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UNIVERSITY OF MACERATA
VISITING PROFESSOR PROGRAMME
NINTH EDITION

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2027/2028 ACADEMIC YEAR

Article 1 – Purpose of the call

Pursuant to the University Guidelines on Visiting Professors, Visiting Scholars and Fellows, the University of Macerata hereby announces a selection procedure for the award of **10 Visiting Professorships** for the **2027/2028 academic year**, as part of the ninth edition of the University Visiting Professor Programme.

In line with the University Strategic Plan 2026–2028, with particular reference to Objectives No. 1 "An attractive and international educational offering", No. 4 "Interdisciplinary, collaborative and international research" and No. 11 "Strengthening participation in international mobility and expanding exchange opportunities", the Programme aims to strengthen the international dimension of teaching and research, develop international scientific and academic cooperation and promote the exchange of knowledge, interdisciplinarity and the integration of the University of Macerata's academic community into international networks.

Article 2 – Eligibility requirements

The Programme is open to highly qualified scholars who, by the application deadline:

a) hold an active, formally recognised academic or research position at a university, higher education institution or research institution based outside Italy;
b) hold the rank of full professor, associate professor or researcher, or an equivalent position under the rules of their home institution; postdoctoral researchers holding a formal research position at that institution are also eligible;
c) are not resident in Italy.

The applicant's academic or research position and rank must be certified by their home institution, as specified in Article 6.

Applicants must meet the eligibility requirements by the application deadline. They must also retain their academic or research position at the foreign institution throughout the Visiting Professorship.

Applicants whose only appointment is a contract teaching position are ineligible. The same applies to persons holding other temporary appointments that do not confer a formally recognised academic or research position at their home institution, and to retired persons, irrespective of any honorary, collaborative or unpaid teaching appointments they continue to hold at those foreign institutions.

Article 3 – Duration, status and financial arrangements

Applicants may apply for a Visiting Professorship lasting **eight consecutive weeks** during the 2027/2028 academic year, within either of the following periods:

- first semester: from 1 September 2027, with mobility ending by 23 December 2027;
- second semester: from 7 January 2028, with mobility ending by 15 July 2028.

Any exceptions to the above periods may be authorised only on the basis of duly documented reasons.

Selected applicants will be granted Visiting Professor status for the duration of their mobility period at the University of Macerata, in accordance with the University Guidelines on Visiting Professors, Visiting Scholars and Fellows.
The conferral of Visiting Professor status shall not, in itself, give rise to any employment or self-employment relationship with the University of Macerata.
After their arrival at the University of Macerata, selected Visiting Professors will receive a lump-sum reimbursement of EUR 5,000.00[1] to cover mobility expenses, paid in a single instalment. This amount is not remuneration for employment or self-employment services.
The financial contribution is gross of any taxes payable by the recipient under applicable law and covers travel and accommodation costs, any costs associated with obtaining an entry visa and residence permit for citizens of countries outside the European Union, and healthcare during the mobility period. It may not be combined with other remuneration or reimbursements paid by the University of Macerata for activities undertaken during the same mobility period, except for any supplementary contribution awarded to recipients facing situations of risk.
The award of Visiting Professorships is subject to the actual availability of funds allocated to the Programme.

Article 4 – Teaching and scientific activities
During their mobility period, Visiting Professors will carry out research and scientific collaboration at the University of Macerata and must complete **at least 15 hours of teaching** in total.
Teaching activities, agreed in advance with the Faculty Advisor(s), will take place within degree programmes, Schools of Specialisation, the Doctoral School, the Giacomo Leopardi School of Advanced Studies or the Confucius Institute, including initiatives promoted by the ERUA Alliance. They may also include designing and delivering a MOOC in accordance with the format adopted by the University under the EDVANCE project.
In addition to the proposed research project, scientific activities may include research seminars, collaboration with University research groups and contributions to European and international project development, including in cooperation with the Research and Innovation Area and the ERUA Alliance.

