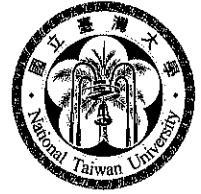


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CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
**A DOUBLE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME**

BETWEEN

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PADOVA

AND

NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY

**In the field of Telecommunications**

*Preamble*

Università degli Studi di Padova, hereinafter referred to as UNIPD, with legal address in via VIII Febbraio 1848, 2, 35122 Padova, Italy, represented by its Rector Prof. Rosario Rizzuto,

AND

National Taiwan University, hereinafter referred to as NTU, with legal address at No. 1 Sec. 4 Roosevelt Road, Taipei 10617, Taiwan, represented by its President Dr. Pan-Chyr Yang.

taking into consideration:

- ✓ their mutual desire to expand scholarly ties and promote mutual understanding;
- ✓ the equivalence of their research and educational mission;
- ✓ the equivalent dimensions and means for achieving these goals;
- ✓ their willingness to further intensifying academic cooperation and especially encouraging the exchanges between universities,

AGREE

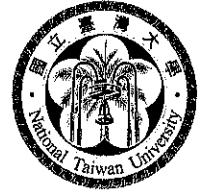
to enter into this Double Degree Agreement that is aimed at encouraging students to follow a defined study path that leads to two recognized Master's degrees, one from the students' Home Institution and one from the Host Institution.

The main objective of the Programme is to train students in the field of Telecommunications.

The proposed Double Degree Programme will be based on a mobility scheme and a joint study plan defined in the following articles.



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## Definitions

“**Home Institution**” shall mean the Party which has sent a student or students to the Host Institution.

“**Host Institution**” shall mean the Party which is receiving a student or students from the Home Institution.

“**Double Degree**” shall mean that students participating in the Programme can have two (2) different degrees, one from each Institution.

## *Article 1- Aim of the Agreement*

This Agreement specifies the rights and responsibilities of both parties and the terms under which students from UNIPD and NTU may be granted, upon successful fulfillment of the Programme and any other requirement for graduation at each institution, to obtain the academic degrees and diplomas of equal academic levels from both Universities.

Both parties agree to the following general rules of cooperation and general requirements for all students participating under this Agreement.

This document is a General Double Degree Agreement that will be implemented with dedicated separate documents attached as Annexes.

## *Article 2 - Legal framework and national qualifications*

UNIPD and NTU undertake to run a double degree study Programme in the field of Communication Engineering based on a second-cycle degree course.

Upon successful completion of the agreed second cycle Programme, the students shall be awarded the following Degrees:

- In Italy: Laurea Magistrale (Master’s Degree) in “ICT for Internet and multimedia”, Classe LM-27, D.M. 16/03/2007. According to the Bologna Process rules and recommendations and the Italian legislation, this degree corresponds to a second cycle degree D.M. 270/2004, Master level (120 ECTS credits), giving access to “Dottorato di ricerca”, a third cycle degree equivalent to a PhD worldwide.
- In Taiwan: The degree of Master of Science in the Graduate Institute of Communication Engineering, National Taiwan University. According to the Article 6 of Degree Conferral Law, Ministry of Education, this degree corresponds to a second cycle degree of Master level, giving access to a third cycle degree equivalent to a PhD worldwide.

## *Article 3 - Structure of the Programme and student exchange plan*

The students will spend the first year of studies at Home Institution and the second year of studies plus an additional period for thesis purposes at the Host Institution.

The language of instruction at both partner Universities will be English.

The study plan for students of both institutions is defined in the Annex I.



If substantial changes will occur in the study Programme of the partner universities, the Annex I may be amended before the beginning of each academic year.

Students must perform exam activities and thesis work at the host institution, according to the study plan defined in the Annex I. Students must prepare, present and defend a final dissertation, according to what specified in the following article 10.

The Host Institution will provide mentoring for each student for the duration of the study period.

#### ***Article 4 - Number of Exchange Students***

The number of students each institution may send and/or accept under this Programme is stated in Annex II of this agreement and it can be yearly modified by mutual consultation.

