

TRADITION AND INNOVATION AT THE HEART OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA



CONTACT

International Relations Unit

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UniME
since 1548

INCOMING STUDENT GUIDE



Many times destroyed, many times rebuilt, the ancient Zancle, later called Messanion, was always stubbornly reconstructed in the same natural “arm of land” where wars, earthquakes and destruction changed its look but not its inhabitants’ determination.

History tells us that the City of the Strait was always graced by elegant buildings. Among them was the courtly Palazzata along the port. The first terrible earthquake of 1783 reduced it to dust and the same thing happened in 1908 when there were more than one hundred thousand victims. After this earthquake the new Messina was rebuilt using some anti-seismic systems and a modern urban design.

Nowadays, even if only a few things are left of its ancient heritage, the enchanting restored Cathedral (Duomo) can still be admired in its original form dating back to the 12th century. Close by the Cathedral, you can admire one of Montorsoli’s masterpieces: the Fountain of Orion.

The Cathedral square is the heart of the historical centre. A few meters away, there is the Church of the Catalans in Arabic style and the 19th century Vittorio Emanuele III Gallery.

The most impressive testimony of Messina’s faith and tradition is the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Letter - Madonna della Lettera - the Patroness of Messina. The statue is placed on a tall column at the mouth of the port. The Blessed Virgin Mary of the Letter blesses Messina and all people arriving in or departing from the City of the Strait. In front of the religious statue is the Fountain of Neptune. The synthesis of the historical-artistic patrimony of Messina can be viewed in the Regional Museum which proudly features two magnificent Caravaggio paintings.

For a video presentation of the city of Messina see this link:

<https://youtu.be/GWkHcb3yPGY>





HOW TO GET TO MESSINA

Messina is situated in the eastern part of Sicily, in the south of Italy. Although Messina does not have its own airport, it can be easily reached by flying direct to Catania, Palermo or Reggio Calabria Airports.

Direct Bus Service connections are available from **Catania** Airport (<http://www.saisautolinee.it/regionali.htm>).

There are no direct connections from **Palermo** Airport (info on <http://www.gesap.it/en/aeroporto/arrive-at-the-airport/connections/>); those who fly to Palermo should go to the Central Railway Station to take a train (<http://www.trenitalia.com/tcom-en>) or a bus (<http://www.saisautolinee.it/regionali.htm>).

From the Reggio Calabria Airport to **Villa San Giovanni** see <http://www.cit-tametropolitana.rc.it/servizi/trasporti/chiamabus> and then you should take the ferry-boat to Messina (<https://carontetourist.it/it/caronte/orari-stretto-di-messina-passeggeri>).

Otherwise from the airport of **Reggio Calabria** there is a bus to the Reggio Calabria Port (info on <http://www.atam.rc.it>) and then you should take a hydrofoil to the Port of Messina (https://www.libertylines.it/cms/sw_files/destinazioni/categorie/TASCABILE-REGGIO-MESSINA-E-VV-_72.pdf).



THE UNIVERSITY OF MESSINA

The University of Messina (UniME) is one of the oldest universities in Italy. It was founded by the Jesuits in 1548. The foundation of UniMe dates back to the XIII century with the establishment of a Law School. Over the centuries the University went through turmoil, facing challenges and evolutions. In 1838 the University was finally re-founded by King Ferdinando II.

In its 12 Departments, UniME offers courses in the fields of life sciences, sciences and technologies, human and social sciences. Many undergraduate and postgraduate courses are available.