Article 5 – Host Department, teaching and research unit, Faculty Advisor and final report
The Departments receiving Visiting Professors are the host Departments. They are responsible for welcoming them, providing suitable workspace and ensuring access to University services.
For the purposes of this call, the teaching and research unit is the University unit where a Visiting Professor will carry out all or part of their proposed teaching and research activities. This may be a Department, a School of Specialisation, the Doctoral School, the Giacomo Leopardi School of Advanced Studies or the Confucius Institute.
At the application stage, one or more academic contacts will be designated as Faculty Advisors for each selected Visiting Professor. They must sign the academic support statement referred to in Article 6 and

[1] Where recipients face situations of risk in which their freedom of teaching or expression is restricted, or their personal safety is threatened by political, religious or cultural persecution or by war or post-war circumstances, University Departments or other teaching and research units may, by reasoned resolution, supplement the lump-sum reimbursement from their own funds, up to a maximum amount equal to twice the amount provided for and awarded under this call.

will facilitate the Visiting Professor's integration into the University's scientific and teaching activities and support delivery of the proposed programme.
At the end of the mobility period, the Visiting Professor, in collaboration with the Faculty Advisor(s), must prepare and sign a final report in Italian or English using the prescribed template and submit it to the Director of the teaching and research unit where the teaching and research activities took place. The report must describe the outcomes achieved, the activities carried out and prospects for future cooperation. Within 30 days after the end of the mobility period, the final report, duly signed by all its signatories, must be forwarded to the Internationalisation and ERUA Area – Global Engagement Office for monitoring purposes.

Article 6 – Application procedure and deadline
Applications, in Italian or English, must be submitted exclusively through the online procedure available on the University website, in the International section under Visiting Faculty: https://www.unimc.it/it/internazionale/visiting-faculty/active-call
Only one application can be submitted under this call.

The application must contain the following information and attachments; failure to provide them will result in exclusion from the selection procedure.

Section A – Applicant details and supporting documents
- Personal details, a copy of a valid identity document, details of the applicant's current academic or research position, field of research and home institution (institutional name and website, and personal website, if available).
- A certificate issued by the home university, higher education institution or research institution using the University template attached to this call (Annex 1), confirming the academic or research rank held and the nature of the applicant's relationship with that institution.
- An indication of any disability, so that any assistance needed in relation to the applicant's circumstances can be arranged.
- A declaration of any situation of risk involving restrictions on freedom of teaching or expression, or threats to personal safety arising from political, religious or cultural persecution or from war or post-war circumstances.
- A *curriculum vitae* including a list of scientific publications, experience of funded European or international projects, and participation as a speaker at conferences or seminars of international significance.
- A letter of motivation explaining the applicant's interest in undertaking a Visiting Professorship at the University of Macerata, the expected contribution to the host Department's teaching and scientific activities, possible synergies with the Faculty Advisor and other University academics or groups, and prospects for future cooperation (maximum 400 words).

Section B – Host Department and Faculty Advisor
- The name of one or more University of Macerata Faculty Advisors.
- The host Department and any additional teaching and research unit in which activities will take place.

- The proposed semester and dates of the mobility period, within the periods set out in Article 3.
- The statement of academic support and willingness to act as Faculty Advisor, prepared using the template provided (Annex 2). In it, each proposed Faculty Advisor must confirm that they have agreed the teaching and scientific activity programme with the applicant in advance, are willing to undertake the Faculty Advisor role, and consider the proposal consistent with the host Department's teaching and research activities.
  Only University of Macerata staff in the following categories may serve as Faculty Advisors: full professors, associate professors, and permanent or fixed-term researchers. Contract teaching staff and other persons who do not hold an established academic or research position at the University are excluded.
  The academic support statement expresses willingness to collaborate academically only. It does not constitute acceptance of the application, confer evaluation points, bind the Selection Committee or entail any financial commitment by the University or the Department.
  Applicants are solely responsible for identifying and contacting their Faculty Advisor(s). They must contact University academics directly to agree the activity programme and obtain the academic support statement. The Global Engagement Office does not advise applicants on the choice of Faculty Advisor or act as an intermediary in contacts with academic staff.

Section C – Teaching activity programme

- A description of the teaching activities proposed for the mobility period, agreed in advance with the Faculty Advisor(s), amounting to at least 15 teaching hours in total. The description must specify the teaching and research unit in which they will take place, the type of activity (for example, seminars, team teaching, development of a MOOC under Article 4 or other educational activities), any course or programme in which they will be included, the allocation of hours, learning objectives, target participants and the main content of the proposed activities (maximum 800 words).

Section D – Scientific research activity programme

- A description of the proposed research and scientific collaboration during the mobility period, specifying objectives, planned activities, expected outcomes and possible synergies with the University of Macerata. This may include research seminars, collaboration with University researchers or research groups, and contributions to European and international project development, including, where relevant, in cooperation with the Research and Innovation Area and the ERUA Alliance (maximum 800 words).
- The relevant ERC macro-area and sector, and the applicant's principal research areas.