#### ***Article 5 - Student Selection & Admission***

The admission of students to the Programme will be conducted in accordance with the following principles:

(i) The parties shall agree on the application procedure, including application deadlines and yearly quota of students defined in Annex II.

(ii) Students apply for the Programme after their initial enrollment at their Home Institution for their respective Master's program. Their application to the Programme therefore involves a mobility towards the Host Institution.

(iv) Participating students will be selected and recommended for admission to the program by their Home Institution, based on their academic results, and prerequisite requirements and motivations. The Host Institution reserves the right to review the students nominated for the Double Degree program and to make final admission decisions, to be sent to the Home Institution within the deadline stated in Annex II. The Host Institution shall provide formal letters of admission and other documents for the students to enroll and study in the Host Institution.

(v) Prerequisite for the mobility include that students have successfully completed a necessary number of credits at the home institution. Details are specified in Annex I.

(vi) Language proficiency requirements.

Students wishing to apply to the Programme are generally advised to have good command of English. Prior to spending any period abroad in the Host Institution, students are required to acquire a certification that their level of English can be certified as "Independent user - Vantage or Upper intermediate" - level B2 in the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) for Languages. To certify this proficiency, either of these are acceptable: (i) a statement from the Home Institution guaranteeing that the student has reached the required level; (ii) a certification from a third-party accredited institution (e.g. TOEFL or IELTS) for the required level or higher.

#### ***Article 6 - Rights and Status of the Students***

Students participating under this Agreement shall be enrolled as "degree seeking students." They will have the rights and obligations as all regular students in the respective institutions and will be entitled to participate in any activity that may customarily be arranged for international students at the Host Institution.



### ***Article 7 - Rights and obligations of the parties***

The Host Institution has the right to dismiss any student participating in the Programme at any time, for unsatisfactory academic results and/or for academic or personal misconduct in violation of established regulations. The dismissal of a participant shall not abrogate the agreement for the arrangements regarding other participants.

In case of partially or completely unsuccessful results at the end of the last semester in the host institution, the student will be allowed to extend their stay for a maximum of a further year (two semesters). During these two semesters of extension, the financial conditions will be the same as those provided in the Article 12.

### ***Article 8 - Study Plan and Course of Study***

Each student will propose an individual study plan prepared according to the agreed curriculum for the total duration of the Programme. This study plan will be reviewed and, if needed modified, even after the students have entered the Programme. A written study contract (Learning Agreement) must be established and signed by both institutions prior to the student arrival at the Host Institution. This contract may be revised at any time in written form with seal of approval from the academic representatives of the two institutions.

Detailed conditions regarding the study programme, mobility programme as well as individual student agreements, shall be specified in Annexes I and II.

### ***Article 9 - Control of results***

Partner institutions agree to operate along the principle of "mutual recognition" of exam results and each other's rules and regulations. Examinations are performed at the same University where the Course Units have been attended, and follow local regulations and methods of assessment.

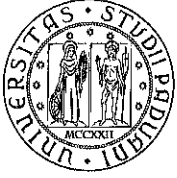
Examination grades at either institution will be automatically converted into valid grades for the other institution according to the conversion tables reported in Annex I.

At the end of the mobility period the Host Institution shall send to the Home Institution a copy of each student's Transcript of Records issued in English. Each institution grants the students credit transfer to the other institution according to the applicable rules, laws and regulations.

### ***Article 10 -Final Thesis***

With the purpose of strengthening the scientific cooperation between both institutions, the Final Thesis will address, whenever possible, problems in areas of common interest to the two institutions. The Final Thesis must be an original contribution, written in English. The development of the Final Thesis will be carried out during the period of time spent by the student in the Host Institution and supervised by one of its official lecturers.

At the end of the thesis project, oral defense of the Final Thesis shall be conducted, with a single



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DI PADOVA



examination performed in English whose outcome and validity will be fully recognised by both institutions, in front of a Thesis Committee including at least one member from each institution; committee members may participate through videoconference. External personnel from outside the two institutions may be invited by the committee with advisory roles. The composition of the committee will comply with the rules of both institutions and must be approved by both institutions.

