Physiotherapy Course M Rome Azienda San Filippo Neri Code 29874

**Degree Programme**

Physiotherapy graduates perform, on their own or in collaboration with other health professionals, prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation interventions in the areas of motor skills and superior cortical and visceral functions resulting from pathological events, either congenital or acquired. Following a doctor’s diagnosis and referral, graduates in physiotherapy develop a rehabilitation programme aimed at identifying and overcoming the health needs of the disabled. They autonomously practice therapeutic activities for the functional re-education of motor, psychomotor, and cognitive disabilities using physical, manual, massage, and occupational therapies. They recommend the use of prostheses and aids, train patients regarding their use, and assess their effectiveness. They evaluate the response to the rehabilitative methodology implemented in order to achieve the objectives of functional recovery. They carry out professional studies as well as teaching and consultations in health care structures and in places where their professional skills are required. They practice their profession in public or private health care facilities, either as an employee or as a self-employed professional.

In order to achieve the aforementioned competences, the Degree Programme offers both formal teaching and internship credits so as to integrate theory and practice. Over the three year study duration, the Degree Programme is constantly monitored by the academic director and by the professional tutors.

**Academic Regulations**

**ACADEMIC REGULATIONS OF DEGREE PROGRAMMES IN THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS (Ministerial Decree 270/04)**

The Faculties of Pharmacy and Medicine and of Medicine and Dentistry contribute to the establishment of degree programmes in the health professions. The degree programmes in the health professions are divided into two levels. The first level lasts three years and leads to a Bachelors Degree (L/SNT1, L/SNT2, L/SNT3, L/SNT4); the second, lasting two years, leads to a Masters Degree (LM/SNT1, LM/SNT2, LM/SNT3, LM/SNT4). The Faculty to which the degree programme belongs determines the institution and activation of the degree programme, as well as the accreditation of the structures necessary for the professional internship.

**Art. 1 Educational Organisation**

The educational activities are aimed at achieving a complete professional training through the acquisition of theoretical and practical knowledge. Professional training activities are also carried out through technical-practical internships, in compliance with European Union regulations. To achieve the training objectives, the Faculty may use structures, both in Italy and abroad, which are legally suitable. The educational activities used to achieve the specific training objectives include lectures, conferences, seminars, work groups, and discussions. To allow the acquisition of the skills necessary for the practice of the profession, the Degree Programme Council determines the professional training activities to be carried out (internships, laboratory activities, and guided clinical studies). The Faculty may make use of health / hospital / IRCCS or other national health system structures as well as accredited private institutions that comply with legal requirements.

Professional training activities must only take place through forms of teaching in small groups under the guidance of a specifically trained tutor , and which allow a large degree of student autonomy. These professional activities aim to give students the professional, relational, and behavioural skills necessary to achieve professional, decision-making, and operational autonomy in the professional setting.

The Faculty Board defines the academic system in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. If it is necessary to make changes to the teaching method (content, name, number of courses, or number of exams), the Faculty Committee will discuss and approve the proposed changes.

The president, responsible for all the educational and training activities, and the academic director, coordinator of the technical-practical activities, are the reference figures for the degree programme.

**Art. 2 Admissions**

Candidates with a secondary school diploma or other qualification obtained abroad which is recognised as equivalent under current legislation and who have reached a high enough position on the admissions list can be admitted to the degree programmes of the health professions.The maximum number of students enrolled in each degree programme is established by the competent authorities in relation to the resources available. The programmed number of applicants to the first year of studies is defined in accordance with art. 3, paragraph 2 of Law 264 of 2 September 1999 (Rules on access to university courses).

Transfers from another university after the first year within the same class/typology of degree programme are permitted without repeating the entrance exam by presenting documentation related to the university career and academic system to the president of the degree programme in which the student wishes to enroll. The president, after verifying the congruity of the academic system and the exams taken, as well as the availability of vacant posts after the first year of the programme, grants permission for the transfer. The student must then forward the transfer request and the clearance from the president to the university of origin. The university of origin will then forward the transfer documentation to the Student Affairs Office. Transfers from the same degree programme in years subsequent to the first are allowed upon approval from the president of the degree programme of origin as well as from the president of the degree programme of the chosen location.

