

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM Università di Bologna



School of Engineering and Architecture LAUREA MAGISTRALE (SECOND CYCLE DEGREE/TWO YEAR MASTER - 120 ECTS) IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING A.Y. 2013/2014 Programme Director Prof. Anna Ciampolini

# REPORT

Study Programme Report Computer Engineering Programme ex D.M. 270/04 - Code 0937 - Class LM-32 School of Engineering and Architecture Programme Director Prof. Anna Ciampolini

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## INDICE

What is the Study Programme Report?
A. Presentation and prospects
A.1. Presentation
A.2. Admission requirements
A.3. Learning outcomes
A 4 Career opportunities
A 5 Opinion of social partners and potential employers
A 6 Eurther studies
B. Teaching and Learning
B.1. Course Structure Diagram
B.2. Calendar and lecture timetable
C. Resources and services
C.1. Teachers
C.2. Student services: offices
C.2.1. Future students
C.2.2. Enrolled students
C.2.3. International students
C.2.4. Graduates
D. The Study Programme in figures
D.1. Students starting their university careers
D.1.1. Enrolments
D.1.2. Additional data on students' starting their university careers
D.1.2.1. Candidates registered for the entrance exam
D.2. Regularity of studies
D.2.1. Students leaving the Programme between years 1 and 2
D.2.2. Regular graduates
D.2.3. Additional data on regularity of studies
D.2.3.1. Credits obtained by students in the 1st year
D.3. Opinions of graduates and attending students
D.3.1. Opinion of graduates
D.3.2 Additional data on opinions of students
D.3.2.1. Opinion of attending students
D.4. Entry into the world of work
D.4.1. Employment situation
D.5. Information on pre-reform programmes (DM 509/99)22
D.5.1. Students starting their university careers
D.5.1.1. Enrolments
D.5.1.2. Additional data on students' starting their university careers
D.5.1.2.2. Incoming students
D.5.2. Regularity of studies
D.5.2.1. Students leaving the Programme between years 1 and 2
D.5.2.2. Regular graduates
D.5.2.3.1. Credits obtained by students in the 1st year
D.5.2.3.2. Exams passed and average grade
D.5.3. Opinions of attending students and graduates

D.5.3.1. Opinion of graduates	24
D.5.3.2 Additional data on opinions of students	25
D.5.3.2.1. Opinion of attending students	25
D.5.4. Entry into the world of work	25
D.5.4.1. Employment situation	25
E. Find out more: the quality of your Study Programme	27
F. Glossary terms	30

# WHAT IS THE STUDY PROGRAMME REPORT?

#### What is the Study Programme Report?

The Study Programme Report provides updated information which is important for the purposes of Quality Assurance and is published annually by the University of Bologna.

The main aspects of the teaching programme are described in detail, with a view to assuring the principle of transparency and promoting self-assessment and continuous improvement processes.

The document provides a concrete overview of the features and results of the Study Programme for students, families, employers and so on.

For example, regarding the current issue of employment, it describes the learning outcomes and career opportunities; it also includes statistics on the percentage of employed graduates (D.4. Employment situation). The document is organised into five sections and a glossary:

A. Presentation and prospects

Key information on the Study Programme, including the expected learning outcomes, career opportunities and further studies.

#### B. Teaching and Learning

The updated course structure diagram with the full titles and listings of the course units and the latest published lecture timetable.

#### C. Resources and services

The list of teaching staff and their relative curricula, the offices (secretariats), services (work placements) and infrastructures (libraries, laboratories) available to students.

#### D. The Study Programme in Figures

Key data shows how many students are enrolled, how many have been assigned additional learning requirements, how many drop out after the first year, how many graduate in line with the programme schedule, the opinions of attending and graduating students on the teaching programmes and information concerning graduate employment.

#### E. Find out more: the quality of your Study Programme

How the quality system applied to your Study Programme works. The quality system of your Study Programme is a set of processes and responsibilities adopted to guarantee the quality of all Study Programmes at the University of Bologna.

#### NOTES:

- Reports are available for all Study Programmes for which it is possible to enrol in the first year in academic year 2012/2013: the information and data provided is as updated as possible.
- Sections A, B and C provide data for the academic year 2012/2013.
- Section D presents data regarding the Study Programmes in the last three academic years.
- The information and data were taken from the University databases and the reports published by the Statistical Observatory of the University of Bologna and AlmaLaurea, and are updated to **15 June 2012**.

# A. PRESENTATION AND PROSPECTS

This section presents the key information concerning the Study Programme, including the expected learning outcomes, career opportunities and further studies, updated to the academic year 2013/2014.

#### A.1. PRESENTATION

This paragraph provides information on the specific learning outcomes of the Study Programme and the curriculum.

The achievement of the professional learning outcomes specified in the university degree class regulations is assured by a varied course curriculum which aims to produce graduates with both a solid theoretical, methodological and technological background, and special operating skills deriving from targeted project activities which are an integral part of the degree programme. The set of knowledge and skills acquired by graduates allows them to take part in all activities concerning the development of even highly complex systems, processes and services in the specific field of computer engineering and in other contexts in which information technologies play an important role.

In an organic and integrated vision, particular emphasis is paid to the development of specialist skills in the field of programming languages and computational paradigms, design of software and architecture for processing systems, operating systems, information systems, distributed systems and computer networks, information security technologies, artificial intelligence, real-time processing and monitoring systems, and the organisation, management and optimisation of technological innovation processes.

#### A.2. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

This paragraph provides information on the knowledge required for admission to the Study Programme.

This information is not available in English at this time.

#### A.3. LEARNING OUTCOMES

This paragraph provides information on the knowledge and skills students will have acquired by the end of the Programme.

#### KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING:

2nd cycle graduates:

- will have an in-depth knowledge of the principles, methodologies and tools for the architectural and logical design of digital information processing systems;

- will have an in-depth knowledge of the functions and architecture of both hardware and software in modern processors, as well as the design aspects linked to their use for the purposes of developing general-purpose computer platforms or embedded systems which satisfy specific application requirements;

- will have an in-depth knowledge of the principles, methods and solutions lying behind modern operating systems, as well as the methodologies and tools for the design and implementation of concurrent and distributed applications;

- will have an in-depth knowledge of the problems, technologies and reference standards relating to the design of services and applications in distributed and heterogeneous environments;

- will know the principles, methods and tools for the design, use and management of countermeasures and services to fight intentional attacks against the integrity, confidentiality and availability of information;

- will know the principles, methodologies and tools to solve problems of artificial intelligence, with particular reference to knowledgebased systems and logic-based methodologies;

- will know modern software engineering methods and tools for the analysis, modelling, design and testing of highly complex software applications;

- will know the principles behind modern programming languages, the models for their formal description and the relative interpretation techniques;

- will know the principles, methodologies and tools for the implementation and use of modern information systems, also in terms of multimedia information management;

- will know the problems and techniques of database analysis in business contexts in order to discover useful information and relations for strategic decision-making;

