



UNIVERSITY OF PALERMO

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND FOREST SCIENCES

DEGREE PROGRAMME IN MEDITERRANEAN FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (LM-70 R)

Teaching Regulations of the Master's Degree Programme in *Mediterranean Food Science and Technology (LM-70 R)*

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- Reference academic year: 2026/2027
- Pursuant to the resolution of the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology (FST) dated 04.06.2026
- Approved by the Department Council on xx.06.2026
- Degree class: LM-70 R (Food Science and Technology)
- Teaching delivery mode: conventional
- Language of instruction: English
- Teaching location: PA

ARTICLE 1

Purpose of the Regulations

These Regulations, which govern the teaching activities and organisational aspects of the Degree Programme (CdS) in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology (MFST), pursuant to the provisions of Article 12 of Ministerial Decree no. 270 of 22 October 2004, as amended and supplemented, and to the University Teaching Regulations (Rectoral Decree no. 3299-2025 of 20 March 2025), in compliance with the freedom of teaching and with the rights and duties of teaching staff and students, were approved by the Interclass Board (C.I.) in Food Science and Technology (FST) on 04.06.2026.

The competent teaching body is the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology and the Department of Agricultural, Food and Forest Sciences (SAAF) as the reference Department.

ARTICLE 2

Definitions

For the purposes of these Regulations, the following definitions apply:

- a) School: the body which, pursuant to the current Statute, where established, coordinates and rationalises the teaching activities of the degree programmes assigned to it by the Departments that constitute it;
- a-bis) Department: the reference body for the Degree Programmes which, pursuant to the current Statute, promotes the scientific activity of its teaching staff and ensures the teaching activity under its responsibility;
- b) General Regulations on Autonomy: the Regulations laying down provisions concerning the Teaching Autonomy of Universities referred to in Ministerial Decree no. 270 of 23 October 2004, as amended and supplemented;
- c) University Teaching Regulations: the Regulations issued by the University, pursuant to Ministerial Decree no. 270 of 23 October 2004, as amended and supplemented, by Rectoral Decree no. 3299-2025 of 20 March 2025;
- d) Master's Degree Programme (CLM): the Degree Programme in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology (LM-70 R - Food Science and Technology);
- e) qualification: the Master's Degree in LM-70 R Food Science and Technology, Mediterranean Food Science and Technology programme;
- f) Scientific-Disciplinary Sectors, grouped by areas: the set of disciplines referred to in Ministerial Decree no. 639/2024 of 2 May 2024, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- g) disciplinary area: a set of culturally and professionally related scientific-disciplinary sectors (SSD), as defined by Ministerial Decrees;
- h) university educational credit (CFU): the measure of the amount of learning work, including individual study, required of a student with adequate initial preparation to acquire the knowledge

and skills in the educational activities provided for by the Teaching Regulations of the Degree Programmes;

- i) educational objectives: the set of knowledge, skills and competences, expressed in terms of expected learning outcomes, which characterise the cultural and professional profile that the Degree Programme is intended to achieve;
- j) Teaching Regulations of a Degree Programme: the set of rules governing the curricula of the Degree Programmes;
- k) educational activity: any activity organised or envisaged by the University to ensure the cultural and professional training of students, including, among others, teaching courses, seminars, practical or laboratory exercises, small-group teaching activities, tutoring, guidance, internships, projects, dissertations, individual study and self-learning activities;
- l) curriculum: the set of university and extra-university educational activities specified in the Teaching Regulations of the Degree Programme for the purpose of obtaining the relevant qualification.

ARTICLE 3

Structure and Specific Educational Objectives of the Degree Programme

The Master's Degree Programme in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology was established to meet the needs of the agri-food sector and agri-food supply chains in Sicily. The Degree Programme is taught in English in order to respond to the process of improving the quality and internationalisation of the educational offer of the University of Palermo. The international profile of the Degree Programme is also reflected in an ERASMUS partnership established with the most important study centres in the agri-food system in Europe.

