

PhD Course in " Financial Business Management and Crisis Prevention"

Coordinator: Prof. Maria Antonella Ferri - SSD SECS-P/08

Administrative Office: Piazza Mattei, no. 10 - Rome (RM) 00186

Expected course start date: 01 December 2024

Duration: 3 years

CUN Areas: 08 - Civil Engineering and Architecture, 09 - Industrial and Information Engineering, 11 - Historical, Philosophical, Pedagogical and Psychological Sciences, 12 - Legal sciences, 13 - Economics and Statistics, 14 - Political and Social Sciences.

Places: n. 13 Total places, of which: 10 with scholarship, 3 without scholarship.

DETAILS OF COMPETITIVE PLACES:

No. 3 scholarships funded by *Universitas Mercatorum*

- **Project theme 1: Protection of workers' rights in relocations and circulators of companies in crisis**
The aim of the research is to examine the legal frameworks that regulate the protection of workers in the transference and circulation phenomena of companies in crisis in different jurisdictions, through a comparative analysis with a focus on large companies subjected to special bankruptcy procedures. The analysis of circulatory events must include: transfers of companies or branches of companies, asset protection of workers' claims, protection of workers' subjective positions, identification of the branch, role of the OO.SS in the transfer of the role of the judiciary with consideration of the most important decisions
- **Project theme 2: Relaunching Italian SMEs: an integrated crisis management model**
The research project will focus on the business recovery strategies that Italian SMEs could adopt for crisis management and, consequently, for the restoration of the prospects of continuation of their activities. The objective is to arrive at an integrated model of management and resolution of the business crisis ad hoc per small and medium-sized enterprises that can be used as a valid resolution tool.
- **Project theme 3: Financial strategies and prevention tools for the survival and success of SMEs**
The research project aims to analyse the financial strategies that SMEs can adopt to optimise financial management, increase market value and prevent crisis situations. Particular attention will be given to: the construction and evaluation of alert indicators and tools for early detection of business crisis; analysis of legal instruments and operations to be carried out in the event of a business crisis; the definition and implementation of solutions for the management of financial imbalances, be they cyclical or structural.

Research activities: periods of study and research at the University/ Company/ Public Body/ Research Centers, etc... (divided into the 3 years of the course) ; study and research periods abroad (6 months).



No. 2 scholarships funded by *Pegaso Telematic University*

- **Project theme 1: The position of creditors in business crisis management**
The research project aims to deepen the evolution of the role of creditors in relation to the business crisis, in the light of the new underlying philosophy of the Crisis Code, that has profoundly changed the approach to the instruments offered by the legal system to face the economic and financial difficulties of the enterprises, in coherence with the indications coming from the European Union (especially with the 2019 directive on preventive restructuring frameworks and the most recent proposal for a directive on pre-insolvency and insolvency procedures), which move in an accentuated perspective c.d. "debtor oriented".
- **Project theme 2: The operative declinations of the demand for adequate organizational structures: the ability to continuously monitor the financial flows, past and prospective.**
The aim of the research, building on the systems already developed by literature and practice, is to address the issue of flow monitoring with due regard to the need for effectiveness but with as much attention to the issue of operational simplicity and the cost of producing financial information, especially in the perspective of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Research activities: periods of study and research at the University/ Company/ Public Body/ Research Centers, etc... (divided into the 3 years of the course) ; study and research periods abroad (6 months).

No. 5 scholarship for the resources of the PNRR, pursuant to D.M. 630/2024, M4C2 - Inv. 3.3

- **No. 1 scholarship co-financed by the company "Trevi Immobiliare Srl"**
Project theme: Business crisis in the real estate sector: focus on judicial auctions and the role of professionals
The aim of the research is to examine the dynamics of the business crisis in the real estate sector, placing the emphasis on its peculiarities and the impact on the delicate phase of real estate execution. The analysis will focus in particular on judicial auctions, sales procedures, the role of custodians and sales representatives, as well as the fundamental contribution of professionals in this scenario. It will be stressed that the business crisis is characterised by factors such as the lasting value of buildings, the complexity of procedures and the sensitivity of judicial auctions.
- **No. 1 scholarship co-financed by the company "IUM Academy School Srl"**
Project theme: Negotiated business crisis settlement with a focus on the training sector.
The objective of the research is to support the training sector through an empirical study on the application of negotiated crisis settlement, verifying the relationship between characteristics of enterprises (sector, size, composition of administrative and supervisory bodies, etc.) and the outcome of negotiated settlement. The study will make it possible to improve the approach of businesses, legal professionals and certified public accountants, affecting their ability to contribute to the rehabilitation of companies in crisis and the overall efficiency of the country's justice system.
- **No. 1 scholarship co-financed by the company "Confederazione Federterziario"**
Project theme: Financial and value creation strategies and safeguarding the existence of the enterprise
The research project will focus on the role of collective bargaining, workers' welfare, continuing education as well as the issue of capitalization and over-indebtedness. Issues that become a relevant focus in the context of defining financial and value creation strategies or safeguarding the existence of the company.

