

ABOUT SSML PISA

Course Catalogue.

Undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in language mediation, translation and interpreting – officially recognised by the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research.

BACHELOR'S

180 ECTS

LAUREA TRIENNALE · 3
YEARS

MASTER'S

120 ECTS

LAUREA MAGISTRALE · 2
YEARS

ACCREDITATION

DM 31.07.2003
DM 09.01.2020

MUR – ITALY

INTRODUCTION

An officially recognised institution for language mediation, translation and interpreting.

La Scuola Superiore per Mediatori Linguistici Pisa is officially recognised by the Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca (Ministry of Education, Universities and Research) and is accredited under Decreto Ministeriale 31.07.2003 and Decreto Ministeriale 09.01.2020 to offer undergraduate (Laurea Triennale) and postgraduate (Laurea Magistrale) programmes, as outlined in this catalogue.

These accreditations ensure the quality of our academic offerings and position us as a leading institution in the field of language education in Italy.

Graduates of SSML Pisa are equipped with strong linguistic and intercultural competencies, developed through sustained, immersive training in multiple languages reinforced by a curriculum that blends academic rigour with real-world application.

Thanks to a hands-on, workshop-based approach and small class sizes, students gain practical experience in translation, interpreting, mediation, and sector-specific language from their first year of study.

The school's close links with businesses and institutions, both in Italy and abroad, offer students ample opportunities for internships, Erasmus+ mobilities, and direct engagement with the professional world. This combination of intensive language study, applied learning, and international exposure ensures that SSML graduates are **fluent, confident, and workplace-ready**.

PROGRAMMES AT A GLANCE

UNDERGRADUATE

Bachelor's in Language Mediation

180 ECTS · 3 years · Five sector specialisations

POSTGRADUATE

Two Master's degrees

120 ECTS · 2 years · International Communications / Conference Interpreting

BACHELOR'S
LANGUAGES

BA · 01

UNDERGRADUATE ENTRY

Three languages, taught entirely by native speakers.

To gain access to the SSML Bachelor's programme, students must pass an entrance exam attesting to a minimum **B2 CEFR level in English** and a **B1 level in one other language** chosen from Chinese, German, French, Russian, Spanish, and Arabic. Students can start any of the Language B options from complete beginner thanks to our preparatory year. Preparatory year students are enrolled for eight semesters instead of six.

~10h

WEEKLY · LANGUAGE A
(ENGLISH)

~10h

WEEKLY · LANGUAGE B
(CHOICE)

2h

WEEKLY · LANGUAGE C
(3RD)

Students at the SSML receive approximately 10 hours of weekly in-class instruction in English and around 10 hours in their Language B, **totalling approximately 400 hours** of in-class time with instructors over the academic year.

In addition to their two main study languages, every student is also required to select a third language (**Language C**) from among Arabic, Chinese, French, Korean, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian or Spanish. These general language and culture courses are designed to take students from absolute beginner to B1 level over their three years of study. Students who have already studied French or Spanish may opt to take courses in these languages to maintain their proficiency, rather than learning a new language.

AVAILABLE B LANGUAGES

Arabic

French

German

Russian

Spanish

Chinese

All SSML language teachers are native speakers of their languages. Students may begin any B language from beginner with the addition of the preparatory year. Language availability subject to annual intake.

AVAILABLE C LANGUAGES

Arabic (Starting from beginner)

French (Starting from B1)

Japanese (Starting from beginner)

Korean (Starting from beginner)

Portuguese (Starting from beginner)

Russian (Starting from beginner)

Spanish (Starting from B1)

Chinese (Starting from beginner)

All SSML language teachers are native speakers of their languages. Language availability subject to annual intake.

SECTOR SPECIALISATIONS

Choose one of five sector pathways alongside your language studies.

01 · BUSINESS & MARKETING

Marketing and Communication

Business communication and marketing strategies, with particular emphasis on digital marketing. Modules in economics, communication psychology, and techniques for managing communication in a globalised context. Prepares students for careers as content managers, communication specialists or marketing professionals in international companies.