The specific educational objective of the Master's Degree Programme is to provide advanced knowledge enabling a rational choice of the most suitable processes and processing stages for modern production and for the management of agri-food enterprises. In particular, the programme addresses issues relating to technologies applied to the management of raw materials and foods specific to the Mediterranean environment, also in relation to the various food distribution chains, including public catering; sensory and nutritional assessment and the control of food safety and products of Mediterranean origin; food legislation on food trade and safety; and the economics and management of agri-food enterprises, marketing and, in particular, the analysis of consumer behaviour. A distinctive feature of the Degree Programme is its focus on the sustainability of processes in the agri-food industry and on the biological and microbiological control of foods, including those of animal and marine origin. The Programme will also cover the nutritional aspects and safety control of products of Mediterranean origin; the development and formulation of new food products; food legislation on food trade and safety; the economics of food enterprises, marketing and, in particular, the analysis of consumer behaviour.

The Degree Programme lasts two years and includes 13 examinations relating to basic, core, related and supplementary educational activities. Each course includes lectures and supplementary teaching activities (exercises, seminars, technical visits, etc.). Educational activities are organised in semesters. The core disciplines concern the areas of food technology, food safety and evaluation, and economics. Activities pursuant to Article 10, paragraph 5, letter d, are provided for the acquisition of skills and knowledge related to modern food technologies which, together with the training internship and preparation of the final examination, ensure adequate preparation both for entry into the labour market and for the continuation of studies.

The structure of the Degree Programme (Annex 1) and the specific objectives of each course (Annex 2) are attached.

ARTICLE 4

Admission to the Degree Programme

Admission to the Master's Degree Programme in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology is open. The curricular requirements for admission to the CLM and the procedures for verifying the adequacy of the personal preparation of students wishing to enrol in the CLM in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology are set out in Annex 3. Students enrolled in the final year of a Bachelor's Degree Programme, including under previous regulations, who will obtain their degree by and no later than the deadline set by Article 18, paragraph 7, of the University Teaching Regulations and, in any case, during the extraordinary end-of-academic-year graduation session established by the University academic calendar in relation to that deadline, may enrol in the CLM "with reservation". CFUs acquired at other Degree Programmes or at other Italian or foreign universities may be recognised, in whole or in part, by decision of the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology, on the basis of the documentation produced by the student and in accordance with the University Teaching Regulations. Any educational credits obtained by students in other Master's Degree Programmes shall be recognised by a specific Commission for the Degree Programme appointed by the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology.

ARTICLE 5

Choice Option in the Interclass Programme

(Article 8, paragraph 2, of the University Teaching Regulations)

Not provided for.

ARTICLE 6

Academic Calendar of Teaching Activities

The academic year begins on 1 October and ends on 30 September of the following year. Specific information on the teaching activities of the CLM will be indicated in the academic calendar, which is approved each year by the SAAF Department before the beginning of each academic year and published on the Department website and on the Degree Programme website, in compliance with the University academic calendar.

Academic calendar | 2334 - Mediterranean Food Science And Technology | University of Palermo

ARTICLE 7

Types of Teaching Activities Adopted

The Mediterranean Food Science and Technology Degree Programme is structured, as provided for in the Programme Manifesto, as a teaching pathway consisting of: compulsory examinations; examinations and/or other student-selected activities; tests provided for under Article 10, paragraph 5, letter d) of Ministerial Decree 270/2004; practical-applied internship at affiliated facilities; final examination with the drafting and discussion of an experimental degree dissertation.

Teaching activities, organised in semesters, are mainly carried out in the following forms: lectures, exercises (classroom and laboratory) and seminars. Other forms of teaching activity include: student office hours, tutoring and guidance support, technical visits, interim and final assessments, dissertations, placements, professional internships, participation in conferences and study trips, and participation in international student mobility (Erasmus Project, etc.). Where provided for by the University Governing Bodies, teaching activities may also be carried out, partially or entirely, in distance mode.

The expected time for obtaining the Master's Degree is two academic years. To obtain the final qualification, the student must have acquired 120 CFU.

The Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology annually approves the Programme Manifesto, defining the organisation of courses into semesters, identifying reference teaching staff, any courses without assigned teaching staff and the various educational activities; it also reports to the SAAF Department the courses without coverage for which the relevant calls must be prepared.

The CFU chosen by the student may be acquired, in accordance with Article 10, paragraph 5, letter a) of Ministerial Decree 270/04, also by freely choosing among disciplines offered by other Degree Programmes of the University and by other Italian and foreign universities.

The correspondence between CFU and hours for each type of teaching activity (lectures, laboratories, field visits, etc.), as provided for by Articles 6 and 11, paragraph 2, of the University Teaching Regulations, is specified in the transparency sheets of each course.

