

Università degli Studi di Roma "Tor Vergata" DIPARTIMENTO DI ECONOMIA E FINANZA 00133 Roma - Via Columbia, 2



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1. The Bachelor of Arts in Global Governance – *as you can see from our Courses described in the booklet* - offers interdisciplinary teaching, which aims to prepare professionals to face global challenges that require specific legal and socio-economic competencies, as well as a wide range of technical and scientific knowledge and soft skills to manage cultural integration, mediation and team dynamics. Do you have similar Bachelor's programs at your University? What is your personal opinion about such type of (Liberal Arts and Sciences) programs?

So, my first opinion is a very positive one. I work in interdisciplinarity and believe that research cannot live in separate compartments. I am going to use the word that I do not really like but, any advancement or development, or, better, elaboration in research cannot happen if there is no interdisciplinarity, and this is so in any field - in so-called hard sciences and the humanities as well. I do not think that any legal or socio-economic matters are understandable without cultural issues, for instance.

Do we have a similar B.A. in our university? No, not in that sense. We have a classical Political Science program, and also there is an Economics department, but there is nothing quite similarly overarching.

2. One of the main goals of the 3-year B.A. in Global Governance is to support the academic education of our students with a series of professional training so as to better identify their potential work opportunities after they graduate. For this reason, Global Governance encourages training programs and internships within institutions, firms, and organizations, both in Italy and abroad, selected on the basis of their prestige and quality of the experience. Do you think that these activities are important for the placement of our students in a University/Master program like yours or is it too early to do them during a Bachelor?



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No, I do not think it is too early. It is very important to realize what is expected from an intern or whoever [takes up a position]. I think that at anytime the student feels ready, they should do it. I teach in a university where a lot of students before starting university have not been abroad or had any similar experiences, and they are generally less likely to go abroad and do all these things. So, sort of "pushing" them is a good thing.

3. Global Governance is implementing the so-called "Mentors Project". The main purpose of the project is to provide advice to students regarding choices on future studies and/or careers by putting them in touch (throughout the duration of the course) with a professional for advice and counsel. Does your University/program use Mentors or something similar to enrich your students' knowledge of the world? If so, are they effective?

I'd say that it looks less like the European university system and more like the American one. First of all, you have the relevance of the alumni, which remains quite unexplored in the Italian universities. I think it is important to get a glimpse of what their future could be. In our university, we do not quite have the same system, we have mentors but they are us, professors. We have this for Erasmus students to encourage them to integrate. So, peer-to-peer mentoring is definitely useful.

4. In order to help our students select an appropriate academic pathway to follow after they have completed the B.A. in Global Governance, the course offers three majors to choose from: Economics and Philosophy; Political Science, Law and History; Science and Technology. Do you think it is advisable to offer majors, or in other words, subject areas that students specialize in, in a Bachelor Degree? Would you give a greater attention to a candidate from one of those three paths or would you look only at other dimensions of their Bachelor studies? In case yes, which one of the 3 majors?

So, Political Science, Law, and History would be the closest one to my area of expertise. My research also centers on literature, so it is very deeply rooted in humanities and cultural studies. I believe that early-on specialization is not very useful, because in the first or even the second year, students might not still have a clear idea of what they want to do. But at the same time, I think that choosing an area and then writing a thesis on it helps one better orient in the field and understand what they actually will be doing later in the future. It is a pretty good strategy, I assume.

5. Do you think that the Global Governance graduates that the course intends to train will be in demand by the labour market and/or University graduate programs over the next ten years? If not or only partly, what do you think is missing?

So, as I've mentioned before, my idea of education is very interdisciplinary. Each area has its ramifications and directions, so I welcome programs that incorporate different areas. I honestly do not know whether the labor market has a place for them [people with interdisciplinary



knowledge] within Italy on an international level. I think, in the international market, they would be doing better than in Italy, but this is just my impression, at least for now.

6. What are the competencies, skills, and abilities that in general your University (or, if applicable, your Master) cherishes in an applicant?

I teach both at Bachelor's and Master's levels, as well as Ph.D. I would say, for the Master's degree, anybody can apply, but we obviously have tests to get in, and one needs to make up for whatever they lack. So, one of the skills that is valued is a linguistic one, definitely. Also, for instance, for the Master's in International Relations and Organizations, students do need to have a good competence in law and legal matters. These are the two skills that are most required, but also basic knowledge of economics is useful.

7. Do you think that the Global Governance graduates that the course intends to train may perform well in graduate programs at your University? Please specify the names of the programs.

So, yes, definitely the Master's in International Relations and Organizations, but we also have one in Political Science.

8. What kind of extra training would you offer to our Bachelor students so that their skills and competencies can better respond to the requirements of the graduate programs at your University?

I would assume that the most desired outcome of such an academic path would be a diplomatic career. This, of course, requires just linguistic skills (so, at least 2 languages) but also the type of skills that are probably not taught in universities. For example, problem-solving, group management, and so on. Our universities in Italy do not really give you such skills like group work and leadership, competencies in practical skills in general. Also, if they want to go and work in international cooperation, NGOs, and similar, they still need these [skills].

9. Would you suggest any specific/special activity/project carried out in undergraduate programs at your University that could be included in the Global Governance BA?

This year of the pandemic has had a detrimental impact on on-campus activities. However, we had interesting collaborations with lecturers in the past, but then with COVID-19, it is put on hold. Maybe, I am not aware of some activities because we have spent the past year studying solely online, so it is challenging to connect to students. Also, this means that all the extracurriculars had to be held online. But I will let you know if I remember or find out about some!



10. Would your University be interested in an Erasmus/Overseas program with the Global
Governance BA? If yes, are there any specific prerequisites or competences that our
studentsshouldhaveinordertoparticipate?

As our university is located in Naples, this notion is not quite relevant. But we would like to explore other opportunities for collaboration.

11. Please report here any other comment or suggestion regarding the structure and contents of the Global Governance BA