

FAQ

PhD IN
PROJECT MANAGEMENT

JOIN US :

»A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.« Lao Tzu



ALMA MATER
EUROPAEA
ECM

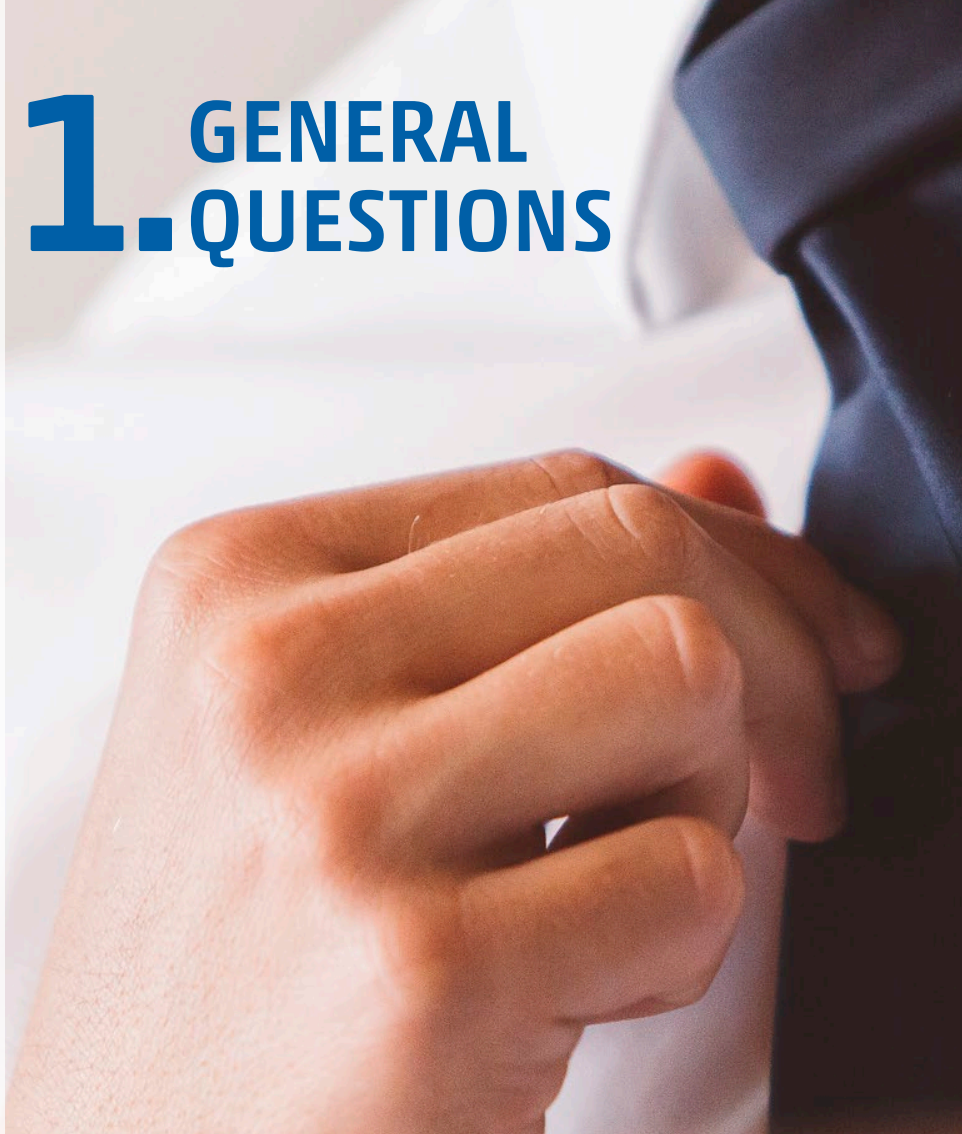
WHAT IS ALMA MATER EUROPAEA?