02 · FASHION & LUXURY

Fashion and Luxury Export Management

Combines fashion, branding and international luxury trade. Branding strategies, export management, fashion economics, and specialised English for design and luxury. Ideal for careers in luxury export and logistics, fashion marketing, or retail management in the global luxury sector.

03 · TOURISM

Sustainable Tourism Management

For students interested in tourism with a focus on sustainability. Studies in geopolitics, climate change, tourism marketing, gastronomy and wines, and the promotion and development of local heritage and artisan industries.

04 · TRANSLATION & MEDIA

Multimedia and Audiovisual Translation

A creative, technology-focused specialisation covering audiovisual translation, subtitling (including for the deaf and hard of hearing), dubbing, video game localisation and film adaptation. Prepares students for careers as audiovisual translators, subtitlers, or localisers in entertainment and media industries.

05 · DIPLOMACY

International and Diplomatic Relations

Geopolitics, international law, the European Union, diplomatic institutions and negotiation techniques, with modules on global institutions and development strategies. Designed for students aspiring to work in international organisations, NGOs, government ministries or diplomatic services.

**FIRST
YEAR**
BA · Y1

YEAR ONE

Building strong foundations in three languages.

Students who know only Italian and English may take a preparatory

Language A · English

STARTING B2

Language and Translation I FULL-YEAR - 3 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	ENGLISH	6 ECTS
Business Language – Written Communication 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1 CREDIT PER SEMESTER	ENGLISH	2 ECTS
English → Italian Translation 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	EN → IT	2.5 ECTS
Writing 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	ENGLISH	2.5 ECTS
Liaison Interpreting English ↔ Italian FULL-YEAR	EN ↔ IT	2.5 ECTS
Debate FULL-YEAR	ENGLISH	2.5 ECTS

Language B · Arabic/Chinese/French/German/Russian/Spanish

STARTING B1 OR PRE-A1

Language and Translation I 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 3 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	LANGUAGE B	6 ECTS
Business Language – Written Communication 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1 CREDIT PER SEMESTER	LANGUAGE B	2 ECTS
Language B → Italian Translation 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	B → IT	2.5 ECTS
Writing 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	LANGUAGE B	2.5 ECTS
Liaison Interpreting Language B ↔ Italian FULL-YEAR	B ↔ IT	2.5 ECTS
Debate FULL-YEAR	LANGUAGE B	2.5 ECTS

Language C · Culture & language

ARABIC, JAPANESE, KOREAN, PORTUGUESE, RUSSIAN OR CHINESE (PRE-A1) · FRENCH OR SPANISH (B1)

Language and Culture I FULL-YEAR	LANGUAGE C	6 ECTS
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**SECOND
YEAR**

BA · Y2

YEAR TWO

Language for the tourism sector and your first experience of consecutive interpreting.

Language A · English		B2→C1
Language and Translation II 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 3 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	ENGLISH	6 ECTS
Tourism Language 1ST AND 2ND SEMESTER - 1 CREDIT PER SEMESTER	ENGLISH	2 ECTS
English → Italian Translation II 1ST AND 2ND SEMESTER - 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	EN → IT	2.5 ECTS
Italian → English Translation II 1ST AND 2ND SEMESTER - 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	IT → EN	2.5 ECTS
Consecutive & Simultaneous Interpreting FULL-YEAR	EN ↔ IT	4 ECTS
Debate FULL-YEAR	ENGLISH	1 ECTS
Language B · Arabic/Chinese/French/German/Russian/Spanish		B1→B2
Language and Translation II 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 3 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	LANGUAGE B	6 ECTS
Tourism Language 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1 CREDIT PER SEMESTER	LANGUAGE B	2 ECTS
Language B → Italian Translation 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	B → IT	2.5 ECTS
Italian → Language B Translation 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER - 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	IT → B	2.5 ECTS
Consecutive & Simultaneous Interpreting FULL-YEAR	B ↔ IT	4 ECTS
Debate FULL-YEAR	LANGUAGE B	1 ECTS
Language C · Culture & language	ARABIC, JAPANESE, KOREAN, PORTUGUESE, RUSSIAN OR CHINESE (A2→A3) FRENCH SPANISH (B1→B2)	
Lingua e Cultura Lingua II FULL-YEAR	LANGUAGE C	6 ECTS

