

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROSPECTUS



**UniSR**

VITA-SALUTE SAN RAFFAELE UNIVERSITY

**EVERYTHING STARTS FROM HERE**





## WELCOME TO VITA-SALUTE SAN RAFFAELE UNIVERSITY

Vita-Salute San Raffaele University is a private not-for-profit university and one of the most prestigious Italian universities always at the top of the most important rankings for quality of education. Its uniqueness lies in the full integration of research, practical activities and teaching that has characterized its degree programmes from the beginning also thanks to its close relation with the San Raffaele Research Hospital, one of 18 health institutions of the San Donato Hospital Group. This allows the university to offer its students an unrivalled learning experience. Excellence has always guided the university and has brought to the choice of admitting a limited number of students, through rigorous entrance examinations, in order to guarantee an effective working relationship between the teaching staff and students. Everything takes place in a setting intended to foster the holistic growth of students with personalized curricula, a close student-teacher dialogue, the development of the ability to analyze one's own field and to care for others, the habit of staying up-to-date and reflecting on delicate contemporary topics (death and suffering, bioethics, environmental ethics, business, politics, etc.) and a course curriculum that is able to balance learning requirements with the need to pay attention to personal inclinations and vocations.

## LOCATED IN MILAN AT THE HEART OF EUROPE

Vita-Salute San Raffaele is based in Milan, the most international Italian city where every year thousands of international students decide to live and study. Milan is Italy's financial capital, a modern city in the north of Italy whose architecture is in constant renewal. It is full of history, art and museums visited every year by tourists from all over the world. International services and facilities are being empowered every day as Milan turns into the international capital of Italy well connected to all of the most important Italian and foreign cities through high speed trains, low cost and international airline companies in three different airports. Milan is close to the Alps and to the Lake of Como and Lake Maggiore offering visitors the opportunity to visit wonderful places within just a hour's ride. The area where the UniSR campus is located is well connected with public transportation to the city center. The University is in the east part of the city, close to Linate Airport and just few kilometres away from the city center. The San Raffaele campus is also close to suburban municipalities and residential areas surround the site offering nice neighbourhoods with lots of parks and green areas. A unique campus, offering an unrivalled position for a medical school in the heart of a hospital and research complex with all facilities at a walking distance. With the very latest teaching facilities and with a friendly atmosphere the campus offers something for everyone.

## THE SAN RAFFAELE HOSPITAL - OSPEDALE SAN RAFFAELE (OSR)

San Raffaele Hospital is a Healthcare Institution and Research Centers established in the 1970s and is now part of the San Donato Hospital Group, the largest private healthcare group in Italy. It is highly specialized in every kind of illness, whether it be the most common or the rarest of emerging conditions. The San Raffaele Hospital is a national reference centers for molecular medicine, diabetes and metabolic diseases, as well as biotechnology and bio-imaging. The Hospital dedicates many of its resources to the treatment of cancer, cardiovascular diseases and numerous acute and chronic-degenerative diseases. San Raffaele also has a highly specialized Accident and Emergency Department that serves a vast area.

## THE SAN RAFFAELE SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE (SRSI)

Scientific research at San Raffaele covers virtually all fields of biomedical research and spawns from a variety of activities that are performed in different Divisions, Institutes and Research Centers. The integration of basic, translational and clinical research aimed at providing the best assistance for our patients is what characterizes the SRSI environment. Moreover, numerous partnerships with some of the most important research centers in the world contribute to make SRSI widely renowned. SRSI also holds a significant number of licenses and patents through which research results are brought to the patient more efficiently.

### QUICK FACTS ON OSR

- Accredited with the National Health Service 1,400 beds
- Receives more than 60,000 inpatients per year
- More than 25,000 surgical operations per year
- Serves more than 7 million outpatients

### QUICK FACTS ON SRSI

- Covers an area of 130,000 m<sup>2</sup>
- 1163 scientific publications total production in 2015
- Total impact factor in 2015: 6.465,668
- Recognized as IRCCS in 2001 and specialized in Molecular Medicine





## HISTORY AND FACULTIES

Vita-Salute San Raffaele University opened in 1996 with the Faculty of Psychology, followed by the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery in 1998 and the Faculty of Philosophy in 2002.

## THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY

The “mind” is the Faculty of Psychology’s field of study: the course curricula concentrate on the biological foundations of psychic activity, on affective and cognitive mental functions and processes, on the structure and construction of personality and on the world of interpersonal relationships. The Faculty of Psychology relies on the research facilities of the San Raffaele hospital (in particular for the neurosciences field) and on the San Raffaele Turro Department of clinical neurosciences, which has become a reference point for psychiatric assistance.

