



**Internal Double Degree in BIOMEDICAL and MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING
a.y 2025/2026**

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Internal Double Degree in BIOMEDICAL and MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

1. Foreword

In recent years the demand for professionals with more transversal skills and technical competencies has become very evident. These features cannot be offered by a single conventional master degree programme.

Starting from the year 2011 the idea of joint programmes was introduced at Politecnico di Milano and new roadmaps for joint Double Degrees (DD) have been established in order to combine complementary skills and to culturally widen the current degree programmes.

The general objective of this approach is to fully exploit synergies and complementarities among different master degree study plans, to make educational offer more flexible and better matching the dynamics of the industrial world.

2. Overview on the internal Double Degree in BIOMEDICAL and MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

The internal Double Degree in Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering (iDD-BME) aims at capturing the emerging needs of the Italian and European biomedical industries, which are strategic and relevant in the biomechanical field.

In particular, such sector, in order to compete within international markets, is looking for a new professional figure able to integrate the typical skills of a biomedical engineer with the key technical competencies of a mechanical engineer.

Such objective could be achieved by the cultural closeness of the two programmes, which present several commonalities, although showing specific differences that can, nonetheless, be easily compensated through a joint programme.

The focus of *Biomedical Engineering Programme* is providing students with a solid background in engineering methodologies and technologies applied to medical and biological problems, with particular reference to the analytical description, simulation and analysis of systems and signals of medical – biological interest, to the study of biomaterials, devices and instrumentation for the diagnosis, therapy, substitution of organs and rehabilitation, to the knowledge of patient management, support structures, IT systems and the relevant ethical criteria. In particular the Master degree is organized in 5 tracks:

- Clinical Engineering,
- Electronic Technologies,
- Biomechanics and Biomaterials,
- Engineering for Cells, Tissues and Biotechnologies
- Information Bioengineering.

The mission of the *Mechanical Engineering Programme* is to train professionals with a solid foundational base, a good scientific method and broad technical and applicative knowledge. A mechanical engineer, being involved in the design, optimization and management of products, systems and production processes, must reach a sound preparation in design and testing methodologies, numerical simulation, manufacturing processes, automation and control, material properties and related selection criteria, fluid mechanics and transformation of energy in a machinery. The students of the MSc programme in Mechanical Engineering can choose between eight different study plans:

- Production Systems,
- Mechatronics and Robotics,
- Virtual Prototyping,
- Internal Combustion Engines and Turbomachinery,
- Advanced Mechanical Design,
- Advanced Materials and Technologies,
- Ground vehicles,
- Machine Tools and Manufacturing Systems.

The track of Biomaterials and Biomechanics of the Biomedical course, presents many common methodological and applicative aspects with the Mechanical Engineering programme.

The iDD-BME offers a unique opportunity to exploit the main benefits from both approaches, thus fulfilling the existing gaps in the two specific programmes.

The integration of Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering programmes stems from such needs, thus aiming at developing a professional technician, with a solid industrial technical background, well matched with a biomedical vision, thus being really appealing for the biomedical industries that develop products in the field of biomechanics.

3. Learning objectives

The study plan of the Master degree in Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering is aimed at producing an advanced professional profile for an expert in biomechanics.

The Biomedical-Mechanical Engineer coming from the DD programme here described acquires during the three-year course a combination of knowledge featuring a sound background on applied disciplines of engineering, together with wide scientific skills on biomechanics in order to:” know how to design complex systems and manage processes by exploiting at the highest level modern industrial biomechanics”.

This new professional figure would be welcome by the industrial world with great favour since in many technical fields, not only those concerned with research and innovation, biomechanical engineers are required with expertise combining mechanical engineering and biomedical science. Figures about employment in recent years, clearly show that in private industry both profiles are highly recognized and it can be reasonably supposed that a professional combining both profiles acquired through the DD programme would be sought and appreciated.