The transition from one degree programme to another is possible only after passing the entrance exam to the new degree programme. It is forbidden to be enrolled simultaneously at different universities or in different faculties or degree programmes at the same university.

**Art. 3 Credits**

The degree programme has a duration of three years. The unit of measure for the work required of the student for every educational activity is the credit. As established by law, every credit corresponds to 30 hours of work per student for class 1, and 25 hours of work/student, for classes 2, 3, and 4. The average amount of work done in one year by a full-time student amounts to 60 credits.

Of particular importance to the professional training are the practical training and clinical internship activities, to which 60 credits are dedicated over the course of three years. These are completed under the guidance of tutors belonging to the specific professional profile and coordinated by a teacher belonging to the highest level of training required for the professional profile. These activities, as well as their total number of hours, are adapted to the educational standard defined by European Union legislation.

Credits are awarded upon the successful passing of the final exam of each course. The exams are organized as integrated tests for multiple coordinated modules. Learning is evaluated through oral and written exams at the end of the course, as well as self-evaluation or progress tests in the middle of the course. With regard to written tests, the modalities used can be: 1) multiple choice or short answer tests on interdisciplinary issues, followed by an exam to ascertain the skills acquired; or 2) written essays on assigned topics or on the analysis of the laboratory or professional activities undertaken for the final exam.

The academic system of the degree programme define, in compliance with the regulatory limits, that the percentage of the total number of hours available to the student for personal study or for other individual training activities is no fewer than at least 50% of the hours assigned for each credit. Italian regulations also mandate the completion of the following educational activities and their assigned credits: 6 credits for electives, 9 credits for the final exam and for English language acquisition, 1 credit for information technology, 1 credit for radioprotection, 4 credits for seminar activities, and 3 credits for professional laboratories. Additionally, 60 credits are reserved for the professional training internship.

The degree programme is structured, monitored, validated, and updated on a continuous basis, in order to deliver the knowledge and skills defined in the course curriculum and to meet the specific objectives of the course. These specific training objectives are obtainable with a high quality of education which is ensured through various organisations and tools (Quality Committee, Faculty Assessment Committee, Didactic Quality and Efficiency Assessment Committee, OPIS Questionnaires). Through these tools it is possible to measure the improvement in academic performance in all the different phases that contribute to the attainment of the Bachelors degree, in terms of training, exams, assessment of quality as perceived by students, and the acquisition of the professional skills defined in the objectives of the degree programme.

The Didactic Board can approve credits acquired by the student with documented certification by the applicant (in compliance with current legislation on the subject) of the acquisition of professional skills and abilities, as well as other skills and abilities gained in university-level training courses done in accordance with the university. Credits related to the knowledge of a European Union language can be awarded with the presentation of a certificate issued by competent internal or external institutions.

Credits obtained lose their validity if the student interrupts the degree programme for six consecutive academic years or has not complied with attendance obligations for six consecutive academic years, or has not passed exams for more than six consecutive academic years.

**Art. 4 European Descriptors for Bachelors degree programmes (DM 16/03/2007, art. 3, comma 7)**

Educational objectives are achieved through the student’s demonstration of:

1. knowledge and understanding
2. applying knowledge and understanding
3. making judgments
4. communication skills
5. learning skills

As legally defined, graduates are health professionals who work with professional autonomy in providing activities aimed at the prevention, care, and protection of individual and collective health, and who perform the functions identified by the ethical and institutional regulations of their profession.

Graduates are equipped with a preparation in basic disciplines which will provide them with an optimal understanding of the biological processes that determine the physiological and pathological processes at which their preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, palliative, and complementary intervention is directed. In addition to the Italian language, graduates learn English for the specific professional setting and for the exchange of general information.

The achievement of professional skills is implemented through a theoretical and practical training which includes acquisition of the relational and behavioural skills necessary for the professional setting. At the end of the degree programme, full mastery of all the necessary skills and their immediate usability in the workplace are ensured.