Useful webpages:

<https://www.unime.it/it>

<https://international.unime.it/>

<https://unime.esse3.cineca.it/Home.do> (registration as UniME mobility student/registration for exams)

Presentation video at <https://www.unime.it/en/university/presentation> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YujaP2pIUo>



Department of Economics



Department of Law



Department of Mathematics



Department of Political Science



Department of Cognitive Science



Department of Medicine



FACTS AND FIGURES (2017-2018)

1.075

PROFESSORS

FOUNDED IN

1548

23.779

STUDENTS

1.709

**GRADUATE
STUDENTS**

77

**DEGREE
PROGRAMMES**

12

DEPARTMENTS

745

**TECHNICAL AND
ADMINISTRATIVE
STAFF**

12

**Ph. D.
PROGRAMMES**

262

**Ph. D.
STUDENTS**

4

CAMPUSES



ACADEMIC OFFER

Detailed list of the degree programmes available at the University of Messina:

- First cycle degrees (*Laurea*) and Second cycle degrees (*Laurea Magistrale*):
<https://international.unime.it/study-with-us/study-courses-in-italian/>
- Degree programmes taught in English:
<https://international.unime.it/study-with-us/study-courses-in-english/>



ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic year is divided into two semesters. Autumn semester usually begins in September and lasts until December, while spring semester courses start in February and finish in May. Exams can be taken at the end of the course attended. Winter exam session: January-February, summer exam session: May-July. Please note that some Departments may have different calendars and differences might exist among the starting dates of the courses.



New graduate students



Students in the Secretary's office



INCOMING MOBILITY

Incoming mobility is crucial to enhance the competitiveness of the University system and to establish the European Higher Education Area in order to ensure a more comparable, compatible and coherent system of Higher Education in Europe.

Available incoming mobility opportunities are:

ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

Students coming from European Union Programme countries (KA103) and European Union Partner countries (KA107) for study/traineeship.

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS MOBILITY

Students coming from Partner Universities on bilateral/multilateral agreements for study/traineeship.



Incoming students



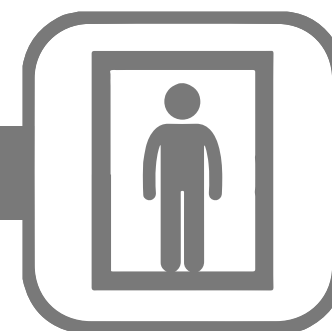
BEFORE ARRIVAL

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE

MOBILITY PROGRAMMES	ERASMUS+ KA103	ERASMUS+ KA107	COOPERATION AGREEMENTS
PROCEDURE	After being selected and officially nominated by your home University, you will receive an e-mail with the necessary information and documents to apply.		International students selected by the foreign partner University should follow the procedure available at the link below.
NOMINATION AND DEADLINES	For the first semester: 30th June For the second semester: 30th November		
LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS	Recommended minimum level: B1 for courses in Italian B1 for courses in English		

Here you can find the application procedure for

- 1 **Erasmus+ KA103:**
for study: <https://international.unime.it/study-with-us/erasmus-incoming-students-for-study/>
for traineeship: <https://international.unime.it/study-with-us/erasmus-incoming-students-for-traineeship/>
- 2 **Erasmus+ KA107:**
<https://international.unime.it/study-with-us/erasmus-icm-incoming-extra-eu/>
- 3 **Cooperation agreements:** <https://international.unime.it/research/international-mobility/incoming-students-on-cooperation-agreement/>



ON ARRIVAL IN MESSINA

Please come to our offices in the city centre, Via Consolato del Mare, 41, 2nd floor, during the opening hours within 3 days of your arrival. You will be assisted in procedures according to the type of mobility you are participating in. You will be given instructions and assistance as necessary to complete all necessary documents related to your mobility period.



BEFORE DEPARTURE FROM MESSINA

Before leaving Messina, please come to our offices again to go through closing procedures according to the type of mobility you are participating in. We will send your Transcript of Records to your Home University and a copy for you by e-mail.



SERVICES AND FACILITIES

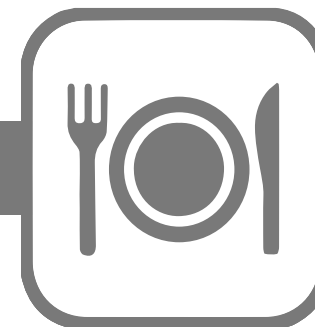


ACCOMMODATION

Living in a student residence hall provides students with a good living situation, close to other students, as well as being near the University. University Residences are located at:

- **ERSU Annunziata Campus**
Contrada Battaglia, SS. Annunziata
- **ERSU Papardo Campus**
Contrada Papardo, Ganzirri (Engineering Department).