4. The study plan

A total of 180 credits over three years must be gained to obtain the DD in Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering. Students will therefore need to select courses in excess with respect to the standard Master of Science programme (120 credits over two years). The applicants have to enrol in the M.Sc. in Biomedical Engineering or in the M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering, and then present a – formal – individual study programme comprising the credits that will be gained in the third year.

Considering the current study plans of the individual master degree courses and the specific requirements set by the Degree Classes of the Italian Ministry of Education, it is expected that the students coming from one of the two individual study plans would develop a multidisciplinary graduation thesis covering topics that are typical of both the study programmes at the end of the second year and during attendance of the third year. The Master

degree titles will be achieved first in the course of enrolment and then in the other course, once 180 credits will be gained.

The overall DD study plan should be considered as a set of accurately customised tracks aimed at supplying to a Mechanical Engineer all the fundamental knowledge required for an additional master degree in Biomedical Engineering (MEC-BIO study plan) and to a Biomedical Engineer those required for an additional master degree in Mechanical Engineering (BIO-MEC study plan).

The development of an interdisciplinary thesis (to be carried out at end of the second year and during the third year) has to be considered as a joint activity. The project should address topics related to both fields of Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering, and will be supervised by two professors from the two Master degree courses.

5. Structure of the study plan

The study plan is developed and specifically customized for Biomedical Engineering students wishing to expand their expertise in Mechanical Engineering (BIO-MEC track) and for Mechanical Engineering students with specific interests in Biomedical Engineering (MEC-BIO track). The structure of the study plan is illustrated in detail in the following table. It consists of 40 CFU of grounding courses (depending on the student's Bachelor degree), which are followed by a common track consisting of courses taken both from BIO and MEC M.Sc programmes.

| | Students from BIO Bachelor degree (BIO-MEC) | CFU | Students from MEC Bachelor degree (MEC-BIO track) | CFU |
|------------------|--|------------|---|------------|
| Grounding | 063689 - LABORATORIO DI PROGETTAZIONE MECCANICA (II sem) | 8 | 059055 - BIOLOGIA E FISILOGIA (I semestre) | 9 |
| | 086453 - MECCANICA DELLE VIBRAZIONI (II sem) | 6 | 083122 - PROGETTAZIONE DI ENDOPROTESI [C.I.] (I sem) | 10 |
| | 063561 - MACCHINE (II sem) | 9 | 054287 - BIOINGEGNERIA CHIMICA [C.I.] (I sem)/ 054290 - BIOELETTRROMAGNETISMO E STRUMENTAZIONE BIOMEDICA [C.I.] (I sem) | 10 |
| | 062376 - TECNOLOGIA MECCANICA (II sem) | 10 | 061929 BIOMECCANICA (I sem) | 10 |
| | 086468 - IMPIANTI MECCANICI (I sem) | 7 | | |
| | TOTAL GROUNDING | 40 | TOTAL GROUNDING | 39 |
| | 083061 - COSTRUZIONI BIOMECCANICHE (II) | 10 | 059215 - ADVANCED MACHINE DESIGN (II sem) | 10 |
| | Table BIO | 58 | Table BIO | 56 |
| | Table MEC | 55 | Table MEC | 55 |
| | Master Thesis | 20 | Master Thesis | 20 |
| | TOTAL | 183 | TOTAL | 180 |