ARTICLE 8

Other Educational Activities

As established by the Teaching Regulations of the CLM in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology and pursuant to Article 10, paragraph 5, letter d) of Ministerial Decree 270/2004, the acquisition of CFU for other knowledge useful for entering the labour market is achieved through a pass/fail assessment according to procedures established by the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology and communicated to the interested parties before the start of the teaching activities.

ARTICLE 9

Student-Selected Activities

Starting from the first year, students may request the inclusion in their study plan of courses chosen from those included in the educational offer of the Degree Programmes of the University of Palermo, other than their own, or of other Italian and foreign universities.

The inclusion of courses (free-choice and optional) must be carried out by the student through the Student Portal within the first- and second-semester time windows provided for in the University academic calendar, according to the procedures specified on the Unipa website page dedicated to enrolled students/career management.

[Students | University of Palermo](#).

Approval of the request by the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology, or by a decision of the Coordinator to be submitted for ratification at the first available meeting of the Interclass Board, must normally take place within no more than 30 days after the request itself.

If the student's choice is made within the framework of an international mobility or cooperation project, the rules and procedures provided for the specific university exchange project selected shall apply.

The inclusion of student-selected activities within cooperation projects and the recognition of the related CFU are submitted to the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology, which decides on the student's request.

ARTICLE 10

Recognition of Certified Professional Knowledge and Skills

Pursuant to Article 11, paragraph 5, of the University Teaching Regulations, and as indicated in Ministerial Decree no. 931 of 4 July 2024, the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology may provide for the recognition, as university educational credits, of individually certified professional knowledge and skills pursuant to the regulations in force on the matter, as well as other knowledge and skills acquired in post-secondary educational activities up to the maximum number of CFU determined by the regulations in force. Recognition is carried out on the basis of the competences demonstrated by each student, and forms of recognition attributed collectively are excluded. The same activities already recognised for the purpose of awarding university educational credits within Bachelor's Degree Programmes may not be recognised again as educational credits within Master's Degree Programmes.

ARTICLE 11

Prerequisites

No prerequisites are currently envisaged. The Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology, to which the CLM belongs, may establish prerequisites at the beginning of the academic year if deemed necessary and include them in a specific annex to these Regulations.

ARTICLE 12

Consistency between CFU and Specific Educational Objectives

Each teacher is required to carry out the activities of the course assigned to him or her, the programme of which must be consistent with the specific educational objectives of the course reported in the table annexed to Article 3 of these Regulations.

Pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 4, of the University Teaching Regulations, the number of credits assigned to each educational activity is determined taking into account the specific educational objectives of the activity, in consistency with the specific educational objectives of the degree programme. In any case, an appropriate number of credits must be ensured for each educational activity.

The determinations referred to in the preceding sentence are submitted for the opinion of the Joint Teaching Staff-Student Committee established at the SAAF Department, as provided for by Article 15 of the University Teaching Regulations.

ARTICLE 13

Methods for Assessing Learning Outcomes and Examination Sessions

The final assessment of the student's learning outcomes, including for part-time students or students in specific conditions, carried out during the various examination sessions, aims to evaluate the student's ability to use the basic or applied knowledge already acquired to solve new problems or to recognise the need for further study.

The assessment methods adopted, which must be consistent with the expected learning objectives of each course and must be able to distinguish levels of achievement of the results, and the accreditation of the credits assigned to each course are reported in the relevant transparency sheet for each course, available on the University website.

<https://offweb.unipa.it/offweb/public/corso/ricercaSemplice.seam>

For each teaching activity, including for part-time students, the final assessment of learning outcomes is carried out through an oral examination, or a written test preparatory to the oral examination, in the various examination sessions established before the beginning of the academic year. All examinations are public. The assessment of learning outcomes during examinations must take into account the results achieved in any interim tests taken during the course.

The final assessment of courses is expressed in thirtieths (minimum mark eighteen, maximum mark thirty and possible honours) and any laboratories are assessed on a pass/fail basis. The recording of examination results is carried out electronically in compliance with the relevant University regulations.

