Guide to the University

Università degli Studi “Gabriele d’Annunzio”
Chiari - Pescara
D'Annunzio University (Italian: Università degli Studi "Gabriele d'Annunzio", Ud'A) is a public research university located in Chieti and Pescara, neighbouring cities in the region of Abruzzo, Italy.

Established in 1960 as an higher education institute and named after writer and poet Gabriele D'Annunzio, it was officially recognised as an independent university in 1965.
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*D’Annunzio University* provides undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate education, in addition to a range of international programs in multiple fields of study.

In April 1982, d’Annunzio Free University became state-supported, following the approval of the Senate of the Republic of Italy.

To date, Ud’A has over 27000 students, enrolled in 55 degree courses. The Ud’A counts 13 departments, primary centres where teaching and research co-exist to promote scientific activities for different educational areas; 2 schools (two or more departments, grouped according to criteria of disciplinary affinity, work as connecting structures referred to as schools) 39 schools of specialization, 11 PhD.

Numerous post graduate courses are held each year in different fields of the science within Ud’A.

Moreover, high-level research centers stand out in the various departments at national and international level such as Ce.S.I.-Me.T. or I.T.A.B. (Centro Studi sull’Invecchiamento e Medicina Traslazionale, Istituto di Tecnologie Avanzate Biomediche.)

All this within two campuses, one of the largest in Italy.
Moving to a different university, in a different country, could be difficult, but the Ud’A can provide you with all the tools necessary to make your period here unforgettable. 
You will find out all about our University and some tips to explore our fantastic territory. At the end of this guide you will find all the necessary contacts for your stay here. 
At our university an International Relations Office and a Student Help Station are ready to answer all your questions. 

Starting from the Erasmus project, designed in 1987 by the UE, studying abroad has always represented an essential stage in student’s life. The project is inspired by the humanist Erasmo da Rotterdam who loved traveling all over Europe studying different cultures. In fact, not only Erasmus but all exchange initiatives give the possibility to an international university student to carry out a period in a foreign university where study is legally recognized in your country. These periods represent a way to learn new worlds (as Erasmo loved to do), to learn outside the borders of our country and also to make new friends, to broaden our horizons, to explore a completely new and unknown land without any constraint: to open the mind...
The contribution of each student is necessary to expand our student population but not only… It is mandatory for the development and enrichment of each other.
It is absolutely amazing to be part of the harmony created by all the young citizens of the world; all of them from different cultures and countries being part of one big and united group, working together to achieve goals.
Pescara

Campus of Pescara, in the city center, where there are schools of economics, architecture, engineering and languages.
And the biggest one, located in Chieti, where there are located the school of Medicine, Pharmacy, Literature and Social Sciences, Engineering and geology and other Humanistic Sciences.
The architectural idea of the Chieti campus was based on the interpretation of the peculiar characteristics of this place and its morphological potential, with a twofold objective: to recover the traces of the original and still alive agricultural landscape, making it a structural element of the project; constructing a recognizable fragment of a city capable of becoming an element of order with respect to the randomness of the new urban expansions of Chieti.
These considerations led to identify the structure of the new settlement in a few typologically typified elements, assigning an important role to the free spaces and the existing countryside. The new campus has therefore been divided into distinct buildings but strategically positioned within a unitary system, whose design is based on triangulations and reciprocal correspondences dictated by the identity and hierarchy of the elements, and by their ability to open up to more meaningful of the context. The planovolumetric assumes within it both the natural elements and the pre-existing buildings, and assigns them different roles in the composition of the whole. Designed to be a micro-city within the city where academic activities are integrated with laboratories, libraries, bars and a wide range of facilities and services for students today it is going through a Sustainable University.
Throughout the year, the Ud’A organizes a numerous of cultural, social and sporting activities to encourage students to enjoy life on campus. These include festivals, choirs, a wide range of sporting activities and numerous cultural events.
Thanks to its strong growth and the facilities at its disposal, the University offers to its students a wide range of international opportunities, including degree programs, scholarships for writing theses abroad, internships in European countries and non-Europeans and international doctorates. We offer several exchange programs and every year Ud’A provides all international students very convenient flat rate for enrolment in addition to an economical cost of living in the area of Chieti-Pescara, which is one of the most controlled in the area.
The Italian university grading system for course exams is based on a 30-point scale (18 and above is considered passing), while a 110-point grading scale is used for the final dissertation (66 is the minimum grade necessary to graduate). The Cum Laude is equivalent to with Honours and assigned to praise outstanding students for each exam and/or upon completion of their university degree.
University courses usually begin in late September/early October (first semester) and in March (second semester), but this may vary slightly from faculty to faculty. The course calendar for every faculty is usually published about one month before the courses begin. Some professors also publish the academic calendar on their faculty or personal web pages, as well as on the office notice boards. Students do not have to enroll for courses to attend lectures. Attendance is often optional, it is based on kind of courses you are following, although some professors may ask you to sign an attendance sheet to keep track of the students who attend lessons regularly. Academic calendars provide information on the beginning and end of courses, exam sessions, vacations, and national and religious holidays.
The two large campus of the **Ud'A** are designed to spend a lot of time at the university. There are many services available to students and staff.

