



WELCOME DAY

DIPARTIMENTO DI FISICA E ASTRONOMIA

"ETTORE MAJORANA"



OCTOBER 2, 2026

ORE 09:00



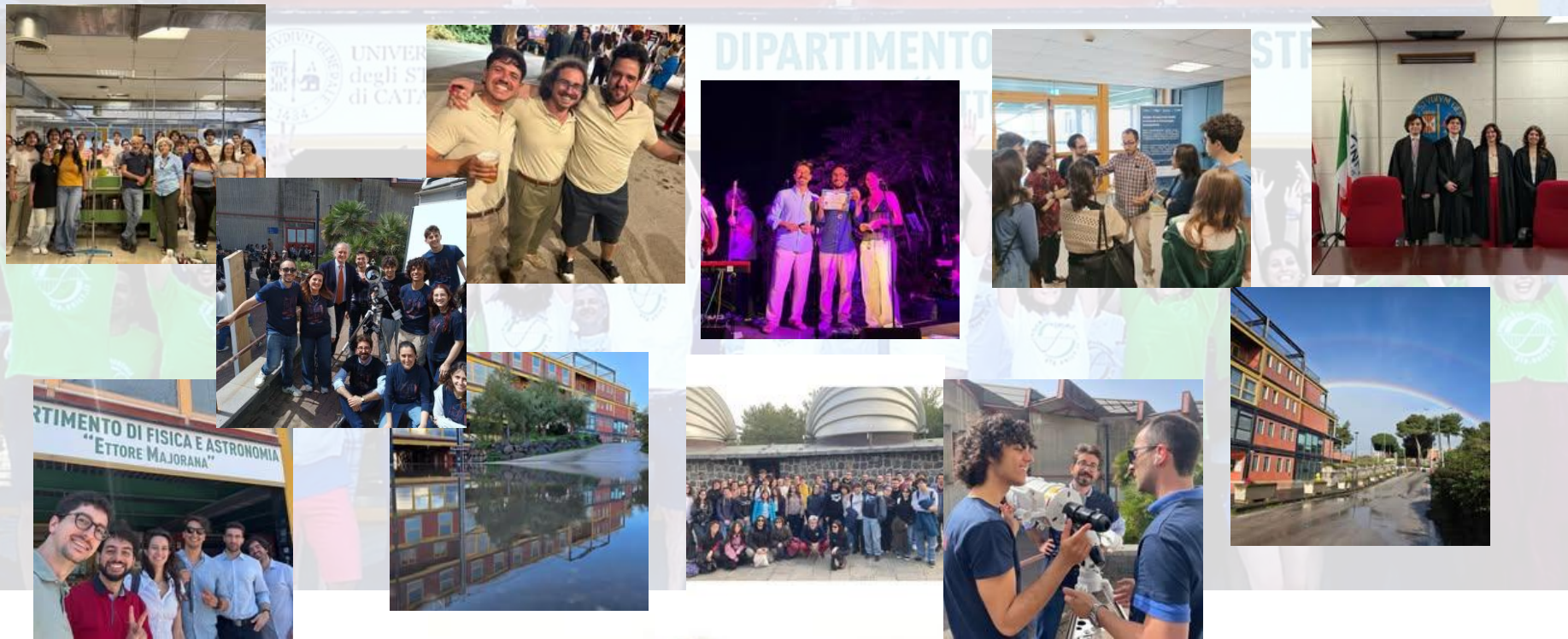
Program of the event

- **09:00** Greetings
- **09:10** Presentation of the MSc in Physics
- **10:00** Suggestions from student representatives
- **10:25** Question Time
- **10:40** Granita, brioche & coffee
- **11:30** Visit of the DFA (for newcomers)

October 2, 2026

Welcome Day - DFA





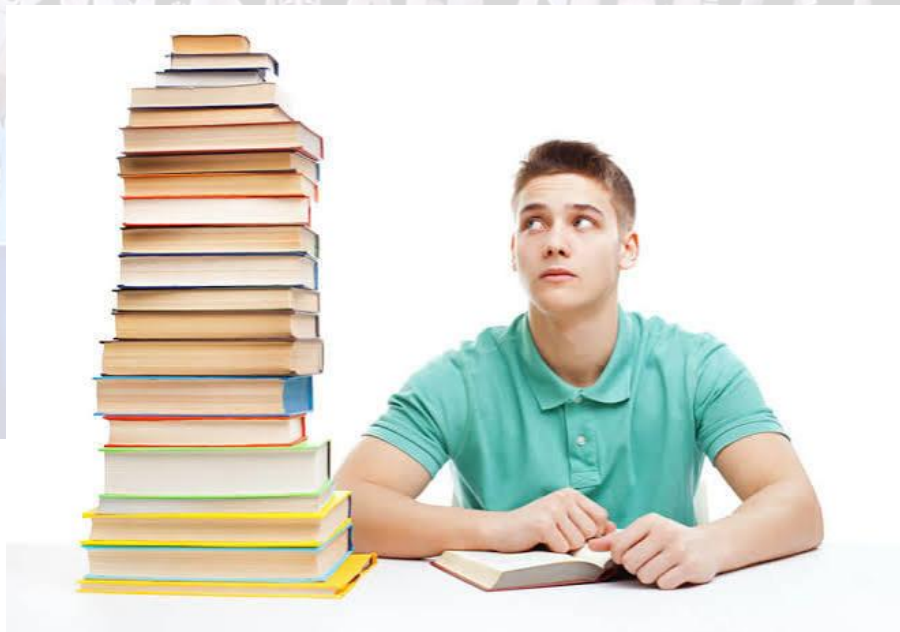
Welcome

October 2, 2026

Welcome Day - DFA



PART I — GETTING STARTED



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Enrollment

Requirements:

- ✓ Bachelor's degree in Physics + B2 English
- ✓ or other degree with 27 ECTS Mathematics + 60 ECTS Physics (≥ 6 ECTS Quantum Mechanics)
- ✓ missing requirements must be fulfilled by the end of the **first exam session of the 2026/2027 academic year**

Admission: $\geq 100/110$ + B2 English $\rightarrow$ direct admission; otherwise $\rightarrow$ admission interview (from September 24 to September 30, 2026)



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Road to Exams



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Study Methods and Techniques

Understand → Connect → Explore → Apply → Question

- **Understand** — Go beyond equations: understand assumptions and physical meaning
- **Connect** — Link concepts across different areas of physics
- **Explore** — Use textbooks, scientific literature and reliable sources independently
- **Apply** — Tackle unfamiliar problems, not only standard exercises
- **Question** — Develop a critical attitude towards models, methods and results

At Master's level, knowing is not enough: you should be able to use, connect and critically assess what you know.

