



# **European Approach**

## **Accreditation Report**

**Master's Degree Programme**

***European Master of Science in Viticulture and Enology (Vinifera EuroMaster)***

Provided by

**L'Institut Agro Montpellier (Coordinator);**

**Hochschule Geisenheim University (HGU);**

**Università di Torino (UniTo);**

**Università degli Studi di Udine (UniUd);**

**Universidade de Lisboa, Instituto Superior de Agronomia (ISA);**

**Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM)**

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## A About the Accreditation Process

Name of the degree programme (in original language)	(Official) English translation of the name	Labels applied for	Involved Technical Committees (TC) <sup>1</sup>
European Master of Science in Viticulture and Enology (Vinifera Euro-Master)		European Approach	
<p><b>Date of the contract:</b> 03.05.2024</p> <p><b>Submission of the final version of the self-assessment report:</b> 29.01.2024</p> <p><b>Date of the onsite visit:</b> 5-6 March 2024</p> <p><b>at:</b> L'Institut Agro Montpellier, France</p>			
<p><b>Peer panel:</b></p> <p>Prof. Dr. Gerhard Flick, Hochschule Brandenburg;            Peter Jung, Deutschen Raiffeisenverband e.V.;            Anne-Sophie Walger, University of Trier;            Prof. Dr. Peter Witzgall, Swedish University of Agricultural Science</p>			
<p><b>Representative of the ASIIN headquarter:</b> Dr. Michael Meyer</p>			
<p><b>Responsible decision-making committee:</b> Accreditation Commission for Degree Programmes</p>			
<p><b>Criteria used:</b></p> <p>European Approach as of May 2015</p>			

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<sup>1</sup> TC: Technical Committee for the following subject areas: TC 01 - Mechanical Engineering/Process Engineering; TC 02 - Electrical Engineering/Information Technology; TC 03 - Civil Engineering, Geodesy and Architecture; TC 04 - Informatics/Computer Science; TC 05 - Materials Science, Physical Technologies; TC 06 - Engineering and Management, Economics; TC 07 - Business Informatics/Information Systems; TC 08 - Agriculture, Nutritional Sciences and Landscape Architecture; TC 09 - Chemistry; TC 10 - Life Sciences; TC 11 - Geosciences; TC 12 - Mathematics; TC 13 - Physics.

## B Characteristics of the Degree Programmes

a) Name	Final degree (original/English translation)	b) Areas of Specialization	c) Corresponding level of the EQF <sup>2</sup>	d) Mode of Study	e) Double/Joint Degree	f) Duration	g) Credit points/unit	h) Intake rhythm & First time of offer
European Master of Science in Viticulture and Enology (Vinifera EuroMaster)	M.Sc.	Viticulture; Oenology; Wine Business and Marketing; Sustainability; Crop Protection; Management	Level 7	Full time	Joint Degree with L'Institut Agro Montpellier (Coordinator); Hochschule Geisenheim University (HGU); Università di Torino (UniTo); Università degli Studi di Udine (UniUd); Universidade de Lisboa, Instituto Superior de Agronomia (ISA); Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM)	4 Semester	120 ECTS	Winter Semester 2009

The joint degree programme “Vinifera EuroMaster” is offered and managed by the EMaVE-Consortium. This Consortium is an association of European higher education institutions offering Master’s level education in Viticulture and Enology, Wine Economics and related disciplines. Full member institutions of the EMaVE-Consortium are: L’Institut Agro Montpellier (Coordinator); Hochschule Geisenheim University; Università di Torino; Università degli Studi di Udine; Universidade de Lisboa, Instituto Superior de Agronomia; Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

For the Master’s degree programme the consortium has presented the following profile in the self-assessment report:

The Vinifera EuroMaster programme is a joint master’s program (M.Sc.) that is in line with level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and is designed for graduates of programmes which are related to wine, plant production, food sciences and other related disciplines. The programme offers its participants to gain a thorough knowledge and understanding in the fields of viticulture, oenology and wine economics and their applicability to a wide range of practical management situations, as well as sound theoretical background in an international context.

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<sup>2</sup> EQF = The European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning

The main learning outcomes of the Vinifera EuroMaster can be described as follows: Students will

- acquire basic skills for independent scientific work, especially with regard to acquisition and evaluation of literature, to the preparation of scientific texts and the critical handling of primary and secondary sources;
- acquire the problem-solving skills that are necessary to integrate knowledge from different scientific fields and to innovate within their profession;
- be able to analyse and solve problems of advisory or policy related activities within viticulture and winemaking development, in national or international companies or organisations;
- acquire a socially inclusive and sustainable practical knowledge at different levels (vineyard, cellar, company, administration);
- enhance their communication skills and will be able to interact with people of diverse cultural backgrounds effectively and appropriately;
- be trained in teamwork, presentation and moderation skills;
- thrive in a complex and unpredictable work context by being able to adopt flexible strategies;
- be able to cooperate in various interdisciplinary networks;
- take on leadership roles and provide meaningful contributions in their field, whether in academia or professionally.

