

MIT - Second Level Master's Degree in Innovation and Knowledge Transfer

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Director

Professor Giuseppe Catalano
Milan Polytechnic

Professor Riccardo Pietrabissa
Milan Polytechnic, NETVAL

Dr. Giancarlo Michellone
AREA Science Park

Scientific Coordination

Paolo Landoni
Milan Polytechnic
Phone: +39 022399 3973
Email address: paolo.landoni@polimi.it

Didactic Coordination

Milena Bortolotto
AREA Science Park

Chiara Del Balio
NETVAL

Head Offices

Via Lambruschini, 4
Building 26/A
20156 Milano

AREA Science Park
Padriciano, 99
34012 Trieste

www.mip.polimi.it/MIT

Organizational Coordination

Antonietta Ardisia
MIP Milan Polytechnic
Phone: +39 02 2399 2872
Fax: +39 02 2399 2867
Email address: ardisia@mip.polimi.it
Website: www.mip.polimi.it/sum

Mia Tomad
AREA Science Park
Phone: +39 040 375 5157
Email address: mia.tomad@area.trieste.it

Dissemination and growth of research and development, innovation and technology transfer in the Italian entrepreneurial fabric requires an evolution of all involved subjects and a higher degree of flexibility of the system to favour active cooperation.

On one hand, centres for innovation and technology transfer need to increase their specific skills to suit the industry, become more oriented to demand and actually capable of acting as intermediaries.

On the other hand, the world of research needs to continue on the path of redefinition of its internal management, emphasising the capability of innovating, implementing objective-based management and adopting managerial skills and instruments.

Ultimately, enterprises need to recognise their need to open up to all the subjects involved in the system to maximise their innovation potential.

In this perspective, the concept was born for **MIT - Second Level Master's Degree in Innovation and Knowledge Transfer**, aiming at providing advanced knowledge on the issues concerning the management of innovation, research and development, project-management, intellectual property and technology transfer.

The concept arises from the awareness of the importance of innovation, particularly of technological innovation, in a knowledge-based economy and from the request for professionals capable of enhancing the importance of these issues both within private enterprises and in the public administration, and capable of relating the world of public research with research and development departments within enterprises.

On completion, besides a deeper awareness of their role, of their development potential and of the opportunities for improvement within their organizations, participants will have acquired suitable behavioural, organizational, technological, administrative, project-management, evaluation and relational skills.

The Target

The ideal targets are postgraduate individuals actively working or intending to work in enterprises operating in fields involving a high degree of research and development or in technologically advanced areas and open to the issues of research, innovation and cooperation with other public and private organizations.

Ideal prospective participants are, furthermore, postgraduate individuals working or intending to work for universities and public research centres and in their structures dealing with the management of research and of technology transfer, as well as those working for organizations actively dealing with intermediation between the worlds of research and of enterprises or contributing in designing relevant policies and measures.

Teaching methods

Teaching methods are based on efficient learning and accurate time management. Specific attention is furthermore focused upon the involvement of participants and real interaction with teaching staff.

To develop project-management, evaluation and negotiation skills, great importance is given to active teaching methods and to opportunities for individual and group elaboration, with activities focusing on case studies, analyses of significant issues and elaboration of relevant strategies.

A web-based portal will be furthermore made available to participants, including forum and chat facilities, FAQ pages, contents, research and sharing of documents.

A constant monitoring of the learning achievements through ongoing assessment completes the teaching strategy.

Project Work

The MIT Master's Degree is designed to provide skills and support for the development of a real project of innovation.

As part of the training and based upon the knowledge and skills acquired in the courses, participants are required to develop a project of innovation (the so-called *Project Work*) directly connected to the real operational needs of the organization they work for or to issues considered as crucial for their professional development.

The Project Work has a strategic function and highlights the specific value of the offer. Support activities are envisaged to provide guidance and support in its planning and implementation.

After discussing their Project Work at the end of their studies, participants are granted the *MIT - Second Level Master's Degree in Innovation and Knowledge Transfer*.