The Examination Boards are appointed, for each academic year, by the Coordinator of the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology, published on the websites of the SAAF Department and of the Degree Programme, and transmitted to the offices responsible for student careers. The Examination Boards consist of at least two members, one of whom is the teacher responsible for the course and serves as Chair; the second is a professor or researcher in the same disciplinary sector, a subject expert, or, in the case of integrated courses, the teachers responsible for the other modules. The replacement of a member and/or the unavailability of the course holder is communicated by the Chair of the Board to the Coordinator, who appoints a new Examination Board. Examination sessions must begin on the scheduled date; under no circumstances may the start date of an examination session be brought forward. For duly justified reasons, the Chair of the Board may

postpone the start of the session and provide for its possible organisation into parts, giving timely notice to the interested parties.

ARTICLE 14

Teaching Staff of the Degree Programme

Annex 4, which forms an integral part of these Regulations, lists the names of the teachers responsible for courses in the Mediterranean Food Science and Technology Degree Programme, highlighting the reference teaching staff indicated in the SUA-CdS form.

ARTICLE 15

Organisational Arrangements for Educational Activities for Students in Specific Conditions

Students who are recognised, as provided for by the specific University regulations, as students in specific conditions (working student, student athlete, student parent or pregnant student, etc.) and who are unable to fulfil any attendance requirement will be provided with all the material necessary to take the assessment tests envisaged for each course and may also make use of any specific teaching support services and tools. They may be admitted to the examination session reserved for part-time and off-course students and agree with the teacher on an examination date different from the one scheduled by the Degree Programme, but in any case within the sessions provided for by the academic calendar. The possibility of taking examinations remotely, subject to authorisation by the Commission, is contemplated only for students subject to measures depriving them of personal liberty, women with high-risk pregnancies, breastfeeding mothers, students with chronic diseases and athletes with sporting commitments.

In any case, the obligation remains to carry out the placement or any compulsory internships according to the established procedures.

ARTICLE 16

Final Examination

To obtain the Master's Degree, the student must take a final examination consisting of the drafting and discussion of an experimental degree dissertation in English. The final examination of the Degree Programme in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology, to which the CFU provided for in the Teaching Regulations are assigned, is aimed at verifying the graduating student's competences on a topic relating to the disciplines included in the Programme Manifesto.

The characteristics of the thesis and the procedures for admission to and conduct of the final examination are described in detail in the Master's Degree Final Examination Regulations of the Degree Programme in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology.

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ARTICLE 17

Awarding of the Master's Degree

Pursuant to Article 35 of the University Teaching Regulations, the Master's Degree is awarded upon acquisition of at least 120 CFU, regardless of the number of years of university enrolment.

The final Master's Degree mark is expressed out of one hundred and ten, with a maximum of 110/110 and possible honours, and is calculated on the basis of the weighted average of the marks obtained in the examinations provided for by the programme of study and of the evaluation of the final examination, taking into account the provisions of the relevant University and Degree Programme regulations.

ARTICLE 18

Qualification

At the end of the programme of study and upon passing the final examination, the title of Dottore Magistrale in (LM-70 R) Food Science and Technology, Mediterranean Food Science and Technology programme, is awarded.

ARTICLE 19

Certificates and Diploma Supplement

Pursuant to Article 37 of the University Teaching Regulations, the Student Offices issue certificates, attestations, transcripts and any other documents relating to students' academic careers, drawn up in accordance with the regulations in force and, where applicable, using electronic methods.

Upon request by the interested party, the University issues free of charge, as a supplement to the certificate of the qualification obtained, a certificate in Italian and English which reports, according to models compliant with those adopted by European countries, the main information relating to the specific curriculum followed by the student to obtain the qualification (Article 37, paragraph 2, of the University Teaching Regulations).

For other types of certificates not specifically indicated in this Article, reference is made to Article 38 of the University Teaching Regulations, "Micro-credentials and Open Badges".

ARTICLE 20

Joint Teaching Staff-Student Committee

Pursuant to Article 15 of the University Teaching Regulations, each Degree Programme contributes to the work of the Joint Teaching Staff-Student Committee of the SAAF Department to which the Degree Programme is assigned.

The Degree Programme participates in the composition of the Joint Teaching Staff-Student Committee of the SAAF Department with one teaching-staff member (Professor or Researcher, excluding the Degree Programme Coordinator) and one student member. The methods for selecting the members are established by specific regulations.