Graduates of the Vinifera program will be well prepared to identify, analyse and communicate issues regarding the entire process, from grapes and sustainable wine production, estate/cellar technical management to business/marketing activities. Having the ability to solve professional issues based on a deepened engineering and economic sciences expertise, they are qualified for managerial positions in the wine sector such as a vineyard, cellar and laboratory manager, for consultancy, or are able to follow a full academic career continuing with a PhD after graduation.

## C Peer Report about Standards for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes in the EHEA

### 1. Eligibility

#### Criterion 1.1 Status

The institutions that offer a joint programme should be recognised as higher education institutions by the relevant authorities of their countries. Their respective national legal frameworks should enable them to participate in the joint programme and, if applicable, to award a joint degree. The institutions awarding the degree(s) should ensure that the degree(s) belong to the higher education degree systems of the countries in which they are based

#### Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:

As public institutions all six universities involved in the programme are legally recognised as higher education institutions by the responsible governmental institution of their home country.

#### Criterion 1.2 Joint design and delivery

The joint programme should be offered jointly, involving all cooperating institutions in the design and delivery of the programme.

#### Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:

The master's degree programme has been offered since 2009. In a cooperation agreement the universities defined their duties and rights, the structure of the programme, common panels for the administration of the programme and regulations for the admission of students. The universities of Turin and Udine offer additional courses by other Italian universities defined in subcontracts. Therefore students have the opportunity to visit courses at additional universities in Italy within the programme.

### **Criterion 1.3 Cooperation Agreement**

The terms and conditions of the joint programme should be laid down in a cooperation agreement. The agreement should in particular cover the following issues:

- Denomination of the degree(s) awarded in the programme
- Coordination and responsibilities of the partners involved regarding management and financial organisation (including funding, sharing of costs and income etc.)
- Admission and selection procedures for students
- Mobility of students and teachers
- Examination regulations, student assessment methods, recognition of credits and degree awarding procedures in the consortium

#### **Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The auditors confirm that the cooperation agreement covers the denomination of the programme's degree, the coordination and responsibilities of participating universities regarding financial organisation, the admission and selection procedure, the mobility of the students and the examination regulations.

For the administration of the programme, the participating universities defined several boards and committees within the cooperation agreement. Additionally, the participating universities commit to finance their own courses offered in the programme and to ensure access to their facilities.

#### **Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 1:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be fully met.

## **2. Learning Outcomes**

### **Criterion 2.1 Level (ESG 1.2)**

The intended learning outcomes should align with the corresponding level in the Framework for Qualifications in the European Higher Education Area (FQ-EHEA), as well as the applicable national qualifications framework(s).

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The study aims and intended learning outcomes of the programme are defined by the universities in correspondence with level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework. Learning outcomes are accessible to students, staff members, and all interested stakeholders through the programme's website.

**Criterion 2.2 Disciplinary field**

The intended learning outcomes should comprise knowledge, skills, and competencies in the respective disciplinary field(s).

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

Through the cooperation of six universities, students should acquire in-depth expertise in the entire fields of viticulture, oenology and wine economics and their applicability to a wide range of practical management situations, as well as sound theoretical background in an international context. Graduates should be well prepared to identify, analyse and communicate issues regarding the entire process, from grapes and sustainable wine production, estate/cellar technical management to business/marketing activities.

Depending on their choices for the second year of the programme students should get specialised competencies in the essential biological, technological and economic aspects of viticulture, enology and wine business, or they could deepen their capabilities in analysis of essential biological, technological and chemistry aspects of viticulture and enology, giving special regard to current research topics. They also can specialise in innovative applications in viticulture, enology and wine economics, management and marketing in order to become skilled managerial professionals for the global wine market

From the point of view of the peers, the current profile of the programme takes into account all modern aspects of the field. The study aims not only to focus on a wide range of sectoral aspects but also takes into account personal competences of the students. Therefore, the assessors easily comprehend that graduates are working in quite different fields.

**Criterion 2.3 Achievement (ESG 1.2)**

The programme should be able to demonstrate that the intended learning outcomes are achieved.

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The objectives were defined in the responsible committee established for the programme, which includes representatives of all participating universities. For the further development of the programme in total and the study aims in special the universities conduct meetings



with representatives from the total spectrum of wine companies. Additionally, alumni are involved in teaching in order to implement new requirements of the labour market. Finally the departments of the universities involved have close institutional and personal contacts to wine companies. The assessors understand that this approach to further develop the programme has proved its worth from the point of view of the universities as the programme has been running successfully since 2009.

