

ERASMUS MUNDUS MASTER'S DEGREE IN PLANT HEALTH IN SUSTAINABLE CROPPING SYSTEMS  
**PLANTHEALTH PROJECT**

**STUDENT AGREEMENT**

Self-funded student

**Academic Years 2024-2026**

Between the Coordinating Institution, Universitat Politècnica de València, *hereafter mentioned as "UPV"*,

on behalf of the PLANTHEALTH Consortium formed by the following universities:

- Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV) (Spain), the Coordinating Institution
- Università degli Studi di Padova (UNIPD) (Italy)
- Georg-August-Universität Göttingen Stiftung Öffentlichen Rechts (UGOE) (Germany)
- Institut National d'Enseignement Supérieur pour l'Agriculture, l'Alimentation et l'Environnement (Institut Agro) (France)
- Institut National des Sciences et Industries du Vivant et de l'Environnement (AgroParisTech) (France)

and the student:

Surname / last name (*ex. SMITH*):

First name (*ex. John*):

Date of birth (*day/month/year*):

Nationality:

Passport number:

With official residence in (name of city and country):

With agreed mobility track    First host university (*ex. UPV*):

Second host university (*ex. the FRENCH partners*):

*Further also referred to as "the student"*

**The following is agreed upon:**

### Art.1. Scope

On behalf of the participating consortium partners, the student is admitted to the *Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree in Plant Health in Sustainable Cropping Systems*, subject to the rights and obligations set out below.

### Art.2. Academic structure

The PlantHealth Master offers a high quality, integrated two-year course that is jointly designed and delivered by the partners in the consortium. Academic activities begin with a welcome session (*Orientation Week*) common to all PlantHealth students. The two-year course consists of a first year of study (M1) at one of the two institutions (UPV, UNIPD) and a second year of study (M2) completing one of the specialisations offered by the five institutions. The second year must be spent at a different university from the first. The first year includes a compulsory internship module to be undertaken during the second semester. The host institution is responsible for the supervision. Last semester is dedicated to the Master thesis.

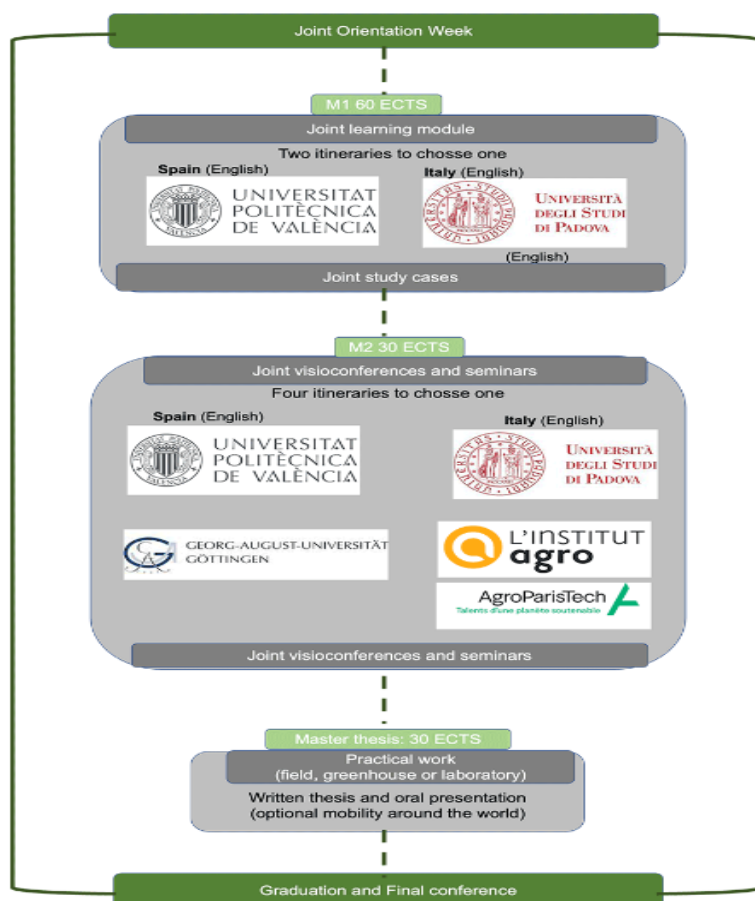


Figure 1 – Integrated structure of the PlantHealth program

The complete list of courses offer is available on: <http://planthealth.upv.es/courses>