Alma Mater Europaea is an international university initiated by the European Academy of Sciences and Arts in Salzburg, Austria. The Academy unites about 2,000 top scientists, including 34 Nobel Prize winners. Over 2,000 students from 30+ countries study at Alma Mater's doctoral, master, and bachelor programs in humanities, project management, artificial intelligence, sustainable development, business, strategic communication, social gerontology, physical therapy and nursing.

Numerous leading scholars have taught or lectured at Alma Mater or its events. They include: Jeffrey Sachs, the economist and global sustainable development leader; Harvard Law School professor Mark Tushnet; Oxford professors Jacob Rowbottom and Martin Kemp; German political scientist Werner Weidenfeld, András Sajó, Facebook and Instagram oversight board member and former European Court of Human Rights vice-president; Yale University professor Fred Volkmar; and Cambridge's David Erdos.

Slovenian Constitutional Court judge Klemen Jaklič taught at Harvard for seven years before joining Alma Mater. Prominent philosophers Alain Badiou, Jean-Luc Nancy, and Srećko Horvat have addressed Alma Mater students.

1. GENERAL QUESTIONS





Alma Mater faculty have partnered with or presented their research at universities worldwide, including at Oxford, Harvard, Columbia, Stanford, UCLA, and Yale. Their expert opinions have appeared in media outlets such as the Financial Times, the Guardian, the Washington Post, and the Wall Street Journal. Students meet and receive direct insight from the world's political and business leaders, including presidents, prime ministers, and European Union (EU) commissioners Maroš Šefčovič, Mariya Gabriel, and Dubravka Šuica.

Students enroll in Alma Mater Europaea ECM in Slovenia. At the successful conclusion of their studies they obtain a university degree in Slovenia, an EU member state, making the diplomas fully recognizable in all European countries and worldwide.

WHAT IS THE PhD IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT?

The Alma Mater Europaea PhD in Project Management (PM) is focused on project, program, and portfolio management. The study is designed for professionals and researchers who wish to improve their creative leadership competencies. It is also aimed at managers and executives implementing project models, and is suitable for public agency staff, consultants, academics, entrepreneurs, and young professionals who have decided to develop their professional capacities further.

The program prepares students to think and act strategically while contributing to the profession and the environment. The EU recognizes the program, staff, and learning outcomes, and it is therefore acknowledged worldwide.

At Alma Mater you will work with scholars, leading academics, and practitioners as you contemplate the complexities of project management. Your education and research will contribute directly to thinking and acting strategically, contributing to the world of projects.

Besides gaining specific competencies in the management of projects, programs, and portfolios, students have opportunities to specialize in other areas, such as risk management, mega-projects management, objectification, project teamwork, and time and cost management in projects.

WHAT IS THE CURRICULUM OF A PhD PROJECT MANAGEMENT?

In the first year there are six courses and two seminars. The second and third years concentrate on students' individual work, primarily on thesis proposal development, research, and thesis defense.

IS THE STUDY PROGRAM ACCREDITED?

Official state accreditation bodies fully accredit all Alma Mater Europaea study programs. Its diplomas are fully recognized in all European countries and worldwide.

HOW LONG DO THE STUDIES LAST, AND IS IT ONLINE?

Duration: 6 semesters or three years.

Credits: 180 ECTS

Title: PhD in Project Management or Doctor of Science in Project Management

Language: English

Location: Virtual with annual sessions in Austria, Slovenia, Germany or Italy

Program Delivery: Hybrid (online and in-person)

Start Date: October

Expected Graduation: September 2026

HOW IS THE PROGRAM STRUCTURED?

The full study program lasts 36 months, but you may be able to finish it earlier. There are six semesters, each of four months. Alternately, you can also extend the study time, if it suits your needs

2. THE STUDIES





THE STUDY CURRICULUM

First Year: six courses with exams (three compulsory and three elective); two seminars on specific topics within the project program and portfolio management.

Second Year: doctoral proposal preparation; two compulsory PM workshops; case study research; PM conference participation; paper (presentation and publication) at a PM conference.

Third Year: doctoral dissertation research; research article in a journal in Web of Science or Scopus; company visit and presentation of research results at an industrial partner (company, organization); paper published in a listed project management journal.