Build Your Own Learning Strategy

BE ACTIVE: Prepare for lectures, take meaningful notes and identify what you do not understand

GO DEEPER: Move beyond lecture notes: textbooks → review papers → research articles

WORK CONTINUOUSLY: Do not postpone learning until the exam period. Advanced topics require time to mature

DISCUSS & COLLABORATE: Discuss physics with classmates, lecturers and tutors. Explaining an idea is one of the best ways to test your understanding

ENGAGE WITH RESEARCH: Step beyond the classroom and attend seminars, workshops and research events

TAKE OWNERSHIP OF YOUR LEARNING

Appropriate use of AI

Guidelines of the UNICT Centre for Information Technology, Digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence

- **General principles:** constant **human oversight and responsibility**, **transparency** regarding the prompts/models used, **privacy protection**, avoidance of bias, and **environmental sustainability**.
- **Teaching and learning:** AI may be used as a **support tool for learning and teaching activities**. **Students must not claim authorship of AI-generated work**. Lecturers must not use unauthorised AI systems to make automated decisions concerning students' academic careers or assessment.
- **Research:** AI may be used for **data analysis, literature synthesis and modelling**, provided that its use is **properly disclosed** and the results are critically evaluated. Data manipulation and the use of AI for confidential peer-review activities are prohibited.
- **Security:** preference should be given to **University-licensed or authorised AI systems**, which are the only systems suitable for processing personal, confidential or sensitive data

PART II — YOUR STUDY JOURNEY



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MSc in Physics: Programme Structure

Curricula:

- Astrophysics
- Applied Physics
- Quantum Physics and Technologies of Matter
- Nuclear and Particle Physics
- Nuclear Phenomena and their Applications - NUCPHYS*
- Theoretical Physics

*The international curriculum in “Nuclear Phenomena and their Applications,” part of a Joint Erasmus Mundus Master’s Program, is offered by a consortium of 8 universities in Spain, France, and Italy, with the participation of 16 research centers and companies as associate partners. It allows students to spend part of their studies at one of these research centers and to earn an international degree in Nuclear Physics recognized in the countries of the consortium universities.

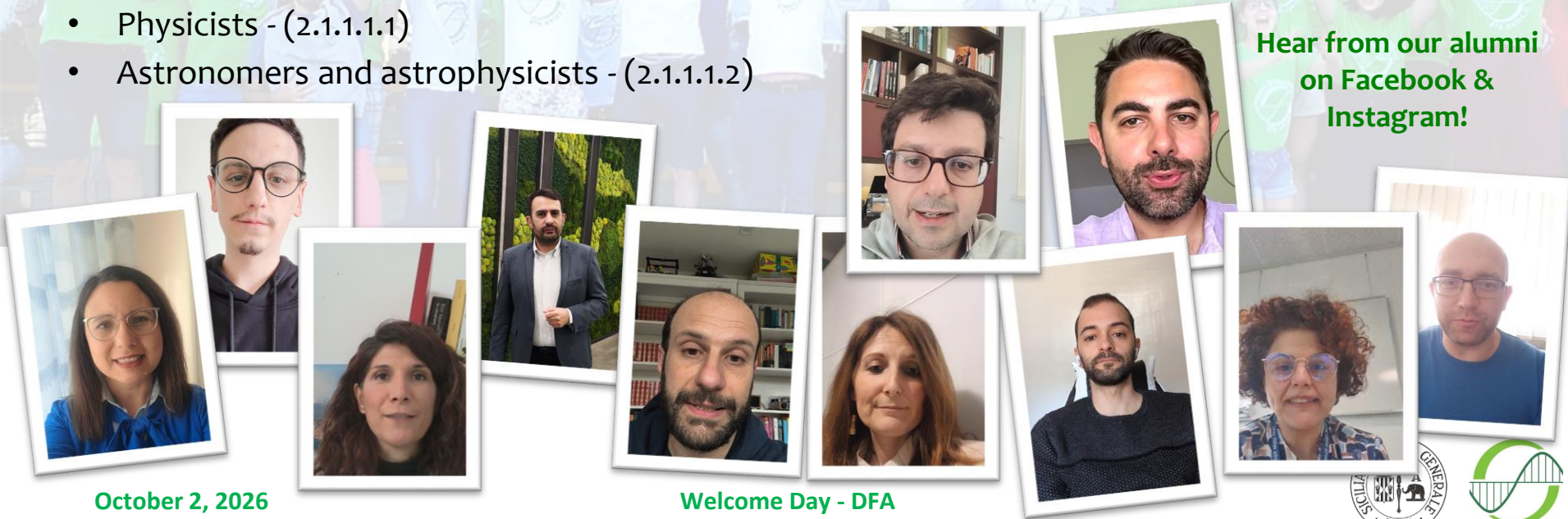
MSc in Physics: Career Opportunities

Career opportunities are available in the following fields: research, teaching, industry, management, consulting, and telecommunications.

The program prepares students for the following professions (ISTAT codes):

- Physicists - (2.1.1.1.1)
- Astronomers and astrophysicists - (2.1.1.1.2)

**Hear from our alumni
on Facebook &
Instagram!**



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Study plans: deadline and structure

Submission Period: October 1–31, 2026

Structure and Options

- **Submission:** The study plan must be completed online through the Student Portal when enrolling, after consulting the **Teaching Regulations** applicable to your cohort.
- **Guidance:** Students are advised to contact their **Curriculum Coordinator** in advance for guidance when choosing their courses.
- **Elective courses:** Free-choice courses may be selected from any degree programme within the University, provided that they are appropriately justified and consistent with the student's educational path.
- **Automatic approval:** Automatic approval is granted when the study plan includes all compulsory courses and the elective courses are selected from those offered within the student's curriculum.
- **Individual study plan:** Any deviation from the standard study plan must be supported by academic reasons and is subject to approval by the **Degree Programme Council**.

Study plans: procedures and requirements

Specific Procedures for Different Student Categories

- **Students enrolled conditionally:** By October 31, 2026, they must email the **Teaching Office** a paper form signed by the Curriculum Coordinator, choosing one of the following curricula: **Astrophysics, Applied Physics, Quantum Physics and Technologies of Matter, Nuclear and Particle Physics, Theoretical Physics**. The online study plan will be completed only after obtaining the Bachelor's degree.
- **Continuing students and students beyond the standard duration:** They may modify their study plan online. If no changes are made, the most recently approved study plan remains valid.
- **Nuclear Phenomena and Their Applications curriculum:** The study plan will be submitted during the second semester, following arrival at **UniCT**, according to the timeline of the **NucPhys programme**.

Academic Requirements

- **Prerequisite:** **Quantum Field Theory I** must be passed before taking **Quantum Field Theory II**.
- **Class schedule:** Conflicts between classes are avoided only for compulsory and elective courses within the same curriculum.

Exam sessions CdS LM-17 Physics

- **First teaching period:** October 1, 2026 – January 15, 2027
- **Second teaching period:** March 1, 2027 – June 11, 2027

1st SESSION

**18 gen–26 feb
2027**

after the 1st semester

2nd SESSION

**14 jun–30 jul
2027**

after the 2nd semester

3rd SESSION

**30 ago–30 sep
2027**

Summer exam session



Exam Calendar

The official dates are published online; scheduled exam sessions cannot be moved forward

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PART III — WHO CAN HELP YOU



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YOU ARE NOT ALONE

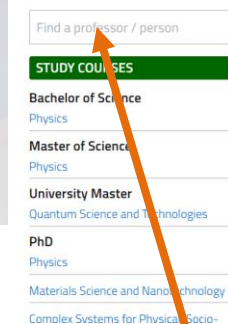
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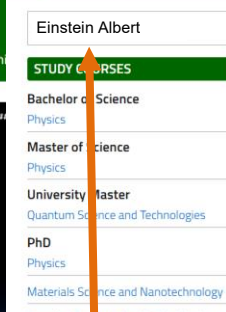
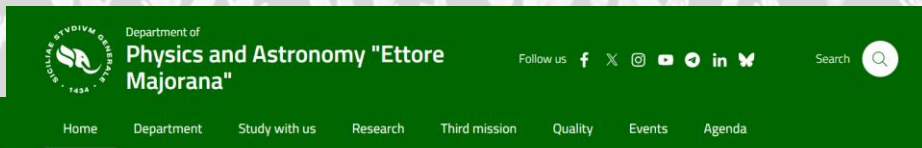


YOU ARE NOT ALONE

- Teachers



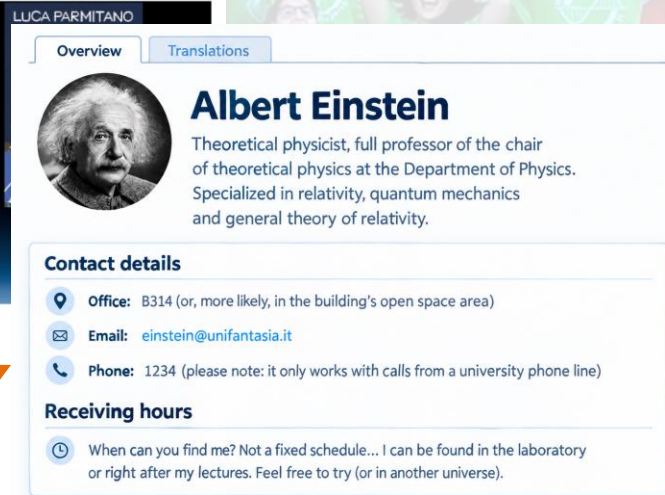
Enter the teacher's
surname



Select



View the profile



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YOU ARE NOT ALONE

- Teachers
- **Coordinator of the MSc in Physics**

G. G. N. ANGILELLA

Associate Professor of Theoretical Physics of Matter, Models,
Mathematical Methods and Applications [PHYS-04/A]

Contacts

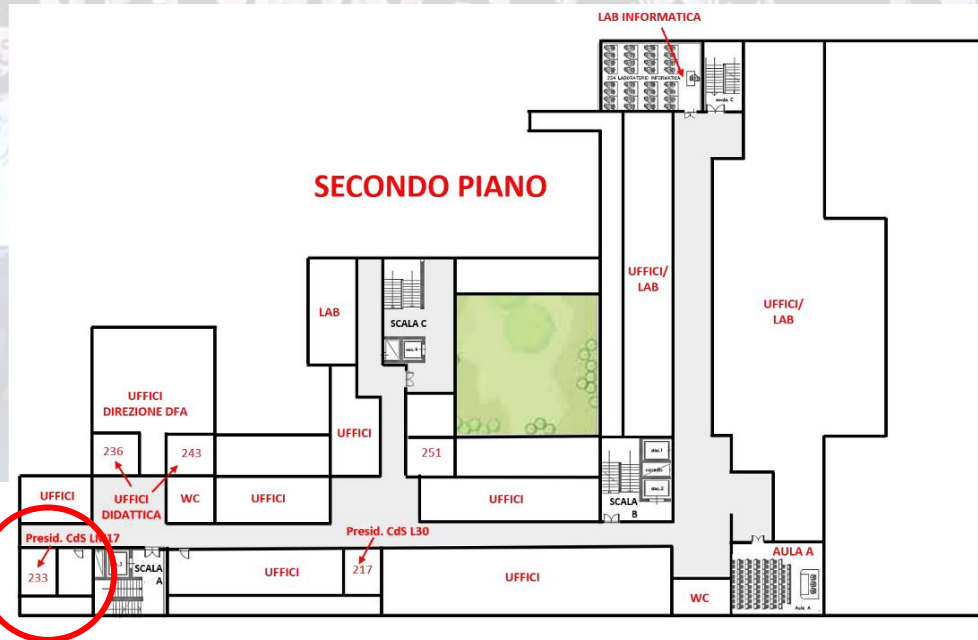
Office: DFA 233

Email: giuseppe.angilella@ct.infn.it

Phone: 095 3785305

Office Hours

Monday and Wednesday from 16:30 to 16:40 (Students should show up within this period, but the meeting will last any time required.) An e-mail notice in advance is appreciated. Please, contact me by e-mail to arrange other days and/or timings and/or for online meetings.



