

Final Test

Aims and requirements

The Final Test aims to assess the student's maturity and its ability to elaborate, synthesize and present a topic relevant to the curriculum of studies or the internships experience. The test consists in the oral discussion of a small written paper – whose size is proportionate to the number of credits (6). The topic is to be agreed with a professor who teaches a course attended during the three-year period of study, even if not yet passed, excluding supernumerary exams. In the first semester of each academic year, the School organizes a methodological laboratory to help students in preparing for the final test.

Topic

The topic definition must be submitted through the student's *iCatt* app together with the Laurea application form at least 45 days before the session in which the student is willing to graduate.

Written Paper

The written paper should fulfill the following requirements: minimum 5000 - maximum 12000 words, excluding bibliographic references and any other supplementary materials. It may include data, information, knowledge acquired during internship or through other activities as far as they are recognized by the competent School Committees.

The paper will be written in English; it might be written in a different language with the approval of the reference teacher. In the latter case an English summary must be provided with a length of minimum 500 and maximum 1000 words. The written paper is an integral part of the test, but it will not be permanently archived, except for what possibly required by the current legislation.

Reference Teacher

The topic must be agreed with a Lecturer who becomes the reference teacher for the final paper. The maximum number of students that can be followed by each teacher in an academic year, is established by the School. The student meets the reference teacher firstly to define the topic, the basic materials and the bibliographic sources. If required by the student, two more meetings are guaranteed with the reference teacher, or other academics of the same discipline, acting as the reference teacher's delegates. The first meeting is, in general, devoted to the screening/evaluation of the outline of the paper; the second is devoted to the evaluation of a complete, albeit preliminary, draft of the written paper.

In order to access the final exam, the student must request the authorization of the relevant teacher through the personal *iCatt* page, at least 15 days before the graduation session. To this end, the reference teacher will evaluate the progress of the work and in particular the completeness of the discussion compared to what was foreseen in the originally approved outline. The contents of the written paper define the topics on which the candidate will be called to respond during the discussion.

The final electronic version of the work must be uploaded on the personal *iCatt* page of the student within 8 days before the beginning of the final exam session.

Features of the test

The Evaluating Commission for the Final Test is composed by minimum of three Faculty lecturers, generally including the reference teacher. The time allocated for the student candidate presentation is 5 minutes. A discussion follows the presentation, during which the Commission verifies the candidate's mastery of the topics on which he is called to respond (defined by the written essay) and his ability to critically re-elaborate them.

Evaluation

The Evaluating Commission, on the basis of the discussion and the written report, deliberates the passing of the final test. If the final exam is not passed, it must be repeated in a subsequent graduation session. In this case the Commission will be required to explain the reasons for failure to pass in a short report to be sent to the Student Center (Polo Studenti), as well as to provide the student with adequate information on how to improve his/her preparation and repeat the test in a subsequent session. If the final exam is passed, the Commission assigns a score based on the final test as a whole, giving particular importance to what emerged during the discussion of the essay. Honors, or an additional point if the maximum score of 110 has not already been reached, may be awarded for the particular brilliance shown by the candidate. Additional points may be awarded by the Commission for supernumerary exams, not considered in the determination of the basic average, honors achieved in the exams, international exchange programs (Erasmus, FPA, etc.), other extra- curricular activities, deemed relevant for the characteristics of the degree course. Non-Italian students may be attributed an increase equal in size to that for Italian students' experiences abroad.

Graduation Ceremony

The Graduation Ceremony is held at a later date for all graduates who have passed the final test in a given session.