Graduates of the last decade work mostly in small and medium sized (?) winery and farms, while in the last years a trend is coming that graduates work at large wineries. In these bigger companies positions are much more specialised than in small wineries so that a specialisation of the students is highly accepted by these employers. Nevertheless, the wide range of possible specifications offers jobs for the graduates in industry as well as at small wineries. As students from all over the world are enrolled in the programme, the field of labour activities is very broad in different companies, depending on the structure in the home country.

#### **Criterion 2.4 Regulated Profession**

If relevant for the specific joint programme, the minimum agreed training conditions specified in the European Union Directive 2005/36/EC, or relevant common trainings frameworks established under the Directive, should be taken into account.

Not relevant

#### **Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 2:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be fully met.

### **3. Study Programme (ESG 1.2)**

#### **Criterion 3.1**

The structure and content of the curriculum should be fit to enable the students to achieve the intended learning outcomes.

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The structure of the programme under review is clearly outlined on the subject-specific website. The programme consists of modules, which comprise a sum of teaching and learning. The module descriptions are also published on the subject-specific website. Based on the analysis of the sequence of modules and the respective module descriptions the auditors concluded that the objectives of the modules and their respective content help to reach both the qualification level and the overall intended learning outcomes.

The programme starts at the L'Institut Agro Montpellier with the mandatory modules Terroir and Company Auditing, Wine Biology, Wine Analysis, Economy for Wine Industry, Wine Enology and Physiology, Enology, Viticulture, Project Management, Language and Wine Processing. After the first year at the coordinating university in Montpellier students choose one of the partner universities for the third semester. At both Italian universities students may choose courses from other Italian universities as well. The master thesis in the fourth semester is written regularly at the university where they study in the third semester.

Students select the university and the courses of the third semester during the second semester. To enter the second year nearly all courses of the first year have to be passed by students. One retake only can be carried forward into the second year. Additionally students are not allowed to select a university in their home country for the second year.

In the case of an unbalanced selection of the students amongst the universities in the second year, the Master Board of Vinifera which includes all full-partners may distribute students to ensure a balanced allocation. Therefore students indicate a ranking list of all partner universities.

At Hochschule Geisenheim University the third semester is dedicated to expanding the students' competencies in the essential biological, technological and economic aspects of viticulture, enology and wine business, giving special regard to current research fields. Students are directly exposed to a wide range of adaptation strategies in grapevine breeding, vineyard management (including organic and biodynamic viticulture), precision technologies and site-specific cultivation, physical technologies in oenology, wine closure and packaging systems, marketing structures, wine tourism, life cycle analysis, and sustainability within a holistic approach. A research project allows students to have a smooth transition to subsequent specialization through the choice of their master's thesis topic.

At the University of Lisbon the second year is devoted to deepening the students' capabilities in analysis of essential biological, technological and chemistry aspects of viticulture and enology, giving special regard to current research topics. Students will continue their studies in the area of viticulture, enology, as well as in the wine business, to become deeply

involved in a wide range of mitigation strategies in the fields of advanced viticulture, mountain and semi-arid tropical viticulture, grape and wine derived products and by-products, fortified wines, as well as in wine stabilization and ageing.

A research project gives students an insight into subjects of a wide range of research topics. Two other master's thesis modalities are available for the M2 students in Lisbon: extended internship in a wine company or other institutions, and a project (like a winery or the establishment of a vineyard, etc.).

The second year at Technical University of Madrid focuses on innovative applications in viticulture, enology and wine economics, management and marketing. The enology specialization includes the use of emerging processing technologies, new fermentation biotechnologies, stabilization, aging and sensory content focused on winemaking in Mediterranean climates. In viticulture, the use of Spanish and international varieties, soil management, canopy, trellising, minimizing the use of irrigation and pesticides are some of the contents and objectives. In economics and marketing ways are discussed to improve the distribution, commercialization and added value of wine production.

At the University of Turin students engage in activities at research centres or large wineries globally, guided by qualified mentors. The training focuses on interdisciplinary skills, addressing complex issues in grapevine cultivation and wine production systems and advanced approaches in marketing, and promotion. Students can choose courses from affiliated Universities (Milan, Palermo, Foggia, Sassari) and select locations for their thesis and internships. The program offers tracks in "Personal", "Table Grape", and "Wine Diversity, Authenticity, and Safety".

At the Udine Consortium students have the opportunity to acquire several expertises spanning from viticulture, enology to wine marketing. Because of the different specializations at four universities involved, the students have the possibility to choose the most suitable for their expectations. Among viticultural topics, students can select modules dealing with grapevine physiology and climate change, advanced breeding techniques, analysis of terroir (soils and climates) and precision and sustainable techniques also adapted in mountain regions. From the enological point of view, there are modules dealing with innovative biomolecular, chemical and also technological methods, wine identity, typicality and wine authentication. Economy and wine marketing aspects are considered with specific modules analysing new communication tools, and sustainable and future perspectives in wine business.