Language A · English		STARTING C1
Language and Translation III 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER · 3 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	ENGLISH	6 ECTS
Business Language, Public Speaking, Negotiation & Communication 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER · 1 CREDIT PER SEMESTER	ENGLISH	2 ECTS
English → Italian Translation 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER · 1.25 CREDIT PER SEMESTER	EN → IT	2.5 ECTS
Italian → English Translation 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER · 1.25 CREDIT PER SEMESTER	IT → EN	2.5 ECTS
Consecutive & Simultaneous Interpreting FULL-YEAR	EN ↔ IT	5 ECTS
Language B · Arabic/Chinese/French/German/Russian/Spanish		B2→C1
Language and Translation III 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER · 3 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	LANGUAGE B	6 ECTS
Business Language, Public Speaking, Negotiation & Communication 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER · 1 CREDIT PER SEMESTER	LANGUAGE B	2 ECTS
Language B → Italian Translation 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER · 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	B → IT	2.5 ECTS
Italian → Language B Translation 1ST & 2ND SEMESTER · 1.25 CREDITS PER SEMESTER	IT → B	2.5 ECTS
Consecutive & Simultaneous Interpreting FULL-YEAR	B ↔ IT	5 ECTS
Language C · Culture & language	ARABIC, JAPANESE, KOREAN, PORTUGUESE, RUSSIAN OR CHINESE (A3→B1) · FRENCH OR SPANISH B2→C1	
Language and Culture III FULL-YEAR	LANGUAGE C	6 ECTS
General modules		MANDATORY FOR ALL STUDENTS
Linguistics FULL YEAR - FIRST YEAR	ITALIAN	6 ECTS
Contemporary Italian Literature FULL YEAR - SECOND YEAR	ITALIAN	6 ECTS
Internship 100-150 HOURS	–	4 ECTS
Research Thesis	–	8 ECTS

SPECIALISATION MODULES

Sector-specific courses in addition to the language curriculum.

Marketing and Communications

Economics of Small & Medium Enterprises
ITALIAN 6 ECTS
SEMESTER I

Corporate Communications
ITALIAN 6 ECTS
SEMESTER II

Marketing for Small & Medium Enterprises
ITALIAN 4 ECTS
SEMESTER III

Marketing for International Business
ENGLISH 4 ECTS
SEMESTER IV

Web Content & Social Media Marketing
ENGLISH 5 ECTS
SEMESTER V

Psychology of
ITALIAN 5 ECTS

International Relations & Diplomacy

Geopolitics, Climate Change & Political Instruments
ITALIAN 6 ECTS
SEMESTER I

EU Law and Regulations
ITALIAN 6 ECTS
SEMESTER II

Diplomatic & International Institutions
ENGLISH 4 ECTS
SEMESTER III

Fashion & Luxury Export Management

English for Fashion, Food & Design
ENGLISH 6 ECTS
SEMESTER I

Economics of Small & Medium Enterprises
ITALIAN 6 ECTS
SEMESTER II

Italian Luxury Market & its Target Countries
ITALIAN 4 ECTS
SEMESTER III

Branding Luxury Products
ITALIAN 4 ECTS
SEMESTER IV

Luxury Sector Management
ITALIAN 5 ECTS
SEMESTER V

Marketing of Luxury Goods
ITALIAN 5 ECTS

International Law
ITALIAN 4 ECTS
SEMESTER IV

Strategies for Intl. Economic Development
ITALIAN 5 ECTS
SEMESTER V

Negotiation Techniques & Diplomatic Style
ENGLISH 5 ECTS
SEMESTER VI

Students select one sector specialisation. All specialisation courses are semester-long.

TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING CURRICULUM

BA · FOCUS

SPECIALISED PROGRESSION

From general writing to specialist translation and interpreting in real professional domains.

Each semester of the three-year programme is dedicated to a specialist field. Students work on technical and specialist texts from the same domain across their translation and interpreting modules, regardless of their chosen language combination.