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YOU ARE NOT ALONE

- Teachers
- Coordinator of the MSc in Physics
- **Secretary's office**

Students Office

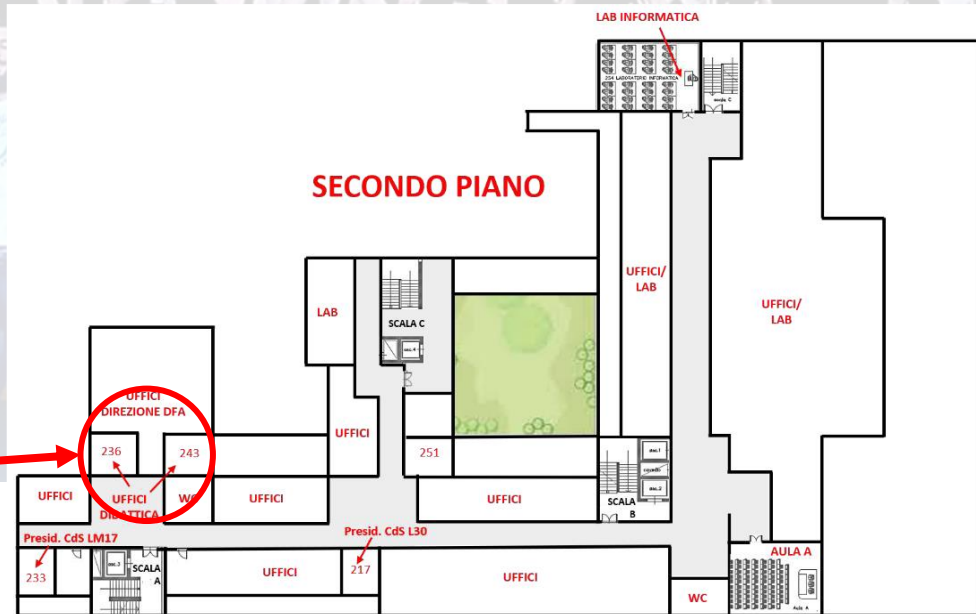
- Dott.ssa Sara De Francisci
- Mr Raffaele Barbato

Reception hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, from 10:30 to 12:30

E-mail: dfa.didattica@unict.it

The Students Office:

- organizes and communicates teaching activities (lectures, exams etc) of the study (BSc, MSc, PhD) programmes belonging to the DFA;
- provides information on how to prepare a study plan;
- issues certificates of attendance for lessons and exams.



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YOU ARE NOT ALONE

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- Coordinator of the MSc in Physics
- Secretary's office
- **Student Careers Office**

<https://www.unict.it/it/ateneo/settori-carriere-studenti>

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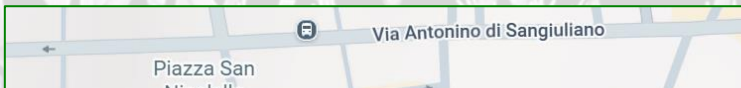




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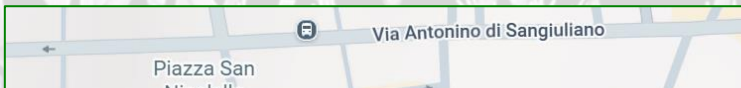




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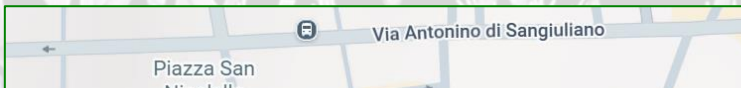




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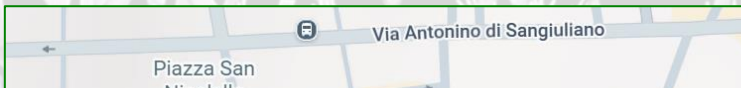




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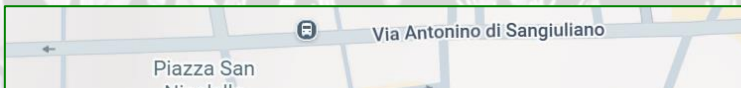


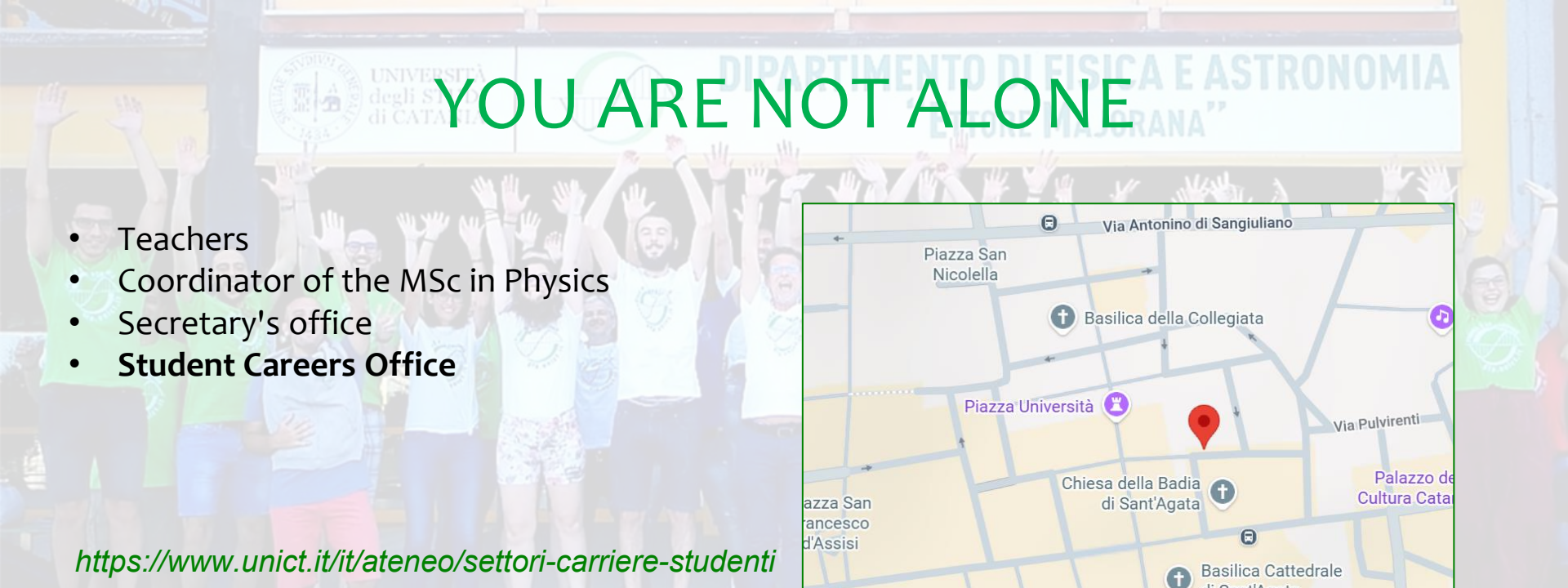


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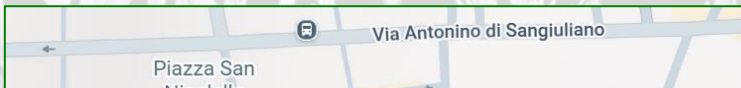