Table BIO

| | Title | CFU | Sem | Students from BIO Bachelor degree | Students from MECC Bachelor degree |
|--|--|------------|------------|--|---|
| | 058183 - PHYSIOLOGICAL CONTROL SYSTEMS | 6 | 1 | 6 | |
| | 059796 MOTOR SYSTEM REHABILITATION | 6 | 2 | | |
| | 058279 RESPIRATORY SYSTEM: MODELING METHODS AND TECHNOLOGIES | 6 | 2 | | |
| | 096233 - MATHEMATICAL AND NUMERICAL METHODS IN ENGINEERING [I.C.] | 12 | 1 | 12 | -- |
| | 083122 - PROGETTAZIONE DI ENDOPROTESI [C.I.] | 10 | 1 | 20 | 30 |
| | 059252-SPORTS BIOMECHANICS AND EVALUATION OF HUMAN PERFORMANCE | 10 | 2 | | |
| | 096253 - FENOMENI DI TRASPORTO NEI SISTEMI BIOLOGICI | 10 | 1 | | |
| | 083047 - BIOMATERIALI [C.I.] | 10 | 2 | | |
| | 054297- LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS | 10 | 2 | | |
| | 052372- NEUROENGINEERING [C.I.] | 10 | 1 | | |
| | 096236 - MECHANICS OF BIOLOGICAL STRUCTURES | 5 | 1 | 5 | |
| | 062453-METODI E STRUMENTI DI VALUTAZIONE FUNZIONALE | 5 | 2 | | |
| | 073011 - BIOINGEGNERIA DEL SISTEMA MOTORIO | 5 | 1 | 5 | |
| | 054960 - BIOMACHINES | 5 | 2 | | |
| | 052379 - LABORATORIO DI CARATTERIZZAZIONE DEI TESSUTI | 5 | 1 | 10 | |
| | 054302 - BIOMATERIALS AND INSTRUMENTAL ANALYSIS LABORATORY | 5 | 1 | | |
| | 052375 -COMPUTATIONAL BIOMECHANICS LABORATORY | 5 | 1 and 2 | | |
| | 052377 - LABORATORIO DI COSTRUZIONI BIOMECCANICHE | 5 | 2 | | |
| | 052387 - FUNCTIONAL EVALUATION LABORATORY | 5 | 2 | | |
| | 052373 - MEDICAL ROBOTICS AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR COMPUTER AIDED SURGERY LABORATORY | 5 | 1 | | |

Table MEC

| | Title | CFU | Sem | Students from MECC/BIO Bachelor degree |
|--|--|------------|------------|---|
| | 059227 - MEASUREMENTS FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERING | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| | 059173 - ADVANCED MATERIALS FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERING | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| | 059180 and 059181- CONTROL OF MECHANICAL SYSTEMS | 5 | 1and 2 | 5 |
| | 062568 and 062569 - ADVANCED DYNAMICS OF MECHANICAL SYSTEMS | 10 | 1 and 2 | 10 |
| | 058612 – DESIGN OF AUTOMATIC MACHINES | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| | 062092 - INDUSTRIAL ROBOTICS | 5 | 1 | |
| | 059411 - COLLABORATIVE ROBOTICS | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062322 - BIOINSPIRED ROBOTICS | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062306 - MECHATRONIC SYSTEMS B | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| | 063131 – ADAPTIVE AND INTELLIGENT STRUCTURES | 5 | 2 | |
| | 062346 - PARALYMPICS AND SPORT REHABILITATION | 5 | 2 | |
| | 059263 - VISION BASED 3D MEASUREMENTS | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062811 - FINITE ELEMENT SIMULATION FOR MECHANICAL DESIGN | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| | 062577 - LIGHTWEIGHT DESIGN OF MECHANICAL STRUCTURES - COMPOSITE STRUCTURES | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062191 - FINITE ELEMENT ANALYSIS IN SPORTS EQUIPMENT DESIGN | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062589 - MODELLING OF MECHANICAL BEHAVIOUR OF MATERIALS | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062025 - NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING AND EVALUATION FOR MATERIALS AND COMPONENTS | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062101 - ADVANCED HUMAN MACHINE INTERFACES | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| | 075820 - REVERSE ENGINEERING | 5 | 2 | |
| | 059254 - SURFACE MODELLING FOR ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS | 5 | 2 | |
| | 063049 - BIOINSPIRED DESIGN | 5 | 2 | |
| | 062127 - VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY FOR SPORTS ENGINEERING | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062146 - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND PATENTS IN INNOVATION | 5 | 1 | |
| | 059382 - ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING B | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| | 061990 - DIGITAL MACHINING B | 5 | 1 | |
| | 059221 - MANUFACTURING AND DEMANUFACTURING OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT | 5 | 2 | |