## THE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY

The Faculty of Philosophy of Vita-Salute San Raffaele University aims at interpreting philosophy as concrete thought from an interdisciplinary and pluralist perspective. Philosophy is thought of as a way to interpret the issues and challenges of the modern world and to plan for the future and the University’s programme explores the ethical and political issues fundamental to a modern, globalized, multicultural and technological society that is characterized by scientific progress. Master programmes and PhD courses are offered in both faculties.

## THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY

The Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of Vita-Salute San Raffaele University is an advanced and modern school of medicine, open to the scientific world and to the evolution of knowledge in scientific fields. Furthermore, training doctors in how to relate to their patients is also fundamental. From the very beginning of their study programmes, students have the opportunity to experience the advanced help provided by the IRCCS San Raffaele hospital and with the high quality research that is undertaken within the organization. The added value of the San Raffaele “system” (scientific institute, hospital as part of the San Donato Hospital Group and university) comes from the possibility of transferring data from research to patients immediately. Advanced teaching, students’ participation in assistance and research, internationalization and interdisciplinarity are the main strengths of the Faculty.

### UniSR FACTS & FIGURES

- Fully accredited University located in Milan
- Quality Certified
- Total enrollment: 2,800
- International students coming from more than 20 countries
- Free Italian language courses for foreign students
- 15:1 undergraduate Faculty/Student Ratio
- 6 Graduate Courses
- 6 Undergraduate Courses
- 2 English Taught Courses
- Masters and PhD programs
- 27 Medical Specialization schools
- Part of the Erasmus+ Program
- Part of the GHLO<sup>®</sup> network



## FACILITIES AND SERVICES

A unique campus, offering an unrivalled position for a medical school in the heart of a hospital and research complex with all facilities at a walking distance. With the very latest teaching facilities and with a friendly atmosphere the campus offers something for everyone.

Students will benefit from the facilities including:

- Modern purpose built lecture halls
- Rooms for specific training activities (small groups, patient simulators, mannequins)
- Skills labs (for practical activities)
- Computer rooms with dedicated teaching software
- Study and consultation rooms

Library with more than 20,000 printed medical text books and access to several thousands of electronic journals.

It offers a large and well-lit reading room with spaces for online research and two study rooms. The paper document collection can be accessed directly by users and over the years. The library boasts of the cutting-edge discovery tool Summon.

## And from opportunities and daily life services:

- University Sports and cultural activities
- Wi-Fi connection throughout the campus
- Canteens, restaurants and bars
- Supermarket on campus
- Discounted private dental and medical practice in San Raffaele Hospital
- Parking

Vita-Salute San Raffaele University has two dedicated student halls called Cascina Melghera and Cassinella which are part of the cultural project and educational offer of the University. They are newly reconstructed typical Lombardy farmhouses comprising single en-suite rooms and offering weekly cleaning and fresh linen service. There are more than 170 rooms among the two Residences and application to each is regulated by a regulation. The UniSR Residences offer a fully equipped gyms and common rooms where students can gather to study or for leisure activities and where they can live an enriching community life.





## GOING INTERNATIONAL

### The UniSR International Office

The UniSR International Office is the main contact for all issues related to Internationalization within the University; from international cooperation agreements to student and staff mobility through the Erasmus+ Program but not only. The International Office is the referent for international students interested in applying to the University. It offers support to foreign students for registering to the admission competitions, obtain the necessary visa for coming to study in Italy and the residence permit once enrolled. It also helps students select their preferred accommodation option and gives general assistance on everyday issues for non-Italian speakers such as choosing and renewing health insurances or applying to the national health system, opening a bank account, dealing with personal issue such as rental contracts, bills, internet connections and much more.

## ERASMUS +

Vita-Salute San Raffaele is part of the EU Erasmus+ Program. Students registered to the courses within UniSR can participate to the Erasmus competition calls for a study period abroad in another Erasmus+ partner Institution and according to the regulations of each degree course. The Traineeship Mobility (ex- Placement) gives students also the opportunity to undertake an internship in a foreign country, in companies, institutions, foundations or other organizations, with the support of a scholarship which helps students to partially cover mobility expenses. The internship is fully recognized from an academic point of view.

## WORLDWIDE CONNECTIONS

Vita-Salute San Raffaele is also part of the GHLO®, Global Health Learning Opportunities, a program of the AAMC – American Association of Medical Colleges which streamlines the application procedure for medical students of the final year interested in clinical, global health, and research electives worldwide. UniSR Medical Students can search and apply for electives all over the world and benefit from the opportunities offered by the network of collaborating institutions.