The **Pescara** campus, perfectly integrated in the urban area, well connected, near the city center and the sea; and the **Chieti** campus is located in **Chieti Scalo**, in an area marked by hills and valleys, where the alternation of recent scattered buildings and cultivated areas shows a singular interweaving of urban and rural features.
There is also a free **Bike Sharing Service** in both the campuses where students may take a bike just giving as guarantee the ID document, and enjoy the campuses or the cities in a sustainable breath.
To help you settle in at Ud'A, we run a Welcome Week fully dedicated to international students. We will help you find your way around, settle in, learn about your courses and faculty and make new friends. Detailed information on the Welcome week agenda and activities will be sent to you 2-3 weeks prior to your arrival.
Life on Campus

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**Campus Wi-Fi**
You can use the campus Wi-Fi. International students can access the network by using their *enrolment identification number* (*matricola*) as a username and their password.

**Libraries**
International students have access to all libraries. Each library has different regulations, so please consult the library staff for details on how to borrow books; in general, however, a photo ID and a student card or number are required.

**University Canteens**
At the university canteens, you can eat at a very economical price for lunch and dinner.

You can also do **Outdoor Sports** in the areas inside the campus or in the sports complexes present. You can look for more information on the University website.
Costs of Living in Chieti and Pescara
Our cities are not expensive. Compared to other Italian universities, the cost is much lower and sustainable by students in Chieti or Pescara than in other cities. There are many markets where you can shop for a good price. Generally also restaurants and pizzerias have a low cost. In a pub you can have a beer for 3 euros and eat a pizza for 10 €. Even leisure activities such as cinema and sport are economically sustainable. Trains are also far cheaper than in other European cities. Moreover, you can take advantage of a large range of student offers and discounts available at clubs, museums, sporting events, etc.
In addition to University commitments, the University offers, as already mentioned, many possibilities for meeting. There are countless sports activities, student associations present in many degree programs, extracurricular cultural activities, choirs, teams, theater groups and much more. Besides all this you have to know and explore our wonderful territory.
Abruzzo is a region of Center of Italy, with a population of 1.2 million. Its western border lies 80 km (50 mi) east of Rome. The region is divided into the four provinces of L'Aquila, Teramo, Pescara, and Chieti. Abruzzo borders the region of Marche to the north, Lazio to the west and south-west, Molise to the south-east, and the Adriatic Sea to the east. Geographically, Abruzzo is divided into a mountainous area to the west, which includes the Gran Sasso d'Italia, and a coastal area to the east with beaches on the Adriatic sea.
Abruzzo is known as "the greenest region in Europe" as almost half of its territory, the largest in Europe, is set aside as national parks and protected nature reserves: there are three national parks, one regional park, and 38 protected nature reserves. These ensure the survival of 75% of Europe's living species including rare species, such as the small wading dotterel, golden eagle, the Abruzzo (or Abruzzese) chamois, Apennine wolf, and Marsican brown bear. Abruzzo is also home to Calderone, Europe's southernmost glacier.
Visiting nineteenth-century Italian diplomat and journalist Primo Levi said that "forte e gentile" (strong and gentle) best describes the beauty of the region and the character of its people. "Forte e gentile" has since become the motto of the region and its inhabitants.
In addition to the geographical and historical wonders that our region offers you must absolutely get lost in the flavors of our land. Taste the most famous dishes famous worldwide. Students may enjoy the Chieti’s and Pescara’s climate which is considered genuine Mediterranean. It presents high humidity all year round, with rainy/snowy warm winters and hot and dry summers. It is one of the most unique regions in the world where students in April can go skiing in the morning at the Majella mountain (35-40 minutes away form Chieti) and swimming in the afternoon in Pescara (10 minutes away from Chieti).
Arriving in Chieti-Pescara

Abruzzo is located in the center of Italy. Strategically situated and very well connected. You can get to Chieti or Pescara through the Airport “Liberi International Airport” that operates national and international flights to major European cities and not only (like Albania and Romania) or through the Rome airports (Ciampino and Fiumicino), just 2 hours away from the University.
Chieti and Pescara are less than 200 km from Rome connected by train and bus every day h 24. You can reach Chieti or Pescara from Rome by daily bus rides operated by the Abruzzo transport company (TUA) or by other operators with an average price of around 20 euros and a duration of about 2.30- 3 hours.
Local transport from Abruzzo Airport and travel between the two cities are ensured by a well-stocked network of city buses and regional trains. The two cities are about 10 minutes by car and 20 minutes by bus.