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|--|--|---|---|---|
| | 059616 - SMART MATERIALS | 5 | 2 | |
| | 059223 - MATERIALS FOR SPORT AND REHABILITATION | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062020 - LAB – MECHATRONICS | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| | 062106 - LAB - HUMAN MODELLING IN ENGINEERING | 5 | 1 | |
| | 062002 - LAB - DIGITAL MACHINING | 5 | 2 | |
| | 062237 - LAB - DESTRUCTIVE AND NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING OF COMPOSITE MATERIALS AND STRUCTURES | 5 | 2 | |

Should new contributions be deemed useful for the Internal Double Degree in Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering, proposals for including additional courses in the tables above can be brought any time to the attention of the Coordinators of the BIO and MEC Programmes.

6. Application and admission

The DD programme is open to internal students, namely to students that earned the Bachelor Degree in Biomedical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering¹ at Politecnico di Milano. Students with a bachelor from other universities will be considered for possible admission upon the evaluation of the bachelor curriculum studiorum. They are requested to provide the transcript of records.

The application for admittance to the DD programme in Biomedical-Mechanical Engineering shall be presented **before August 27th**, after obtaining the Bachelor Degree or going to discuss the Thesis in the September session of the same year.

The applications shall be sent by e-mail to Prof. Manuela Galli (manuela.galli@polimi.it) with cc to Prof. Silvia Farè (silvia.fare@polimi.it) for students to be enrolled at the Master Course in Biomedical Engineering or to Prof. Roberto Corradi (roberto.corradi@polimi.it) with cc to Prof. Francesco Braghin (francesco.braghin@polimi.it) for students to be enrolled at the Master Course in Mechanical Engineering, with the following e-mail subject: Application for Internal Double Degree in Biomedical & Mechanical Engineering.

The following information shall be provided as attached documents to the e-mail:

- Short motivation letter (max 500 words)
- Curriculum Vitae with indication of other competencies (beside the Curriculum Studiorum), like software skills and/or professional experiences.
- Bachelor official academic transcript

The DD programme in Biomedical-Mechanical Engineering is a course with a restricted access (a total of 20 students from either Mechanical or Biomedical Engineering, will be admitted). A minimum average grade of 23/30 calculated on all the exams of Bachelor degree shall be required to be considered for admission. The average grade achieved in the Bachelor exams will be considered to define the ranking of admitted students. Students with the Bachelor degree in Biomedical Engineering at Politecnico di Milano will be also evaluated based on the average grade achieved in the following exams of the Bachelor degree: 083118 - Meccanica dei continui e delle strutture, 097534-Meccanica applicata alle macchine, 096202-Biomeccanica and 086028-Bioingegneria Chimica.

Notice of admission will be given on September 8th.

Students who apply for the DD programme must first apply **for the M.Sc. programme of interest (Biomedical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering), before August 27th**. If admitted to the DD program, they will be automatically recognized as belonging to the internal Double degree programme.

Contacts

Supervisors for the M.Sc. in Biomedical Engineering:

- Prof. Manuela Galli (manuela.galli@polimi.it)
- Prof. Maria Laura Costantino (marialaura.costantino@polimi.it)
- Prof. Giancarlo Pennati (giancarlo.pennati@polimi.it)

Supervisors for the M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering:

- Prof. Francesco Braghin (francesco.braghin@polimi.it)
- Prof. Roberto Corradi (roberto.corradi@polimi.it)

¹ Students who earned the Bachelor Degree in Industrial Production Engineering - PPM Track (Lecco Campus) can apply as well for the DD programme, since their background is regarded as equivalent to that of the students having a Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering.