



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PALERMO



INTERNATIONAL DOUBLE MASTER'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF PALERMO AND VILNIUS GEDIMINAS TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

On one part, University of Palermo, hereinafter also referred to as the “UNIPA”, with registered office at Piazza Marina n. 61, 90133 Palermo, Italy, VAT number 00605880822, on its behalf represented by prof. Fabrizio Micari, Rector of the University of Palermo;

on the other part, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, hereinafter also referred to as the “VGTU”, with registered office at Sauletekio al. 11, 10223 Vilnius, Lithuania, VAT number LT119502413, on its behalf represented by prof. Alfonsas Daniūnas, Rector of the Vilnius Gediminas Technical University

STATE

1. That both institutions share cultural, technical, educational, and scientific fields of common interest.
2. That collaboration and the exchange of experience and knowledge, as well as the provision of services between both institutions, are in their greatest interest for social and cultural progress.
3. That they are interested in promoting their international collaboration in the field of higher education and research.

They hereby sign an Agreement that regulates the conditions under which students may access and opt for a double Master's degree conferred by both universities, subject to compliance with the clauses established in this Agreement, and in accordance with the current regulations at each institution, as follows:

First – Purpose of the Agreement

This double Master's agreement aims to establish the academic and administrative conditions under which students enrolled at the Laurea Magistrale in “Management Engineering” at UNIPA, and students enrolled at the Master's degree programme in “Industrial Engineering and Innovation Management” at VGTU, may access and opt for a double Master's degree conferred by both universities, subject to compliance with the clauses established in this Agreement, and in accordance with the current regulations at each institution.

Both Institutions consider that the above academic programmes are similar and equivalent at the partner institutions.

All regulations will be determined through the informal agreement between international programmes managers (within an administrative agreement).

This Agreement is accompanied by a list of the courses and other curricular activities (Annex 1) that students enrolled in the double degree programmes may opt during their stay at the host university in order to obtain the double degree.

In addition to the courses from Annex 1 relevant for obtaining the double degree, students may, in consultation with international programme managers at home institution, opt for any other course delivered at the host university during their stay.

The curriculum in the tables (Annex 1) must be approved in advance by the academic bodies of both the Universities, and can be modified in each academic year, after approval of the academic bodies of both Universities.

Finally, Annex 3 provides academic and administrative officials responsible for the double degree Master's programme Agreement.

Second – Student application and admission

The maximum number of students to be enrolled in the double degree programme is 5 (five), for each academic year, by each University.

Every year both the partner institutions will announce the application call for the double degree programme.

Evaluation of the applications and applicant's selection will be mainly based on their motivation, academic career and the level of knowledge of the English language.

Before beginning to take the courses at the host university, students admitted to the double degree program must possess the required level of knowledge of the English language is B2. In the case of students who possess a level of knowledge almost correspondent to the minimum required and under previous approval of the coordinators of the double degree program, this minimum level could be attained by taking and passing language courses at the host university's Linguistic Centre. Also in this case, the minimum level must be reached before starting the courses at the host university.

The student's final admission requires approval by the partner institution and admission into its corresponding degree programme.

Third - Stay

Each student admitted to the double degree programme must submit his/her plan of studies to the approval of both universities.

The students participating in the double Master's programme must attend two semesters at the partner institution.

The partner university, through the administrative official responsible for this agreement, pledges to provide assistance in the search for suitable accommodation. Likewise, the partner institution pledges to provide the student with the information relating to the host country, visas, required medical insurance, etc., before their arrival. The partner institution must provide students in the double degree programme with the same services that it generally provides its own students.

Each institution's academic calendar will be considered when organizing the stays. The academic official responsible for this agreement must inform the incoming students about the organisation of the courses they must take during their stay at the partner institution.

All students admitted to double degree program must register and present the transcript of records of the courses already taken at their home university, as well as the learning agreement with the courses they will take during their stay at the host institution.

After completing the stay, the students must submit to their institution the official Transcript of records issued by the partner institution in order to receive credit for the courses taken. The certificate must be presented in English.

Fourth – Enrolment and tuition fees

The student participating in the double degree programme will pay the enrolment fees and taxes at their home university and they will be exempted from paying registration or degree fees for courses taken at the host institution during the period of the stay.

