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Art.1 - Premises and objectives
This document presents the characteristics and the structure of the master’s degree course in Pharmacy (class of degrees LM-13), whose regulations are in conformity with the Italian ministerial decree no. 270 dated 2004.
This single-cycle course is delivered in English only, and has a duration of 5 years, for a total of 300 university credits (hereinafter CFU) that the student must acquire to achieve the degree.
The degree program, together with the general information on the courses, in compliance with the regulations and the ministerial decrees in force, are an integral part of these Didactic Regulations.
According to the national and university regulations, students can get information on the degree course at the student administration office headed by the secretariat of the Biology Department. For any further clarification concerning the courses, students may refer to the secretariat of the degree course located on the second floor of the PP1 building, in the Mathematics, Physics and Natural Sciences Macro-area of the University of Rome 2 (“Tor Vergata”).

Art.2 - Course objectives
The master’s degree course in Pharmacy intends to provide students with knowledge and skills suitable to work as a pharmacist, which is as an expert in pharmacological sciences.
Together with a specific program focused on pharmacy, other subjects belonging to the medicine field are part of the programs; these are: internal medicine, dermatopharmacology and dietary sciences, as well as subjects related to the rules governing the medicine, such as Italian pharmaceutical legislation, European legislation and commercial law. The course also includes lectio magistralis, workshops, seminars and conferences held by experts of national and international reputation.
In addition, a number of visits to pharmaceutical industries will be organized in the course of the so-called “additional activities”, as they are considered of great importance.
This network, at national and international level, has contributed to increasingly encourage relations with professionals and representatives belonging to the pharmaceutical world.
Also the growing attention to the quality of the different pharmaceutical products is contributing to the inclusion of technical-pharmaceutical skills in a number of productive sectors and in areas of recent evolution; this enhances one of the objectives of the course, i.e. the possibilities for graduates in Pharmacy to be employed in firms working in areas indirectly connected with the pharmaceutical ones.
This degree course aims to give the future pharmacist not only the skills typical of the pharmacy sector, but also those ones diversified and at the same time closely interconnected with the pharmaceutical sector, such as monitoring the use of drugs on a given territory and evaluating therapies (Health Technology Assessment and Pharmaceutical economics), the reports concerning the safety of drugs (pharmacovigilance), and the knowledge of managerial tools such as planning, control, marketing and sales.

a) The course development and objectives
The fundamental objective of the master’s degree course in Pharmacy is to train professional figures who, on the strength of their theoretical and practical competences, may work as
pharmacists and experts in medicines and health products (medical device, sanitary ware, cosmetics, and herbal, diagnostic and chemical products) in the relating industry sectors.

After obtaining the qualification, the graduate in Pharmacy can work as pharmacist (according to the Directive 85/432/EEC), and as chemist (according to the Italian Presidential Decree no. 328 dated 5 June 2001).

After attaining the master’s degree course and achieving the related qualification, the graduate in Pharmacy is entitled to carry out the following activities:
- to prepare the pharmaceutical forms of medicinal products;
- to manufacture and test medicinal products;
- to test medicines in the control laboratory;
- to store and distribute medicines at the wholesale stage;
- to prepare, test, store and distribute medicines in pharmacies open to the public;
- to prepare, test, store and distribute medicines in hospitals (in-hospital pharmacies and local health centers);
- to disseminate information and advice concerning medicines.

These activities fall within the common minimum range coordinated by the above mentioned directive. This course will also consider other professional activities carried out in the European Union in the field of medicine in order to allow equal employment opportunities throughout Europe.

The professional profile of a pharmacist is that of a healthcare professional who, thanks to his own multidisciplinary scientific and technological skills (chemical, biological, pharmaceutical, pharmacological, toxicological, legislative and deontological ones), contributes to the achievement of the objectives set by the national health service, in order to adequately respond to the changing needs of society in the health field.

Similarly to the courses delivered in other European countries, this master’s degree course can also provide the appropriate scientific preparation to work in the industrial field, more precisely in the pharmaceutical one. The theoretical knowledge and practical skills in pharmaceutical, biological and technological chemistry allow indeed to manage the whole process which, starting from the structural design, leads to the production and test of the medicine according to the rules issued by the pharmacopoeias.