Before the start of the academic year, to allow scheduling of arrivals and booking of rooms the request to rent a room must be sent to the Welcome Office (uopwelcomeoffice@unime.it). Since the number of rooms for foreign students and visitors is limited, assignment of rooms is subject to availability.



MEAL CARD FOR UNIVERSITY CANTEENS

International students have access to four main University canteens located in different areas, all close to Departments.

In order to have access to the canteens, students must apply for a CARD available at ERSU (Regional Agency for the Right to Higher Education). The application form for a meal card can be found at our offices.

Here is a list of University canteens:

- 1 Central canteen (Via Ghibellina, 146. Tel. +39 090 3718649)
- 2 Papardo canteen (C/da Papardo, Ganzirri. Tel. +39 090 395317)
- 3 SS. Annunziata canteen (C/da Battaglia, SS. Annunziata. Tel. +39 090 357219)
- 4 Policlinico canteen (Via Consolare Valeria, 1. Tel. + 39 090 2213554)

More information about the opening hours you can find at:

<http://www.ersumessina.it/2018/09/14/comunicazione-per-apertura-mense/>



University canteen



ERASMUS STUDENTS NETWORK

The Erasmus Students Network, an association of former Erasmus students, can help you to find the right private accommodation in Messina. ESN provides regularly updated lists of private flats and houses and helps students in their search (<http://www.esn-messina.it/accomodation>).



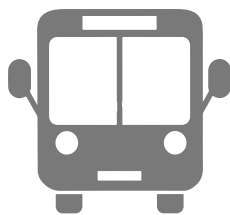
SERVICES AND FACILITIES



OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

You don't need to open an Italian bank account as you can take money from your home country account with your ATM (Automated Teller Machine) card or credit card from any ATM in Messina.

If you want to open a bank account you can do it in any bank/post office with your Italian identification number. If you are a non-EU citizen with a scholarship you need to open an Italian bank account. You will receive more information when you arrive in Messina.



TRANSPORT

University students have the opportunity to take city buses and tram at a reduced price. The UniME offers free shuttle bus services to reach the Annunziata and Papardo Campuses. Transportation timetables are available at the following webpage: <http://www.unime.it/it/studenti/servizi-di-trasporto>.



WI-FI CONNECTION

All University premises are equipped with free wi-fi connection. Please find the procedure on: <https://www.unime.it/en/services/wifi>.



LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS

The UniME has a well-stocked library including the best scientific and academic publications. The on-line integrated library database (S.B.A.) and updated information on academic and research activities and services (LISI-SCOPUS) are freely available at the University website: <http://www.unime.it/it/ateneo/ufficio-relazioni-con-il-pubblico/orari-biblioteche-e-sale-di-studio>.

Each Department has its main library as well as individual departmental specialized libraries.



University library



SERVICES AND FACILITIES



SPORTS FACILITIES

UniME offers a modern and fully equipped sports centre run by the University Sports Centre (CUS-UNIME). Sports facilities promote amateur sports and are among the most advanced in Italy. Students can participate in sports and take courses in all main indoor and outdoor sports. Sports facilities include indoor and outdoor pools, dance room, a large multi-gym area, rugby, baseball, tennis, soccer and hockey pitches, and more.

For further information please visit: www.cusunime.it



DISABLED STUDENTS' SERVICES

The UniME Office for Persons with Disabilities offers technical support to counsellors to improve the access of both undergraduate and postgraduate students with disabilities to courses, facilities, buildings and social life. They also assist the various departments with programming and didactic issues.

The Office also oversees counselling activities of each department counselor as well as the coordination of free transportation. For further information visit: <https://international.unime.it/services-and-facilities/disabled-students-services/>.