- will know the theories and advanced algorithmic methodologies to solve decision-making problems in social and industrial situations, particularly concerning the management and optimal coordination of activities and the available resources;

- will know algorithms, tools and systems for digital image processing and analysis;

- will possess the methodological and design knowledge needed to develop processing systems and strategies for the real time monitoring of complex dynamic systems;

- will be able to understand and critically analyse the costs and benefits deriving from the use and integration of innovative technologies, components, equipment and systems in complex and diversified contexts;

- will possess the knowledge required to understand the economic and organisational variables affecting the management of technological innovation processes in industrial businesses and services, with particular reference to the ICT sectors. The achievement of the ability to apply the above knowledge and understanding will be accomplished through the learning activities organised in the "Computer Engineering" programme, supplementary and complementary activities as well as further activities including work placement and laboratories. The teaching methods include participation in seminars and exercises in the classroom and in the laboratory, individual and group projects, guided self-study and autonomous study. Assessment of the achievement of the described learning outcomes shall be mainly through tests, written and oral exams and project work.

#### ABILITY TO APPLY KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING:

2nd cycle graduates:

- will be able to apply the principles, methodologies and tools supporting the design of digital systems in the development of integrated solutions in diversified contexts;

- will be able to apply their knowledge of advanced processors in order to develop both general-purpose computer platforms and embedded systems which satisfy even highly complex and specific application requirements;

- will know how to apply the principles, methods and instruments of concurrent programmes to design and implement concurrent and distributed applications for the solution of complex problems in complex and diversified application environments;

- will be able to apply their knowledge of the problems, technologies and standards of network protocols and infrastructure to design services and applications in large-scale heterogeneous distributed systems;

- will be able to use the knowledge of information security technologies to design and manage services to fight intentional attacks against the integrity, confidentiality and availability of information;

- will be able to apply their knowledge of artificial intelligence to design and implement knowledge-based systems to solve even complex problems;

- will be familiar with the organisational and design aspects of information systems and will be able to apply such knowledge to design and manage databases in different application scenarios;

- will be able to apply their knowledge of software engineering for the analysis, modelling, design and testing of even highly complex software applications;

- will be able to apply their knowledge of programming languages to design and implement interpreters, compilers and relative execution time supports in conformity with various computational paradigms;

- will be able to apply their knowledge of digital image processing to design and implement feature extraction and object recognition systems in diversified scenarios;

- will know how to apply their knowledge of real-time processing systems to design algorithms and control units for complex dynamic systems;

- will be able to apply economic and management skills for the optimal organisation of innovative business processes, relative to both the strategic analysis of technological choices and the integration of research and development activities with other company functions. The achievement of the ability to apply this knowledge and understanding will be accomplished through the students' direct involvement in exercises and laboratory work, as well as the development of projects with an increasing level of autonomy. The dissertation project for the 2nd cycle degree programme, in which the level of autonomy and the ability to propose original and innovative solutions constitute the main evaluation criteria, is the key moment for the verification of this learning process. Finally, further applied learning skills are accomplished through the various opportunities made available through visits to businesses, the development of projects in cooperation with PhD researchers, the work placement and international experiences offered by the student mobility and exchange programmes.

#### JUDGEMENT SKILLS:

2nd cycle graduates:

- will be able to critically investigate the structural quality and performance of complex computer applications using analysis techniques and experimental tests, and verify their compliance with design specifications and level of conformity with legal or practical standards, identifying any problems and proposing corrective strategies for their resolution;

- will be able to focus the essential elements of technical reports presented or produced by interlocutors, and to extrapolate their qualifying and innovative features;

- will be able to understand articles published in technical and scientific literature and formulate an autonomous opinion of their importance and implications;

- will be able to source and consult the main bibliographic sources, proposals for standardisation at national and international level, certification of industrial product and system standards, also on the Internet.

- will be able to critically evaluate the limits of current computer methodologies and technologies and identify the directions to follow in order to overcome them.

The aforementioned judgement skills are accomplished through the learning activities organised in the "Computer Engineering" programme, as well as further activities including work placement and laboratories and the preparation for the final examination. The teaching methods include participation in seminars and exercises in the classroom and in the laboratory, individual and group projects, guided self-study and autonomous study.

Assessment of the achievement of the described learning outcomes shall be mainly through tests, written and oral exams and project work.

#### COMMUNICATION SKILLS:

2nd cycle graduates:

- will be able to communicate problems, ideas, solutions, technical information effectively and efficiently also in the English language (B2 level), in writing and orally, to both specialist and non specialist interlocutors;

- will be able to produce technical reports on the activities carried out and present detailed summaries of the key results in group discussions;

- will be able to work proficiently in a team to manage, design, test and monitor the performance of ICT systems, processes and applications, motivating their own decisions or choices;

- will be able to write technical and scientific articles.

The aforementioned communication skills are accomplished through the participation in core and supplementary learning activities as well as further activities including work placement and laboratories and the preparation for the final examination. The teaching methods include participation in exercises in the classroom and in the laboratory, individual and group projects and guided self-study. Assessment of the achievement of the described learning outcomes shall be mainly through written and oral exams and project work.

LEARNING SKILLS:

2nd cycle graduates:

- will be able to keep abreast of methods, techniques and instruments used in the analysis of requirements, modelling and design, testing and commissioning, optimisation the performance of information systems and applications;

- will be able to promote the evolution of ICT technologies and identify new information and training needs;

- will be able to continue further studies with a high level of autonomy in the Information Engineering sector.

The aforementioned learning skills are achieved through learning activities in the disciplinary fields laid down in the degree programme system and in particular the activities carried out partly in an autonomous manner. The specific teaching methodologies include tutorials. Assessment of the achievement of the learning skills shall be through the various exams organised throughout the programme.

#### A.4. CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

This paragraph provides information on the occupational profile, functions and fields of employment available to graduates of this Programme.

Professional figure: COMPUTER ENGINEER Main functions:

- Software designer for computer systems:

Participates and/or coordinates all activities involved in the design of complex software systems.

In particular:

• investigates and develops methods for problem solving, promotes the use of advanced technologies for the modelling and development of applications;

- develops new operative techniques and support tools for design, managing the impact of their concrete application;
- designs and participates in the implementation of complex information systems, in accordance with preset functional specifications, system constraints and design guidelines;

• designs and participates in the implementation of knowledge-based systems to solve complex problems using artificial intelligence techniques;

• designs and participates in the implementation of concurrent and distributed applications to solve complex problems in both operating systems and other applications;

• designs and participates in the implementation of even highly complex network services and applications in distributed and heterogeneous scenarios;

• organises and plans the activities for the implementation, testing, verification of the performance of software systems, managing the review and development of prototype solutions.

- Hardware designer for computer infrastructure:

Participates and/or coordinates all activities involved in the design and implementation of both complex general purpose platforms and embedded systems satisfying specific application requirements. In particular:

• designs complex architectures using advanced processors and components;

• identifies efficient solutions and executes the logical design of functional units for the satisfaction of special application requirements, managing the impact of their integration in complex architectures.

