The Single Cycle Degree Course in Medicine and Surgery of the University of Messina known as the "University of Messina International Medical School" (UniMeIMS) aims at training medical doctors with multidisciplinary theory, practice and methodology along with developing professional decision making and operational autonomy for health promotion, prevention and the treatment of diseases in Italy as well as internationally. It also provides the methodological foundations of scientific research and cultural basis for lifelong learning.

The access to the Single Cycle Degree Course in Medicine and Surgery is organized at the national level with a competitive exam called the International Medical Admission Test (IMAT). It is administered simultaneously in all Italian universities that offer a degree programme in Medicine and Surgery in English and in some locations abroad.

The degree programme lasts six years and consists of 360 European Credits (ECTS), in accordance with current Italian and European legislation. At least 60 ECTS will be acquired through training activities aimed at the development of specific professional skills.

The professional activities are essentially carried out in the Operative Units of the "G. Martino" University Hospital in Messina, where care and assistance to patients are combined with teaching and scientific research, and in the offices of General Practitioners.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

During the first two preclinical years the degree programme focuses on the basic sciences, which prepares students to acquire clinical skills from the study of the various medical disciplines, the development of professional skills and the preparation of the thesis, which all take up the remaining time period of the degree programme.

The students can also personalize their study plan with elective learning activities in fields of their own interest for up to a total of 8 ECTS (seminars, short courses, participation in conferences and congresses, clinical and research internships in Italy and abroad, etc.).
It is possible to carry out training periods abroad at partner Universities both in Europe and outside the EU.

The degree programme ends with the discussion of the thesis which is worth 18 ECTS. Pursuant to article 102, paragraph 1, of Law Decree no 18/2020, the final exam of the Single Cycle Medicine and Surgery Degrees relating to the LM41 class in Medicine and Surgery has the value of a state exam enabling the exercise of the profession of Medical Doctor, after passing the practical evaluation traineeship governed by the Decree of the Minister of Education, University and Research 9 May 2018, n. 58.

English is the official language of the degree programme for lessons, practical activities and exam. The minimum level of knowledge required for access is the B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference of Languages (CEFR). In order to guarantee productive learning during bedside professional activities, Italian language courses are offered in the first two years at the University Linguistic Center (CLA), or an equivalent organization, which will attest the achievement of the minimum level of knowledge required: B1 (CEFR).

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** At national and international level, the main employment opportunities of the Medicine and Surgery graduate (after enrolment in the register) include:

- Public and private health companies and hospitals;
- Private medical practices;
- Health and humanitarian Organizations.

The Degree is also a prerequisite for admission to:
- Specialization Schools in Medicine, Surgery and Clinical Services;
- Specific Training Courses in General Medicine.

Finally, graduates can continue their studies in Master’s Degree, PhDs and work in the field of basic, translational and clinical research.
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Email: master.medicinesurgery@unime.it