The defense of the final thesis will be organized by and taking place within the host institution. The procedures for the oral defense will be according to the regulations of this institution. The home institution will recognize the outcome of the defense and insert each graduating student in its records with proper adaptation, noting the thesis has been defended in the host institution.

### ***Article 11 - Delivery of the academic degrees***

Both parties fully and automatically recognize courses, which are developed for the master course, as well as examinations passed at the partner institution, according to Art. 9 of the present agreement.

Upon successful completion of the double degree study programme as defined in the present agreement and validated by the Academic Boards, students will be awarded a Double Degree, according to what specified in art. 2, and a Diploma Supplement.

Each institution will issue its national Diploma and a Diploma Supplement describing the double degree programme followed.

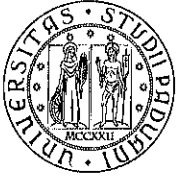
### ***Article 12 - Tuition Fees and other costs***

The Home Institution will ensure that students participating in the Programme have the necessary valid insurance policies before their departure.

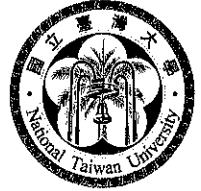
The Host Institution will not require tuition fees to students selected to participate in this Programme, they will keep on paying tuition fees at their Home Institution only, in compliance with local rules. Possible further costs related to academic facilities delivered by external bodies and minor administration expenses, such as for the management of the academic certifications, will be charged directly to the students. The Host Institution undertakes to facilitate the arrival of the students and to put at their disposal all the existing services, accommodation counseling, and study grants, if available. The Host Institution shall provide appropriate assistance in any adjustment to health, cultural, and local customs that may arise.

Students participating in the Programme shall be responsible for the expenses for their own food, accommodation, travel, books, transportation, insurance, passports, visa and other personal expenses. They shall be responsible for obtaining an insurance with coverage of essential medical and non-medical expenses.

Both institutions will provide the students with documents and information for visa purpose in accordance with current laws, although it is the responsibility of the individual student to obtain a visa in a timely manner.



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### ***Article 13 - Academic and administrative representatives***

Both parties undertake to facilitate a constant exchange of information and transparent administrative procedures. The parties undertake to send the required documentation of students taking part in the Programme leading to the awarding of the Double Master's Degree.

Each institution will appoint an academic and an administrative representative for the Programme, as reported in Annex II. These representatives will be responsible for following the Programme and for ensuring that rules stated in this agreement are observed. The representatives will provide advices and other academic and administrative services to students participating under this Agreement. Annex II to this agreement shall state names and contact details of these representatives.

### ***Article 14 - Quality assurance***

The Partner Universities are part of the national university system of their respective countries, as a consequence their activity is evaluated on a regular basis by external certified bodies.

As far as the Double Degree Programme is concerned, an Internal Quality Assurance Protocol will be operating, managed jointly by both Partners.

Student evaluation will be organized.

On the basis of the information gathered the Academic Board will ensure permanent revising, updating, and improvement of the Programme.

### ***Article 15 - Promotion of the Programme***

The promotion of the Programme is the responsibility of both parties.

Each member institution agrees to the use of its name and logo for the purposes of promotional material, Programme literature, and other documentation of the Programme.

### ***Article 16 - Financial obligations***

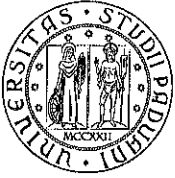
No financial obligations shall arise out of this agreement for either party.

### ***Article 17 - Intellectual property***

The Parties agree that, in the event of research collaboration leading to patent rights, copyrights or other intellectual property rights, a further written agreement shall be negotiated in each case in accordance with the intellectual property policies of the two Parties.

### ***Article 18 - Amendments or changes***

Amendments or changes to this Agreement shall be made in writing and signed by the duly authorised representatives of both institutions.



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**Article 19 -Dispute resolution**

Should any doubt or dispute arise from the interpretation or implementation of the present agreement, the Parties will strive to achieve a solution by mutual consent. Should this solution not be possible, the Parties will choose a third subject to act as a mediator or judge.

**Article 20 - Terms of Agreement**

This Agreement shall come into effect from the academic year 2016/17, and it is valid for five years. Both institutions may terminate this Agreement before its expiry, provided that a written notice of the intent is given at least six months prior to termination.