- Industrial machine, system and process automation technician:

Participates and/or coordinates all activities involved in the design of automation hardware systems.

In particular:

• defines the architecture, functional units and network infrastructure required for the implementation of complex distributed control systems;

- designs and implements software components for general use;
- designs and participates in the implementation of hardware systems for real-time data acquisition and processing;

• designs and participates in the implementation of supervision systems for the automatic management of diagnostic information and production data.

- Research and development technician:

Carries out theoretical and experimental investigations in various computing sectors in industries, research centres and training institutes.

In particular:

- carries out research on technologies, products, regulations and patents;
- promotes and participates in national and international research projects;
- promotes technological innovation processes in companies, based on the results of experiments and research activities;
- defines, organises and carries out laboratory experiments and gathers and critically interprets the obtained data.

Career opportunities:

2nd cycle graduates can work in all areas of the modern technological society, and in particular in manufacturing and tertiary sectors, industrial automation companies, process industries, the civil service, research and training institutes, or as freelance professionals, using their skills to promote the process of innovation and development in place in all organisations which are faced with the need to implement a restructuring programme based also on the integration of modern computer technologies.

More specifically, the graduates' professional skills are functional to the following main career opportunities:

- industries producing and/or using computer components and systems;
- computer systems services companies and centres;
- suppliers of structures and services for IT networks and systems;
- suppliers of Internet computing and Web infrastructure services;
- software engineering companies;
- companies working in industrial automation and robotics;
- process industries in the mechanical, electrical, electromechanical, energy and chemical sectors;
- industrial research and development laboratories;
- technical departments of public administrations using IT infrastructure to manage internal and public services;
- training centres;
- research centres.

With explicit reference to the type of businesses working in the region, the career opportunities available for Computer Engineering graduates in one of the highest concentrations of small and medium enterprises in the country are of great interest. The Emilia Romagna Region generally has an extremely advanced industrial system with a strong international vocation. The regional system is also characterised by highly developed traditional and advanced services structures, both in the private sector and within the civil service. The skills developed during the 2nd cycle degree programme in Computer Engineering are particularly requested and appreciated not only in the specific industrial sector, including computer consulting and software engineering companies, but also in a wider technological area covering electrical and electronics businesses, energy management, as well as chemical, civil and food processing sectors.

Of particular relevance is the industrial automation sector, and specifically the automatic packaging machine manufacturers (which are so numerous that the Emilia-Romagna region has earned the international nick-name of "Packaging Valley").

#### A.5. OPINION OF SOCIAL PARTNERS AND POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

This paragraph describes the outcome of the consultation with the representative employment and trade organisations.

This information is not available in English at this time.

#### A.6. FURTHER STUDIES

It gives access to thirdcycle studies (PhD/Specialisation schools) and to professional master'sprogrammes.

# **B. TEACHING AND LEARNING**

This section describes the updated course structure diagram (for academic year 2013/2014), with the full titles and listings of the course units and the latest published lecture timetable.

#### **B.1. COURSE STRUCTURE DIAGRAM**

The link takes you to the Study Programme course structure diagrams. You can also access to each course unit content.

• Study plan: all course units in the programme

### **B.2. CALENDAR AND LECTURE TIMETABLE**

The links take you to the teaching calendar (exam session and final examination session) and the lecture timetable (in Italian).

- Lecture timetable
- Exam sessions
- Final examination sessions

# C. RESOURCES AND SERVICES

This section provides a list of teaching staff and their relative curricula and and description of the services available to students for the academic year 2013/2014.

#### C.1. TEACHERS

The paragraph lists the lecturers who teach in the Study Programme: from here you can access the personal web pages of each one (in Italian). Information updated to 28 May 2013 (in Italian).

#### Permanent teaching staff:

Bellavista, Paolo	Denti, Enrico
Benini, Luca	Di Stefano, Luigi
Casciola, Giulio	Faldella, Eugenio
Ciaccia, Paolo	Marconi, Lorenzo
Ciampolini, Anna	Martello, Silvano
Corazza, Giovanni Emanuele	Mattoccia, Stefano
Corradi, Antonio	Melchiorri, Claudio

- Mello, Paola Milano, Michela Montanari, Rebecca Munari, Federico Natali, Antonio Paoli, Andrea Patella, Marco
- Rossi, Carlo Salmon Cinotti, Tullio Sartori, Claudio Toth, Paolo Vanelli Coralli, Alessandro

#### C.2. STUDENT SERVICES: OFFICES

#### C.2.1. FUTURE STUDENTS

The link take you to the webpage which provides specific information about the offices and the services for the future students (in italian).

• Future students

#### C.2.2. ENROLLED STUDENTS

The link take you to the webpage which provides specific information about the offices and the services for the enrolled students (in italian).

• Enrolled students

#### **C.2.3. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

The links take you to the reference Work Placement and International Relations office for the Study Programme, where available.

• International students

#### C.2.4. GRADUATES

• Graduates

# D. THE STUDY PROGRAMME IN FIGURES

Information on students' starting their university careers, how many students are in line with the regular programme, opinions of students and graduates on the teaching programmes and information concerning graduate employment.

This section provides the data of the last academic years for the Study Programme (SP) and a comparison with similar Study Programmes. The University of Bologna has divided its Study Programmes into four groups:

- BIOMEDICAL group: Study Programmes of the Schools of Pharmacy, Biotechnology and Sport Science; Medicine; Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine
- SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL group: Study Programmes of the Schools of Engineering and Architecture; Sciences
- SOCIAL SCIENCES group: Study Programmes of the Schools of Economics, Management, and Statistics; Law, Political Sciences
- HUMANITIES group: Study Programmes of the Schools of Arts, Humanities, and Cultural Heritage; Foreign Languages and Literatures, Interpreting and Translation; Psychology and Education

The section presents the results of the Study Programme for the last three academic years.

Main data shows how many students enrolled, the number of students assigned OEA, how many drop out after the first year, how many graduate in line with the programme schedule, the opinions of attending and graduating students on the teaching programmes and information concerning graduate employment. The information and data presented in this section, updated to 28 May 2013, were taken from University databases and AlmaLaurea.

Study Programmes may be subject to degree programme system modifications from one academic year to the next, and the data provided in this section may refer to a programme with a slightly different system to the one currently running (such as programme title, course structure diagram and list of lecturers). However, indicatively the data presents the general trend of the Study Programme over the past three years.

Most of the Study Programmes running at the University of Bologna have been reformed in compliance with DM 270/04, most of them from the academic year 2008/2009. For this reason for the previous academic years for some information, as opinion of the graduates and employment situation, are provided in the reports of those Programmes, on the paragraph D.5. refers to the Study Programmes as they were presented prior to the reform.

