Programme overview
Messina is located in an important seismic zone and is considered to be a paradigmatic example of an area that has experienced significant earthquakes over the last millenia. The University of Messina has a strong tradition in seismological and geophysical studies. Messina has traditionally been a place of cultural integration along with its extensive experience of devastating earthquakes. For this reason it is an ideal place to study and work on joint projects especially regarding earthquakes and seismic risk. The course develops major skills in the field of seismic risk mitigation. Laboratory, field activities and traineeships addressed to future jobs are included in the curriculum along with different training opportunities. Training opportunities are also available in private companies and professional institutions: https://www.geologidisicilia.it
International mobility is highly encouraged. This programme has agreements with various international partners dealing with seismic risk:
- University of Thessaloniki (Greece);
- University of Istanbul Bogazici (Turkey);
- University of Malta.

Minimal entry requirements
Candidates must hold a Bachelor’s degree (or equivalent) in scientific courses, with basic knowledge of Earth Sciences to be admitted.
The course commission will evaluate the candidate’s qualifications for admission.

Language requirements
English language B2-level based on the European Common Framework of Reference for Languages is required. Candidates who have earned a degree taught in English or come from countries whose official language is English do not need a certificate of English language competence.

This programme is very important for seismic risk analysis and management. We are learning some very important skills that I hope to take back home so we can avoid disasters caused by earthquakes. My professors are very qualified and help us when we have problems. We have a lot of interesting activities.

Nirmal Panchal
Study programme

Year 1

• Physics of Environmental Processes
• Prevention of Earthquake Disasters (Mod.A: Seismic Monitoring and Surveillance - Mod.B: Seismic Risk)
• Scientific Computing and Applications
• Additional Language Skills
• Earth Shallow Structure and Seismic Response (Mod.A: Active and Passive Seismology - Mod.B: Laboratory of Seismic Data Processing and Field Campaign)
• Environmental Geology
• Fundamentals and Applications of Petrology
• Geophysical tools (Mod.A: Geophysical Observation Methods and Remote Sensing - Mod.B: Oceanography)

Year 2

• Quaternary Geology and Active Tectonics
• Applied Geology and Land Planning
• Physics for Cultural Heritage Protection
• Dynamics of Structures
• Seismo-induced Chemical Risk
• Student Choice Disciplines and/or Activities
• Training Course
• Thesis

International opportunities

UniME students have the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus+ Mobility programme both for study and training. Calls are published on the site twice per year. Another opportunity for students is the UniME Funded programme “Students Around the World” (SAW) call for scholarships for study at the extra-European universities in the context of international cooperation agreements. For further information please visit our site.

Job opportunities

There are several job categories available for graduates, i.e. consulting, academic, government and local State administration. This degree prepares specialists in geophysics and geology to work in management roles in private and public organisations; consulting can be carried out for insurance companies, construction companies, etc. Graduates will be qualified to apply for the professional role of Senior Geologist in Italy. They can also work with civil engineers, land planners and civil protection officers. Another application is a profession in the area of Seismic Protection of Cultural Heritage Buildings, with a main focus on the high seismic risk region of the Mediterranean Sea.

Tuition fees

€750/year