In total the auditors find an overall very well structured programme which implements the intended programme objectives in a very good manner. The intended wide range of aspects

regarding wine is reflected in the modules. The programme clearly benefits from the combined modules of the participating universities. Each university offers modules concentrated on their core strength in research and teaching, so the programme offers a range of topics which could not be conducted by one university alone.

The experts also appreciate the excellent options for students to choose specialisations regarding their individual interest due to the opportunities to select different universities and a range of elective courses.

Students remarked during the onsite visit that in some cases professors teach different theories about the same topic. Due to the wide range of content it is understandable for the auditors that aspects are taught from different point of views. Nevertheless, it should be transparent for students by referring to other theories already mentioned in the programme. Therefore the auditors recommend to coordinate the content of the courses more intensively.

Only with regards to the intended soft skills in the study objectives, especially regarding the highlighted leadership competences the auditors (?) are sceptical about how it could be reached in the curriculum. They have no doubt that students get intercultural competences by studying in foreign countries with students from all over the world. And they also agree with the university that these competences are a useful qualification for leading positions in companies. Additionally, within the projects students get experiences in group work and in organising teams. Therefore, graduates are well prepared to take over active parts in any kind of companies in the wine sector. But the auditors do not see any special preparation in leadership competences in the curriculum, like psychological aspects, specific topics regarding human resources or specific trainings in team leading. From their point of view this would not be an outstanding task for this degree programme and therefore they recommend to rethink the description of the intended personal competences in the study objectives.

Regarding the internships the auditors learned that all students have to conduct a practical phase in a company after the first year before entering the third semester. Additionally, there is a second internship at the Italian universities. At the other universities the master thesis could be done at industry which is from the view of the assessors some kind of internship as well. In total the auditors see well structured opportunities for student to get practical experiences in the different sectors.

The auditors appreciate that in the language course in the first year students can not only select French but any language used in the consortium. In this context they learn that in Spain the courses are not taught in English as there are no specific courses for this pro-

gramme but international students visiting the same modules as national students. Additionally most of the students visiting Spain will work in Spanish speaking South American or California.

### **Criterion 3.2**

The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) should be applied properly and the distribution of credits should be clear.

#### **Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

As a credit point system, the universities use ECTS, which is based on the complete student workload during contact hours at the universities and self-study periods. Each Semester includes 30 ECTS-Points and the universities calculate 25-30 hrs of student workload per ECTS-Point. The auditors understand that due to national regulations the student workload differs at the different universities (different calculation of work hours per ECTS-point) but nevertheless they recommend to implement more standardized regulations in order to create a more homogenous structure of the programme.

### **Criterion 3.3 Workload**

A joint bachelor programme will typically amount to a total student workload of 180-240 ECTS-credits; a joint master programme will typically amount to 90-120 ECTS-credits and should not be less than 60 ECTS-credits at second cycle level (credit ranges according to the FQ-EHEA); for joint doctorates there is no credit range specified. The workload and the average time to complete the programme should be monitored.

#### **Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The overall workload in the programme is equivalent to 120 ECTS-Points in four semesters.

Compared to the objectives and the content, the workload defined for the individual modules seems to be realistic for the auditors and they see that structure-related peaks in the workload have been avoided. The students confirm this impression in general but mentioned that especially in the first year there could be an accumulation of workload at the end of semester as the timing of project works and exams is not always coordinated perfectly.

**Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 3:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be met generally. But the auditors recommend to overthink the description of the intended personal competences in the study objectives and to coordinate the content of the courses more intensively. Further on, they recommend to implement more standardized regulations regarding ECTS-Points in order to create a more homogenous structure of the programme.

## **4. Admission and Recognition (WSG 1.4)**

### **Criterion 4.1 Admission**

The admission requirements and selection procedures should be appropriate in light of the programme's level and discipline.

#### **Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The consortium of the universities has established a central application procedure, which is defined in the study regulations and the cooperation agreement. Responsible for the selection of applicants is the selection board, which consists of representatives of the participating universities.

The universities require a Bachelor's degree with at least 180 ECTS-Points in the fields of Agronomy / Agricultural Sciences, Plant Sciences & Technologies, Food Sciences & Technologies or closely related fields. Additionally, applicants have to prove sufficient language skills in English.

Applications meeting the above criteria are put through two selection rounds of academic admission. The selection process is managed by the selection board. Each application is evaluated by a panel of six professors, each representing one partner university. The process considers the academic qualifications of the applicant, their motivation, their experience in the vine and wine-related fields, their level of language proficiency, and the testimony from two reference contacts provided by the student.