The Committee verifies that the teaching activities provided for by the Teaching Regulations, the University Teaching Regulations and the academic calendar are complied with.

In summary, with regard to the activities of the degree programme, the Joint Committee performs the following functions:

- a. verify that the teaching activities provided for by the Teaching Regulations, these Regulations and the University academic calendar are complied with;
- b. express an opinion on the provisions concerning the consistency between the credits assigned to educational activities and the specific educational objectives planned;
- c. implement process monitoring and propose any corrective actions in relation to the regulations in force on self-assessment, evaluation and accreditation of Degree Programmes;
- d. formulate opinions on the activation and suppression of Degree Programmes.

The Joint Teaching Staff-Student Committee reports ascertained irregularities to the Director of the Department of reference of the degree programme and to the Director of the Department to which any teacher involved belongs, to the Coordinator of the Degree Programme, to the President of the School, and, where appropriate, to the Rector, in accordance with the Guidelines for the University Quality Assurance System.

(<https://www.unipa.it/ateneo/assicurazione-della-qualita-aq/documenti-strategici-e-programmatici-dellateneo/sistema-gestione-qualit/>)

ARTICLE 21

Degree Programme Quality Assurance Management Committee

The Degree Programme establishes a Degree Programme Quality Assurance Management Committee. The Committee, appointed by the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology, is composed of the Coordinator of the Degree Programme, who will serve as Coordinator of the

Committee, two teachers of the degree programme, one technical-administrative staff member and one student.

On the basis of applications submitted by the teachers belonging to the Degree Programme, the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology appoints the two teaching-staff members.

The technical-administrative staff member is chosen by the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology, upon proposal of the Coordinator, from among those who provide their service in support of the Degree Programme.

The student is chosen from among the student representatives on the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology and may not coincide with the student member of a Joint Teaching Staff-Student Committee.

The Committee is responsible for drafting the Cyclical Review Report (RRC) and preparing the Annual Monitoring Sheet (SMA) of the Degree Programme, consisting of the verification and evaluation of actions aimed at improving the management of the Degree Programme, and of the in-depth verification and analysis of the objectives and overall structure of the Degree Programme, in accordance with the Guidelines for the University Quality Assurance System.

(<https://www.unipa.it/ateneo/assicurazione-della-qualita-aq/documenti-strategici-e-programmatici-dellateneo/sistema-gestione-qualit/>)

ARTICLE 22

Evaluation of Teaching Activities

The teaching activities of the Degree Programme are monitored through the student opinion survey, which provides for evaluation by students attending each course of the teacher, logistics and organisation of teaching, as well as of their interest in the topics covered.

The student opinion survey is conducted through an online procedure for completing a questionnaire accessible from the student portal of the University website (RIDO procedure). Each year, moreover, the results of the survey of student opinions on teaching, aggregated for the Degree Programme, are discussed as a specific agenda item at a meeting of the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology. Similarly, teachers' opinions on teaching are collected through an online questionnaire accessible from each teacher's personal page. The data from both surveys are available in the document produced annually by the Joint Teaching Staff-Student Committee of the SAAF Department, available at the following link:

<https://www.unipa.it/dipartimenti/saaf/qualita/cpds.html>

ARTICLE 23

Tutoring

Tutoring is carried out by the CLM Tutor teachers in relation to students' needs during their educational pathway. The names of the teachers included in the SUA-CdS form as tutors are reported in Annex 5.

ARTICLE 24

Updating and Amendment of the Regulations

The Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology ensures the periodic review of these Regulations, within 30 days of the beginning of each academic year, for the parts relating to the annexes.

The Regulations are proposed by the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology and approved by the SAAF Department.

Subsequent amendments to the Regulations are approved by the Council of the reference Department.

The Regulations enter into force immediately and may be amended upon proposal by at least one fifth of the members of the Interclass Board in Food Science and Technology.

The approved Regulations, and subsequent amendments and supplements, will be published on the websites of the Department and of the Degree Programme and must be transmitted to the Teaching Area and Student Services - Sector for the Planning of Teaching Regulations and Accreditation of Degree Programmes within 30 days of the approval and/or amendment resolution.

For anything not provided for in these Regulations, reference is made to the University Teaching Regulations and to ministerial and University rules.

ARTICLE 25

References

The references of the Degree Programme in Mediterranean Food Science and Technology are reported in Annex 6.