Duration

Courses will be held between November 2009 and July 2011, with 350 hours of lectures. Lectures, training, case studies and meetings with professionals will be held at the facilities of the MIP Milan Polytechnic and will be subdivided into modules lasting two to three days once a month as follows:

Thursdays and Fridays from 9.00 to 18.00 and Saturdays from 9.00 to 13.00

Part of the lectures is organised as a Summer School at AREA Science Park in Trieste.

The first year (November 2009 – September 2010) provides the fundamentals for the management of innovation and of technology transfer.

Participants will be granted by MIP Milan Polytechnic a Diploma - Postgraduate Specialization Course for Innovation Brokers (B.INN.) - envisaging 30 CFU.

Attendance is mandatory and, in order to graduate, at least 80% is strictly required.

Following ongoing assessment, discussion of the Project Work and a positive final evaluation of all activities carried out, the second year ends with the granting of the *MIT - Second Level Master's Degree in Innovation and Knowledge Transfer* by the MIP Milan Polytechnic, envisaging 60 CFU.

Participants who have carried out documented relevant training, including an evaluation of the achieved learning objectives, may apply to have a number of CFU acknowledged, up to a maximum of 10 and be therefore exonerated from part of the lectures.

Such requests will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee.

Fees

Fees amount to 11,000 Euro (excluding VAT), payable in two yearly instalments, the first of 6,500 Euro, the second of 4,500 Euro.

The fees include enrolment in MIP Milan Polytechnic (500 Euro).

Participants are offered the opportunity to benefit from *Intesabridge* (low interest rate loan facility) and from financial support offered to individual participants by the Regions within the ESF funding programmes for the training of employees of the public administration.

A number of scholarships are also going to be made available by private and public institutions, covering fees totally or partially.

The granting of said scholarships will be based upon a selection of the participants. Information on number of scholarships, offering institutions and how to participate in the selection procedures is available at www.mip.polimi.it/MIT .

Organisational Structure of the MIT Master's Degree

FIRST YEAR

Introduction to the context
Basic skills
Transversal skills
Operational and professional skills

SECOND YEAR

Knowledge of the context
Advanced skills
Advanced transversal skills
Advanced operational and professional skills

Project Work

MODULES

FIRST YEAR

Introduction to the context – Introduces the research system in its most significant features, the main actors and their functions

Basic skills – Focuses on the fundamentals of research management, technology transfer and innovation in enterprises and in the world of public research.

Transversal skills – Has the objective to develop transversal skills with respect to the worlds of enterprises and of public research, in relation to intellectual property, project management, communication and negotiation.

Operational and professional skills – Provides knowledge and competence as well as professional and operational methods in the management of innovation and technology transfer.

SECOND YEAR

Knowledge of the context – Introduces the policies for the research and innovation systems and their perspectives for evolution.

Advanced skills – Focuses on advanced skills in relation to patented research results, management of cooperation, fiscal aspects and litigations.

Advanced transversal skills – Has the objective of providing advanced transversal knowledge concerning enterprises and public research (management control, evaluation of investments, process management, etc.)

Advanced operational and professional skills – Provides advanced knowledge and professional methods for the management of innovation and of technology transfer (business plan, business intelligence, funding, etc.)

Strengths of the MIT Master's Degree

- It is the first Master's Degree in Innovation and Knowledge Transfer;
- It provides the knowledge and managerial skills to manage technology transfer, research & development and innovation
- It promotes the acquisition of real methods for intervention as well as theoretical foundations for a suitable understanding of the context
- It favours cooperation and integration of significant experiences (*good practices*) with the intent to achieve improvement
- It has a strong orientation to demand and specialization of the offer, based on the specific competences of AREA Science Park and of NETVAL (Network of Italian Universities for the Development and Exploitation of Research)

Scientific Committee

Dr Corrado Antonini
President of Fincantieri and of the
Association of Industrialists of Trieste