#### D.1. STUDENTS STARTING THEIR UNIVERSITY CAREERS

Characteristics of incoming students at the beginning of their study. Tables and graphs provide information on number of enrolled students (new careers), focusing on the characteristics of students and results of any entrance tests.

#### **D.1.1. ENROLMENTS**

The **graph** and the **table** show the number of new careers of the Study Programme compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group), for the indicated academic years.

New careers



	a.y. 201	0/2011	a.y. 201	1/2012	a.y. 201	2/2013
	New careers	Total N. enrolled students	New careers	Total N. enrolled students	New careers	Total N. enrolled students
Study Programme	53	173	58	197	56	201
Average of similar Study Programmes	39,2	60,4	42,8	62,9	47,6	62,6

#### D.1.2. ADDITIONAL DATA ON STUDENTS' STARTING THEIR UNIVERSITY CAREERS

#### D.1.2.1. CANDIDATES REGISTERED FOR THE ENTRANCE EXAM

In academic year 2012/2013 access to this Study Programme was not restricted.

#### D.1.2.2. INCOMING STUDENTS

Geographic origin, type of 1st cycle degree, age and gender of students.

The data shows a homogeneus group of students (cohort) which started together their academic career.

Students which have passed to an other Study Programme, transferred from an other university, or registered to a 2nd degree are not included.

The **tables** show the number, geographic origin, gender, age, type and grade of 1st cycle degree of students enrolling in the degree programme.

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group), for the indicated academic years.

			Geographic origin					Gender		Average age of new career students		
		New careers	Students coming from the province of the Study Programme site	Students coming from other provinces where Unibo has a site	Students coming from other provinces of Emilia Romagna region	Students coming from other Italian regions	Students coming from abroad	М	F	22 or less	23 - 24	25 or more
	Study Programme	53	28,3%	11,3%	3,8%	52,8%	3,8%	90,6%	9,4%	28,3%	41,5%	30,2%
Students 2010/2011	Average of similar Study Programmes	39,2	26,0%	19,0%	8,2%	42,6%	4,3%	70 <b>,2</b> %	29,8%	36,7%	42,3%	21,0%
	Study Programme	58	31,0%	8,6%	10,3%	48,3%	1,7%	87,9%	12,1%	29,3%	55,2%	15,5%
Students 2011/2012	Average of similar Study Programmes	42,8	25,6%	18,3%	8,1%	44,8%	3,2%	66,3%	33,7%	31,2%	46,7%	22,2%
	Study Programme	56	19,6%	23,2%	10,7%	46,4%		89,3%	10,7%	19,6%	51,8%	28,6%
Students 2012/2013	Average of similar Study Programmes	47,6	27,9%	18,2%	6,2%	43,2%	4,6%	68,2%	31,8%	32,0%	44,7%	23,3%

		First Cycle Degree: University of previous studies			First Cycle Degree: more frequent class			First Cycle Degree: grade					
		University of Bologna	Other Italian Universities	Foreign University	Other not defined	Class code and name	% of students	First Cycle Degree grade between 66 and 90	First Cycle Degree grade between 91 and 100	First Cycle Degree grade between 101 and 105	First Cycle Degree grade between 106 and 110	First Cycle Degree grade 110 and honors	First Cycle Degree grade not available
	Study Programme	69,8%	26,4%		3,8%	9 INGEGNERIA DELL'INFORMAZION	75,5%	30,2%	24,5%	11,3%	15,1%	15,1%	3,8%
Students 2010/2011	Average of similar Study Programmes	75,1%	17,9%	0,6%	6,4%	10 INGEGNERIA INDUSTRIALE	25,3%	16,3%	31,8%	16,8%	14,2%	14,5%	6,4%
	Study Programme	62,1%	32,8%		5,2%	9 INGEGNERIA DELL'INFORMAZION	43,1%	17,2%	31,0%	15,5%	15,5%	15,5%	5,2%
2011/2012	Average of similar Study Programmes	71,3%	21,4%	0,4%	6,9%	10 INGEGNERIA INDUSTRIALE	15,9%	15,3%	34,0%	17,7%	13,6%	12,5%	6,8%
	Study Programme	62,5%	28,6%		8,9%	L-8 INGEGNERIA DELL'INFORMAZION	46,4%	30,4%	26,8%	12,5%	12,5%	8,9%	8,9%
Students 2012/2013	Average of similar Study Programmes	67,6%	15,8%	0,4%	16,3%	L-9 INGEGNERIA INDUSTRIALE	21,0%	16,4%	33,9%	12,8%	11,1%	9,5%	16,3%

#### D.2. REGULARITY OF STUDIES

Insight into the regularity with which the students pass their exams. The graphs and the tables provide information on the number of students who leave the programme between the first and second year and the number of regular graduates, focusing on the number of credits obtained at the end of the first year, on the exams passed and average grade achieved for each course unit.

#### D.2.1. STUDENTS LEAVING THE PROGRAMME BETWEEN YEARS 1 AND 2

Here the number of students leaving the Study Programme is shown.

The **graph** shows the percentage of students who leave the programme after the first year compared to the average of similar Study Programmes (belonging to the same group).

The **table** shows the registered students (new careers), the percentage of students leaving the programme who pass to a different Study Programme in the same university, transfer to another university or withdraw from studies as well as the enrolled repeating students and those enrolled in the second year.

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group), for students registered (new careers) in the indicated academic years.

Percentage of withdrawals between years 1 and 2



		New careers	% withdrawals	% passages and transfers	% repeating students	Students enrolled in the second year
	Study Programme	72	19,4%	0,0%	0,0%	58
Students 2009/2010	Average of similar Study Programmes	40,5	5,6%	0,8%	0,1%	37,9
	Study Programme	53	11,3%	1,9%	0,0%	46
Students 2010/2011	Average of similar Study Programmes	39,2	4,7%	0,7%	0,0%	37,1
	Study Programme	58	10,3%	0,0%	0,0%	52
Students 2011/2012	Average of similar Study Programmes	42,8	7,5%	1,3%	0,1%	39

#### D.2.2. REGULAR GRADUATES

Here you will find information on regular graduates, on how many students, at the end of the regular programme duration, left the programme and how many are still enrolled but not aligned to the exam schedule.

The **graph** and the **table** show the situation concerning the registered students (new careers) for the indicated academic year, at the end of the regular duration of the Study Programme, highlighting the percentage of regular graduates, the number of students still enrolled (not aligned to the exam schedule and repeating students), students who have left the programme (including passages, transfers and withdrawals).

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group), for students enrolled in the indicated accademic year.

Situation of students 2010/2011 at the end of regular duration of the study programme



			Regular g	graduates	Passages and with	transfers ndrawals	Studer enrolled yet gra	nts still and not duated
			N.	%	N.	%	N.	%
	Study Programme	72	10	13,9%	19	26,4%	43	59,7%
Students 2009/2010	Average of similar Study Programmes	40,5	17	42,0%	4,3	10,7%	19,1	47,2%
	Study Programme	53	11	20,8%	9	17,0%	33	62,3%
Students 2010/2011	Average of similar Study Programmes	39,2	19,3	49,3%	3,7	9,3%	16,2	41,3%

See data of previous academic years - Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Computer Engineering (code 0234) paragraph D.5.2.2.