Graduates in this master’s degree course must have acquired:
- the methodology of scientific research applied in particular to the issues of the sector in hand;
- the multidisciplinary basics for the understanding the drug, its structure and activity in its interaction with biomolecules at the cellular and systemic level, as well as for the necessary preparation and control activities of the drugs;
- the chemical and biological knowledge, together with that one concerning pharmacoeconomics and the national and community laws that regulate the various activities of this sector, typical of the professional figure in hand who, in the field of medicines and products for health in general, can guarantee the safety, quality and effectiveness features as they are required by WHO regulations as well as by the national laws and the European directives;
- the knowledge useful for the professional fulfillment of the pharmaceutical service within the national health service, as well as for interacting with other health professions;
- to be able to use the English language fluently, both in written and in oral performance.

In order to achieve the above mentioned goals, the curricula of this master’s degree course include the knowledge of:
- the rudiments of mathematics and physics in preparation for the subject matters of this course;
- the general and inorganic chemistry;
- the fundamentals of organic chemistry, chemism of functional groups, stereochemistry and the main carbocyclic and heterocyclic systems;
- the basics of analytical chemistry useful for the completion and evaluation of drug tests;
- the animal cells and plant structures (biology and physiology of medicinal plants, plant biotechnologies for the production of medicines, vaccines, etc.) and animal systems and organs;
- the morphology of the human body together with its anatomical and medical terminology;
- the physiology of the relationship and vegetative life of humans;
- the general and applied biochemistry and molecular biology, aiming to understand the molecules of biological interest, the mechanisms of metabolic activities and the molecular mechanisms of biological phenomena in relation to the action of drugs and the production and analysis of new drugs that simulate bio-molecules or antagonize their action;
- the pharmaceutical chemistry, the main classes of drugs, their chemical-physical properties, their mechanism of action, as well as the relationship between structure and activity;
- the raw materials used in the formulations of therapeutic preparations;
- the basic and modern concepts of pharmaceutical technology;
- the legislative and deontological norms useful in carrying out the professional activity;
- the pharmacology, pharmacotherapy and toxicology, in order to have a complete knowledge of the drugs and their administration, metabolism, action, and toxicity;
- the chemical analysis of medicinal products, even in non-simple matrices;
- the preparation of the various pharmaceutical forms and their quality control;
- the microbiological elements useful for understanding the infectious diseases, their therapy and microbiological tests;
- useful notions of etiopathogenesis and naming of human diseases as well as the knowledge of medical terminology;
- the diagnostic products and other health products and their quality control;
- the medicinal plants and their pharmacologically active principles.

This course also includes lessons on medical-surgical, dietetic, cosmetic, diagnostic and chemical- clinical products, keeping in mind also the employment opportunities offered in the EC countries.

On the basis of CFUs foreseen for related and additional activities, the master’s degree course can be divided into different curricula that:
- differ from each other to pursue specific objectives or to deepen in particular sectors;
- comply with the European Union directives that govern the recognition of qualifications in the Community;
- provide practical laboratory activities in the various disciplinary sectors;
- in relation to specific objectives, foresee external activities such as vocational internships at public or private structures, as well as grants to study abroad according to international agreements or conventions established by the universities.
Art.3 - Structure of the course and university credits
The master’s degree course includes lessons, laboratory practice, seminars and conferences, also held at suitable public and private institutions both in Italy and abroad, which provide information, language and cultural relevance skills consistent with the topics of the course. Each university credit (CFU) corresponds to a 25-hour student commitment, of which, normally, 8 hours of lectures. The course is organized on an annual basis. In compliance with the European directives, the skills acquired by the student, defined as specific, peculiar and characterizing, are then consolidated during vocational training periods spent in pharmacies open to the public or in-hospital ones as well as thanks to grants to study abroad according to international agreements or conventions established by universities. Among them, the School of Pharmacy in Nottingham or the Erasmus project give the possibility to take exams or to carry out experimental degree theses abroad. The course is complemented by lessons providing the knowledge of medical-surgical, dietetic, cosmetic, diagnostic and chemical-clinical products, keeping in mind also the employment opportunities offered in the Community. This master’s degree course is divided into 29 courses (and activities chosen by the student, final exam and orientation training course) to which a number of CFUs is allocated, as determined by the Council of Degree Course in compliance with the provisions contained in the table of the compulsory courses. In order to achieve the aforementioned educational objectives, the master’s degree course in Pharmacy provides that the total of 300 CFUs is distributed as follows:
- lectures (including numerical and/or laboratory practice) for a total of 243 CFUs;
- vocational internship for a total of 30 CFUs;
- final degree exam for a total of 15 CFUs;
- additional activities (chosen by the student) for a total of 12 CFUs.