**Art. 5 Attendance Requirements**

Attendance of classroom teaching, electives, integrative activities, professional training activities, and the internship is mandatory. Attendance is verified by the teachers, and is necessary for the student to be able to sit the exam. In order to be able to take the exam related to a specific course, it is necessary that the student’s attendance of at least 66% of the hours corresponding to the credits assigned to that course has been documented.

The student is required to attend the entire number of internship hours by the end of October. If this is not possible, all makeup hours must be completed by the end of December.

The student is covered by an insurance policy provided by the university against occupational accidents during the internship activities.

**Art. 6 Professional Internship**

The professional internship is the fundamental training activity for the development of professional, relational, and behavioral skills of diagnostic reasoning and critical thinking. Internship attendance is 100% obligatory for all 60 credits, as required by European regulation.

The practical training activity is usually organised in accordance with the academic calendar, however the specific organisation is the responsibility of the academic director. The academic director is responsible for planning and organising the training activity in collaboration with the tutors of the degree programme. Together they develop the annual training project and propose it to the Degree Programme Council for approval.

Internships are overseen by a tutor. During the internship, the tutor provides an ongoing assessment of the student's learning in order to achieve the maximum effectiveness of the training. If students do not achieve the training objectives and receive a negative evaluation, they are required to repeat the internship at the same or similar facility.

Regarding the organisation of training courses and assessments, please refer to the specific internship rules for each degree programme.

**Art. 7 Learning Assessment and Awarding of Credits**

Credits are awarded upon the successful passing of the final exam of each course. Points are awarded based on a maximum exam score of 30, except for the foreign language component which is assessed on a pass/fail basis.

The final exam of each course is taken during specific periods, called exam sessions. The start and end dates of the exam sessions can be found in the course schedule at the beginning of the academic year. In each session, exam dates for the same exam are scheduled at least two weeks apart. Students who fail an exam cannot register again to take the same exam during the same exam session.

The exam commission is composed of teachers who are involved in the teaching of the course and is chaired by the president of the exam commission, who is usually the course coordinator. If one or more members of the exam commission is absent during an exam sitting, the president of the commission may call in a substitute.

The annual internship exam, also based on a maximum score of 30, can be taken by the student only upon completion of the total number of hours required for the academic year and after having met the training objectives which are verified through evaluations done in different phases of the internship. The annual internship exam helps to determine the student's final grade-point average. The internship exam must be carried out by a special exam commission chaired by the academic director.

After passing all the exams included in the study plan, including internship exams, the final exam is scheduled. The final exam is chaired by an exam commission nominated by the competent academic authority and in accordance with applicable laws. The final exam consists of two phases:

* a demonstration test of practical skills, which has the value of a state professional licensing exam, organised according to criteria established by the Degree Programme Council and in compliance with current regulations;
* discussion of a thesis

Members of the exam commission for the final exam give their marks based on a 110-point system and can, unanimously, award candidates the highest mark with honours.

There are two sessions in which to take the final exam: October-November and March-April. The final exam cannot be taken more than once in the same session. It may be resat in the following session.

**Art. 8 Enrolling in courses of other degree programmes**

Students, in addition to the exams established by the degree programme, can enroll in no more than two courses of other degree programmes in the same university. Students who wants to take advantage of this possibility must inform the president of the degree programme which offers the course and submit an application to the Educational Affairs Office of the degree programme to which they are enrolled by 31st January, specifying the faculty, the degree programme, and the two courses that they wish to attend.

 **Art. 9 Progression to subsequent years**

The student is enrolled with an ‘in progress’ status for the entire legal duration of the Bachelors degree programme.

Prerequisites: the student is obliged to take all the exams of the previous year, including the internship exam related to the year of the course, before taking the exams of courses belonging to subsequent years. With regard to the annual internship exam, the student cannot start the following year's internship without having first taken the previous year's internship exam. Exams taken without having complied with the aforementioned prerequisites will be voided.