Suitable candidates are invited for an application interview. Applicants are interviewed online during the plenary meetings of EMaVE by two professors. After the interviews, the applicants are ranked by the selection board

The admission of the selected applicants is in the responsibility of L'Institut Agro Montpellier. Students are enrolled at L'Institut Agro Montpellier for their complete studies. Nevertheless, they also have total access to the student services and support systems at the other universities during their stay.

The auditors find the terms of admission to be binding and transparent. They confirm that the admission procedure enables the universities to select the most qualified students. An admission under requirements to make up missing admission requirements is defined but not in use yet as there were sufficient qualified applicants up to now.

#### **Criterion 4.2 Recognition**

Recognition of qualifications and of periods of studies (including recognition of prior learning) should be applied in line with the Lisbon Recognition Convention and subsidiary documents.

#### **Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

Regarding the recognition of prior learning achievements, applicants can enter directly into the second year of the Vinifera EuroMaster if they can document a high level of prior qualification in Vine and Wine Sciences, or if they have completed the first year of a master's program at a Vinifera partner university or associated partner universities.

As all students have to study the second at a consortium partner outside their home country, the universities do not define a specific way to study abroad at universities which are not included in the consortium. Nevertheless, they define rules for the recognition of credits awarded to students externally corresponding to the Lisbon Recognition Convention.

#### **Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 4:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be fully met.

## **5. Learning, Teaching and Assessment (ESG 1.3)**

#### **Criterion 5.1 Learning and Teaching**

The programme should be designed to correspond with the intended learning outcomes, and the learning and teaching approaches applied should be adequate to achieve those. The diversity of

students and their needs should be respected and attended to, especially in view of potential different cultural backgrounds of the students.

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

In the programme various teaching and learning methods such as lectures, exercises, labs and projects are utilized. Group work is integrated in several modules. The auditors appreciate that a distinct student-oriented learning and teaching system is established.

They concluded, also with reference to the remarks of the students, that the teaching methods and instruments used support the students in achieving the learning outcomes.

**Criterion 5.2 Assessment of Students**

The examination regulations and the assessment of the achieved learning outcomes should correspond with the intended learning outcomes. They should be applied consistently among partner institutions.

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

Assessment methods are stipulated in the Exam Regulations and include a range of written, oral and practical examinations, projects, and portfolios that are used to evaluate the student's progress and fulfilment of the learning outcomes of a module. All module examinations are conducted at the end of the respective semester.

Students have to pass four to five exams per semester. If required, students can consult the lecturers regarding the results and the outcome of the results in order to discuss the assessments of their exams. All exams are organized by the administrative staff of L'Institut Agro Montpellier in the first year and the specific administrative unit at the respective partner in the second year.

During the first year a retake will be offered within the same study year and if required a second one through the partner universities during the second year. If students fail the exams during the second year, they follow the regulations of the partner university. At all partners, if compensations due to disadvantages of students will be required, students will receive a time compensation due to their disability during a written examination.

The Master's Thesis, written in the final months of the programme, is a project to be worked on individually. The projects can be entirely run in an academic institution or conducted in collaboration with business partners under the supervision of the respective partner university. Throughout their master's thesis, students must demonstrate that they can



make use of scientific methods to come to relevant new results in their given field. Each master's thesis is assessed by two professors of the respective consortium universities and has to be presented and defended before an academic audience of three examiners.

The auditors wonder that the examination system is not standardised in the programme and that even after more than 10 years different regulations of the partner universities are in use to conduct exams. E.g. in Montpellier all exams are conducted in one week after the lectures are finished and retakes are possible once a year while in Lisbon exams are spread over four weeks and failed exams can be repeated directly. Also the duration of the master thesis differs at the partner universities. The auditors understand that all partner universities follow primarily their own regulations and national requirements but nevertheless they recommend that the consortium further harmonise regulations and practices within the programme.

**Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 5:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be met generally. But the auditors recommend to implement more standardized regulations regarding examination system and seize of the master thesis in order to create a more homogenous structure of the programme.

## **6. Student Support (ESG 1.6)**

The student support services should contribute to the achievement of the intended learning outcomes. They should take into account specific challenges of mobile students

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

Regarding student support and services, all consortium universities have established various offers and services for their respective students which are available for students of the Vinifera programme as well. Specific services for students of this programme are offered through a central administrative staff of EMaVE at Montpellier and the International Offices of the consortium partner universities. This structure provides continuous support for current students in all matters pertaining to organizational and administrative aspects of their study program.

It has become a tradition to support prospective students prior to the start of the program (helping with accommodation, visa, insurance, transport, etc.), organize language courses and advice beyond studying, teaching and research (such as: support for their mobilities, career planning, etc.). This strategy has been realized at all partners and further stimulated

through partnerships and cooperation facilitating the international mobility of students and teaching staff.