ESN MESSINA

ESN Messina offers to all international students many services like the accommodation, incoming, tutor and buddy system into the local university.

The purchase of the ESN card allows you to get many local, national and international discounts, the organization of conferences in the University of Messina and the Welcome day, local, regional and national trips and city tours, events, parties and many other moments of integration such as tandem night and international dinner.

Moreover, ESN provides free pick-up service at Messina railway/bus station at your arrival. You are strongly recommended to contact ESN before your arrival in Messina by e-mail: pick-up@esn-messina.it; messina@esn.it.



Olympic-sized pool



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR EU AND NON-EU CITIZENS



IDENTIFICATION NUMBER AND HEALTH CARD

The Italian Identification number (*codice fiscale*) is a card with a personal code that identifies each person within the Italian State. It can be issued by the Italian Diplomatic/Consular Authority. It can also be issued directly by the Italian Revenue Agency (Agenzia delle Entrate) in Messina. This identification number is necessary to open a bank account, buy an Italian sim card or rent a flat.

Information on how to obtain it can be found at:

<https://www.agenziaentrate.gov.it/wps/content/Nsilib/NSE/Individuals/Tax+identification+number+for+foreign+citizens/>.

The Health card (*tessera sanitaria*) is a personal document issued to individuals entitled to benefits from the Italian National Health Service (Servizio Sanitario Nazionale – SSN). It contains biographical data and an identification number. For more information see: <https://www.agenziaentrate.gov.it/wps/content/Nsilib/NSE/Individuals/Health+card/?page=individuals>.



HEALTH INSURANCE FOR EU CITIZENS

EU students must be sure to have made arrangements for health coverage before arriving in Italy. They need to obtain a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) from their local Health Authority, which enables them to register freely with the Italian National Health Service. Enrolment in the Italian Health Service also entitles students to register with a family doctor and have special discounts: http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/temi/p2_6.jsp?lingua=italiano&id=2560&area=Assistenza%20sanitaria&menu=stranieri.

Alternatively, EU citizens may be covered by a private health insurance policy.



HEALTH INSURANCE FOR NON-EU CITIZENS

Health insurance coverage is required in order to obtain your visa and residence permit. The policy must cover all risks of illness, accident or maternity. You can purchase a private health insurance policy or enrol in SSN (the Italian National Health Service). The registration fee for SSN costs €149,77, and is valid for the solar year (01/01-31/12). You can purchase it at the ASP Office, Via Tommaso Capra, 1 (Palazzo Satellite).

http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/temi/p2_6.jsp?lingua=italiano&id=1764&area=Assistenza%20sanitaria&menu=stranieri.

For private health insurance you can go to any insurance agency or the Italian Post Office.



RESIDENCE PERMIT

Within 8 working days of arrival all non-EU students intending to stay in Italy for more than 90 days must apply for a residence permit for study purposes (*Permesso di soggiorno per motivi di studio*). The residence permit is issued by the local Police Department - “Questura-Ufficio Immigrazione”.

<http://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/10716>.

You can apply directly for the “residence permit for study reasons”, obtaining a kit from any qualified post office (Poste Italiane - Sportello Amico). The kit is an envelope containing the forms and instructions on how to fill them in.

We advise you to go to the authorised C.A.F. office where they will help you start the procedure of obtaining the residence permit. One of the closest is located in Via Grillo, 12.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR EU AND NON-EU CITIZENS



WORKING AS A STUDENT

It is possible for students to work under special conditions. A residence permit for study purposes allows the holder to work for a maximum of 1040 hours per year (20 hours per week) with a contract as an employee (“lavoro subordinato”). For further information, contact local labour unions.



CONTACTS

Welcome Office

Via Consolato del Mare, 41 – 2nd floor
98122 Messina
e-mail: uopwelcomeoffice@unime.it

OPENING HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9:00-12:30,
Monday and Thursday 15:00-16:00

FOLLOW US