Applications must be submitted no later than
1:00 p.m. (CET) on 16 December 2026

Article 7 – Selection Committee, evaluation criteria, merit rankings and award of Visiting Professorships

Applications will be assessed by an internal Selection Committee appointed by the Rector and chaired by the Vice-Rector responsible for International Relations, International Mobility and the Internationalisation of Teaching.
The Committee will assess applications against the following criteria, for a maximum overall score of 100 points:

a) **Academic and scientific merit of the application**, assessed on the basis of the curriculum vitae, the quality and relevance of scientific publications, experience of national and international research projects, and participation in scientific activities of international significance (up to 50 points).
b) **Quality and coherence of the teaching activity programme**, with particular regard to its consistency with the applicant's academic profile, learning objectives, integration with the host Department's teaching provision and expected contribution to the internationalisation of teaching (up to 25 points).
c) **Quality and coherence of the research and project development proposal**, with particular regard to its objectives, feasibility during the mobility period, synergies with University of Macerata research, cooperation with University researchers or research groups, and prospects for future scientific collaboration (up to 25 points).

In the event of equal scores, priority will be given to applicants who have declared situations of risk in which restrictions on their freedom of teaching or expression, or threats to their personal safety due to political, religious or cultural persecution or war or post-war circumstances, are documented. If a tie remains, priority will be given to the younger applicant.
If necessary to ensure a balanced distribution of Visiting Professors between the two semesters, the Committee may propose a different mobility period from the one stated in an application.
The Committee will draw up a general merit ranking of applicants showing the scores awarded for each criterion, and a ranking for each Department for the allocation of the financial contributions under Article 3, within the limits of available funds.
The final merit ranking will be approved by Rector's decree and published on the University website (www.unimc.it), in the International section under Visiting Faculty: https://www.unimc.it/it/internazionale/visiting-faculty/active-call. The same decree will identify the successful applicants and award them Visiting Professor status, subject to formal acceptance of the position, signature of the grant agreement and continued fulfilment of the eligibility requirements. The award will lapse automatically if the position is not accepted or the planned mobility does not take place.
Selected applicants must formally confirm their participation in the Programme and their mobility period within ten days of the publication of the decree. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the award. Before activities begin, the University of Macerata and the Visiting Professor will sign a grant agreement setting out the arrangements and timetable for the planned activities and the parties' respective obligations.
If a successful applicant withdraws or is unable to undertake the mobility, the Visiting Professorship may be awarded to eligible applicants in the order established by the ranking for the relevant Department. Rankings may be drawn upon until 15 December 2027. Any reasoned request to change the assigned semester will be considered in agreement with the Faculty Advisor(s).

Article 8 – Publication and notification

This call and the results of the selection procedure will be published on the University website, in the International section under Visiting Faculty: https://www.unimc.it/it/internazionale/visiting-faculty/active-call
Notifications of the outcome of the evaluation procedure will be sent exclusively by email to the address provided in the application.

Article 9 – Officer responsible for the administrative procedure
Pursuant to Article 5 of Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990, the officer responsible for the administrative procedure governed by this call is Antonella Tiberi, Head of the Internationalisation and ERUA Area, Via della Pescheria Vecchia 8, 62100 Macerata; tel. +39 0733 2586040; email: antonella.tiberi@unimc.it.
For technical and administrative information, please contact Simona Natali; tel. +39 0733 2586068; email: s.natali3@unimc.it.

Article 10 – Processing of personal data
Personal data provided by applicants will be processed by the University of Macerata in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and Legislative Decree No. 196 of 30 June 2003, solely for purposes connected with this procedure and, where applicable, the administration of the mobility period.
The data controller is the University of Macerata, Via Crescimbeni 30–32, Macerata, represented by the Rector as its legal representative (urp@unimc.it; certified email: ateneo@pec.unimc.it).
The University has appointed a Data Protection Officer under Article 37 of the GDPR (dpo@unimc.it).
For the purposes described above only, the personal data may be used by University staff involved in the initiative, solely in the manner described above, and will not be transferred to countries outside the European Union. Providing these data is mandatory for the assessment of eligibility; failure to provide them will result in exclusion from the selection procedure. Personal data will not be subject to decisions based solely on automated processing, including profiling.

Article 11 – Applicable provisions and authoritative text
Matters not expressly governed by this call are subject to the provisions of applicable law, insofar as relevant.
This call has been translated into English for information purposes only. The Italian version alone is authoritative for its application, for the resolution of any disputes and for all legal purposes.

Issued in Macerata.

The Rector
Prof. John Mc Court