The auditors are impressed by the distinct supporting system established by the universities over the years, which is explicitly praised by the students. The students assess the supporting system as extremely helpful regarding the challenging alternation of universities. Starting from helping with visa application to accommodation and all administrative issues, students are very satisfied with the support of the universities.

**Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 6:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be fully met.

## **7. Resources (ESG 1.5 & 1.6)**

**Criterion 7.1 Staff**

The staff should be sufficient and adequate (qualifications, professional and international experience) to implement the study programme.

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The academic staff and most of the administrative staff that contribute to the Vinifera EuroMaster are employees of the respective consortium universities and handle all matters regarding the program as part or in addition to their regular duties. For the support of the general management of the programme and the management of the first academic year of Vinifera, the EMaVE-Consortium has employed staff partly paid through the tuition fees of Vinifera EuroMaster.

For the administration of the programme, the participating universities defined several boards and committees in the cooperation agreement. The selection board is responsible for the student selection procedure. The examination committee deals with all questions regarding exams. For the assessment of the theses, the universities have established another board. All boards and committees are composed of members of the participating universities and in some cases additional external members and students. The auditors appreciate this distinct administrative structure, which ensures a well-structured organisation of the programme.

The reviewers see that the universities and institutes participating in the programme are connected excellently to national and international research networks. The distinct research activities, composition, scientific orientation and qualification of the teaching staff perfectly match with the intended learning outcomes and content of the programme. The quantity of the teaching staff ensures not only the implementation of the lectures but also the supporting and advisory system.

#### **Criterion 7.2 Facilities**

The facilities provided should be sufficient and adequate in view of the intended learning outcomes.

#### **Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The programme is totally financed by student fees. Within the cooperation agreement, the participating universities commit to ensure access to their facilities.

Heads of participating universities confirmed that in case the programme will stop all students enrolled may finish their studies and the programme will be financed by the universities for this time.

The peers are convinced that the financial means were sufficient and secured for the timeframe of the accreditation. The excellent equipment of the labs ensures the implementation of the programme.

#### **Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 7:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be fully met.

### **8. Transparency and documentation (ESG 1.8)**

Relevant information about the programme like admission requirements and procedures, course catalogue, examination and assessment procedures etc. should be well documented and published by taking into account specific needs of mobile students.

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The students, as well as all other stakeholders, have access to the module descriptions via the website of the programme. The auditors confirm that they include all necessary information about the persons responsible for each module, the teaching methods and workload, the awarded credit points, the intended learning outcomes, the content, the admission and examination requirements and the forms of assessment.

The auditors confirm as well that the students are awarded a Diploma and a Diploma Supplement after graduation. The Diploma Supplement contains all necessary information about the degree programme in order to give third parties an adequate overview about the profile and qualifications of graduates. With regard to the German regulations the auditors recommend to delete information regarding place and country of birth.

The auditors see that the rights and duties of both the universities and the students are clearly defined and constitute binding agreements. All rules and regulations are published on the universities websites and hence are available to all relevant stakeholders.

Additionally, the cooperation agreement defines specifications of the programme and the duties and responsibilities of the institutions involved.

Overall the auditors find that all relevant information regarding the programme such as admission requirements and procedures, course catalogue, examination and assessment procedures, etc. are well documented and published.

**Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 7:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be met generally. But the auditors recommend with regard to the national regulations in Germany not to inform about the place and country of birth of the graduates in the diploma supplement.

**9. Quality Assurance (ESG 1.1 & part 1)**

The cooperating institutions should apply joint internal quality assurance processes in accordance with part one of the ESG.

**Preliminary assessment and analysis of the peers:**

The reviewers find a continuous process in order that aims at improving the quality of the degree programme, which is based upon regular evaluation of the modules by students.

Each partner university evaluates all courses taught in the respective semester according to the local quality assurance mechanisms.

In the master board members are informed about specific issues resulting from evaluation results but the board does not get all results of the student evaluation in an institutionalised way. The auditors find that the individual lecturers use the evaluation results for their own courses but that there is no regular process to use the results for the further development of the programme as a whole. Therefore they recommend to inform the master board regularly about all results of the student evaluation.

During the onsite visit the auditors learned from the discussion with students that they would not get any feedback about the results of their evaluation, neither through discussions with lecturers nor do they have any other access to the results. Some of the lecturers explain on the other side that they would conduct discussion about the quality of the courses regularly with students and also discuss the results in class. But the auditors get the impression that this procedure is conducted only by a few lecturers and they find it necessary that the feedback loops will be closed also for the motivation of the students to evaluate the courses in a serious way.