Commitments already in progress shall be fulfilled, and students enlisted in the Programme will at that time be allowed to complete the degree.

**Article 21 - Copies of the Agreement**

Two originals of the present agreement will be signed, one for each of the signatories of the contract. Each original shall have equal validity.

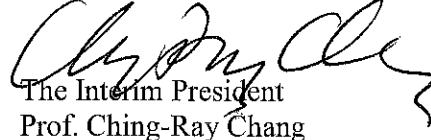
Date 02 OTT. 2017

Aug 04, 2017

For the Università degli Studi di Padova,

For the National Taiwan University

  
The Rector

  
The Interim President

Prof. Rosario Rizzuto

Prof. Ching-Ray Chang



**ANNEX I**  
*to the*  
**Double Degree Agreement between UNIPD and NTU**  
*in the field of Telecommunications*

**Admission Criteria & Study Plan**

**ADMISSION CRITERIA**

According to article 5 of the Co-operation Agreement, the following eligibility criteria must be fulfilled by students applying to the Programme:

**a) For students having UNIPD as their Home Institution:**

- I. To have completed the first cycle of studies (equivalent to a First Level Degree/ Bachelor Degree).
- II. To be regularly enrolled in the Master's Degree Course in "ICT for Internet and Multimedia" at UNIPD, having obtained 60 ECTS credits from a valid plan of study in their curriculum of choice, of which at least 30 ECTS credits must be from "characterizing subjects" (attività caratterizzanti) of the Master Degree of class LM-27

**b) For students having NTU as their Home Institution:**

- I. To have completed the first cycle of studies (equivalent to a First Level Degree/ Bachelor Degree).
- II. To be regularly enrolled in the degree of Master of Science in the Graduate Institute of Communication Engineering at NTU, having successfully passed a total of 18 NTU course credits, equivalent to 60 ECTS credits.

**CONDITIONS TO OBTAIN THE DOUBLE DEGREE**

The double degree agreement is based on a mutual recognition of the activities that students undertake at their Home Institution (UNIPD or NTU) prior to the mobility abroad. Students will follow a studying programme consisting of 2 semesters at the home institution and 2 semesters abroad at the host institution, according to the following study plans (Tables 1, 2.1, 2.2)

**Table 1.- Structure of the Study Plan in order to obtain a double degree**

Home Institution	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year
NTU	18 NTU course credits (equivalent to 60 ECTS)	42 ECTS credits from exams and a Master Thesis by 30 ECTS (equivalent to the second year of NTU's master + 20%)
UNIPD	60 ECTS credits (equivalent to 18 NTU course credits)	12 NTU course credits from exams, and further non-exam activities: a short internship and a Master Thesis (the whole semester is equivalent to 72 ECTS)

Conversion note: the NTU course credits only apply to exam activities. NTU course credits are translated in the ECTS system with a conversion rule of 3 NTU course credits = 10 ECTS credits.

Non-exam activities performed at NTU are also converted to the ECTS system as follows:

- Short internship = 2 ECTS credits
- Master thesis = 30 ECTS credits

Students with NTU as their Home Institution will enroll at UNIPD into one of the following available curricula: Telecommunications, Cybersystems, Photonics, ICT for Life and Health. They will obtain at UNIPD 72 ECTS as detailed in Table 2.1. Students with UNIPD as their Home Institution will follow instead Table 2.2.



**Table 2.1 - Schematic Study Plan for students from NTU to UNIPD**

	ECTS credits
Technical subjects chosen among those listed in the official course catalogue of UNIPD	30*
Free choice Units /Subjects <i>(any course taught at UNIPD to be approved by the academic board; non-Italian native speakers can take an Italian language certification of level B2 or higher, recognized for up to 3 ECTS credits)</i>	12
Final Thesis	30
<b>TOTAL ECTS</b>	<b>72</b>

\* This selection must avoid activities previously gained by courses at NTU. Moreover, for students choosing the "Telecommunications" curriculum, at least 21 ECTS credits must be chosen among "characterizing subjects" (*attività caratterizzanti*) of the Master Degree of class LM-27; for students choosing the "Cybersystems," "Photonics," and "ICT for Life and Health" curricula, at least 21 ECTS credits must be from curriculum-specific activities

**Table 2.2 - Schematic Study Plan for students from UNIPD to NTU**

	Equivalent to ECTS credits
Technical activities chosen among those listed in the official course catalogue of NTU	40*
Short internship	2
Final Thesis	30
<b>TOTAL ECTS</b>	<b>72</b>

\* This selection must avoid activities previously gained by courses at UNIPD.