### **Art. 3 Degree awards on completion of the full programme**

Any student who passes the required assessments will receive a double degree (i.e., degree from M1 partner and degree from M2 partner) including Diploma Supplement. The participation fee will cover all fees related to the awarding of the degrees. The degrees awarded are:

- Universitat Politècnica de València: Máster Universitario Erasmus Mundus en Sanidad Vegetal en Agricultura Sostenible
- Università degli Studi di Padova: Laurea Magistrale in Sustainable Agriculture – LM69
- University of Göttingen: Master of Science in Crop Protection
- Institut Agro & AgroParisTech : Master international “Sciences et technologies de l'agriculture, de l'alimentation et de l'environnement”

The coordinator will issue a common curriculum information document which will provide details of the Plant Health Master's degree.

An ECTS transcript showing the grades and credits obtained and the corresponding European Diploma Supplement will also be provided to the student by the awarding universities.

### **Art. 4 Language policy**

All M1 courses are taught in English. The M2 courses will be taught in English at all the partner universities, except for the French universities, where the language of instruction will be French. All students receive language training to promote academic success and social integration. Some language courses will be part of the academic programme of the Master's degree and will have ECTS credits.

French language classes are offered to students selected to study at a French university in order to reach the required level in French, plus, before the start of the M2 academic year, a French summer course will be offered at the French universities.

Each partner university will also offer a local language and culture course.

### **Art. 5 Performance monitoring and evaluation**

Students will follow the assessment procedures of the partner universities they attend. Student performance will be assessed through oral and written examinations, including written reports, oral presentations and practical reports. All activities will be graded according to the national grading scale and the ECTS grading scale

Each semester, students will complete a self-evaluation questionnaire in which they will report on their acquired knowledge and skills, as well as their academic and personal satisfaction.

The defence of the thesis will take place in accordance with local regulations and the common procedure approved by all the partner universities. The PlantHealth Board will define specific options for the thesis defence, subject to the regulations of the partner universities.

### **5.1 Pass/fail criteria and re-sit exams for individual courses:**

ECTS credits for an individual course will be awarded if the student passes the examination according to the local rules of the university. In the event of a student failing a course, re-sit options must comply with the regulations of the host university.

Tuition fees for a second or subsequent enrolment on a PlantHealth course may apply, as they are not covered by the initial cost of attendance.

### **5.2 Specific education and examination regulations:**

In matters not covered by this *Student Agreement*, the specific academic, administrative and examination regulations of the institution at which the student is enrolled for a particular course will apply.

## **Art. 6. The student's obligations and code of conduct with respect to the programme**

**6.1.** The student declares that she/he fulfils the conditions required to follow the proposed academic programme, in particular that she/he holds a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) and that she/he undertakes to reach a minimum level of proficiency in English (and French for students going to France in their M2) corresponding to level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) before the start of the programme (in the case of English) or before the start of academic activities in France (in the case of French).

**6.2.** If the student has made false statements in her/his application, the consortium has the right to immediately cancel her/his admission or enrolment in the programme and to stop payment of the scholarship. In such a case, the student must return to her/his home country at her/his own expense.

**6.3.** Confirmation of enrolment in the Plant Health Master's Programme is subject to the fulfilment of the enrolment requirements of the various partner universities at Master's level and the timely submission of the required documents.

**6.4.** The student is obliged to actively participate in the teaching and examination activities, including the internship module. If the student fails to comply with this requirement and can't provide an acceptable reason of *force majeure*, she/he will be informed that she/he is excluded from the programme and the scholarship will be stopped immediately.

**6.5.** The student is required to successfully complete a total of at least 120 ECTS (60 ECTS at each host university) in order to obtain the Master's degree.

**6.6.** It is the responsibility of the individual student to be fully informed of and to comply with all university regulations at the first- and second-year institutions, as well as the rules and regulations set out in the PlantHealth Student Agreement.