When I first got to Milan, I didn't know anyone and I had no knowledge of the Italian language, however this seemed like the perfect starting point to build my new career from scratch. In addition to the academic experience, in Italy I have found much more than I could imagine and today Milan means home to me, in this city I didn't just make friends but I've found a huge family!

By the time I graduated from High school, I made the decision to pursue a career in medicine. Since I was interested in continuing my studies in Europe, I started searching for a university hospital with a national and global reputation conducting a program in English. San Raffaele offered what I was looking for and its International MD Program became my first choice. From the early preclinical years, I started to appreciate the dynamic scientific research environment as we were lectured by influential clinicians and scientists who introduced us to the new discoveries coming out of San Raffaele research centers. This always inspired me and boosted my motivation to continue on this path and deepen my knowledge. As soon as we started the clinical years, I had a great exposure to clinical and practical medicine. The medical staff of San Raffaele Hospital strongly involved me in their daily activities.

***San Raffaele offers a lot more than just medical education. This University gave me the chance to develop the skills necessary in my future career, providing high-quality courses and teaching, modern facilities, and supporting students throughout their learning experience.***



**MOAD AL AIDROOS.** YEMEN - INTERNATIONAL MD PROGRAM. CLASS OF 2017





**ALYSSA VECCHIO.** USA - INTERNATIONAL MD PROGRAM - CLASS OF 2018



The International MD Program at San Raffaele is unique in its education and community. The curriculum is becoming a hybrid of the European and North American medical education in a classroom with students from around the world. The WHO ranked the Italian health care system second in the world, so I believe it is a wonderful environment to study medicine. We have small class sizes that allows for a personalized education – whether that means a stage in the ward or extra questions at the end of a lecture. Both international students and Italian students with global ambitions have a home here at San Raffaele.

The diverse student body is truly a highlight of this program and you will find yourself with friends from all corners of the world. Plus, the opportunity to live and study abroad allows you to learn more about yourself as you integrate into a new environment. Whether you decide to practice medicine in Europe or in your country of origin, ***San Raffaele introduces you to a spectrum of perspectives to prepare you to implement your work in any scenario.*** For students excited about the prospect of studying at one of the leading university in Europe with the chance to meet a series of future colleagues/mentors and to pursue your studies abroad, I think you will find a home here as UniSR as well.





## ENGLISH-TAUGHT COURSES IN UNISR

### The International MD Program

The International MD Program was inaugurated in 2010 as one of the first international medical programs offered in English in Italy. This program is specifically designed for training international physicians able to provide core “global” competencies necessary for the safe, effective and ethical practice of medicine around the world. Thanks to a collaboration with an external independent third party, our students get familiar with the main platform used for most common foreign licensing examinations and are tested twice a year on all subjects of the preceding year(s).

Clinical rotations and practical activities are scheduled starting from year three and are carried out in the renowned San Raffaele Hospital. Part of the clinical activities can be organized abroad especially during the last terms of the program as specific training for the students’ final graduation thesis.

Graduates from the International MD Program are awarded an M.D - Doctor of Medicine – degree recognized by the European Union, the World Health Organization, the British General Medical Council and by the US Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG®)

### Admission to the International MD Program

Admission to the International MD Program is based on selection through the University’s admission test, which is mandatory for all candidates. The test is a one-hundred logic and problem-solving questionnaire with questions on Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Maths. A limited number of places are available each year with specific quotas reserved to EU and Non EU Citizens. Candidates are ranked according to the score obtained in the test and admitted to enrolment until all places are occupied. No other exam or high school scores can be for admission since only the test results make the final rankings. The dedicated competition call is published before each intake and contains all details on dates, testing sites, deadlines, fees and requirements.

Candidates who have completed high school and have minimum 12 years of education can participate to the admission competition. Students with pre-medical and bachelor degrees must sit the admission test as well and may request an evaluation of their prior academic studies once enrolled. An English language knowledge certificate corresponding to level C1 is mandatory as well for students not coming from all English taught schools. Direct transfer requests can be evaluated only for students who are enrolled to Medical schools.





## The master's degree in Cognitive Psychology in Health Communication

The MSc in Cognitive Psychology in Health Communication is a new program, which offers training in Cognitive Psychology, Neuroscience and Communication, and is jointly offered by the Institute of Communication and Health of Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) and the Faculty of Psychology of Vita-Salute San Raffaele University. This program has a duration of two years and is a graduate level course.

