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# Master of Science in International Economics (INTECO)

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University of Milano-Bicocca  
Department of Economics, Management and Statistics  
P.za dell'Ateneo Nuovo 1, Milan (Italy)

## ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The MSc in International Economics (INTECO) is a two-year graduate programme entirely taught in English. It is designed to provide students with a solid and rigorous education in economics, management and quantitative methods, preparing them for international careers in private companies, public institutions, research centres, and doctoral programmes.

Distinctive features of our programme include the development of a strong analytical and quantitative mindset, together with a multidisciplinary approach to problem-solving. Students take advanced courses in macroeconomics, microeconomics, international economics, econometrics, as well as a wide range of elective courses in economics, according to their interests and career objectives. The programme also offers courses in financial markets, international business, and corporate finance, in addition to European and international contract law and competition law.

Internships and study-abroad opportunities are an integral part of the programme experience. Throughout the programme, students are supported by a highly qualified academic faculty actively engaged in international research. Teaching activities are complemented by seminars, workshops, and interactions with visiting scholars, providing students with continuous exposure to current economic research and policy debates.

All courses are taught in English. Upon successful completion of the programme, graduates are well prepared to enter the labour market or to pursue further academic studies, including PhD programmes in Economics or related fields.

This booklet provides an overview of the programme structure and of the academic requirements to be fulfilled during the two years of study. Further information about the MSc in International Economics (INTECO) is available on the programme website: <https://www.unimib.it/graduate/international-economics>

## WHY STUDY AT UNIMIB

The University of Milano-Bicocca is a young, dynamic, and internationally oriented university, recognised for the quality of its teaching, research excellence, and strong connections with the economic and institutional environment. Located in Milan, one of Europe's leading economic, financial, and innovation hubs, the University offers students a stimulating academic setting combined with outstanding professional opportunities.

The Department of Economics, Management and Statistics (DEMS) is internationally recognised for its high-quality research and teaching activities. Faculty members are actively involved in international research projects and regularly publish in leading academic journals. This ensures that teaching is strongly research-driven and continuously updated to reflect current economic debates and real-world challenges.

Students benefit from a vibrant academic environment enriched by seminars, workshops, guest lectures and international conferences, which provide regular opportunities to interact with visiting scholars, policy makers and professionals. The Department also maintains strong links with international institutions, research centres and private organisations, offering students valuable exposure to professional and academic networks.

Thanks to its international outlook, modern campus facilities and strong academic reputation, the University of Milano-Bicocca represents an ideal environment for students aiming to develop advanced analytical skills, gain international experience and prepare for successful careers in economics, policy analysis and research.

## **PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

The programme is structured over two academic years (120 ECTS).

### **Learning Areas:**

The programme covers the following areas:

- Microeconomics and Macroeconomics
- International Economics
- Development and Global Economics
- Econometrics and Data Analysis
- Financial Markets and Corporate Finance
- International Business
- International and EU Law

### **Programme Structure**

#### ***First year courses:***

1) Mathematical Methods and Programming 10 ECTS

- Module I: Mathematics 8 ECTS (first semester, first seven weeks)
- Module II: VBA Programming 4 ECTS (first semester, first seven weeks)

2) Quantitative Methods 13 ECTS

- Module I: Inferential Statistics 5 ECTS (first semester, second seven weeks)
- Module II: Econometrics 8 ECTS (second semester, first seven weeks)

3) Microeconomics of Global Markets 12 ECTS

- Module I: Advanced Microeconomics 6 ECTS (first semester, first seven weeks)
- Module II: Firms and Markets in Global Economies 6 ECTS (first semester, second seven weeks)

4) Global macroeconomics 12 ECTS

- Module I: Growth Theory and Empirics: An International Perspective (second semester, second seven weeks)
- Module II: Business Cycles in the Global Economy. Facts and Theory (second semester, second seven weeks)

5) Financial Markets 7 ECTS (second semester)

6) History of Globalization 6 ECTS (second semester, first seven weeks)

***Second year courses:***

7) Development economics 10 ECTS

- Module I: Microeconomics of development 5 ECTS (second semester, second seven weeks)
- Module II: Macroeconomics of development 5 ECTS (second semester, first seven weeks)

8) One of the following:

- a) International Trade and Investment Law 8 ECTS
- b) Competition Law 8 ECTS
- c) Fundamental Economic Freedoms and European Labour Law 8 ECTS

9) Global Management Decisions 6 ECTS (second semester)

10) Principles of corporate finance 7 ECTS (second semester)

11) One of the following

- a) Games and strategic behaviour 8 ECTS (first semester)
- b) Industrial organization 8 ECTS (first semester)
- c) Population dynamics 8 ECTS (second semester)
- d) Topics in Macroeconomics 8 ECTS (first semester)
- e) The Economics and History of European Integration 8 ECTS
  - Module I: Economics of European Integration 4 ECTS (first semester, first seven weeks)
  - Module II: History of European Integration 4 ECTS (first semester, second seven weeks)
- f) Labour Economics 8 ECTS (first semester)
  - Module I: Topics in labour markets 4 ECTS (first semester)
  - Module II: Topics in human capital 4 ECTS (first semester)
- g) Advanced Econometrics 8 ECTS (second semester)

12) Seminars in Economics and Management 1 ECTS (second semester, second seven weeks)

13) Elective 8 ECTS

14) Dissertation 10 ECTS

**Prerequisite knowledge**

The first-year courses assume that students are familiar with the basic tools of economics, mathematics and statistics at the level of standard undergraduate textbooks.

## **Performance assessment**

The performance assessment in each course may consist of a written or an oral test and it may include midterm assessments and homework, class presentations and essays. Exams are graded with a number between 1 and 30 plus, in case of an outstanding performance, Laude; 18 is the passing grade.

More specifically, exams are graded as follows:

- <18: fail
- 18-23: sufficient
- 24-27: good
- 28-30: very good
- 30 Lode: excellent

There is no order requirement in passing exams but students are strongly advised to take courses and exams in the suggested sequence (see Section 3). Second-year teachers will expect students to have completed all first-year exams and to be familiar with the academic material and concepts covered in all first-year courses.

## **Final dissertation**

The student is invited to start working on the dissertation no later than the second semester of the second year. The dissertation should consist in an extended paper containing either a critical survey of the relevant literature or an original contribution to the literature.

Students choose a supervisor to oversee the preparation of their final dissertation. Supervisors are chosen on the basis of a student's preference and can be selected among the INTECO faculty, or the members of the Department of Economics, Management and Statistics.

The final grade will be based on the credit-weighted average of the grades of each exam and on the points attributed to the final dissertation in the range 1-7.

## **INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

International experience is a key component of the MSc in International Economics. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in mobility programmes such as Erasmus+ and other international exchange agreements offered by the University of Milano-Bicocca.

These opportunities allow students to spend part of their studies abroad, attend courses at partner universities, and gain exposure to different academic and cultural environments. In addition, the programme supports stage, internships and research periods abroad, enabling students to develop academic and professional skills in an international context.

International mobility represents an important asset for students aiming at careers in international institutions, multinational companies, research centres or doctoral programmes.

## CAREER PATHS

Graduates of the MSc in International Economics work in:

- Large companies and Multinational Enterprises
- Consulting and financial firms
- Central banks and public institutions
- Research centres and think tanks
- International organisations

The programme also provides a strong foundation for PhD studies in Economics.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to hold a Bachelor's degree in Economics or a related field. A good knowledge of English is required. Admission procedures follow the official regulations of the University of Milano-Bicocca.

## CONTACTS

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