#### D.2.3. ADDITIONAL DATA ON REGULARITY OF STUDIES

#### D.2.3.1. CREDITS OBTAINED BY STUDENTS IN THE 1ST YEAR

This offers an insight into how regularly students pass their exams.

The **graph** shows the distribution of the students according to the number of credits obtained at the end of the first year. In addition, the **table** shows the number of students registered at the second year and average credits obtained during the first year. The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (wich belong to the same group), for students registered in the indicated academic years.

Distribution of the students in 2011/2012 according to the number of credits obtained at the end of the first year\*



				% studer	nts with *		
		Students enrolled in the 2nd year	0 credits acquired	from 1 to 20 credits acquired	from 21 to 40 credits acquired	41 or more credits acquired	Average credits per student
	Study Programme	58	15,5%	39,7%	29,3%	15,5%	21
Students 2009/2010	Average of similar Study Programmes	37,9	8,1%	22,8%	42,5%	26,7%	29
	Study Programme	46	10,9%	43,5%	34,8%	10,9%	19
Students 2010/2011	Average of similar Study Programmes	37,1	6,8%	17,0%	45,8%	30,4%	31,2
	Study Programme	52	3,8%	32,7%	53,8%	9,6%	23,1
Students 2011/2012	Average of similar Study Programmes	39	3,1%	16,3%	45,0%	35,6%	33,9

\*Note: by convention, credits are considered to be obtained by students by 31st October of the year following the year of enrolment.

#### D.2.3.2. EXAMS PASSED AND AVERAGE GRADE

The **table** shows number of exams passed and average grade achieved for each course unit in the calendar year 2011. Marks for the exams passed are expressed out of thirty.

The data refers to the course unit code and therefore includes the various branches of the programme divided into channels or subgroups, divided by letter.

It considers all subjects for which a grade is assigned, and therefore excludes all those to which a pass/fail score is allocated. The data concerning previous programmes is given in a separate section.

Data of the Study Programme D.M. 270/04 Ingegneria informatica (code 0937)

	N. of exams passed	Average grade *
29206 GESTIONE DELL'INNOVAZIONE E DEI PROGETTI M	46	25,3
34878 RICERCA OPERATIVA M	62	26
34888 ELABORAZIONE DELL'IMMAGINE M	14	27,3
34895 ALGORITMI DI OTTIMIZZAZIONE M	6	29,5
35223 CALCOLATORI ELETTRONICI M	58	26,6
35224 FONDAMENTI DI INTELLIGENZA ARTIFICIALE M	70	26,9
35225 SISTEMI OPERATIVI M	59	27
35229 SICUREZZA DELL'INFORMAZIONE M	50	27,8
35236 INGEGNERIA DEI SISTEMI SOFTWARE M	15	29,2
35238 LINGUAGGI E MODELLI COMPUTAZIONALI M	27	27,1
35239 RETI DI CALCOLATORI M	27	26,1
35240 SISTEMI DIGITALI M	25	25,4

	N. of exams passed	Average grade *
35241 SISTEMI IN TEMPO REALE M	51	26,4
35243 TECNOLOGIE DELLE BASI DI DATI M	19	25,7
35248 FONDAMENTI DI COMPUTER GRAPHICS M	9	28,6
35252 MATEMATICA DISCRETA M	2	
35253 METODOLOGIE DI PROGETTAZIONE HARDWARE- SOFTWARE M	18	29,1
35256 PROCESSI E TECNICHE DI DATA MINING M	14	27,1
35258 SISTEMI DISTRIBUITI M	30	26,9
35261 SISTEMI INFORMATIVI M	3	
35262 SISTEMI MOBILI M	22	26,9
35285 ATTIVITÀ PROGETTUALE DI LINGUAGGI E MODELLI COMPUTAZIONALI M	1	
35298 ATTIVITÀ PROGETTUALE DI SICUREZZA DELL'INFORMAZIONE M	1	
37418 SISTEMI INTELLIGENTI M	24	27,9

\* Note: no average grade is given if the number of exams passed is less than or equal to 5.

#### D.3. OPINIONS OF GRADUATES AND ATTENDING STUDENTS

Opinions of graduates on the Study Programme.

Tables and graphs provide information on the number of graduates who expressed positive opinions on the Study Programme, focusing on opinions expressed by attending students on course units.

#### **D.3.1. OPINION OF GRADUATES**

The graph shows the percentage of graduates (AlmaLaurea survey) who responded positively to the question: "Are you generally satisfied with the Study Programme".

In addition, the **table** shows the percentage of students who answered "Yes, to the same programme at the university" to the question "Would you register again to the university?".

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group), and the average of Study Programmes of the same class of other Italian universities for the graduates of the indicated years.

Graduates in 2012 who responded positively to the question: "Are you generally satisfied with this Study Programme?" *Data of the Study Programme D.M. 270/04 Ingegneria informatica (code 0937)* 



Data of the Study Programme D.M. 270/04 Ingegneria informatica (code 0937)

		N. graduates	Completed Questionnaires	% of positive answers to the question: "Are you generally satisfied with this Study Programme?"	% of answers "yes to the same Programme in the same University" to the question "Would you register again to the University"
	Study Programme	6	6	66,7%	66,7%
	Average of similar Study Programmes	20	19,4	90,0%	78,4%
2011	Study Programmes of the same class in Italian Universities	296	277	93,1%	83,0%
	Study Programme	30	30	96,7%	90,0%
2012	Average of similar Study Programmes	22	21,5	90,5%	78,6%
	Study Programmes of the same class in Italian Universities	619	591	91,2%	79,5%

Symbols:

(\*) The opinions of the Study Programmes with less than 5 graduates are not shown.

Further information on Graduates' Profile Report.

See data of previous academic years - Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Computer Engineering (code 0234) paragraph D.5.3.1.

#### D.3.2 ADDITIONAL DATA ON OPINIONS OF STUDENTS

#### D.3.2.1. OPINION OF ATTENDING STUDENTS

The **graph** shows the percentage of attending students who responded positively to the question in the questionnaire: "Are you generally satisfied with this course unit?" in academic year 2011/2012.

The table also shows the number of completed questionnaires.

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group), for the indicated academic years.

The data concerning the students' opinion refers to the opinions of those attending lessons, whether they are enrolled in the current programme or a Study Programme running under pre-reform regulations (under D.M. 509).

For the University of Bologna the survey and subsequently analysis of the opinions of students attending the course is cared by Aform

- Quality Assurance Department and *Arag* - Support Planning and Evaluation Department. The overall results and the methods of collection and analysis are described in the document published online on the Statistical Observatory of the University of Bologna (see the note in the glossary).