Should it be necessary, changes to the above list of subjects may be admitted, based on formal approval of the whole study plan approved by the academic boards. A total amount of activities equivalent to 132 ECTS credits will be in any case requested to obtain the double degree.

## DEGREE CONVERSION

Academic results generally follow the 30-point scale Italian grading system for exams at UNIPD and a letter-based grading system for exams of graduate programs at NTU, with 6 possible outcomes: A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-. Some activities may just give a binary outcome (Pass/No Pass). Grades of exams undertaken by the students at either institution will be automatically converted into grades for the other institution as follows:

- Activities with binary outcome (Pass/No Pass): the same outcome will be valid for the other institution
- Activities with a number-scale: the conversion table will be used.

### Conversion from NTU grades to UNIPD grades:

NTU grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-
UNIPD grade	30 e lode	30	27	24	21	18

### Conversion from UNIPD grades to NTU grades:

UNIPD grade	30 e lode	30	29-27	26-24	23-21	20-18
NTU grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-

## ANNEX II

to the

### Double Degree Agreement between UNIPD and NTU in the field of Telecommunications

Duration: Academic Years 2016/2017 to 2020/2021

<b>Università degli Studi di Padova- UNIPD</b>	
<i>Degree programme at UNIPD</i>	ICT for Internet and Multimedia
<i>Degree awarded</i>	Laurea Magistrale in “ICT for Internet and multimedia”, Classe LM-27, D.M. 16/03/2007
<i>Language of instruction</i>	English
<i>UNIPD admission criteria</i>	Bachelor Degree, plus accomplishment of some Master Degree activities according to Annex I
<i>Incoming Students Application Period</i>	February – half of April (in 2017: February 6 – April 26)
<i>Selection Results</i>	Beginning of May (in 2017: May 16)

<b>National Taiwan University – NTU</b>	
<i>Degree programme at NTU</i>	Master of Science of the Graduate Institute of Communication Engineering
<i>Degree awarded</i>	The degree of Master of Science in the Graduate Institute of Communication Engineering, National Taiwan University, according to the Article 6 of Degree Conferral Law, Ministry of Education.
<i>Language of instruction</i>	English
<i>NTU admission criteria</i>	Bachelor Degree, plus accomplishment of some Master Degree activities according to Annex I
<i>Incoming Students Application Period</i>	March – half of April (in 2017: March 1 – April 13)
<i>Selection Results</i>	Beginning of May (in 2017: May 7)

<i>Number of students</i>	2 students per year, each side. The number of students can be early modified by mutual consultation
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<b>CONTACTS</b>	
<b>UNIPD</b>	<b>NTU</b>
<i>Academic Responsible for the Programme</i> <b>Prof. Leonardo Badia</b> Information Engineering Department Via Gradenigo 6B, Padova 35131, Italy <a href="mailto:leonardo.badia@unipd.it">leonardo.badia@unipd.it</a>	<i>Academic Responsible for the Programme</i> Prof. Tzong-Lin WU – Director of GICE No. 1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Road, Taipei, 10617 Taiwan (R.O.C.) <a href="mailto:tlwu@ntu.edu.tw">tlwu@ntu.edu.tw</a>
<i>Administrative</i> International Relations Office Via Roma 38 Padova 35122, Italy <a href="mailto:relazioni.internazionali@unipd.it">relazioni.internazionali@unipd.it</a>	<i>Administrative</i> Office of International Affairs No. 1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Rd. Taipei 10617, Taiwan (R.O.C.) <a href="mailto:oia@ntu.edu.tw">oia@ntu.edu.tw</a>