**6.7.** The student commits him/herself to ethical behaviour during her/his studies. She/he will not commit any act of deception and, in particular, will avoid any form of cheating, falsification or plagiarism of any academic work. She/he will also take great care of the movable and immovable property of the University, will not abuse or misuse access to equipment and facilities, and will not commit any unauthorised acts or violate departmental, school or

University rules. Failure to do so may be grounds for suspension or expulsion from the University and the plant health programme.

**6.8.** PlantHealth has a zero-tolerance policy on plagiarism. All students are expected to be familiar with and to comply fully with the rules on plagiarism at the institutions where they are studying in their first and second year. All PlantHealth institutions have a policy of actively communicating their non-acceptance of plagiarism and institutional sanctions. The PlantHealth Coordinator will be informed of all cases of plagiarism.

**6.9.** If a student is expelled, the PlantHealth Secretariat will formally notify the student in writing. The student will have a period of 10 days for the submission of documents in support of the case.

**6.10.** The student is obliged to provide all necessary administrative documents and undertakes to participate in quality assurance procedures and follow-up activities (such as questionnaires, surveys, monitoring meetings, etc.) which may be initiated either by the PlantHealth Board or by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency of the European Commission - EACEA. Some of the documents may need to be submitted after the end of the Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM) PlantHealth Master's programme.

**6.11.** The student may not leave the host institution except during the regular holidays of the host institution. In all other cases, leave of absence from the host university, even for academic purposes, must be authorised in writing by both the academic supervisor at the host university and the coordinator (UPV) on the basis of the student's request and justification. Any unauthorised absence may result in the withdrawal of the scholarship.

**6.12.** Students are encouraged to become members of the EMA (Erasmus Mundus Alumni Association <http://www.em-a.eu/>), which is the international professional and personal network for Erasmus Mundus students and graduates and serves as a channel of communication between students, alumni, universities and the European Commission.

**6.13.** Students are obliged to acknowledge the European Union funding in the Master's thesis and any publication resulting from the student's participation in the PlantHealth Master, to comply with the new Erasmus+ visual identity, by including the following disclaimer:

*Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.*

## **Art. 7. Administrative aspects**

Universities will use their best endeavour to provide students with teaching, supervision, assessment and support services of a professional standard.

The PlantHealth Secretariat and Consortium Partners will provide:

- Detailed information on programme content and structure including practical information
- First and second year admission

- Registration of courses and results
- Timely payment of scholarship
- Assistance with visa procedures
- Assistance with accommodation
- Welcome and integration events
- Academic and social student counselling, including tutor/academic advisor
- Local language tuition
- Insurance – The student is covered by a health insurance policy for the duration of the studies (max. 24 months). This comprehensive insurance policy complies with the specific rules of the EACEA for Erasmus Plus: Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM) students (health, travel, civil liability and repatriation costs to the student's country, etc.). The student will be provided with the necessary documentation and information (e.g., conditions of cover, restrictions, helpdesk contacts, etc.) before the start of the PlantHealth Masters Programme and as soon as the final list of selected students is approved.

PlantHealth students will have access to all the facilities and services available to regular students (e.g., libraries, laboratories, computer rooms, etc.).

### **7.1 PlantHealth Helpdesk**

Each partner University offers a PlantHealth Helpdesk where information for PlantHealth students is centralised. The French Partners (L'Institut Agro and AgroParisTech) offer a joint PlantHealth Helpdesk service, due to the integration of the courses offered by these universities.

## **Art. 8. Financial aspects**

### **8.1 Participation costs**

The annual PlantHealth participation fee for all students is 4,500 EUR, regardless of which host institution they attend.

The cost of participation includes:

- Health and accident insurance throughout the whole academic period;
- Registration of the student as a regular student at the M1 and M2 host universities;
- Tuition fees;
- Language and cultural courses at each university, integrated into the PlantHealth curriculum;
- An e-learning module;
- Access to library and laboratories;
- Student administration, services and activities; assistance with visa application procedures, etc.;
- Initial Orientation Week for all PlantHealth students;
- Field trip for all M1-students;
- All other academic and administrative fees (e.g., diploma issuing by the two partner universities attended, enrolment fees, academic recognition fees, etc.).

Participation fees do NOT include:

- Travel costs
- Visa costs

- Accommodation/living costs
- Some individual module-related costs (e.g., specific books and materials, etc.)