Students who responded positively to the question: "Are you generally satisfied with this course unit?" in academic year 2011/2012

Data of the Study Programme D.M. 270/04 Ingegneria informatica (code 0937) and of the Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Ingegneria informatica (code 0234)



Data of the Study Programme D.M. 270/04 Ingegneria informatica (code 0937) and of the Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Ingegneria informatica (code 0234)

		Number of completed questionnaires	% of positive answers concerning the general satisfaction with the course unit – Question 19
	Study Programme	573	75,9%
a.y. 2009/2010	Average of similar Study Programmes	386,1	77,1%
	Study Programme	403	85,1%
a.y. 2010/2011	Average of similar Study Programmes	372,6	77,9%
	Study Programme	323	80,4%
a.y. 2011/2012	Average of similar Study Programmes	422,1	76,1%

Symbols:

(\*) When there is a small number of questionnaires, the percentage of positive opinions on overall satisfaction is not presented. Further information on Rapporto Opinione degli studenti frequentanti sulle attività didattiche (the content is in Italian).

#### D.4. ENTRY INTO THE WORLD OF WORK

Employment situation of graduates of the Study Programme.

Tables and graphs provide information on the employment situation of graduates one year after graduating.

#### **D.4.1. EMPLOYMENT SITUATION**

The paragraph shows the employment situation of graduates one year after graduating.

The data is taken from the AlmaLaurea reports on the employment situation of graduates.

The **graph** shows who is working, who is not working and is not seeking employment, who is not working but is seeking employment. In addition, the **table** shows the number of graduates interviewed, the number involved in internships and traineeships and the appropriateness of their degree to the job.

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group) and the average of Study Programmes of the same class of other Italian universities for the graduates of the indicated years.

Employment situation of graduates in 2011 one year after graduating



			Employment situation (1)				Degree appropria for the (referred graduate just wor	
		N. graduates interviewed	Working	Not working and not seeking employmet	Not working and seeking employment	Not working, not seeking employment, but following a university programme/traineship (2)	Effective / very effective	Quite effective
	Study Programme	4	100,0%				100,0%	
Graduation Year	Average of similar Study Programmes	17,8	66,5%	17,2%	16,3%	12,3%	58,1%	30,8%
2011	Study Programmes of the same class in Italian Universities	274	84,7%	10,6%	4,7%	6,6%	58,1%	33,9%

Symbols:

(\*) The opinions of the Study Programmes with less than 5 graduates are not shown.

#### Notes on the AlmaLaurea report on the employment situation of graduates

(1) "Employment situation": the definition includes the number of employed graduates who declaring to carry out a paid work activity, provided that is not training activity (internship, traineeship, PhD degrees, specialization schools).

(2) "Number of those who do not work, who are not seeking employment but who are following a university programme/traineeship": the definition includes those who are enrolled in traineeships, PhD degrees, specialisation schools, Italian "master universitari" (first and second level). The presentation of this data complies with article 2 of D.M. 544 of 31st October 2007, as later provided for in Management Decree no. 61 of 10th June 2008 (transparency requirements).

(3) The evaluation of the appropriateness of the degree is obtained by a combination of the requirement of the relative qualification for the job held and the level of usage of the skills learned at university.

Further information on Graduates' Employment report.

See data of previous academic years - Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Computer Engineering (code 0234) paragraph D.5.4.1.

#### D.5. INFORMATION ON PRE-REFORM PROGRAMMES (DM 509/99)

#### D.5.1. STUDENTS STARTING THEIR UNIVERSITY CAREERS

Characteristics of incoming students at the beginning of their study. Tables and graphs provide information on number of enrolled students (new careers), focusing on the characteristics of students.

#### D.5.1.1. ENROLMENTS

Data of enrolments of the last three academic years are shown in paragraph D.1.1.

#### D.5.1.2. ADDITIONAL DATA ON STUDENTS' STARTING THEIR UNIVERSITY CAREERS

#### D.5.1.2.1. CANDIDATES REGISTERED FOR THE ENTRANCE EXAM

Data of candidates registered for the entrance exam are shown in paragraph D.1.2.1.

#### D.5.1.2.2. INCOMING STUDENTS

Data of incoming students of the last three academic years are shown in paragraph D.1.2.2.

#### **D.5.2. REGULARITY OF STUDIES**

Insight into the regularity with which the students pass their exams.

Graphs and tables provide information on the number of students who leave the programme after the first year and the number of regular graduates, focusing on the number of credits obtained at the end of the first year, number of exams passed and the average grade achieved for each course unit.

#### D.5.2.1. STUDENTS LEAVING THE PROGRAMME BETWEEN YEARS 1 AND 2

Data of students leaving the Study Programme of the last three academic years are shown in paragraph D.2.1.

#### D.5.2.2. REGULAR GRADUATES

Here you will find information on regular graduates, on how many students, at the end of the regular programme duration, left the programme and how many are still enrolled but not aligned to the exam schedule.

The **graph** and the **table** show the situation concerning the students enrolled at the first year (new careers) for the indicated academic year, at the end of the regular duration of the Study Programme, highlighting the percentage of regular graduates, the number of students still enrolled (not aligned to the exam schedule and repeating students), students who have left the programme (including passages, transfers and withdrawals).

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group), for students registered in the indicated academic years.

Situation of students 2008/2009 at the end of regular duration of the study programme

Data of the Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Computer Engineering (code 0234)



Graduates aligned with the exam schedule
Passages transfers and withdrawals
Students still enrolled and not yet graduated

Data of the Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Computer Engineering (code 0234)

		New careers	Regular graduates		Passages transfers and withdrawals		Students still enrolled and not yet graduated	
			N.	%	N.	%	N.	%
	Study Programme	69	1	1,4%	3	4,3%	65	94,2%
Students 2008/2009	Average of similar Study Programmes	42,6	16,6	39,0%	4,2	9,9%	21,7	50,9%

Go back to D.2.2. Regular graduates

#### D.5.2.3. ADDITIONAL DATA ON REGULARITY OF STUDIES

#### D.5.2.3.1. CREDITS OBTAINED BY STUDENTS IN THE 1ST YEAR

Data of credits obtained by students in the 1st year of the last three academic years are shown in paragraph D.2.3.1.

#### D.5.2.3.2. EXAMS PASSED AND AVERAGE GRADE

Data of exams passed and average grade are shown in paragraph D.2.3.2.

#### D.5.3. OPINIONS OF ATTENDING STUDENTS AND GRADUATES

Opinions of graduates on the Study Programme.

Tables and graphs provide information on the number of graduates who expressed positive opinions on the Study Programme, focusing on opinions expressed by attending students on course units.

#### **D.5.3.1. OPINION OF GRADUATES**

The graph shows the percentage of graduates (AlmaLaurea survey) who responded positively to the question: "Are you generally satisfied with the Study Programme".

In addition, the **table** shows the percentage of students who answered "Yes, to the same programme at the university" to the question "Would you register again to the university?".