Y1

GENERAL INTEREST AND TOURISM

Y2

TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE, TECHNICAL FIELDS, MARKETING, AND BUSINESS COMMUNICATION

Y3

POLITICS, JOURNALISM, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, LAW, AND HEALTHCARE

FIRST YEAR · FOUNDATIONS

Audience-aware general translation and liaison interpreting

Students begin with informative and non-specialist texts for a general readership and from the tourism sector developing accuracy, coherence, register control, and expressive fluency.

SECOND YEAR · APPLIED DOMAINS

Technology, marketing and business

Students move into bidirectional translation, consecutive interpreting and simultaneous interpreting into Italian with texts from commercial, technological, scientific and technical fields.

THIRD YEAR · ETHICS & RESPONSIBILITY

Sensitive, technical and high-impact texts

The final year focuses on politically nuanced, journalistic and institutional texts, legal texts and translation and interpreting in medical contexts. Students work on precision, ethical responsibility, risk awareness, accessibility and professional standards.

Translating and interpreting texts from a wide variety of genres goes beyond language and terminology training. It equips students to become highly adaptable lifelong learners with advanced analytical and decision-making skills.

SEMESTER-BY-SEMESTER FOCUS

A structured path through increasingly specialised domains.

YEAR 1 · SEMESTER 1

General interest

Introduction to translation for a general readership, with focus on functional equivalence, core strategies, sentence-level accuracy and paragraph coherence.

YEAR 1 · SEMESTER 2

Travel and tourism

Writing, translation and interpreting practice supported by text analysis, genre awareness, stylistic flexibility and control of tone and register.

YEAR 2 · SEMESTER 1

Science, technology, and technical fields

Translation and interpreting of technological discourse, with emphasis on terminology, evolving lexis, digital resources and clear transfer of technical information.

YEAR 2 · SEMESTER 2

Economics, marketing and business communication

Commercially oriented texts, advertising copy, product descriptions, corporate communication and digital marketing, with focus on transcreation and brand voice.

YEAR 3 · SEMESTER 1

International affairs, geopolitics, law and journalism

News, editorials, policy documents and institutional communication, with attention to framing, bias, loaded language, accountability and ethical translation choices.

YEAR 3 · SEMESTER 2

Medical and healthcare translation

Patient information, clinical reports, research summaries and public health communication, with focus on terminology, clarity, confidentiality and risk awareness.

LAUREA MAGISTRALE

Master's Programmes.

Two tracks for graduates seeking advanced specialisation in international communication or conference interpreting – each built around English as the mandatory main language and a second language of the student's choice.



TRACK 01

International Communications, Business & Marketing

For professionals working in global and multicultural contexts.

TRACK 02

Conference Interpreting & Interpreting for Institutions

Advanced training in simultaneous, consecutive and liaison interpreting.

MA 01

TRACK ONE

COMM.

International Communications, Business & Marketing

This Master's programme trains professionals in international communication, preparing them to work in global and multicultural contexts. **English is compulsory** alongside a second language chosen from French, Spanish, German, Russian or Chinese. The curriculum covers cross-cultural communication, international business, marketing, media relations and project management. **Career outcomes** include positions in multinational companies, international cooperation agencies, multicultural support services and organisations engaged in international relations.

YEAR ONE

Cross-Cultural Communication for International Business

International Business Communication SEMESTER 1	EN / B	3 + 3 ECTS
Consumer Behaviour & Marketing Communication SEMESTER 1	EN / B	3 + 3 ECTS
Corporate Communication SEMESTER 2	EN / B	3 + 3 ECTS
Media Relations SEMESTER 2	EN / B	3 + 3 ECTS
Liaison Interpreting · Italian ↔ English / Target Language FULL-YEAR	IT ↔ EN/B	12 + 12 ECTS
Methods & Technology for Translation and Interpreting SEMESTER 1	ITALIAN	3 ECTS
Documentary & Terminology Research Methods SEMESTER 2	ITALIAN	3 ECTS
Professional Language Practice: Ethics, Branding, Client Relations SEMESTER 1	ENGLISH	3 ECTS
Business Across Borders SEMESTER 2	ENGLISH	3 ECTS

YEAR TWO

Cross-Cultural Techniques for International Organisations (EN) SEMESTER 1	ENGLISH	6 ECTS
Cross-Cultural Techniques – Target Language SEMESTER 1	LANGUAGE B	6 ECTS
Project Management SEMESTER 1	ENGLISH	3 ECTS
Public Speaking SEMESTER 1	ITALIAN	3 ECTS
Diplomatic & International Institutions SEMESTER 1	ENGLISH	3 ECTS
Semester Abroad or Internship	–	27 ECTS
Research Thesis	–	12 ECTS

MA 02

TRACK TWO

INTERP.