Public Transport

Both cities are served by a vast network of urban public transport. On the reference site you can find maps and timetables for all buses. There is also a dedicated app to search your bus in real time.
All information is available on the website http://www.tuabruzzo.it
The line for travel between Chieti and Pescara runs several daily trips, taking about 20 minutes to move from one city to another.
Visa and Customs

EU citizens don’t need a visa to enter Italy. However, if your stay will be longer than three months, you will need to register at the Anagrafe of the Comune where you live.
Non-EU citizens have to apply for a student visa at the Italian Embassy or Consulate in their home country. Student visas are free of charge. Please keep in mind that you can only apply for your visa after having received confirmation of your admission to the university. The following documents are usually required for visa application:
Visa application form, photo (passport size), a valid passport (with at least six months validity), proof of economic independence for your stay in Italy, proof of accommodation in Italy.
Some countries also require medical insurance and/or additional documents. The full list of documents required for visa application is available on Italian Embassy websites and on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (www.esteri.it/MAE/EN).

Passport Control

If you are travelling from a Schengen country, there is usually no passport control at the airport (in compliance with the Schengen agreement). If you are travelling from a non-Schengen country, you will undergo a passport and visa check. Please make sure you have all the required documents and keep the invitation letter from Ud’A with you.

Tax Code

The Codice Fiscale is an alphanumerical code based on your first name, family name and date and place of birth. It is used by the public administration to identify citizens living in Italy. Everyone living in Italy must have one. The Codice Fiscale is also necessary to apply for a residence permit, to open a bank account, to sign a rent agreement, to obtain a canteen card and for many other procedures/activities. You can apply at the Agenzia delle Entrate when you arrive.
Healthcare

EU citizens can take advantage of the Italian National Health Service. Please remember to request an *E106 (S1) Form* in your country before leaving for Italy. Your private health insurance (where applicable) should cover your medical needs for the entire period you are in Italy. The Italian NHS will provide you with the same care as any Italian citizen. This includes: free access to a general physician, free access to first aid hospital services, access to day-hospitals, access to surgical procedures in all public structure, access to blood tests and other analyses, examinations and specialist visits for which you have to pay a reduced fee (ticket). For emergencies: call 118, the medical emergency toll-free number or go to a hospital first aid centre. (pronto soccorso). For minor health problems (flu, cold, etc.) you should see your general practitioner.

Immediately next to the campus of Chieti is the hospital and its emergency room. Also into the campus is a university dental clinic where students can apply for treatment and / or emergencies by taking advantage of discounted rates.
University Affiliated Accommodation
The ADSU company (Company Rights for students) at the University of Chieti and Pescara, contributes financially with a share of the scholarship allocated to beneficiary students off-site, at the expense that is borne by them and resulting from a regular lease.
Additional contributions are guaranteed to eligible students who do not hold a scholarship.

Private Accommodation
On average, prices for a private room in a shared apartment range from 200 to € 300 per month. Please note that you will also be required to pay a 1-3 month deposit when you sign a contract.
Always demand a signed receipt of payment, if it is not given to you.
For the campus of Chieti there are many accommodations in the area. The area is well developed and you will find bars, pizzerias, meeting places and services all nearby without the real need to use transport. Pescara is a little bit more bigger then Chieti and students live in many different neighborhoods, depending on their interest, costs, etc. To find out more about the location of your university, have a look at the map at the end of this document.
Practical Information

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Banking
You can open a bank account at any bank in Italy by presenting the following documents:

- Tax identification code (codice fiscale);
- Passport and Visa;
- Letter of invitation/acceptance by host university (where applicable).

You can also choose to open a BancoPosta account at Poste Italiane (Italian Post Office).

Telephone and Emergency Numbers
Italy's international phone code is +39.

There are many mobile phone providers in Italy including: Tim, Vodafone, Wind, 3, Postemobile, etc.

We advise you compare services and costs before choosing one. The same is valid for mobile Internet connections. You may also be able to buy a pre-paid phone card for international calls in your home country before arriving in Italy. However, you may have free access of the Ud'A Wi-Fi all around the two campuses.

Emergency numbers (toll-free):

- 112 Carabinieri (military police)
- 113 Police
- 115 Fire Brigade
- 803116 Car Rescue Service
- 118 Emergency Medical Care
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Ud‘A [www.unich.it](http://www.unich.it)
Student Help Station [https://helpstation.unich.it/](https://helpstation.unich.it/)

info@[unich.it](mailto:info@unich.it)

+39 0871 35551 – 085 45371

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27,000 students
55 study courses
2 schools
13 departments
39 specialization schools
34 specialization courses
3 refresher courses
11 training courses
2 1° level master’s degree
6 2° level master’s degree
11 PhD