### **Final assessment of the peers after the comment of the Higher Education Institution regarding criterion 6:**

As the university refrains from commenting, the experts confirm their previous assessment. They consider the criterion to be not completely met as students get not regularly information about the results of the teaching evaluations they are involved in. Therefore they suggest a corresponding requirement.

## **D Additional Documents**

No additional documents needed

## **E Comment of the Higher Education Institution**

The university refrains from commenting the report.

## F Summary: Peer recommendations

The auditors recommend the award of the seals as follows:

Degree Programme	European Approach	Maximum duration of accreditation
Ma European Master of Science in Viticulture and Enology (Vinifera EuroMaster)	With one requirement	30.09.2031

### Requirement

- A 1. (WA 9) Ensure that students get regularly information about the result of the teaching evaluations they are involved in.

### Recommendations

- E 1. (EA 3.1) It is recommended to overthink the description of the intended personal competences in the study objectives.
- E 2. (EA 3.1) It is recommended to coordinate the content of the courses more intensively.
- E 3. (EA 3.2, 5.2) It is recommended to implement more standardized regulations e.g. regarding examination system, ECTS-Points or size of the master thesis in order to create a more homogenous structure of the programme.
- E 4. (EA 8) It is recommended not to inform about the place and country of birth of the graduates in the diploma supplement.
- E 5. (EA 9) It is recommended to use data collected by the student evaluation more institutionalised for the further development of the programme.

## G Comment of the Technical Committee

The Technical Committee discusses the accreditation procedure and follows the assessment of the experts without any changes.

The Technical Committee 08 – Agriculture, Forestry and Food Sciences recommends the award of the seals as follows:

<b>Degree Programme</b>	<b>European Approach</b>	<b>Maximum duration of accreditation</b>
Ma European Master of Science in Viticulture and Enology (Vinifera EuroMaster)	With one requirement	30.09.2031

## H Decision of the Accreditation Commission

The Accreditation Commission discusses the procedure and follows the assessment of the auditors with editorial changes of some recommendations.

The Accreditation Commission decides to award the following seals:

<b>Degree Programme</b>	<b>European Approach</b>	<b>Maximum duration of accreditation</b>
Ma European Master of Science in Viticulture and Enology (Vinifera EuroMaster)	With one requirement	30.09.2031

### Requirements

- A 1. (EA 9) Ensure that students get regularly information about the result of the teaching evaluations they are involved in.

### Recommendations

- E 1. (EA 3.1) It is recommended to revise the description of the intended personal competences in the study objectives.
- E 2. (EA 3.1) It is recommended to coordinate the content of the courses more intensively.
- E 3. (EA 3.2, 5.2) It is recommended to strive for more standardized regulations in-between the different programme partners (e.g. ratio workload-ECTS, examination system, number of credit points for master thesis).
- E 4. (EA 8) It is recommended not to inform about the place and country of birth of the graduates in the diploma supplement.

- E 5. (EA 9) It is recommended to use data collected by the student evaluation more institutionalised for the further development of the programme.

## I Fulfilment of Requirements (24.09.2024)

### Analysis of the experts and the Technical Committee

- A 1. (EA 9) Ensure that students get regularly information about the result of the teaching evaluations they are involved in.

Initial Treatment	
Experts	<p>Fulfilled</p> <p>Justification:</p> <p>The consortium of the study programme decides on 29 July 2024 to enhance transparency and inclusivity of its quality management by</p> <p>a. Uploading the anonymized evaluation-sheet without personal comments to the “Moodle platform”, thus given all students access to the results</p> <p>and</p> <p>b. talking about the evaluation outcomes with students during a plenary meeting. For this topic, students of the current batch can connect through a digital format and participate in the discussion.</p> <p>With these regulations the universities ensure that students get regularly information about the results of the teaching evaluations they are involved in.</p>
TC 08	<p>Fulfilled</p> <p>Justification: The Technical Committee follows the assessments of the experts without any changes.</p>



## Decision of the Accreditation Commission (24.09.2024)

The Accreditation Commission discusses the procedure and follows the assessment of the auditors with editorial changes of some recommendations.

The Accreditation Commission decides to award the following seals:

<b>Degree Programme</b>	<b>European Approach</b>	<b>Maximum duration of accreditation</b>
Ma European Master of Science in Viticulture and Enology (Vinifera EuroMaster)	All Requirements fulfilled	30.09.2031

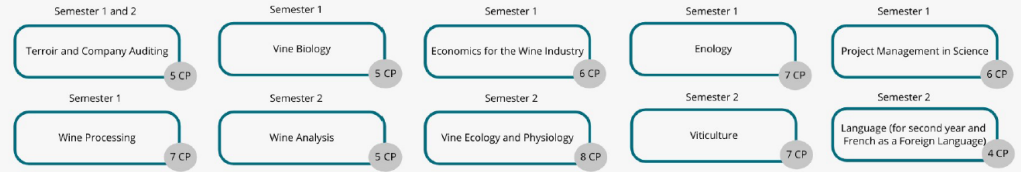
## **Appendix: Programme Curriculum**

The universities submit the following curriculum:

Appendix 3.2

M1: First study year | 60 Credits

France | 30 hours student-workload per credit  
Montpellier & Bordeaux



M2: Second study year at consortium partners | 60 Credits

Germany - Geisenheim | 30 hours student-workload per credit

Current Topics in Viticulture, Enology and Economics



Italy - Turin Consortium | 25 hours student-workload per credit

Wine Diversity, Authenticity and Safety Track



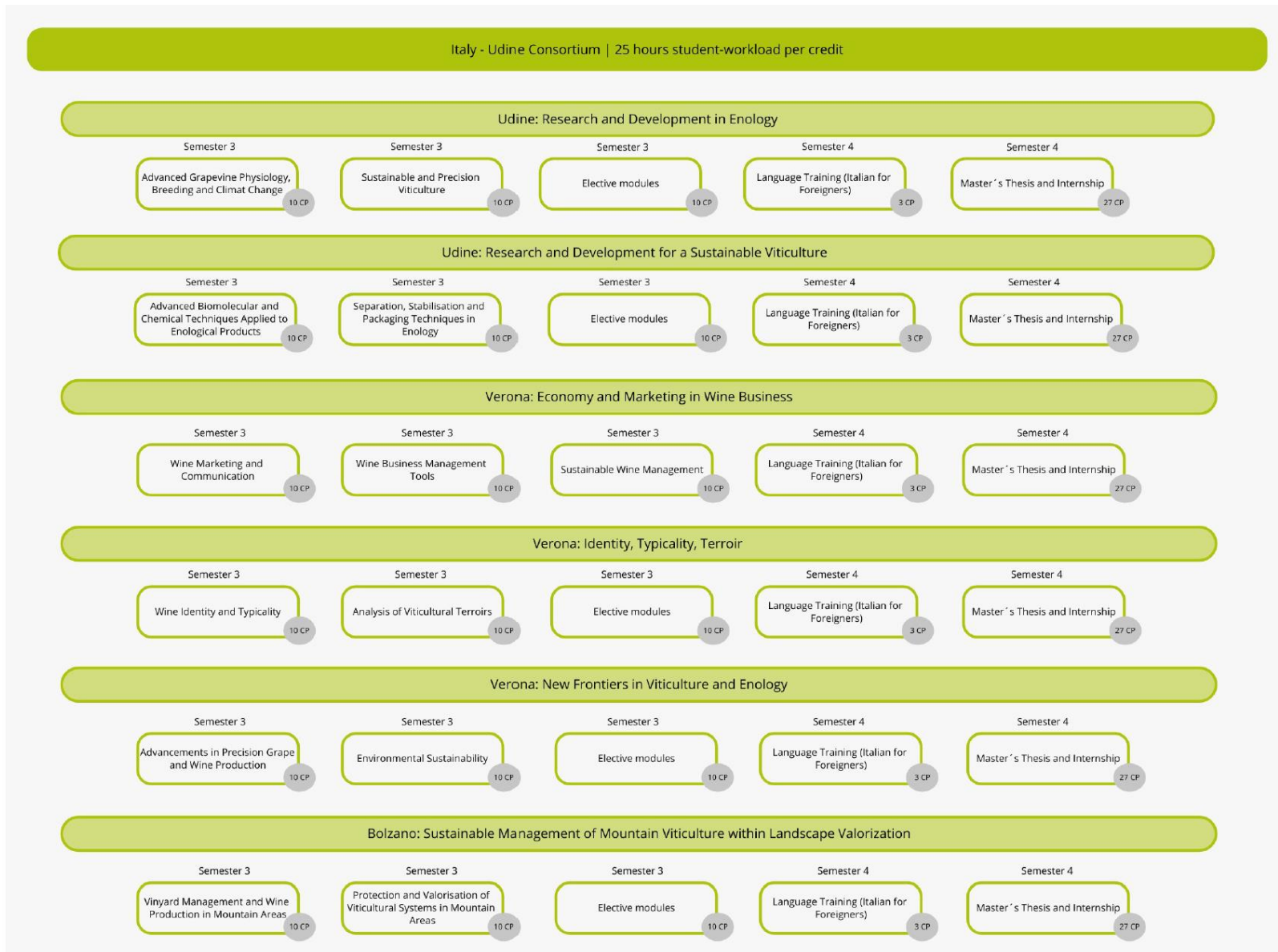
Tablegrape Track



Personal Track



## 0 Appendix: Programme Curriculum



0 Appendix: Programme Curriculum