**Art. 10 Recognition of studies completed at other Italian universities or for other degree programmes**

Courses and credits completed while enrolled in degree programmes of other Italian universities can be recognised after evaluation of the curriculum sent by the university of origin. The documentation necessary for the request must be presented by the student to the Student Affairs Office, which will verify administrative aspects and forward the request on to the president of the relevant degree programme. The recognition of credits acquired by the student is formalised by the president of the degree programme where the student wishes to enrol and takes place according to the regulations approved by the Faculty Committee. After having approved the recognition of a defined number of credits, the president of the degree programme approves the student’s enrolment to one of the years of the course. In restricted access programmes, enrolment in a given year is contingent on the availability of places.

**Art. 11 Recognition of studies completed at other EU universities**

The studies carried out while enrolled in degree programmes of other universities of the European Union, as well as the credits obtained, are recognised by the Faculty Board after evaluating the curriculum of the university of origin. After deliberating the recognition of a defined number of credits, the Faculty Board approves the enrolment of the student to one of the years of the course, adopting the same criteria used for Italian universities. In restricted access programmes, enrolment in a given year is contingent on the availability of places.

**Art. 12 Recognition of Foreign Degrees**

A degree obtained at a foreign university is recognised where bilateral agreements or international conventions exist that ensure the equivalence of the qualification. Foreign university degrees are assessed by a special committee appointed by the faculty where the students wishes to enrol. For non-EU degrees, the provisions of the Presidential Decree of 31 August 1999, n. 394 are followed.

**EXAM CALENDAR**

\* Students may only sit exams for a course if they have fulfilled all course attendance requirements.

JANUARY session

The January exam session is a resit session for exams of the previous academic year, including the internship exam. A regular exam session for courses taught in the first session of the current academic year is reserved exclusively for transfer students.

FEBRUARY session

A regular exam session is scheduled for the courses taught in the first semester of the current year. Exam resits are also scheduled for the courses taught in the previous academic year. An internship exam is scheduled for students who did not take the exam in January.

APRIL session

Exam resits may be scheduled in extraordinary cases.

JUNE-JULY session

There are three exam dates, including an exam date for the internship exam.

SEPTEMBER session

There are two exam dates, including an exam date for the internship exam.

DECEMBER session

Exam resits may be scheduled in extraordinary cases.

The complete exam schedule is published on the university website at the beginning of each academic year.

 **FINAL EXAM**

For the completion of the study plan required by the academic system, the student will have to take a final exam consisting of a practical test which is aimed at assessing the skills required of the profession, as well as a thesis on issues related to the profession.

Students will be able to register for the final degree exam between 1 August and 15 September only if they have a maximum debt of no more than 1 exam and even if all electives, seminar activities, and laboratories are not yet recorded. In order to graduate during the first graduation session scheduled for October /November, undergraduates must have completed all exams, including those of the third year internship, by no later than 30 September of the current year.

Students will be able to register for the final degree exam between 1 January and 15 February only if they have a maximum debt of no more than 1 exam and even if all electives, seminar activities, and laboratories are not yet recorded. In order to graduate during the second graduation session scheduled for March /April, undergraduates must have completed all exams, including those of the third year internship, by no later than 31 January of the current year. If all exams are not passed by 31 January, the student will have to pay additional university fees and sit the final degree exam in the first graduation session of the subsequent academic year.

**Description of the Study Plan**

The training objectives of the Degree Programme are consistent with the skills required for professional practice or the continuation of studies and are specific, realistic, and achievable within the 3-year duration of the Degree Programme. Graduates are, in accordance with the law of 10 August 2000, n. 251, health care professionals of the rehabilitation area who autonomously perform activities for the prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and functional assessment of individuals and the community. Graduates are provided with an adequate preparation in the basic disciplines so as to enable them to better understand the most relevant elements that are at the base of the pathological processes at which their rehabilitative intervention is directed. They must also be able to use at least one European Union language other than Italian in their specific field of competence and for the exchange of general information. Professional skills are achieved through theoretical and practical training and the acquisition of behavioral skills in the professional setting so as to ensure, at the end of the Degree Programme, full mastery of all the necessary skills and their immediate usability in the workplace. Of particular importance to the professional training are the practical training activities and the clinical internship because they represent opportunities for students to develop their ability to know how to act and what to do. These professional training activities are carried out with the supervision and guidance of professional tutors.

