Master of Arts in
International Security Studies
MISS
Based on a multidisciplinary approach, the Master's Degree in International Security Studies (MISS) aims to produce a new generation of graduates able to meet contemporary national and international security challenges. The MISS is offered jointly by the School of International Studies (SIS) of the University of Trento and the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies - Pisa.

The programme is designed to provide high-level education for students in preparation for careers as analysts, consultants and policymakers or for further academic research. The course equips students with a firm knowledge of core security issues and emerging threats faced in the international arena; former students hold positions within the areas of security, public policy, and international relations.

Foundation areas of the MISS include security, law, politics, history, and economics. Thanks to an innovative learning approach, students are expected to acquire the theoretical tools and the practical skills necessary to identify and understand the various factors and actors having an impact on the global order, with specific reference to security issues.
Programme overview

Degree awarded
Two-year Master’s - “Laurea Magistrale” - in International Security Studies

Workload
The total workload for each student is 120 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System)

Intake
September each year

Duration
2 years full-time

Language
English

Class size
Up to 25 students

Fees and funding (approximate range)
- EU: 340€ - 3.400€ (based on income/merit)
- Non-EU: 1.000€ - 4.500€ (based on merit)
- Income/merit based scholarships and tuition waivers available
Requirements
- Bachelor’s degree (or equivalent) including at least 60 ECTS from at least two of the following discipline areas: History and Philosophy, Economics, Law, Political Science, Sociology or Foreign Languages
- English at B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages
- A personal background with professional and vocational experience as well as academic qualifications appropriate to the interdisciplinary nature of the degree course
- Good knowledge of a second foreign language among the following: Arabic, Chinese, French, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, German

Application deadlines
(check online for updates)
- February for non-EU citizens living outside Italy
- June for EU citizens and non-EU citizens regularly living in Italy

Selection criteria
- Assessment of previous studies and their coherence with the programme
- Academic curriculum
- Statement of purpose
- References

How to apply
- Access the online application form
- Upload the required documents
- Submit your online application by the deadline
- Check online for more information and updates: www.unitn.it/miss

Admission
Study Plan

First year
Students spend the first year at the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies - Pisa, where teaching is focused on the main issues concerning security, including hard and soft security, technological security, environmental security, and human security.

Second year
The second year is based at the School of International Studies in Trento, where students take a closer look at the specific security challenges modern societies face, such as migration, energy issues, environmental degradation, financial flows, armed and other violent conflicts. During the second year, students are strongly encouraged to spend a period abroad for research purposes, to prepare their dissertation and to pursue a dissertation-related internship.
MISS students are encouraged to attend a lively series of guest lectures and seminars held by academics of international standing, talks given by distinguished professional practitioners working in international organisations, conferences and round table debates, Alumni meetings, career fairs, and soft skills workshops.

In addition, thanks to a number of dedicated partners, MISS students are encouraged to apply for internship programmes with organisations operating in a European or international sphere, whether based in Italy or abroad.
Career opportunities

MISS graduates will possess the skills and qualifications necessary to:

• Hold positions of responsibility within European and international institutions and organisations engaged in security, peacekeeping, and state-building activities
• Work in private organisations dealing with risk prevention and risk management
• Work in national ministries and enter the diplomatic service
• Work for governmental and non-governmental organisations engaged in areas such as institution-building, project management, humanitarian assistance, local development and reforms, security risk prevention and management.

For those intending to continue their studies, the programme provides a solid basis for admission to PhD programmes in international studies and in disciplines related to international security.