Once the student has been accepted into the double Master's degree programme, he/she must be enrolled in the corresponding Master's degree programme at the partner institution. The enrolment will be carried out by the administrative official responsible for this agreement, who will inform the student about the necessary documents.

Fifth – Student obligations and rights

During the exchange period, the students will be subject to the rules and regulations of the partner institution and to all the legal and social obligations within the host country. Likewise, they will have the same rights as students enrolled at the partner institution.

If a student does not comply with the terms of this agreement, including the length of the stay at the partner institution and its curriculum, that student will forfeit any right to receive the degree from the partner institution and will be excluded from the double Master's degree programme, although they may still be eligible to opt for the Master's degree at their home institution.

Sixth – Expenses

Scholarship by Erasmus+ programme will be provided to the VGTU student who will participate in the double Master's degree programme. The non European students must acquire health insurance that guarantees access to health care in the host country. This insurance must cover medical and health care, death and disability caused by an accident, repatriation assistance and reimbursement for medical expenses caused by an accident.

The partner institution, through the administrative responsible officer for this agreement, pledges to provide assistance in the search for suitable accommodation, although all stay expenses will be charged to the student.

UNIPA and VGTU will undertake all efforts for finding national and international resources to assure financial support to this programme.

Seventh – Thesis Work, Thesis Research and evaluation of the results

The master thesis is written in English. The title of the thesis has to be approved by both UNIPA and VGTU. Supervision is shared which implies at least one UNIPA and one VGTU supervisor. A copy of this report should be sent to both institutions to be included in the student's file. Editorial rules might require two different versions of the same document. The work should be presented and defended in English or in the language of home institution (as agreed on a case-to-case basis) and according to the exams regulations and schedule of the home institution.

Grading systems of the institutions are provided at Annex 2.

The academic officers of both institutions in charge of the coordination of this double degree programme will organise meetings by video conference at least once in a year, to evaluate the effectiveness of the academic programme and the results achieved by the students, as well as the resources supplied by both universities. They could suggest the necessary modifications to improve the quality of the programme and propose them to the competent Board of both institutions.

Eighth - Duration of the Agreement

This Agreement will take effect from the time of its signing by the representatives of both institutions, and will be valid for a period of 5 years. Following this period, the Agreement may be renewed by written consent. Either one of the signatory institutions may terminate this Agreement in writing, which must be sent to the partner institution 6 months in advance. If one institution wishes to terminate this Agreement, both pledge to meet their commitments to the students admitted into the double Master's degree programme before either withdrawal.

Moreover, the signature of this agreement does not mean any financial fulfilment to the parties.

Ninth – Academic and research exchanges

With the aim of supporting the double degree programme, UNIPA and VGTU will promote and coordinate by mutual consent the exchange of visiting professors and researchers as well as the organisation of workshops, seminars, conferences and publications on topics of the common interest. The exchange and the development of the activities above mentioned will conform to the norms and procedures in force in the two institutions.

The number of teaching staff exchange is 2 persons per university. On request and on mutual Agreement this number may vary.

Tenth – Use of Logo

The Partners mutually commit not to use the name and/or logo or any other identifying marks for purposes other than those covered by the Agreement, except for specific agreements between the parties that provide, prior to explicit approval, forms of communication and divulging of the initiatives covered by the agreement.

Eleventh – Personal data treatment

Universities will arrange for the treatment, the dissemination and communication of personal data in pursuit of their institutional goals and as provided by law.

Twelfth – Text of the agreement

The Agreement will be drawn up in English. Any amendments or changes to the text of the agreement must be requested in writing by the institution proposing them.

If any disagreement regarding the interpretation and application of the agreement arises in Lithuania, the laws and regulations of the Republic of Lithuania will be applied. If the disagreement arises in Italy, the laws and regulations of Italy will apply.

As proof of agreement with the foregoing, the present agreement is signed in duplicate.