## **8.2 Travel costs**

It is the student responsibility to cover the necessary travel expenses to participate in all compulsory activities of the PlantHealth Master's Programme (e.g., travel to attend the Orientation Week, travel to the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Host Institutions, etc.).

## **Art. 9. Complaints and amendments**

In the event of a complaint, the student may appeal to the PlantHealth Board. The student may initiate the complaint through the Student Representative, elected by and from PlantHealth students, who is part of the PlantHealth Board (advisory role for student related issues).

The PlantHealth Board will consider the matter and resolve it as soon as possible. However, for specific complaints about a particular service or facility provided by a partner institution, the student must follow that institution's complaints procedure.

Any complaints relating to the Plant Health Course or the termination of studies must be brought immediately to the attention of the Course Coordinator. The Secretariat will amend the agreement on an ad hoc basis in the event of temporary termination, e.g., for health reasons.

Any changes or updates to the current agreement must be in writing and signed by the parties.

## **Art. 10. Responsibility limitation**

The PlantHealth Consortium shall not be liable for any accident, illness, injury, loss or damage to persons or property arising out of or in any way connected with the activities covered by this contract.

## **Art. 11. Consent for use of student's image**

By signing this agreement, the student consents to the recording and use of images of him/herself (photographs, audio or video images and recordings) in hard copy or digital form for the following purposes:

- the promotion, communication and dissemination of EMJM PlantHealth activities and programmes. These may be used on the EMJM PlantHealth website, leaflets, posters, social media, display screens and presentations.
- the Generation training materials (e.g., e-learning resources, online learning materials, etc. These may be shared with other individuals involved in plant health).

## **Art. 12. Data protection**

By signing this agreement, the student authorises the use of her/his personal data for activities related to the EMJM PlantHealth.



In accordance with the provisions of Regulation 2016/679 of 27 April 2016 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing and free movement of personal data, we inform you that the Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV) is responsible for the processing of your personal data for the purpose of managing applications for enrolment at the University and scholarships payments. The legal basis for this processing is section 6.1.b of the above-mentioned regulation, as it is necessary for the performance of a contract to which you are a party, or to carry out pre-contractual activities at your request. No disclosure of the data processed is foreseen. You may exercise your legal rights of access, rectification, cancellation and portability, as well as your rights to restrict or oppose the processing of your personal data, by sending a request to the Universitat Politècnica de València, Camí de Vera s/n, 46022 València. Please consult the PlantHealth privacy policy here: [http://planthealth.upv.es/privacy\\_policy](http://planthealth.upv.es/privacy_policy)

The European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), in the context of managing the Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters, collects and processes the personal data of some of the candidates. In particular, certain data of the scholarship holders and non-scholarship holders is shared with the Agency and treated according to its privacy statement available here: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-esc/index/privacy-statement>.

Such data will be processed in connection with the implementation and follow-up of the Agreement by the Partner Institutions, EACEA and the European Commission, without prejudice to the possibility of transferring the data to the bodies responsible for inspection and audit in accordance with EU legislation. Personal data may also be communicated, on a need-to-know basis to third parties involved in the management of the PlantHealth Project.

The student may, upon written request, obtain access to her/his personal data and correct any inaccurate or incomplete information. She/he should address any questions regarding the processing of her/his personal data to [planthealth@upv.es](mailto:planthealth@upv.es).

#### **Art. 13. Further information:**

The relevant Reference documents are available at the documents section of the PlantHealth intranet:

- PlantHealth Guide for students and Scholarship Holders
- EMJM Programme Guide and related documents
- EMJM Administrative and Financial Handbook

#### **Art. 14. Duration of the agreement and applicable law**

This agreement will automatically terminate at the end of your second academic year. If the agreement is terminated earlier, the annual PlantHealth participation fee is non-refundable.

Without prejudice to the general consequences laid down in the national law applicable to the present agreement, the PlantHealth Consortium reserves the right to suspend the effects of the present agreement without recourse to any judicial procedure other than appropriate notification to the student. In the absence of agreement between the two parties, the Spanish Courts will be the only competent authorities to resolve any dispute between the PlantHealth Consortium and the student arising from this agreement.