Conference Interpreting & Interpreting for Institutions

Advanced training in interpreting, combining linguistic competence with subject-specific knowledge. Students receive practical experience in **simultaneous, consecutive and liaison interpreting**. English is mandatory primary language alongside a second language selected from French, Spanish, German, Russian or Chinese. **Career outcomes** include simultaneous and consecutive interpreting for conferences, international meetings and public events and liaison interpreting in various settings.

YEAR ONE

Interpretation Labs	ENGLISH & LANGUAGE B	
Consecutive Interpreting Lab · Italian → English / B FULL-YEAR	IT › EN/B	3 + 3 ECTS
Consecutive Interpreting Lab · English / B → Italian FULL-YEAR	EN/B › IT	3 + 3 ECTS
Simultaneous Interpreting Lab · Italian → English / B FULL-YEAR	IT › EN/B	3 + 3 ECTS
Simultaneous Interpreting Lab · English / B → Italian FULL-YEAR	EN/B › IT	3 + 3 ECTS
Liaison Interpreting Lab · Italian ↔ English / B FULL-YEAR	IT ↔ EN/B	12 + 12 ECTS
Methods & Technology for Translation and Interpreting SEMESTER 1	ITALIAN	3 ECTS
Documentary & Terminology Research Methods SEMESTER 2	ITALIAN	3 ECTS
Professional Language Practice: Ethics, Branding, Client Relations SEMESTER 1	ENGLISH	3 ECTS
Cognitive Load and Stress Management for Interpreters SEMESTER 2	ENGLISH	3 ECTS

YEAR TWO

Consecutive & Simultaneous Interpreting Lab (English) SEMESTER 1	ENGLISH	6 ECTS
Consecutive & Simultaneous – Target Language SEMESTER 1	IT / B	6 ECTS
Project Management SEMESTER 1	ENGLISH	3 ECTS
Public Speaking SEMESTER 1	ITALIAN	3 ECTS
Diplomatic & International Institutions SEMESTER 1	ENGLISH	3 ECTS
Semester Abroad or Internship	–	27 ECTS
Research Thesis	–	12 ECTS

INTERNATIONAL-
ISATION

MOBILITY & PARTNERSHIPS

An international academic institution with partners across Europe and beyond.

SSML Pisa is committed to the internationalisation of its programmes and the development of a global academic community. The institute currently maintains **partnerships with over 30 institutions** across Europe and beyond, and it is a priority for us to grow the number of partner institutions we work with.

Each year, **over 50 of our students** participate in study abroad opportunities, and students from around the world choose to study at SSML Pisa to enhance their linguistic, intercultural and professional competencies in preparation for work in language mediation, international business, diplomacy, marketing and tourism.

30+

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS IN EUROPE & BEYOND

50+

SSML STUDENTS ON EXCHANGE ANNUALLY

9

LANGUAGES TAUGHT AT THE SCHOOL

FOR INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Detailed information for Erasmus and exchange students – deadlines, nominations, application procedures – is set out in our **Fact Sheet** and **Welcome Pack**. The school provides full guidance on accommodation, student services and academic resources.

ACCREDITATION

Officially recognised by the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research.

INSTITUTION	Scuola Superiore per Mediatori Linguistici di Pisa
STATUS	Private, officially recognised higher-education institution
ACCREDITING BODY	Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca (MUR)
BACHELOR'S DECREE	DM 31.07.2003
MASTER'S DECREE	DM 09.01.2020
ERASMUS CODE	I LUCCA 02
OID	E10090900
ECHE	2021 – 2027



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Get in touch.

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