It is designed to train students who will understand the causes of health-related behaviour and who will be able to design new and effective interventions to prevent disease and promote health focusing on the intersection between the theoretical bases of cognitive psychology and those of communication applied to the context of health. Students who choose this specialization will get a strong biological, methodological and statistics training, gaining also knowledge in management. The entire program takes advantage of the synergies between the two Universities and offers a high level of innovation thanks to the advanced technologies available on both sites in terms of high-tech equipment, data centers, laboratories, and healthcare facilities. Graduates from this program will work in clinics and governmental health organizations, NGOs or other health domains and will be trained for designing new and effective interventions to prevent disease and promote health.

## Admission to the master's degree in Cognitive Psychology in Health Communication

Candidates interested in applying must possess a Bachelor's degree in Psychology granted by a recognized university. Classes are small and admittance depends on the final grade of the Bachelor degree in Psychology. Non-English native speakers or students whose previous studies were not carried out in English must also possess an internationally acknowledged English language certification. Applications are managed by Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) and a specific regulation with deadlines and requirements is published on both university's websites at the opening of applications.

## Master's degree in Biotechnology and Medical Biology

This 2-Year MSc in Biotechnology and Medical Biology bridges theoretical knowledge to hands-on training in biological research, with an emphasis on biological processes underpinning human physiology and pathology. As the English language is nowadays an essential requirement for worldwide communication, all teaching activities as well as the final dissertation that the students will be writing and discussing will be conducted in English. Obviously, all students will be trained in reaching what we consider a final goal and will enjoy ample help to progress from an intermediate proficiency in English (necessary to pass the entrance test) to a level of professional communication.

Our Graduates will be exposed to an intensive training in the research laboratories of the San Raffaele Scientific Institute (or in linked institutions in Italy and abroad) culminating in the discussion of a written dissertation. Thus, our Graduates will be led through a short yet complete research project; they will personally know what and why to look for, how to design a research project, how to generate and interpret data, and how to communicate their results to other researchers, through both oral and written presentations in English. Our teaching methodology encourages students to take active responsibility for their own learning; "student-centered" and "self-directed" learning are the keywords for this approach. Thus, top-down learning is complemented by a bottom-up learning aiming at solving issues arising during the research project.

## San Raffaele research environment

The unique research environment of the San Raffaele Scientific Institute provides students with the most stimulating and interdisciplinary conditions to study and conduct research as it promotes encounters of people and massive flows of ideas. Together with our University, the Institute reunites in the same campus the Ospedale San Raffaele, an internationally recognized center of excellence in numerous areas of biomedical research, also part of the San Donato Group, one of the most prominent research centers and hospitals in Europe. Nearly all of our Graduates are in paid employment or paid training within a few months after their thesis dissertation, either in biotechnological or pharmacological companies, or in the PhD in Molecular Medicine of our University or in other programs in Europe, North America or Asia.