On behalf of University of Palermo

On behalf of Vilnius Gediminas Technical
University

Prof. Fabrizio Micari

Prof. Alfonsas Daniūnas

Rector of the University of Palermo

Rector of the Vilnius Gediminas Technical
University

Annex 1. List of courses and other curricular activities that students enrolled in the double Master's degree programme between the Laurea Magistrale in "Management Engineering" at UNIPA and the Master's degree in "Industrial Engineering and Innovation Management" at VGTU should select during the stay at the host university

Study courses of VGTU students

	VGTU home	ECTS
MEMKM17341	Fundamentals of Research and Innovation	3
MEMKM17342	Improvement and Innovation of Manufacturing Process (with course work)	9
MEMKM17343	Supply Chain Management and International Manufacturing	9
MEMKM17344	Human Resource Management and Leadership	6
MEMKM17352	Marketing of Innovative Products and Investment Management (with course work)	9
MEMKM17357	Innovation Strategy and Tactics	6
MEMKM17358	Manufacturing Simulation and Industrial Production Systems	6
MEMKM18201	Industrial Organisation and Strategic Management	6
MEMKM17345	Master Graduation Thesis 1	3
MEMKM17360	Master Graduation Thesis 2	3
MEMKM17375	Master Graduation thesis (with defence)	30
	Total	90
	VGTU host on the second year	
3239	Corporate Finance	9
9021	Project Management	12
18536	Business Game	6
18535	Advanced Statistical Methods for Management Engineering	6
9095	Service Quality Management	6
9094	Product and Process Innovation	6
	Total	45

Study courses of UNIPA students

	UNIPA home	ECTS
18537	Business Process Modelling	9
3239	Corporate Finance	9
9021	Project Management	12
18535	Advanced Statistical Methods for Management Engineering	6
4864	Marketing	6
17604/18534/9094/18815/18816	Optional	9
2917	Master Graduation thesis (with defence)	15
	Total	66
	UNIPA host on the second year	
MEMKM17343	Supply Chain Management and International Manufacturing	9

MEMKM18201	Industrial Organisation and Strategic Management	6
MEMKM17357	Innovation Strategy and Tactics	6
MEMKM18303	Business Game	6
MEMKM17344	Human Resource Management and Leadership	6
MEMKM18302	Products and Service Quality	6
MEMKM17342	Improvement and Innovation of Manufacturing Process (with course work)	9
MEMKM91004	Models Development	6
	Total	54

Annex 2. Grading systems of the institutions

Courses

From UNIPA to VGTU

UNIPA grade range		ECTS grade	VGTU grade
29	30	A	10
28	28	B	9
27	27	C	8
25	26	C	7
21	24	D	6
18	20	E	5

From VGTU to UNIPA

VGTU grade	ECTS grade	Evaluation	UNIPA grade
10	A	EXCELLENT	30
9	B	VERY GOOD	28
8	C	GOOD	27
7	C	FAIR	25
6	D	SATISFACTORY	21
5	E	PASS	18
4 and below	FX/F	FAIL	17 and below

Final Marks

From VGTU to UNIPA

VGTU grade	UNIPA grade
5	66
6	75
7	84
8	93
9	102
10	110

From UNIPA to VGTU

UNIPA grade range		VGTU grade
66	66	5
67	80	6
81	89	7
90	98	8
99	107	9
108	110	10

Annex 3. Academic and administrative officials responsible for the double master's agreement

The academic staff responsible for the double Master's degree programme are as follows:

- Prof. Giovanna Lo Nigro – UNIPA
- Dr. Rūta Banelienė – “Industrial Engineering and Innovation Management” study programme director at VGTU

The administrative officials responsible for the double master's program, including administrative dialogue with the partner institution agreement, are:

- Responsible officer of International Programs Office
- Valeria Floriano at UNIPA
- Email: valeria.floriano@unipa.it; tel. +39 09123893832
- Address: Piazza Marina, 61 90133 Palermo, Italy
- E-mail: programmi.internazionali@unipa.it

- Director of International Relations Office
- Aušra Pelėdienė at VGTU
- Email: ausra.pelediene@vgtu.lt; tel. +37 052370557
- Address: Saulėtekio al. 11, 10223 Vilnius, Lithuania

If either one of the signatory institutions changes any of the officials named herein, it must inform the partner institution, as well as the academic and administrative officials of the double Master's degree programme, and indicate the corresponding substitutes.