HOW MANY INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS STUDY AT ALMA MATER EUROPAEA?

The Alma Mater student body is diverse. There are students from more than 40 countries and five continents. A vast majority of the MA and PhD students are from abroad.

WHAT KIND OF EXPERIENCE DO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HAVE AT ALMA MATER EUROPAEA?

Watch the video...

WHEN DO CLASSES START AND END AT THE ALMA MATER?

Classes start in mid-November and end in early June each academic year.

IS ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS MANDATORY?

We expect our students to attend meetings, submit assignments, and contribute to the Alma Mater community. Attendance is compulsory for the theoretical lessons held online and for the hours of training provided each year.

HOW ARE THE COURSES ORGANIZED?

The courses take place in a hybrid arrangement.

- The first-year program comprises courses and individual seminars (blended program, in-class and online). The calendar of lessons is distributed at the beginning of the academic year.
- The second-year and third-year programs concentrate on individual work, with a supervisor on thesis development and delivery, such as research workshop participation, case studies, papers publishing, and attendance at events.
- For in-class lectures, we practice live streaming and record the lectures.

HOW ARE THE INNOVATIVE STUDY METHODS AT ALMA MATER EVALUATED BY STUDENTS?

The results of the student surveys carried out each year show that they find the quality of execution of the lessons and exercises to be exceedingly high.

DOES AN ALMA MATER STUDENT GET HEALTH INSURANCE, MEAL DISCOUNT, AND VISA?

Yes. The Alma Mater student has legal status under Slovenian law and so is eligible for an EU visa, health insurance, and meal vouchers in Slovenia, subject to national laws.

WHAT INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES DOES ALMA MATER USE TO COMMUNICATE WITH STUDENTS?

Alma Mater uses modern information and communication technologies (student e-booklet, internet classroom, e-mails, SMS messages). Study combines live lessons, videoconferences, recorded lessons, electronic communication, and suitable electronic material.

WHO ARE THE INSTRUCTORS OF THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT PhD PROGRAM?

Alma Mater Europaea's professors and lecturers are world-class scholars, scientists, and in many cases, business leaders. CEOs of international corporations often give guest lectures and share their experience with students. They offer unparalleled knowledge and experience that students find invaluable in their careers and everyday lives. See the list on the [website](#).

I AM A NON-EUROPEAN STUDENT. WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM THE STUDIES?

Alma Mater students – many of whom are not European – receive the benefit of getting to know Europe, including its culture and business habits, to its fullest extent. Students from outside the EU can study and work part-time under an EU visa while residing in Slovenia or Austria.

WHAT IS AN INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP?

During your studies, you can work in an EU member state working in a corporate, governmental, or nonprofit office.

HOW DO STUDENTS TAKE EXAMS?

Most of the exams will be available online. Two courses will be completed during in-person meetings. Some exams will be assignments that the student must complete and submit, whether individually or in a group.

IN WHAT LANGUAGE WILL THE LECTURES BE DELIVERED?

All lectures, activities, and student submissions are in English.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOT TAKE ALL THE EXAMS REQUIRED BY THE STUDY PLAN?

Each student must obtain 50 credits in the first year in order to progress to the second year. Additional exam sessions can be organized at the university's discretion, upon request by the student, and at additional cost. A student unable to accumulate the necessary credits can request an extension, or can take a sabbatical year during which the missing exams can be taken.

WHAT DEGREE IS AWARDED TO ME AFTER COMPLETING THE COURSE OF STUDY?

The title obtained is Doctor of Science in Project Management.



3. APPLICATION AND ENROLLMENT

DOES ALMA MATER ORGANIZE OPEN DAYS OR ONLINE ORIENTATIONS?

Alma Mater organizes open days each year, usually before the start of the academic year. Online orientations take place about once a month.

IS IT NECESSARY TO PASS AN ADMISSION TEST TO BECOME A STUDENT?

No, there is no admission test. The university will evaluate your CV and application.

HOW CAN I APPLY?

Get in touch with us by completing a simple online form. In doing so, you are not agreeing to enrol in the program. The form merely tells us something about you as a candidate.