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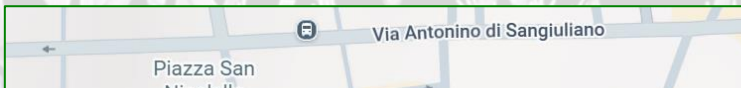


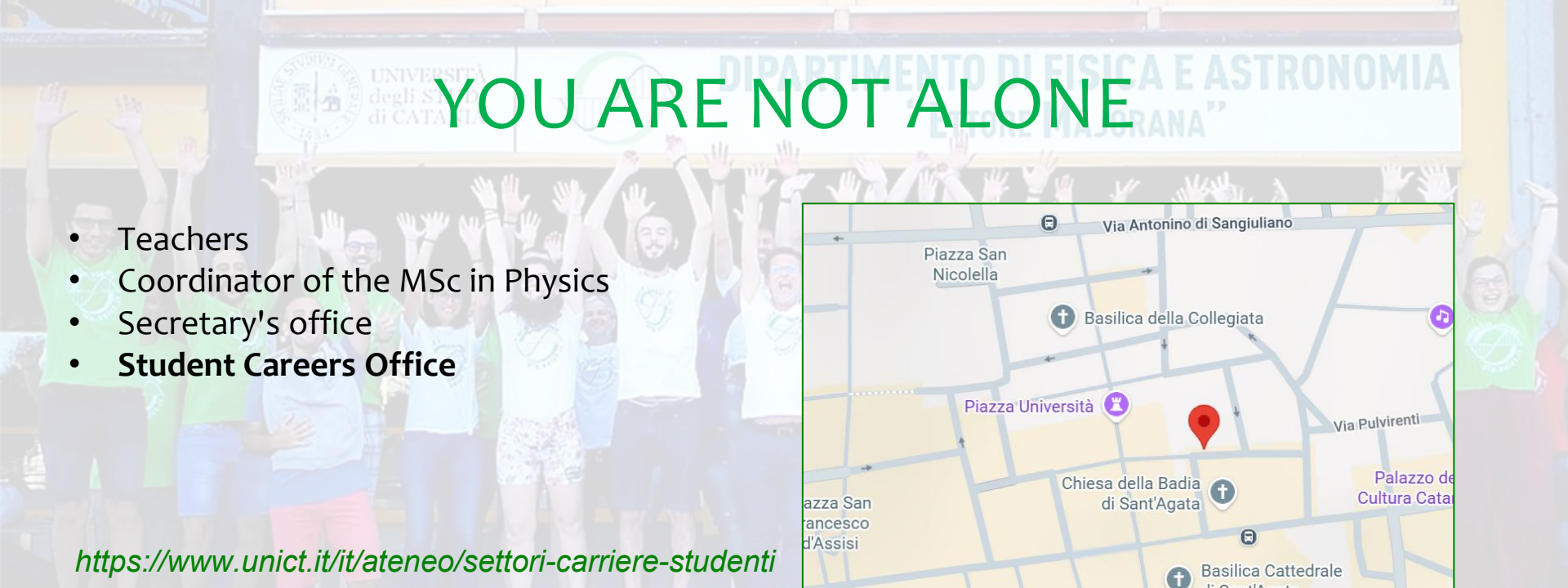
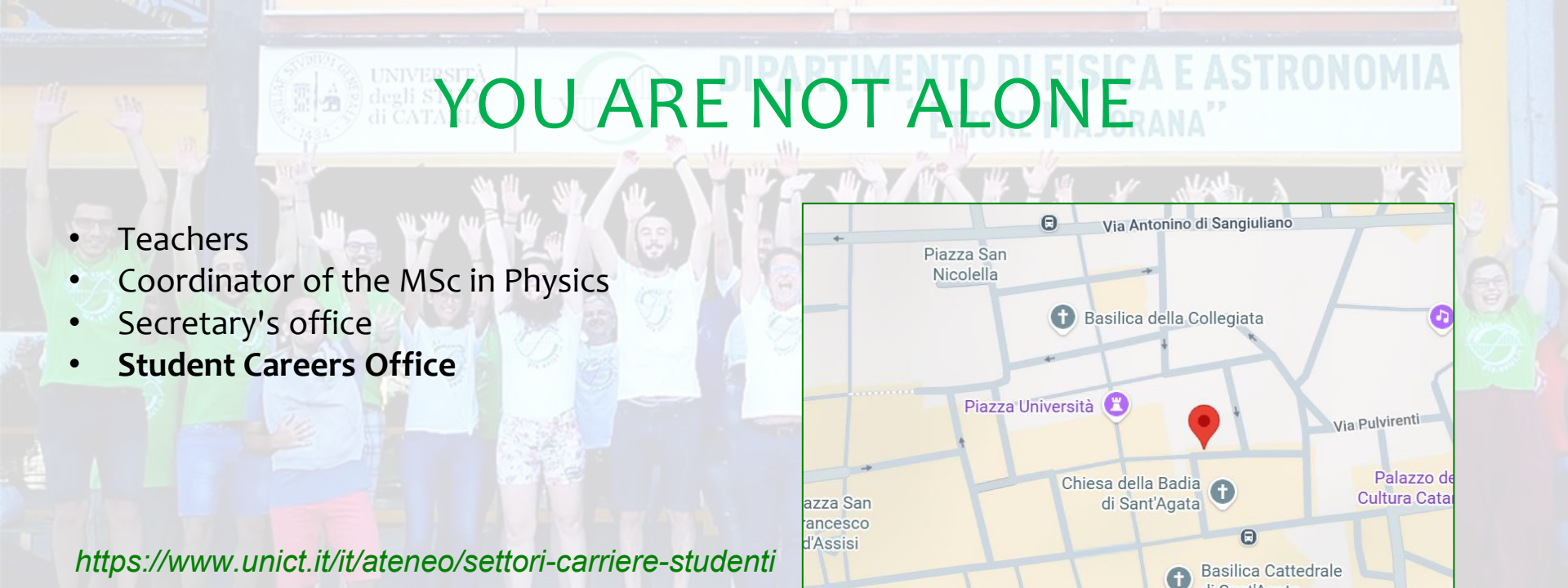


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YOU ARE NOT ALONE

- Teachers
- Coordinator of the MSc in Physics
- Secretary's office
- Student Careers Office
- **Tutoring and tutor professors**

Tutoring for curricular courses:

- Advanced Quantum Physics

Tutor professors: The students of the MSc in Physics (LM-17) can choose one teacher as tutor among the list of available teachers.