Art.4 - Enrollment and attendance
The master’s degree course in Pharmacy is intended for students who have an upper secondary school diploma or other qualification obtained abroad and recognized as equivalent in accordance with the legislation in force. The diploma or other qualification must have been achieved by the dates set in the course call for applications. The number of available posts is up to 100 of which 70 for Italian citizens, EU citizens and non-EU citizens legally residing in Italy as per art. 26 of the law no. 189 dated 2002 and 30 reserved for non-EU citizens residing abroad (of which 2 have been reserved for students of the People’s Republic of China participating in the Marco Polo program). The posts reserved for non-EU citizens residing abroad that are not assigned will be made available to eligible subjects belonging to the category of Italian citizens, EU citizens and non-EU citizens legally residing in Italy. The attendance of the courses is compulsory for a percentage of 70%, in accordance with the Directive 85/432/EEC. Therefore no forms of total exemption from attendance are permitted, with the exception of serious diseases that have to be documented. During the courses each student has to sign an attendance sheet that will document his/her actual presence in class. The attendance for laboratory courses is also mandatory and no exemption can be requested.
Students who do not have much time to dedicate to the study can enroll part-time, paying university fees to a limited extent, provided they are in line with a satisfactory standing (“in corso” students). This facility is not allowed for outside prescribed time students (“fuori corso” students).

The part-time request must be appropriately motivated and certified (work, family, medical and similar reasons).

The part-time request can be submitted once only and is irreversible during the year. Information about enrollment on the website http://delphi.uniroma2.it, at the link “enrollment as a part-time student” (“iscrizione come studente a tempo parziale”), where regulations, tables and procedures provided for this type of enrollment are available.

In order to avoid the obsolescence of the acquired CFUs, no more than 8 repetitions of course are allowed during the whole master’s course, both for full-time and part-time students. The suspension of attendance for a number of years greater than 6 requires the enrollment to the year of course approved by the competent Council of Degree Course, both for full-time and part-time students.

Art. 5 - Admission test
The master’s degree course in Pharmacy is subject to an admission test as for the law in force. The admission test consists of 60 multiple choice questions, aimed at ascertaining the preparation on the topics already studied at the secondary schools as provided for in the master’s degree program in Pharmacy (biology, chemistry, physics and mathematics), and an oral test, aimed at verifying the knowledge of the English language.

To pass the written test, student must correctly answer at least 24 questions. Students who have obtained the minimum score of 24/30 are therefore admitted to the first year of the course, up to a maximum of 100 posts. Information about the terms and methods of admission on the website http://www.scienze.uniroma2.it/?cat=385 or at the English page of the master’s degree course in Pharmacy website (http://farmacia.uniroma2.it/).

The score of the admission test is the sum of the points assigned to the answers (1 point for each correct answer - 0 for each not given or wrong one).

Those who will be included in the stated number (100 admitted) are admitted to the final ranking of the master’s degree course in Pharmacy.

The results of the general rank will be announced at the end of the tests and will be available online on the website of the degree course in the admission section (http://farmacia.uniroma2.it/admission-test/).

The enrollment to the course will therefore be possible just after checking the above mentioned and ascertained requirements.

