latter reserved exclusively for second-year students who are completing their studies), as well as in January, February, and April. Examinations may also be taken in subsequent academic years, as they are independent of course attendance.

Once a student has attended a course and obtained the required attendance certification, it is not necessary to attend the course again (e.g., Anatomy or Physiology). Attendance remains valid until the student successfully completes the corresponding examination.

During the first year of the Master's Degree Programme in Neuroscience, students are also required to complete a C1-level English language examination, an A1-level Italian language examination, and—only for Italian students—3 ECTS credits (CFU) of additional activities.

To obtain recognition for the C1-level English examination, students must submit a certification issued by IELTS, Cambridge, TOEFL, or the University of Palermo Open Badge to the following email address: didattica.bind@unipa.it. The academic office will register the certificate and forward it to the Programme Coordinator. At the same time, students must register for the exam on the student portal. The examination will then be officially recognized without the need to physically sit the exam.

The same procedure applies to the A1-level Italian language examination. The certificate must be issued by the Italian Language School for Foreigners ITASTRA and sent to didattica.bind@unipa.it. Following registration and approval, 3 ECTS credits for Italian language proficiency will be awarded.

Regarding the 3 ECTS credits of additional activities (reserved exclusively for Italian students who are not required to take the Italian language exam), students may accumulate hours by attending seminars, workshops, or conferences. These activities must be documented with certificates indicating the exact number of hours attended. One ECTS credit is awarded for every 25 hours of documented activity, as approved by the Degree Programme Board.

Students wishing to obtain recognition for these 3 ECTS credits must submit all documentation together, once they have accumulated 75 hours of activities, to didattica.bind@unipa.it and register for the corresponding exam on the student portal.