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group), for the indicated years.

Graduates in 2010 who responded positively to the question: "Are you generally satisfied with this Study Programme?" *Data of the Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Ingegneria informatica (code 0234)* 





Data of the Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Ingegneria informatica (code 0234)

		N. graduates	Completed Questionnaires	% of positive answers to the question: "Are you generally satisfied with this Study Programme?"	% of answers "yes to the same Programme in the same University" to the question "Would you register again to the University"
	Study Programme	71	69	85,5%	66,7%
	Average of similar Study Programmes	25,5	24,8	89,9%	78,6%
2010	Study Programmes of the same class in Italian Universities	879	834	91,6%	78,7%

Symbols:

(\*) The opinions of the Study Programmes with less than 5 graduates are not shown. Further information on Graduates' Profile Report.

Go back to D.3.1. Opinion of graduates

#### D.5.3.2 ADDITIONAL DATA ON OPINIONS OF STUDENTS

#### D.5.3.2.1. OPINION OF ATTENDING STUDENTS

Data of opinion of attending students of the last three academic years are shown in paragraph D.3.2.1.

#### D.5.4. ENTRY INTO THE WORLD OF WORK

Employment situation of graduates of the Study Programme. Tables and graphs provide information on the employment situation of graduates one year after graduating.

#### D.5.4.1. EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

The paragraph shows the employment situation of graduates one year after graduating.

The data is taken from the AlmaLaurea reports on the employment situation of graduates.

The **graph** shows who is working, who is not working and is not seeking employment, who is not working but is seeking employment. In addition, the **table** shows the number of graduates interviewed, the number involved in internships and traineeships and the appropriateness of their degree to the job.

The Study Programme data is compared with the average of similar Study Programmes (which belong to the same group) and the average of Study Programmes of the same class of other Italian universities for the graduates of the indicated years.

Employment situation of graduates in 2010 one year after graduating

Data of the Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Computer Engineering (code 0234)



Data of the Study Programme D.M. 509/99 Computer Engineering (code 0234)

			Employment situation (1)				Degree's appropriateness for the job (referred to the graduates who just work) (3)	
		N. graduates interviewed	Working	Not working and not seeking employmet	Not working and seeking employment	Not working, not seeking employment, but following a university programme/trainceship (2)	Effective / very effective	Quite effective
	Study Programme	55	78,2%	14,5%	7,3%	3,6%	73,8%	21,4%
Graduation Year	Average of similar Study Programmes	32,1	63,8%	18,3%	17,9%	11,8%	55,3%	34,7%
2009	Study Programmes of the same class in Italian Universities	917	75,1%	11,8%	13,1%	6,5%	58,5%	33,3%
	Study Programme	65	89,2%	9,2%	1,5%	1,5%	66,1%	26,8%
Graduation Year	Average of similar Study Programmes	23,5	68,7%	15,7%	15,6%	9,9%	57,4%	32,5%
2010	Study Programmes of the same class in Italian Universities	787	79,8%	11,3%	8,9%	6,1%	57,7%	33,8%

Symbols:

(\*) The opinions of the Study Programmes with less than 5 graduates are not shown.

#### Notes on the AlmaLaurea report on the employment situation of graduates

(1) "Employment situation": the definition includes the number of employed graduates who declaring to carry out a paid work activity, provided that is not training activity (internship, traineeship, PhD degrees, specialization schools).

(2) "Number of those who do not work, who are not seeking employment but who are following a university programme/traineeship": the definition includes those who are enrolled in traineeships, PhD degrees, specialisation schools, Italian "master universitari" (first and second level). The presentation of this data complies with article 2 of D.M. 544 of 31st October 2007, as later provided for in Management Decree no. 61 of 10th June 2008 (transparency requirements).

(3) The evaluation of the appropriateness of the degree is obtained by a combination of the requirement of the relative qualification for the job held and the level of usage of the skills learned at university.

Further information on Graduates' Employment report.

Go back to D.4.1. Employment situation

# E. FIND OUT MORE: THE QUALITY OF YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

The University of Bologna has identified its objectives as the personal, cultural and professional growth of students and the improvement of the quality of learning, also in relation to the needs of society (Strategic Plan 2010-2013).

Students, employers and society as a whole, have the right to effective learning for individual and intellectual growth, to develop critical sense and to prepare for the world of work.

In the Statute and the Strategic Plan 2010-2013 the University of Bologna acknowledges its responsibility in guaranteeing the quality of its study programmes, and for this purpose adopts an "internal quality assurance system".

#### The Internal Quality Assurance system

The internal quality assurance system is a set of processes and responsibilities adopted to guarantee the quality of Study Programmes at the University of Bologna.

The guarantee of the quality of a Study Programme is the correspondence of the results achieved with the set objectives, in the following phases:

- Plan: defining the objectives
- Do: implementing the planned actions
- Check: checking that the objectives have been achieved
- Act: planning improvement action



This path responds to the expectations of students, guides teaching behaviour and provides indicators for the assessment of results. Self-assessment is based on the analysis of significant data (for example, the number of students graduating in line with the exam schedule, students' opinions and the employment rates of graduates) and highlights strengths and weaknesses in order to reflect on the achieved results, critically consider one's own working methods and take steps for the contributions of everyone with first-hand knowledge of the Study Programme. Improvement is therefore a day to day development, concerning all aspects of teaching: from the lesson timetable to the publication of on-line programmes, from classroom management to exam methods, and the actual design of the Programme.

This is what happens in each phase:

- Planning: the Study Programme is the result of a proposal from the teaching structures and approved by the Academic Bodies.
- Management: Schools, Departments and Study Programmes manage the activities required to ensure teaching. The activities are organised as follows:

What we do	Who does what								
	Professors	Study Programme	Schools	Departments	General Administration				
Teaching calendar, lessons programme and exam schedules			Х						
Management of financial resources			Х	X					
Classroom teaching	X								
Management of classrooms and laboratories			Х	X					
Libraries and study rooms			Х	X					
Approval of individual study plans		Х							
Communication and information		Χ	Х		Academic Affairs Division				
Guidance service		Χ	Х		Academic Affairs Division				
Internships		X	Χ		Academic Affairs Division				
Administrative services: Student Administration Office					Academic Affairs Division				
Administration services: Degree programme office			Х		Academic Affairs Division				
Study grants and loans ad honorem					Academic Affairs Division				
Student mobility: university subsidies and programmes					International Relations Division				
Mobility: study grants for dissertations abroad			X						
Mobility: authorisations and recognitions		X							
Other students support services		X	X		х				

• Internal assessment: every Study Programme periodically assesses its own results, evaluating, for example, the number of enrolled students, the number of withdrawing students, student opinions etc.; in this way, the strengths and weaknesses, as well as any implemented improvement actions, are highlighted. This phase is organised as follows:

#### What we do Who does what Definition, gathering and publication of evaluation data Academic Bodies According to the general guidelines of the University and national and international standards, are defined the tools through which should be evaluated the results (indicators). The survey data to be evaluate are published every year on the Report of the Study Program. Self-Assessment Schools and Study Programmes The Schools and Study Programmes assess the effectiveness of the previously adopted solutions, analyse the progress of their learning activities and draw up proposals for improvement. Internal audit The results of the self-assessment process are reviewed in the following phases: Quality Manager Analysis: the University Quality Manager analyses the review Vice Rector for Teaching and Education documents, considering the ability to identify problems, propose solutions and the overall development of the Academic Bodies internal quality assurance system. Review: The observations on the results obtained and the

• **Improvement**: on the basis of the results of the internal audit, the Schools and Study Programmes plan improvement activities, to ensure that the Study Programmes increasingly respond to the needs of society. The cycle then starts over again, with the definition of actions to be implemented, the results of which are in turn verified, in a continuous path that guarantees the quality of education.

good practices adopted are examined together with the persons in charge of the Schools and Study Programmes in meetings organised by scientific-disciplinary field. The persons in charge receive the observations and inputs on the areas for development and the actions to be adopted in

Sharing: the conclusions of the review activities are submitted to the Academic Bodies and the University

future to improve results.

Evaluation Board.

# F. GLOSSARY TERMS

#### Additional Learning Requirements

Students enrolling in the first year of a first cycle or single cycle degree and who, following the results of the entrance exams established for each study programme, do not possess the knowledge required for access to the programme, are assigned additional learning requirements (OFA).

The OFA are fulfilled by passing an assessment test defined by the programme.

The non-fulfilment of the requirements by the date set by the Academic Bodies and published on the University Portal will lead to the re-enrolment in the first year of the programme.

#### AlmaLaurea

AlmaLaurea is an innovative in-line database service of graduates' curriculum vitae (1,620,000 CVs, from 53 Italian universities as of 05/07/2012), which offers a link between graduates, universities and businesses.

Created in 1994 on the initiative of the Statistical Observatory of the University of Bologna, managed by a consortium of Italian universities with the support of the Ministry of Education, University and Research, the purpose AlmaLaurea is to act as a point of contact between businesses and graduates, a reference within universities for anyone (students, businesses, etc...) working in the field of university studies, employment and the condition of young people at different levels.

#### Average of similar study programmes (belonging to the same group)

Average of the Study Programmes (which belong to the subject group)

Calculated average which refers to all study programmes of the same cycle which belong to the subject group. There are four groups, composed as follows:

- BIOMEDICAL group: Study Programmes of the Schools of Pharmacy, Biotechnology and Sport Science; Medicine; Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine
- SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL group: Study Programmes of the Schools of Engineering and Architecture; Sciences
- SOCIAL SCIENCES group: Study Programmes of the Schools of Economics, Management, and Statistics; Law, Political Sciences
- HUMANITIES group: Study Programmes of the Schools of Arts, Humanities, and Cultural Heritage; Foreign Languages and Literatures, Interpreting and Translation; Psychology and Education

#### CFU University Learning Credits

University Learning Credits (CFU) were introduced under Italian Ministerial Decree no. 509/99 to comply with European legislation, and are a measurement of the volume of learning, including individual study, required of students; generally 1 CFU corresponds to 25 hours of a student's "overall learning effort".

#### Class

Degree classes group together study programmes of the same level and with the same key learning outcomes and available learning activities for a given number of credits and in sectors which are identified as indispensable. The features of the classes are set nationally, by Ministerial Decree, and are therefore common to all universities.

#### Cohort

Cohort refers to a group of students enrolled in the same academic year.

#### Enrolment status

In terms of enrolment, students may be:

- **Regularly enrolled**: students enrolled for as many or fewer years than the legal duration of the study programme, who do not fall into any of the following categories;
- Not aligned with the exam schedule: students who, without having graduated, have enrolled in all the years of the study programme and which, for programmes with compulsory attendance, have obtained all attendance certificates;
- **Repeating**: students re-enrolling in the same year of a programme again. Starting from academic year 2009-2010, students who have not fulfilled the assigned additional learning requirements within the deadline have to enrol in the 1st year as repeating students.

#### Entrance exam

Enrolment in a study programme may be free access or restricted access.

For all programmes with restricted access, candidates are required to sit an entrance exam and there are a limited number of places available. The entrance exam is a test which is used to draw up a graded list of candidates; students may enrol in the programme according to their place in the list. The methods of managing the call for applications and the list of candidates, including the methods for filling any unclaimed places, may vary from year to year. The test may be specific to a Degree Programme or may be part of a single exam covering several programmes from the same university or from other universities (during the registration the students should indicate their first choice).

The following definitions apply:

**Available places =** the number of places laid down in the call for applications to the Study Programme, or determined by subsequent legal provisions; these exclude any additional places reserved according to special provisions of the programme (e.g. for international study programmes, they do not include places for foreign students selected from other universities; for all programmes with restricted access regulated nationally, these do not include the places reserved for transferring students).

Number of candidates for the exam = number of students registered for the exam indicating the study programme as their first choice;

Number of participants in the exam = number of students participating in the exam indicating the study programme as their first choice;

Number of participants in the exam for every available place = number of students participating in the exam who indicated the study programme as their first choice as a ratio of the number of places available on the programme.

#### First year enrolments

This includes all students enrolled in the first year, including those joining the study programme in its first year through transferrals, as well as those enrolled in the first year but not for the first time (e.g. repeating students).

#### New Careers

Students who start a new university career (excluding transfers) from year one in a second cycle programme.

#### Passages and transfers

**Passage:** when a student applies to move to a different study programme from the one enrolled in the previous year, within the same university.

Transfer: when a student transfers from a study programme in one university to any programme in another university.

#### Registered students

Students who begin a career in the Italian University System for the first time and who enrol in the first year (i.e. for whom no previous university careers are recorded) of a First Cycle (L509, L) or Single Cycle programme (LSCU, LMCU)

#### Statistical Observatory of the University of Bologna

The Statistical Observatory was founded in 1997 in order to "provide the university governing bodies with a reliable and timely documentary and monitoring database aiming to promote decision-making processes and planning, particularly of learning activities and other services targeting the student population" (art.1 of the Founding and Operational Regulation). Following the disabling of the Statistical Observatory, as resolved by the Board of Governors on 14 December 2010, from the second semester of academic year 2010-11 the survey and subsequently analysis of the attending students opinion is cared for the University of Bologna by Academic Affairs Division - Quality Assurance Department and Control and Finance Division - Support Planning and Evaluation Department. The overall results and the methods of collection and analysis are described in the document published online on the Statistical Observatory of the University of Bologna.

#### University DataWarehouse

In information service for the managers of the University of Bologna organisational departments which gathers, integrates and reorganises data from various sources and makes it available for analysis and evaluation for the purposes of planning and decision-making.

#### Withdrawal

Suspension of studies by students who do not register in the next academic year, or who drop out from the degree programme.