For everything concerning the enrollment procedures, the deadlines and the relative payment of taxes and contributions, reference is to be made to the student administration office at the Department of Biology.
**Art.6 - Transfers and recognition of previous curricula**

Admission under this procedure is also necessary:
- for students enrolled at other universities wishing to request the transfer;
- for students enrolled at the University of Roma 2 (“Tor Vergata”) who intend to request a transfer to another course.

After having taken the test (if they will be included in the ranking), these students have to submit the transfer or the admission request.

All information about the transfer procedures are included in the Student Guide 2018/2019, published on the official portal of this university (http://web.uniroma2.it).

To be enrolled in this course, also those students who have already passed exams (in possession of an academic qualification, or even with careers carried out and not concluded at other degree courses or other universities) of which they want to obtain the recognition have to pass the admission test. In this case - after having completed the normal enrollment procedure - these students must present at the students’ administration office of the Mathematics, Physics and Natural Sciences Department, within the first academic year of the course, a written request, accompanied by the list of the exams taken and the programs of the courses previously attended. These programs must be duly validated by the relating university office.

The recognition can take place after evaluation of the previous curricula considered as consistent with the didactic organization of this course. Based on the number and type of exams passed, a competent Teaching Committee can admit the student to any course year following the first. The student who is admitted by the committee to a year course after the first will be required to acquire the attendance of the courses and pass the examinations scheduled in the year courses prior to the enrollment.

**Art.7 - Course program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMS</th>
<th>SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINARY SECTORS</th>
<th>CREDITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I° YEAR</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Anatomy</td>
<td>BIO/16</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and Inorganic Chemistry</td>
<td>CHIM/03</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>MAT/05</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>FIS/01</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellular and Development Biology and Zoology</td>
<td>BIO/05; BIO/06</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>CHIM/06</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II° YEAR</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Analytical Chemistry</td>
<td>CHIM/03</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology and Immunology</td>
<td>MED/07</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Biology</td>
<td>BIO/11</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Analysis</td>
<td>CHIM/08</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceutical Biology and Pharmacology</td>
<td>BIO/14</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>MED/01</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>BIO/10</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry of Equilibria</td>
<td>CHIM/01</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Pathology</td>
<td>MED/04</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Biochemistry and Physiology</td>
<td>BIO/04</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The list of courses with the scientific-disciplinary sectors of reference, the possible articulation in modules, the credits corresponding to each subject matter, the teachers, the date of beginning and the period where the activities are carried out can be found on the website of the degree course in Pharmacy.

A joint Teaching Committee, appointed each year by the Council of the Master’s Degree Course (CCLM), ascertains the consistency between the credits assigned to the learning activities and the relating educational objectives.

**Art.8 - Examinations**

To ascertain the level of preparation achieved by each student, teachers can decide to carry out mid-term practical, written and oral tests. The purpose is to assess whether students have achieved adequate knowledge of the topics covered in the course; their skills of synthesis, critical abilities and organizational capabilities on the whole subject matter are also verified, as well as their ability to work in an interdisciplinary perspective.

As far as each subject matter and the internship are concerned, students are also assessed on their ability to research, select, understand, interpret the topics covered, expose them in the form of short seminars and discuss them.

The dates of the exams that take into account the teaching needs of each teacher, after proposal and approval, may be consulted on the website of the course in order to be chosen by the students through the Delphi system.

Exams are scheduled for an annual calendar, which includes the following sessions.

Winter session: from 1 to 28 February.
Summer session: from 1 June to 31 July.
Autumn session: from 1 September to 10 October.

The annual number of rounds may be further increased as far as the “fuori corso” students or, at the discretion, students who have not been able to take part in the ordinary exam sessions during the same academic year are concerned.
Art. 9 - Additional activities
With a view to completing the training activities, students are given the opportunity to attend additional educational activities, for a total of 12 CFUs. With regard to these courses, chosen by the student, the examination procedure is the same defined in the Course Regulations.