The choice will be made during the **TUTORING MONTH** in October/November 2026



October 2, 2026

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YOU ARE NOT ALONE

- Teachers
- Coordinator of the MSc in Physics
- Secretary's office
- Student Careers Office
- Tutoring and tutor professors
- **Helpdesk**

The Helpdesk at DFA is composed by several people (including Professors and members of the Technical and Administrative Staff), who will answer your questions concerning teaching, studying, or the Department in general



Bot Telegram:

https://t.me/HelpDeskDFA_bot

Mail:

helpdesk@dfa.unict.it

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

- Teachers
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- Secretary's office
- Student Careers Office
- Tutoring and tutor professors
- Helpdesk
- **Counseling DFA**

Counseling is designed to improve students' university experience and academic success.

Contact person:

Prof. Alessandro Pluchino



Alessandro PLUCHINO

Associate Professor of Theoretical Physics of
Fundamental Interactions, Models, Mathematical
Methods and Applications [PHYS-02/A]

Contacts

Office: DFA 319

Email: alessandro.pluchino@ct.infn.it - alessandro.pluchino@dfa.unict.it

Phone: 095 3785423

Web Site: www.pluchino.it



Office Hours

Monday from 11:30 to 12:30 | Thursday from 10:00 to 11:00



YOU ARE NOT ALONE

- Teachers
- Coordinator of the MSc in Physics
- Secretary's office
- Student Careers Office
- Tutoring and tutor professors
- Helpdesk
- Counseling DFA
- **Student ombudsman**

To report complaints, suggestions, and proposals to protect the rights of the Students concerning the official activities of the Department

Contact person:

Prof. Giuseppe Angilella

email: garante.studenti@dfa.unict.it

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- **Student representatives**

They represent the student community in various university bodies:

- Department Council
- Degree Programme Committee
- Paritetic Commission Teachers/Students
- Department Quality Committee

Students' opinions on teaching - OPIS

- The University of Catania collects students' and faculty members' opinions on teaching activities every year through a questionnaire (**OPIS**).
- Anonymity
- Essential for improving the quality of teaching
- Public results: <https://www.unict.it/it/didattica/valutazione-didattica-opinione-studenti>



- Instructions:
https://www.unict.it/sites/default/files/documenti_sito/presentazione_opis_2026.pdf
- Video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwjQXVCnw6o>

PART IV — TOOLS AND SERVICES

<https://www.unict.it/it/servizi>



Cafeteria



Transportation



Library



Other services



Moodle



Teams



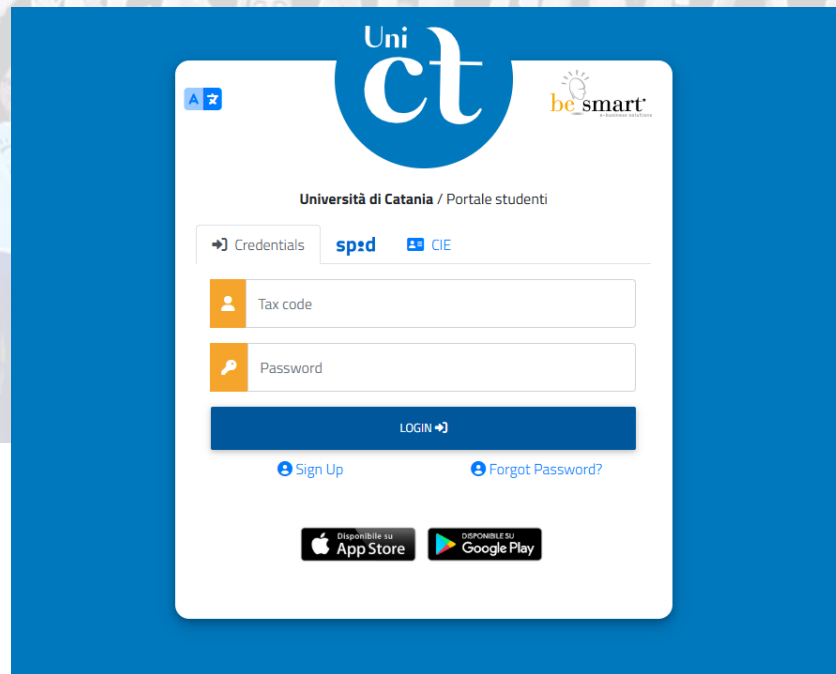
Study rooms



Student portal

IT Services

- **Smart_Edu** for managing academic careers and educational procedures



The image shows a screenshot of the Smart_Edu login portal for the University of Catania. The interface is set against a blue background. At the top, there is a white box containing the 'Uni ct' logo, the 'be smart' logo, and the text 'Università di Catania / Portale studenti'. Below this, there is a section for 'Credentials' with a 'spid' logo and a 'CIE' icon. The login form consists of two input fields: 'Tax code' and 'Password', each with an orange icon on the left. Below the fields is a blue 'LOGIN' button with a right-pointing arrow. Under the button are two links: 'Sign Up' and 'Forgot Password?'. At the bottom, there are two app store logos: 'Disponibile su App Store' and 'DISPONIBILE SU Google Play'.