Research activities: periods of study and research at the Company (18 months in 3 years); study and research periods abroad (6 months).

- **N. 2 scholarship co-financed by the company "European Network on cultural management and policy - ENCATC"**
Project theme 1: Digital transition in European nonprofit cultural organizations as a tool for crisis prevention
The research project will be based on a systematic analysis of best practices and case studies across the entire European context, to provide a broader understanding of different dynamics and scenarios that could also be useful for the Italian context. The ENCATC case study will be used as a practical example to implement



the research, expecting the results to be replicable on a large scale in other organizations across Europe. The research will focus on the use of digital tools as essential and innovative means for organizations to improve management and prevent crises.

Research activities: study and research periods at the Enterprise, (18 months in the 3 years, location: Brussels - Belgium); study and research periods abroad (6 months). Excellent knowledge of the English language required.

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Project theme 2: Data collection and management to better inform the development and management of cultural organizations to improve financial management and prevent crises

The objective of the research is to collect, organize and manage data within enterprises, used as tools to support strategic areas of the company, improve its financial and economic management, guide the development and restructuring of corporate policies and prevent crises and stimulate innovation. The research will focus on the use of digital tools as essential and innovative means for innovative management of organizations to improve management and prevent crises

Research activities: study and research periods at the Enterprise (6 months in the 3 years, location: Brussels - Belgium); study and research periods abroad (6 months). Excellent knowledge of the English language required.

No. 3 places without scholarship

- **Project theme:** free.

Research activities: periods of study and research at the University/ Company/ Public Body/ Research Centers, etc... (divided into the 3 years of the course) ; study and research periods abroad (6 months).

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION:

Possession, by 31.10.2024, of one of the following master's degrees or corresponding degree obtained according to the previous legislation:

- LMG/01 Class of master's degrees in law
- LM-16 Finance
- LM-52 International Relations
- LM-56 Sciences of Economics
- LM-63 Public Administration Sciences
- LM-76 Economics for the Environment and Culture
- LM-77 Economics and Business Sciences
- LM-83 Actuarial and Financial Statistics
- LM/GASTR Economic and social sciences of gastronomy
- LM/SC-GIUR Legal Sciences
- 19/S (specialized in finance)
- 22/S (specialist in jurisprudence)
- 59/S (specialized in advertising and business communication)
- 60/S (specialist in international relations)
- 64/S (specializing in economics)
- 71/S (specialist in public administration sciences)
- 83/S (specializing in economics for the environment and culture)
- 84/S (specializing in business studies)
- 91/S (specialists in economic, financial and actuarial statistics)
- 102/S (specialized in theory and techniques of standardization and legal information)
- LMG/01 CASE LAW)

In the case of a qualification obtained abroad, the assessment of the requirement will be carried out by the Selection Board.

Other requirements for foreign students:

- qualification obtained abroad recognized as equivalent to the Italian title for the purposes of enrolling in the doctorate;
- certified knowledge of the Italian language (level B1).

PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING THE TESTS:

How to select:

- **Evaluation of qualifications**, including the compulsory submission of a research project prepared according to the indications of the competition;
- **Interview** that will be carried out in the manner indicated by art. 6 of the notice of competition;
- **Language proficiency**: English language. For foreign candidates will also be evaluated the knowledge of the Italian language.

The test calendar will be published on the dedicated web page:

<https://www.unimercatorum.it/ricerca/iscrivarsi-a-un-dottorato-40>

Web page of the PhD:

<https://www.unimercatorum.it/ricerca/dottorato-di-ricerca-in-gestione-finanziaria-dimpresa-e-prevenzione-della-crisi-24>

Useful contacts: dottorati@unimercatorum.it