The students will be able to acquire the 12 CFUs by choosing any subject matter foreseen in the degree courses. Finally, for the purposes of the aforementioned recognition, students must submit the list of courses attended, as written in the appropriate booklet reserved solely for additional study and/or seminar activities, with the relative marks, to the students’ administrative office.

Some rules and procedures are described here below:
- attendance for additional activities is mandatory to the extent of 70%; the attendance will be checked through the students’ signature on a special register;
- for all additional activities other than “elective courses” students must prepare a report that will be evaluated by the Teaching Committee;
- the “elective courses” are evaluated by the teacher (mark);
- the weighted average of all additional activities will determine the mark relating to the “activities chosen by the student” corresponding to a total of 12 CFUs. In particular, additional activities with half-day duration will be awarded 0.5 CFU, while 1 CFU will be assigned to additional activities involving a full-day commitment.

The structured courses follow this rule: 1 CFU = 8 hours of lecture.

As far as the additional activities, the judgment can be expressed either by eligibility or by grades in thirtieths, possibly with honors.

Art. 10 - Vocational internship
The vocational internship is aimed to complete university education, by integrating it with practical activities carried out in a pharmacy.

This consists of the full-time student engagement in activities carried out at a pharmacy open to the public or at an in-hospital one under the supervision of the hospital pharmaceutical service, for a total duration of at least six months (30 CFUs), as for Article 5.

The internship is a fundamental and indispensable requirement to participate in the qualifying State examination to work officially as a pharmacist.

The period dedicated to vocational training in a pharmacy must not coincide with that one used to prepare an experimental thesis.

To be admitted to the internship the student must have passed the exams of the first three years of the course and have attended the lessons of the fourth one.

Art. 11 - Final examination
The final examination consists in drafting, submitting and discussing in English a written final dissertation, developed by the student autonomously, in an original way, which documents in an organic and detailed way the research topic chosen by the student under the guidance of an advisor.
(university professor or researcher belonging to the department of Biology). This dissertation has to be mainly based on the collection and processing of bibliographic material concerning the subject matters of the master’s degree course. In order to start preparing his/her thesis, the student must have acquired at least 180 CFUs. After a presentation in Power Point (about 15 minutes), the dissertation has to be discussed in the presence of the graduation commission. To be admitted to the master’s degree final examination in Pharmacy, the student must have attended all the courses provided by the Didactic Regulations and have acquired 300 CFUs in total, divided into 5 years of course, including those related to the internship (30 CFUs) and the preparation of the final dissertation (15 CFUs).

The preparation of the final dissertation will last not less than 4 months (full-time activity). The final dissertation may concern:
- the collection and critical processing of bibliographic material or other data relating to the course content (desk-based thesis);
- the experimentation carried out on an original mono- or multidisciplinary topic in a research laboratory in which a university lecturer works or in other public or private institutions, with which special agreements have been concluded (experimental thesis).

The procedures for accessing and conducting the final examination are governed by specific Faculty Regulations.

The graduation commission is made up of 7 members including the president. Each component can assign one point.

The “cum laude” can be proposed by the co-advisor and has to be approved unanimously by the commission.

There are bonuses in the following situations:
1. degree obtained by the last session of the 5th year (1 point);
2. learning experience abroad (Erasmus, stages) of at least 4 months (1 point).

The commission will also define whether the presented dissertation has to be considered as an experimental or a desk-based thesis. Taking into account the student’s career and the quality of the dissertation, the commission establishes the degree mark. The final examination is passed with a score equal to or higher than 66/110. If the highest marks are reached (110/110), the commission can award the “cum laude” acting unanimously. The forms and procedures related to the filing the final dissertation on optical media are available at the following link: http://www.scienze.uniroma2.it/?cat=333&catParent=332

Art.12 - Regulations for the assignment and evaluation of the degree thesis

The final examination (degree exam) of the master’s degree course in Pharmacy consists in the oral discussion of an individual dissertation. The drafting and discussion of the thesis requires the choice of a supervisor, who must be a tenured professor of the university holding a chair at the degree course to which the student is enrolled. The topic will be in line with the course attended by the student. The student cannot request concurrently the thesis to different professors and must submit the request at least 12 months before the degree sessions scheduled, no matter if the thesis is desk-based or experimental.
The preparation of the paper must respect the following duration.