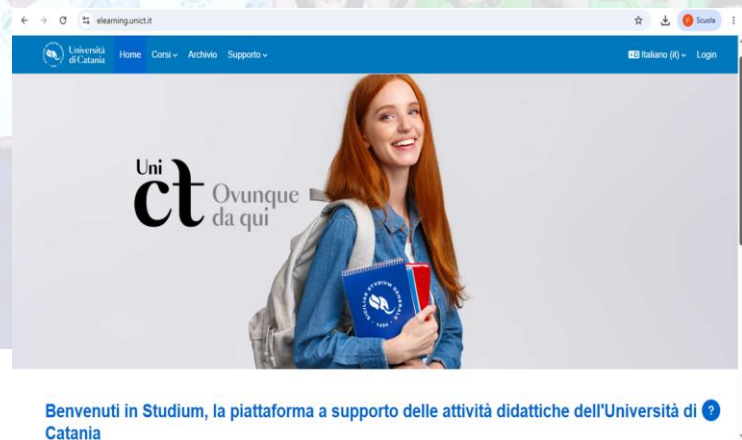
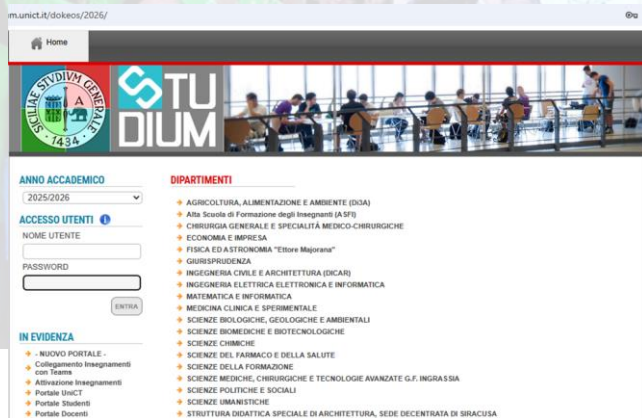
October 2, 2026

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IT Services

- **Smart_Edu** for managing academic careers and educational procedures
- **Studium/Moodle:** E-learning platforms for Teacher–Student interaction (teaching materials, group or individual chats, forums, etc)



<https://studium.unict.it/>



<https://elearning.unict.it/>

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IT Services

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- **Diital Library:** <https://www.sida.unict.it/content/biblioteca-digitale>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the University of Catania's Digital Library. At the top, there is a blue header with the university's logo and name, and the title 'Sistema Bibliotecario di Ateneo'. Below this is a navigation bar with links to Home, Chi siamo, Biblioteca digitale, Cataloghi, Biblioteche, Servizi, Area riservata, and Convenzioni. The main content area features a search bar with a 'Search' button and a list of five blue buttons: 'Primo VE (Discovery)', 'Open Access', 'Iris - Archivio della ricerca', 'Biblioteca Digitale Siciliana', and 'Libri di testo (E-Textbooks)'. To the right of the buttons, the title 'Biblioteca digitale (Banche dati e risorse digitali)' is displayed. Below the title, there are two paragraphs of text. The first paragraph states that the digital library is a dynamic reality in continuous evolution, with a primary mission to provide information services to users and support teaching and research activities. The second paragraph describes the mission as being carried out through continuous development, maintenance, and conservation of digital collections and online resources, providing service and didactic programs and using information systems to improve access to resources, through collaboration with university teachers, students, and staff, through participation at the national and international level in the development of standards, practices and technologies. The third paragraph states that the digital library facilitates initiatives for access and open science, as well as cooperative activities with other organizations and the territory, also through appropriate conventions, so that collections are accessible to all.

Università di Catania
Sistema Bibliotecario di Ateneo
Centro Servizi Bibliotecari e di Coworking

Home Chi siamo Biblioteca digitale Cataloghi Biblioteche Servizi Area riservata Convenzioni

Search

Biblioteca digitale (Banche dati e risorse digitali)

Primo VE (Discovery)

Open Access

Iris - Archivio della ricerca

Biblioteca Digitale Siciliana

Libri di testo (E-Textbooks)

La Biblioteca digitale dell'Università degli studi di Catania è una realtà dinamica ed in continua evoluzione la cui missione primaria è fornire servizi di informazione all'utenza e supportare le attività di didattica e ricerca.

Tale mission viene svolta attraverso lo sviluppo continuo, la manutenzione e la conservazione di collezioni digitali e risorse digitali online, fornendo programmi di servizio e didattici e utilizzando sistemi di informazione per migliorare l'accesso alle risorse, mediante la collaborazione con docenti universitari, studenti e personale, tramite la partecipazione a livello nazionale ed internazionale allo sviluppo di standard, pratiche e tecnologie.

La Biblioteca digitale facilita iniziative per l'accesso e la scienza aperti nonché attività cooperative con altre organizzazioni ed il territorio, anche attraverso apposite convenzioni, affinché le collezioni siano accessibili al

IT Services

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- **Diital Library:** <https://www.sida.unict.it/content/biblioteca-digitale>
- **Email service @Studium.Unict**

An email address in the format TAXCODE@studium.unict.it is assigned at the end of enrolment, and it's the official channel for communications between students and the University.

To access the service, you will need to open webmail365.unict.it and log in with the following credentials:

- Username: TAX CODE
- Password: PASSWORD of the student portal

The e-mail address is equipped with two aliases, in the format:

- studentIDnumber@studium.unict.it
- name.surname@studium.unict.it (to be activated by the student)



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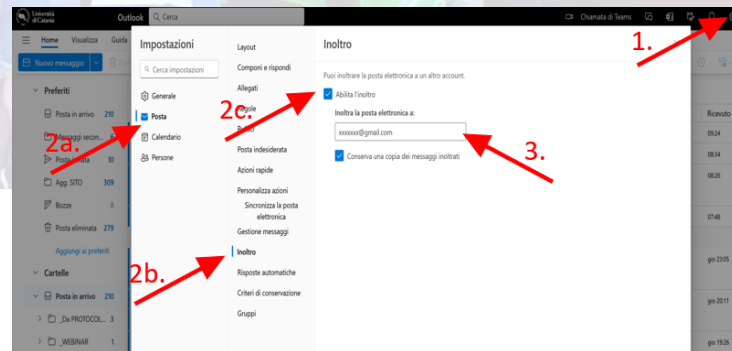
The e-mails received in that inbox will be automatically forwarded to the personal e-mail address specified in the student portal profile.