Professor Giovanni Azzone
Deputy Rector of Milan Polytechnic

Professor Riccardo Bianchi
Rector of the University of Ferrara

Professor Giuseppe Catalano
Director of SUM, Milan Polytechnic

Professor Vittorio Chiesa
Milan Polytechnic

Dr Giuseppe Colpani
General Director, AREA Science Park

Professor Alberto De Toni
University of Udine, President of Agemont

Dr Giancarlo Michellone
President of AREA Science Park

Professor Francesco Peroni
Rector of the University of Trieste

Professor Giorgio Petroni
Rector of the University of San Marino

Professor Andrea Piccaluga
Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

Professor Riccardo Pietrabissa
Milan Polytechnic, President of NETVAL

Professor Gianluca Spina
Milan Polytechnic, Director of MIP

Dr Stephen Taylor
Technology Transfer Department
AREA Science Park

Professor Roberto Verganti
Milan Polytechnic

Vincenzo Zezza
Centre of Competence Manager
"Industrial Policies for Enterprises" – IPI
Institute for the Promotion of Industry

Admission

Admission to the *MIT - Second Level Master's Degree in Innovation and Knowledge Transfer* is subject to a selection procedure based upon individual curricula vitae and interviews held at MIP Milan Polytechnic in the month of October 2009.

Applications should be sent by registered mail and received within the mandatory deadline of September 30th 2009, stating "**MASTER in Innovation and Knowledge Transfer (MIT)**" and be previously forwarded by email or fax to the Secretariat (Antonietta Ardisia – phone: +39 02 2399 2872, email address: ardisia@mip.polimi.it)

A good knowledge of English and being computer literate are essential features for admission. Admission is limited to a set number of candidates to guarantee an optimal development of the activities. A minimum number of 20 participants is required.

The brochure can be downloaded along with the application form for admission at: www.mip.polimi.it/MIT and can be requested to the Secretariat.

MIP, the Business School of Milan Polytechnic, has been since 1979 one of the most prestigious centres for postgraduate lifelong learning for all fields of knowledge, with an orientation to management and to the world of enterprises.

Together with the Department of Management Engineering, MIP is part of the Milan Polytechnic School of Management, including all research and training activities in the fields of management, economics and business studies and industrial engineering.

The School of Management for Schools, Universities and Research Centres (SUM), established by MIP, deals with management training for managers in state and privately run schools, universities and research centres.

SUM is intended to be an opportunity to develop and disseminate management innovations appropriate to the specificity of the above institutions.

AREA Science Park is the main multi-sector scientific and technological park in Italy and among the most important at a European level. The AREA Science Park Consortium was established in 1978 to manage the first scientific park in Italy, also created in the same year. Next to prestigious research laboratories, several scientific institutions and enterprises can be found here. The core of the entire system is the AREA Science Park Consortium which MIUR (the Italian Ministry for Education, University and Research) appointed First Level Research Centre in 2005 and over the years has extended its scope to a series of activities with a high added value, including the management of high level qualified training initiatives for entrepreneurs and managers, internationalization and technology transfer. It is in the mission of the Consortium to develop the scientific park as a territorial innovation system, aiming at improving the competitive growth of the regional enterprises, contributing to the competitiveness of the industry through actions of technology transfer and dissemination of innovation, development of industrial clusters and enhancing knowledge through relevant training programmes.

NETVAL is the network of Italian universities for the development and exploitation of research. Reduction in public funding for research in universities and a growing sensitisation to patenting for the transfer of research results lead to the creation of the first Network for the exploitation of the results of research carried out within universities in 2002.

In 2007, NETVAL became an Association with the main goal to disseminate information regarding technology transfer through initiatives aimed at creating networks to involve technology transfer offices within universities, sharing instruments and strategies, organizing meetings and events and specific training courses.

NETVAL intends to be an intermediary between the world of research and the industry, suggesting and studying specific instruments to favour the transfer of research results from the laboratory to the market.

31 universities participated at first in establishing the network, later their number increased and reached 44 in September 2008.

Netval is the Italian association partner of ProTon Europe.

MIP - Consortium for Innovation in the Management of Enterprises and in the Public Administration

Via Garofalo, 29
20133 Milano

Phone +39 02 2399 2820
Fax: +369 02 2399 2844

www.mip.polimi.it
segreteria@mip.polimi.it