**Experimental thesis:** it has to begin at least 8 months before the dissertation. The first 6 months, which require full-time activities in the laboratory, do not allow temporal overlaps with the vocational training to be carried out in pharmacies.

**Desk-based thesis:** it has to begin at least 4 months before the dissertation.

A second teacher, who also holds a teaching at the degree course, will have the role of assistant supervisor during the final examination; any assignment of the role of assistant supervisor to an external member must be authorized by the president of the master’s degree course in Pharmacy. During the final dissertation, the presence of the assistant supervisor among the members of the Graduation Commission will be limited to the discussion of the thesis concerned.

The subject of the thesis is agreed between the student and his/her advisor, who supervises, from a methodological and scientific point of view, the development of the project. Students who have already obtained a degree can not carry out their dissertation on the same subject (as confirmed by the copy of the title page of the previous thesis). Students who intend to prepare the degree thesis abroad, as part of the Erasmus program or similar, are required to attach to the learning agreement form a special declaration drawn up and signed by their supervisor, which briefly describes the research carried out at the hosting university. The document has to indicate also the name of the tutor and assess the activity performed.

The Graduation Commission is chaired by the president of the master’s degree course or by a designated person (tenured professor teaching at the degree course) and consists of 7 members. The role of secretary is assigned to a member of the commission itself.

For the final evaluation of the thesis, the commission will take into consideration the student’s overall academic career, the assessment of the thesis made by the advisor and the assistant supervisor and the evaluation of the skills demonstrated by the candidate during the discussion.

These are the minimum requirements and the evaluation criteria relating to a **desk-based thesis**. The student must demonstrate to be able to argue a topic, organize its content starting from the main literature on the matter, find, select and structure the bibliography and documentation relevant to the chosen topic, draw up a text in a clear and correct form, also taking into account drafting rules, and expose and synthesize the paper orally. The student is also invited to prepare an abstract of this paper for each member of the Graduation Commission.

In case of positive evaluation of the dissertation, a maximum of 7 points can be assigned and added to the weighted average of the marks. Taking into account the student’s career merits, too, these points are assigned as follows: 5 points awarded by the commission plus 2 bonus points distinguished as follows:
- 1 point for graduation within the deadline provided for by the study plan;
- 1 point for participation in internships abroad lasting at least 4 months.

These are the minimum requirements and the evaluation criteria relating to an **experimental thesis**. The student must demonstrate to be able in discussing the topic assigned, as well as to have a solid theoretical framework and a rigorous laboratory or database research methodology. The student is also invited to prepare an abstract of his paper for each member of the Graduation Commission.

In case of positive evaluation of the dissertation, a maximum of 11 points can be assigned and added to the weighted average of the marks. Taking into account the student’s career merits,
too, these points are assigned as follows:
7 points awarded by the commission plus 4 bonus points distinguished as follows:
- 1 point for graduation within the deadline provided for by the study plan;
- 1 point for participation in internships abroad lasting at least 4 months;
- 2 points for the innovation character of the thesis.

Art.13 - Scholarships and internships
In addition to teaching, workshops, seminars and conferences, the course also includes the possibility of putting into practice the skills acquired through internships and scholarships. Only students enrolled in the 4th year of the course who have passed the two-year exams can participate in the call for applications for scholarships/internships (if available) at foreign universities or other possible institutions.

The research project assigned to the participating students and the studies carried out by them may have educational value for the preparation of the degree thesis with the attribution of the related credits. The selection of students will be based on merit as ascertained through the documentation relating to the study plan made available to the University of Roma 2 (“Tor Vergata”), in particular according to the following evaluation criteria:
1. having passed all the exams of the first two years;
2. the total sum of:
   a. passed exams and related credits obtained;
   b. weighted average of the exam scores.

In case of the same score, the weighted average of the exams scores will be taken into consideration.

For all matters not especially governed by the present Regulations, reference is made to the general University Regulations.