To manage the forwarding function you have to:

1. Click on
2. Select “Email” → “Forwarding” → “Enable forwarding”
3. Add the personal address where you wish to receive a copy of the emails

For more information, visit:

lex.unict.it/it/comunicazioni_cdl/servizio-di-posta-elettronica-gli-studenti-posta-elettronica-studiumunict



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- **Email service @Stodium.Unict**
- **Wi-fi:** WLUCTSTUD

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- **Email service @Studium.Unict**
- **Wi-fi:** WLUCTSTUD
- **License Software**



EASY READING

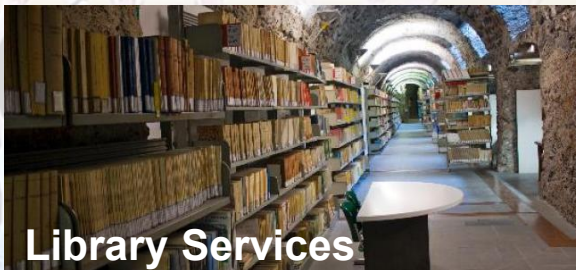


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- **Email service @Stodium.Unict**
- **Wi-fi:** WLUCTSTUD
- **License Software**
- **MS Teams (where applicable):** communication/lectures/
classes/activities



Other University and Departmental Academic Services



Library Services

Transportation

abbonamenti
agevolati metro e bus

ITALSTRA, LA
SCUOLA DI
LINGUA E
CULTURA
ITALIANA

Orientation and Career
Guidance for Incoming
and Graduating
Students

Tutoring and Support throughout the
academic journey:

- Tutors
- Psychological Support
- CInAP

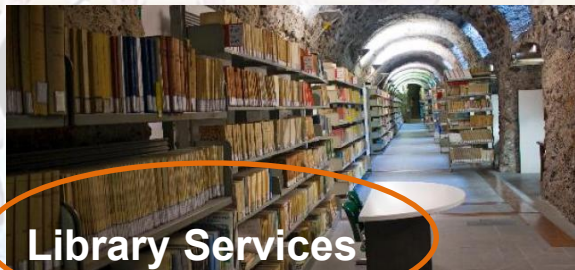


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Other University and Departmental Academic Services

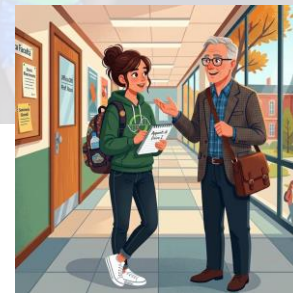


Orientation and Career Guidance for Incoming and Graduating Students



Tutoring and Support throughout the academic journey:

- Tutors
- Psychological Support
- CInAP



October 2, 2026

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UNIVERSITÀ
degli STUDI
di CATANIA

Library at the DFA

Where is it located?

1st floor at the Department of Physics and
Astronomy “Ettore Majorana” (DFA)



Reading room: quite reading/study room

Library Office: Borrowing and returning services

October 2, 2026

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degli STUDI
di CATANIA

Library at the DFA

Opening hours:

Reading room: Monday – Friday 8:30-19:00

Library Office:

- Monday 8:30 – 15:00
- Tuesday 8:30 – 16:30
- Wednesday 8:30 – 16:30
- Thursday 8:30 – 16:30
- Friday 8:30 – 15:00



The University Library Catalogue can be accessed at the following link:

https://unict.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/search?vid=39UDCA_INST:VU1

CInAP: Center for Active and Participatory Inclusion

Provides and coordinates initiatives aimed at ensuring equal opportunities for students with disabilities and/or Specific Learning Disorders (SLD).

- Incoming orientation
- Guidance on relevant legislation and regulations
- Support during entrance examinations
- Preparation of Individualized Learning Plans
- Study and attendance support services
- Outgoing orientation aimed at facilitating entry into the world of work



<https://www.cinap.unict.it/>

Contact at DFA: Prof. Catia Maria Annunziata Petta

PART V — Opportunities



October 2, 2026

Welcome Day - DFA



From UniCT to the world

Erasmus

It is an opportunity that allows students to **spend part of their university studies abroad at a partner university affiliated with UniCT**

- You can **attend courses and take exams**, or carry out **thesis-related activities**; combined study + internship mobility is also possible
- Erasmus+ study mobility: **at least 2 months**, up to 12 months
- **Erasmus+ grant/financial support**
- Exams and activities carried out abroad are arranged through the **Learning Agreement**
- **“Erasmus+ UniCT” is not a single programme**: UniCT participates in several Erasmus+ projects and actions



From UniCT to the world

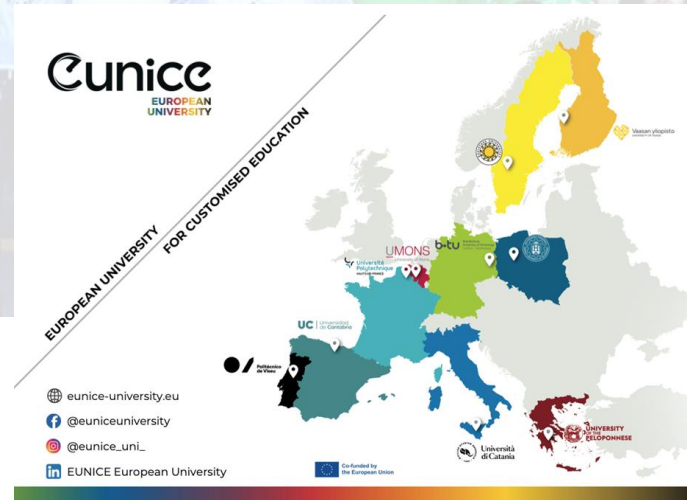
University Programme for International Mobility

It regulates and monitors the incoming and outgoing mobility of lecturers, researchers, and students for study, training, teaching, and research activities with foreign institutions and organizations.

Eunice

- An alliance of 10 European universities supported by the European Commission
- It offers opportunities for mobility, international training, **shared courses**, and collaboration with students and faculty members from other countries

Contact at DFA: Prof. Elisabetta Paladino



Scholarships

ERSU Catania

Scholarships and Student
Support Services

Financial eligibility + academic merit



ERSU

Other opportunities

Merit-based Scholarships
STEM/STEAM Awards
Other Grants

Regularly check the calls for applications



Student Support Office UNICT

October 2, 2026

Welcome Day - DFA



PART VI — Other INFORMATION



October 2, 2026

Welcome Day - DFA



Workplace safety

- UNICT students must receive appropriate **information** and **training** on health and safety in the workplace
- **Mandatory Information Course**, in e-learning mode, available on the Studium Archive platform (<https://studiumarchive.unict.it/sppr/>), which also includes a final test
- For subsequent training, they will receive instructions from the UNICT training service in the appropriate manner



Students' Vademecum 2026/27

<https://www.dfa.unict.it/sites/default/files/upload/vademecum20262027eng.pdf>

Department of Physics and Astronomy
"E. Majorana"
University of Catania

VADEMECUM STUDENTS



Edited by the Department's
Quality Commission

A.A. 2026/2027

October 2, 2026

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Information Channels / Social Media



www.dfa.unict.it



Mailing list enrolled
students LM-17



TELEGRAM
enrolled students LM-17

SEGUICI SU



October 2, 2026

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