As part of the Degree Programmes of the Health Professions, graduates of the Degree Programme in Physiotherapy are health professionals who are responsible for the duties indicated in the Ministerial Decree of the Ministry of Health of 14 September 1994, n. 741, and subsequent modifications and additions. Physiotherapy graduates perform, on their own or in collaboration with other health professionals, prevention, treatment, and rehabilitative interventions in the areas of motor skills and superior cortical and visceral functions resulting from pathological events, either congenital or acquired . Following a doctor’s diagnosis and referral, graduates in physiotherapy develop a rehabilitation programme aimed at identifying and overcoming the health needs of the disabled. They autonomously practice therapeutic activities for the functional re-education of motor, psychomotor, and cognitive disabilities using physical, manual, massage, and occupational therapies. They recommend the use of prostheses and aids, train patients regarding their use, and assess their effectiveness. They evaluate the response to the rehabilitative methodology implemented in order to achieve the objectives of functional recovery. They carry out professional studies as well as teaching and consultations in health care structures and in places where their professional skills are required. They contribute to the training of support staff and to their lifelong learning in respect to their professional profile.

**Learning Outcomes**

The graduate in physiotherapy must possess:

* a good knowledge of the introductory disciplines (physics, statistics, computer science, sociology, general, social, and experimental pedagogy) and biology (biochemistry, human anatomy, biology, physiology, pathology);
* an in-depth knowledge of professional disciplines (nursing science, neuropsychiatric and rehabilitation techniques, physical and rehabilitative medicine, neurology, musculoskeletal diseases, cardio-vascular and respiratory diseases, rheumatology);
* knowledge of disciplines in human and psycho-pedagogical sciences, health management sciences, and interdisciplinary and clinical sciences;
* familiarity with the scientific method and the ability to apply clinical recommendations in professional settings with adequate knowledge of legal, ethical, and bioethical regulations;
* the ability to understand and relate with patients;
* the ability to work in a multidisciplinary team, interact with colleagues and other health care and non-healthcare professionals, practice with autonomy, and be readily integrated into the workplace;
* the knowledge necessary to use quality control and evaluation and review methodologies and tools;
* the ability to evaluate and prepare in advance a rehabilitative setting suitable for therapeutic practice in order to guarantee the best possible conditions both for the patient and the physiotherapist;
* the skills to participate in various forms of professional development, including research activities in different fields of application;
* the ability to use the English language within the specific area of ​​competence and for the exchange of general information;
* adequate skills and tools for the communication and management of information, as well as for making technical-scientific reports.

In the Degree Programme, priority is given to the theoretical and practical study of the physiotherapeutic sciences, which is implemented through lectures, exercises, educational workshops, and professional training in the areas which characterise a physiotherapist, such as the functional recovery of skeletal muscle and neuromotor, cardiorespiratory, and visceral apparatuses in all age groups through a global rehabilitative approach. The competence and relational skills necessary to interact with patients, caregivers, and the institutional and professional system are developed through courses in human and psycho-pedagogical sciences which are aimed at teaching the behaviours and attitudes which are necessary to relate to patients and other professionals.

The courses are divided into modules and are taught with lectures as well as classroom and laboratory activities. The educational goals are evaluated through self-assessment progress tests as well as with a final oral, practical, or written test. English language skills and the internship are evaluated on a pass/fail basis. All other courses are evaluated with a mark out of 30.

The objectives of the professional training activities are based on the professional profile of the physiotherapist and are reported on the internship form and approved by the Degree Programme Council.

The student has 6 credits available to prepare for the final exam at specific training facilities.

Graduates of this Degree Programme are health professionals whose activities and responsibilities are determined by the institutional laws which establish their professional profile, as well as by educational regulations of the Degree Programme and ethical rules. At the end of the Degree Programme, graduates will have acquired knowledge (knowledge), skills (know how), and relationship skills (know how to be) with particular reference to the following fields:

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY: This field refers to the translation of professional responsibility into professional action through the achievement of the following skills: constant commitment to the well-being of the person; respect for citizens and the community; cultural sensitivity and individual autonomy with a person-centred approach; and professional conduct that, in compliance with the code of ethics and current legislation, protects the profession and its image and maintains the transparency of interprofessional (interpersonal) relations and areas of intervention.

CARE AND REHABILITATION: This area of ​​competence refers to the practice of physiotherapy. At the end of the Degree Programme, the student must be able to: collect, analyse and interpret data for the needs of the patient; correctly perform a functional evaluation; adopt the categories described in the ICF and define prognostic objectives and hypotheses on the basis of functional diagnosis by taking into account not only the extent of the damage, but above all the recovery indexes (recovery potential); plan and implement a care and rehabilitation intervention aimed at specific functional outcomes through a patient-centred approach; carry out interventions in a safe and effective way, making changes as needed to the treatment plan; evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment plan on the basis of assessment results and feedback; provide specific professional advice to patients and other professionals.

THERAPEUTIC EDUCATION: This field refers to an activity aimed at developing awareness, responsibility, and skills related to the concept of disability and its treatment, adaptation, and self-management, both in individuals and groups. This represents an integral part of the rehabilitation program.

PREVENTION: The physiotherapist must be able to carry out prevention activities for individuals and the community for physical and/or mental conditions. The physiotherapist must promote the necessary actions to maintain health with particular attention to ergonomic principles and lifestyle, and through motivating individuals to be responsible and actively promote their physical and social well-being. In particular, this area includes activities aimed at recognising and overcoming situations which potentially pose harm to the individual and the community through the identification of health needs and disability prevention, the promotion of actions necessary to maintain health and overcome disability, and the prevention of further aggravations of disability.

MANAGEMENT: This competence includes all the management tools (resources, information, economic aspects) necessary for the correct practice of the profession through the ability to: act according to quality criteria using appropriate tools; manage privacy; manage clinical risk; and make decisions after having implemented a proper evaluation of rehabilitative problems. This field is valid both for self-employed professional practice, as well as for practice in all other structures in which the physiotherapist may work. This competence requires knowledge of ethics, legislation, management and planning, and organisation and application of treatment programmes, as well as social, interprofessional, and networking skills.

FORMATION / SELF-FORMATION: This is the context in which physiotherapists form, develop, and consolidate their educational foundations through the following actions: attending training programmes after having performed an adequate self-assessment; taking responsibility for their continued professional learning; and reflecting on their professional practice for the purpose of learning.

PRACTICE BASED ON TESTS OF EFFICACY (EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE) / RESEARCH: The international scientific community and the health system of Italy affirm the need for health professionals to base their practice on evidence of effectiveness in order to provide an effective, useful, and economically sustainable service. EBP, defined in international references as "the integration of the best available research with the professional experience of the practitioner and the values ​of the patient", enables professionals not only to offer the best practice but also to assess themselves in comparison with the international professional community. For this reason, the graduate is required to feel the need for information in order to fill in the knowledge gaps that emerge from patient visits and to convert this need into well-defined clinical and health care questions. Graduates must also be able to evaluate the decisional weight of evidence in clinical decisions by taking into account both the preferences and expectations of patients, as well as their social and economic context. Therapeutic interventions based on EBP will allow the graduate to efficiently locate the best evidence available in literature and to critically interpret it.

COMMUNICATION AND RELATIONS: This field represents the primary dimension of human social life and is the means with which to establish relationships with patients, with particular reference to the practitioner’s role of taking charge. Communication also plays a fundamental role in relations with other professionals and with family and caregivers. Communication and communication skills are therefore very important in the professional competence of the health professional. This area defines the relational sublayer through which graduate physiotherapists will apply their professional practice: the communication and construction of a good relationship with patients and caregivers; the communication and construction of an effective interprofessional collaboration; and the discussion and management of interpersonal conflicts.

STUDY PLAN: The knowledge that will be acquired by the graduate, equal to 180 credits, will constitute the educational, scientific, and relational background necessary for the attainment of the full professional competence and for the understanding and management of the pathological events that require rehabilitative and/or therapeutic intervention. This knowledge will be acquired through lectures, laboratory exercises, practical lessons under the guidance of teachers and tutors in classrooms equipped with rehabilitation facilities, and through personal study (library, databases) of the subjects covered in the Degree Programme. In particular, in developing biochemical, physical, statistical, anatomical, physiological, pathological, clinical, surgical, psychological, and sociological skills students will achieve a solid knowledge of the integrated biological aspects and functions of human organs and systems, of the statistical methodology for the detection of the phenomena that regulate the individual and social life of humans, and of the concepts of emergency and first aid which are closely integrated with the professional disciplines of the Degree Programme. Students will also learn the profession through professional disciplines such as neurology, orthopedics, child neuropsychiatry, radiology, pedagogy, rehabilitative medicine, and physiotherapy techniques. These disciplines will teach the fundamental concepts of: human and behavioural sciences; professional ethics; the physiopathology of physical activity and diseases of the musculoskeletal system; physiotherapeutic methodologies and techniques; the etiology and pathogenesis of diseases; treatment of the person, neurological diseases, and sense organs; and reproductive and maternal-fetal medicine. These disciplines will all also teach elements of professional management which are useful for professional development.

By law, each teaching activity includes a complete number of training credits in order to avoid a fragmentation of the information transmitted to the students. The educational activity is largely organised in integrated courses and guarantees students a unified and interdisciplinary preparation, with knowledge deriving from basic, professional, related, and supplementary disciplinary areas.

The planned teaching forms include lectures, seminars, work groups, discussions on relevant topics, and simulations aimed at fulfilling the educational objectives. The teaching method also includes the use of modern multimedia tools. In addition to traditional teaching, this Degree Programme offers guided internship activities at public health care facilities and other structures with scientific importance, located in Italy or abroad which have an agreement with the university. This training gives students a progressive assumption of responsibility and professional autonomy in an environment where they can evaluate the various problems related to rehabilitation. Laboratory and internship activities are carried out under the supervision and guidance of professional tutors and coordinated by a teacher who has obtained the highest level of training required for the physiotherapy profession.

The study plan includes a maximum of 20 exams and /or final evaluations, organised as integrated examination tests for multiple courses or coordinated modules. The verification of this learning is evaluated through oral and written exams at the end of the course, as well as self-evaluations or progress tests in the middle of the course. With regard to written tests, the modalities used can be: 1) multiple choice or short answer tests on interdisciplinary issues, followed by an exam to ascertain the skills acquired; or 2) written essays on assigned topics or on the analysis of the laboratory or professional activities undertaken for the final exam.

The Degree Programme is structured, monitored, validated and updated on a continuous basis, in order to deliver the knowledge and skills defined in the course curriculum and to meet the specific objectives of the course. These specific training objectives are obtainable with a high quality of education which is ensured through various organisations and tools (Quality Committee, Faculty Assessment Committee, Didactic Quality and Efficiency Assessment Committee, OPIS Questionnaires). Through these tools it is possible to measure the improvement in academic performance in all the different phases that contribute to the attainment of the Bachelors degree, in terms of training, exams, assessment of quality as perceived by students, and the acquisition of the professional skills defined in the objectives of the Degree Programme.

**Autonomy of Judgment**

At the end of the Degree Programme, graduates will know how to autonomously apply the appropriate rehabilitative therapeutic intervention through the use of clinical reasoning. This autonomy will be demonstrated through the ability to respond effectively to individual and/or collective health needs, either individually or as part of a multidisciplinary team, by:

* choosing the best therapeutic strategies by identifying the appropriate approaches and tools and collecting data (including an analysis of social context);
* performing a physiotherapeutic evaluation and making a diagnosis, defining prognosis and therapeutic goals in the short, medium, and long term;
* developing a therapeutic plan;
* choosing and applying physiotherapeutic methodologies and techniques appropriate to the clinical case (including intensity, duration, and type of therapeutic approach) according to the best scientific evidence available according to international guidelines and evidence-based practice;
* complying with the relevant professional, legal, health, and ethical regulations.

The autonomy of judgment in physiotherapy graduates will be achieved through the habitual and judicious use of communication, knowledge, technical skills, clinical reasoning (diagnostic and evaluative processes), emotions, values, and reflections on daily practice for the benefit of the individual or the community.

Teaching tools to be used are classroom activities, educational workshops, practical lessons in the laboratory and/or equipped classrooms, the internship, and the reading and interpretation of international literature.

Assessment methods include written and oral reports on technical/professional aspects, discussion of clinical cases, development of the rehabilitation plan, and compilation of the medical record.

**Communicative Ability**

At the end of the Degree Programme, the graduate must be able to manage communication in order to establish a therapeutic relationship with the patient as well as an effective collaboration with multidisciplinary teams. Graduates must also be able to use communication tools in the health sector by filling in medical records, creating a therapeutic relationship, and designing a rehabilitative intervention and communicating it in verbal and written form. The graduate should be able to communicate appropriately in international scientific contexts in order to convey ideas, problems, and solutions.

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**Ability to Learn**

The graduate in physiotherapy will be able to conduct a self-assessment of their educational level in order to keep their knowledge at the highest level required for professional practice and plan self-training courses to supplement their skills, with particular reference to evidence-based practice in rehabilitative and physiotherapeutic settings. In the three years of the Degree Programme, students will acquire learning skills which will allow them to continue in their studies with a high degree of autonomy. Students may continue their studies with a Masters degree, professional development programmes, or continuing medical education courses.

The capacity to learn will be developed through exam preparation, through internship attendance in which theory is combined with practice, and through the critical use of scientific literature which is necessary for the preparation of the final exam.

Teaching tools include classroom activities, seminars, simulation laboratories, e-learning, and the internship.

The assessment of learning skills will be implemented through the following methods of verification: practical theoretical exams, written and oral reports on technical / professional aspects, discussion of clinical cases, development of the rehabilitation plan and completion of the medical record, and the research and production of educational materials.

**Admission Requirements**

Candidates who hold a high school diploma or another qualification obtained abroad which is recognised as equivalent may be admitted to the Degree Programme. To be admitted to the Degree Programme, students must pass the relevant entrance exam in accordance with current legislation. The knowledge required for admittance, defined annually by the Ministry of Education, Universities, and Research (MIUR), is verified by achieving the minimum required score on the entrance exam. Candidates who do not achieve this score will be assigned Additional Training Obligations which must be completed within the first year of the course.

**Organisation and Responsability of the Degree Programme Commission for Quality Assessment**

The QA group controls the procedural implementation of quality according to the instructions of the decision-making bodies of Sapienza. Quality is defined according to efficiency and effectiveness indicators. To this end, the QA group: 1) organises support for teaching activities, monitors a plan of assistance, and counsels students in order to help them overcome any difficulties and complete their thesis; 2) monitors the tutoring activity of “out-of-course” and part-time students; and 3) encourages students to express their opinions of the Degree Programme. The QA management group meets periodically in order to monitor the corrective actions proposed in the examination reports.

**Professional Opportunities**

**Profile: Physiotherapist**

**Functions:** The physiotherapist performs diagnostic activities (functional assessments) in a multidisciplinary team. They also perform treatment and rehabilitative activities, including therapeutic and rehabilitative interventions of perceptual, motor, neurocognitive, and neurosensory disorders. The physiotherapist develops a therapeutic and rehabilitative prevention programme aimed at achieving patient health needs.

**Skills:** The physiotherapist carries out activities of study, teaching, and specific applied research, and gives professional advice in health care structures and in places where their specific professional competence is required. Physiotherapists contribute to the training of support staff and take responsibility for their continued education in regards to their professional profile.

**Professional opportunities**: Physiotherapists can carry out their professional activity within structures of the national health system, in rehabilitation centers, or in public or private health facilities. The legislation in force allows physiotherapists to practice their profession as self-employed professionals in individual or associated professional studios.