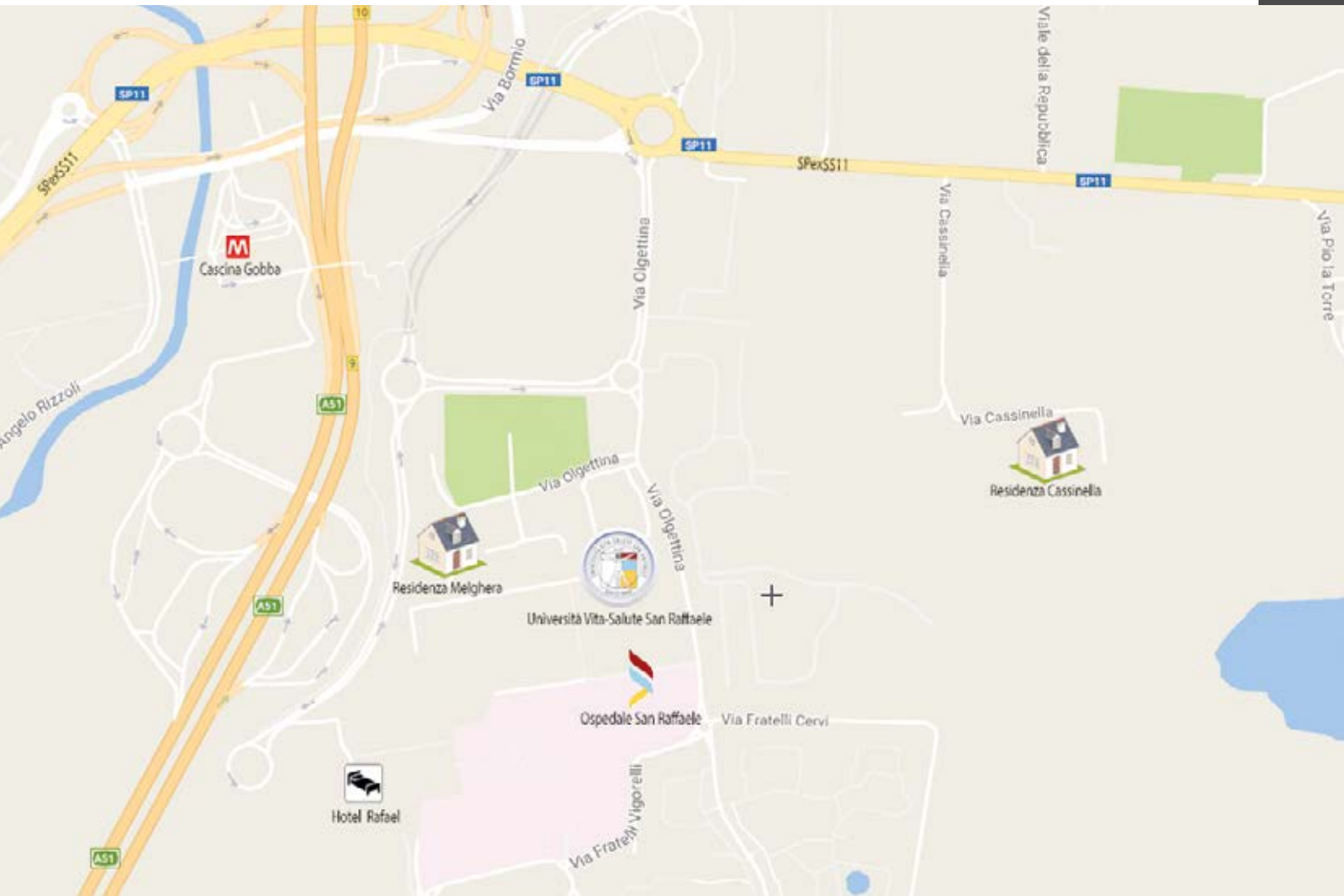
## Admission to the master's degree in Biotechnology and Medical Biology

Candidates interested in sending in their application for this course must possess a Bachelor's degree in Biology or Biotechnology granted by a recognized university. There are 60 places available. Admittance depends on the results of an admission test delivered in English and based on the understanding of a short scientific article.

## Admissions: Foreign Titles and Study Visas

Acknowledging that each degree program has different admission procedures, the minimum requirement for applying to the MSc degrees is to possess a Bachelor's degree in the indicated subjects. The minimum requirement for participating to the International Medical Degree program is to possess a high school diploma (International Baccalaureate/ A-Levels/ Maturità/etc) and have at least 12 years of education. All foreign (non -Italian) degrees and high school certificates must be translated and verified by the local Italian Diplomatic Authority who will release the Declaration of Validity needed for enrolling once admitted. If you are a non-European citizen, you will also have to request a Study Visa and go through the pre-enrollment procedure, as envisaged by the regulation on Study Visas by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Candidates are personally responsible for obtaining the necessary documentation and travel documents before enrolling to any course within UniSR.







## HOW TO REACH US

Vita-Salute San Raffaele University is in 58, Via Olgettina – 20132 Milan and can be reached as follows:

- With public transportation: Cascina Gobba stop on the underground MM2 (Milan Metro Line 2) and then the direct shuttle train (which requires an additional ticket) or the bus n° 925 towards Milano Due and San Raffaele.
- By car: from the eastern ring road ( Tangenziale est), Cascina Gobba exit.
- From Linate airport: Atm 923 bus to H.S. RAFFAELE or a 10 minute taxi drive.
- From Malpensa airport: A 50 minute taxi drive or a train or “Malpensa Express” shuttle to the Cadorna or Central Station then MM2 (Milan Metro Line 2), Cascina Gobba stop and then the direct shuttle train (which requires an additional ticket) or the bus n° 925 towards Milano Due and San Raffaele.
- From Orio al Serio airport: a 40 minute taxi drive or the Autostradale or Shuttle buses and then MM2 (Milan Metro Line 2), Cascina Gobba stop ) and then the direct shuttle train (which requires an additional ticket) or the bus n° 925 towards Milano Due and San Raffaele.

## OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICES AND ADMISSIONS

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