A representative of the university will contact you, and will answer your questions. If chosen by the selection board, we will invite you to enrol.

CAN I REQUEST RECOGNITION OF CREDITS AND HAVE SOME EXAMS VALIDATED?

Yes, it is possible to request recognition for credits from other institutions. When you complete the form, give details of the credits you obtained at another institution. The cost of the credit recognition procedure is EUR 1000.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

To enroll in the PhD in Project Management, a student must hold a master's degree from a university and must be able to demonstrate professional focus and English language proficiency.

4. THE UNIVERSITY FEE



WHAT ARE THE TUITION FEES FOR STUDY COURSES AT ALMA MATER?

They are published on [website](#).

WHAT IS THE COST OF THE ENTIRE PROGRAM?

Tuition is EUR 8,600 per year (two semesters). If you have completed a four-year undergraduate program and can graduate early from Alma Mater Europaea because of the credits you received from your undergraduate classes, a cost reduction may be possible. The cost includes all courses, literature and materials, and access to an e-classroom with videos of all lectures.

CAN I PAY IN INSTALLMENTS?

A payment of EUR 2,000 is required upon enrollment. You can pay the remainder in equal amounts over five or eight installments. If an installment plan is used, we will add an administration fee of EUR 20 to each payment.

CAN I APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?

Applicants can apply for the scholarship provided by the Academicus Foundation. Its fund provides scholarships for three years of study for up to EUR 6,000 (EUR 2,000 per year). Academicus scholarships are intended for successful and talented students, students with financial needs, and other students.

The scholarship can be requested using the form. This application does not oblige the candidate to enroll and is not binding. Applicants will receive information on the approved scholarship amount within 10 days after the application deadline.

BESIDES THE UNIVERSITY FEE, WHAT OTHER COSTS MUST THE STUDENT COVER?

The student must pay an admission fee of EUR 100 for each year of study.

CAN I PAY THE TUITION FEE AND OTHER FEES IN CASH AT THE ALMA MATER STUDENT OFFICE?

No. Payment in cash at the Student Office is not possible. Alma Mater accepts credit card payments or bank transfers.

CAN A LEGAL ENTITY PAY THE TUITION FOR ME?

Yes. A legal entity such as a corporation can also pay the tuition for a student.

5. CAREER PATHWAYS

WHERE CAN I FIND WORK WITH THE QUALIFICATION OBTAINED?

Job prospects are numerous. They include careers in business, government, non-governmental organizations, and research institutions.

WHAT IS THE LIKELIHOOD OF EMPLOYMENT FOR A GRADUATE OF ALMA MATER EUROPAEA?

Alma Mater Europaea graduates have the highest employment rate of all Slovenian higher education institutions. It offers graduates a rich and diverse academic environment, and provides opportunities for intellectual development and the acquisition of professional knowledge and skills. Most importantly, it can lead to employment at home or abroad.

WILL I HAVE TO GET MY DEGREE OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED IN MY COUNTRY?

A degree from Alma Mater Europaea is acknowledged and valid in all EU member states and other countries. If you want the recognition of your degree officially confirmed by your country's authorities, Alma Mater Europaea can assist you in getting such authorization through its partnerships in various countries.

6. STUDENT LIFE

WHERE CAN I STAY WHEN ATTENDING IN-PERSON MEETINGS?

Alma Mater can arrange a discounted rate at a hotel that will not exceed EUR 140 a night, but you may book any other accommodation. Students are responsible for their travel to the location of the in-person sessions in mid-March each year. Alma Mater will provide lunch free of charge.

Grant applications for travel expenses are welcome and will be considered case by case.

WHAT STUDENT GROUPS CAN I JOIN, AND WHAT IS THE ALMA MATER STUDENT COUNCIL?

The Student Council is the representative body of the students of the Alma Mater, in which all study programs are equally represented. Its primary purpose is to ensure quality programs and extra-curricular activities, practical cooperation between students, the faculty council, and management, and to strengthen the sense of belonging to the profession and to the Alma Mater.

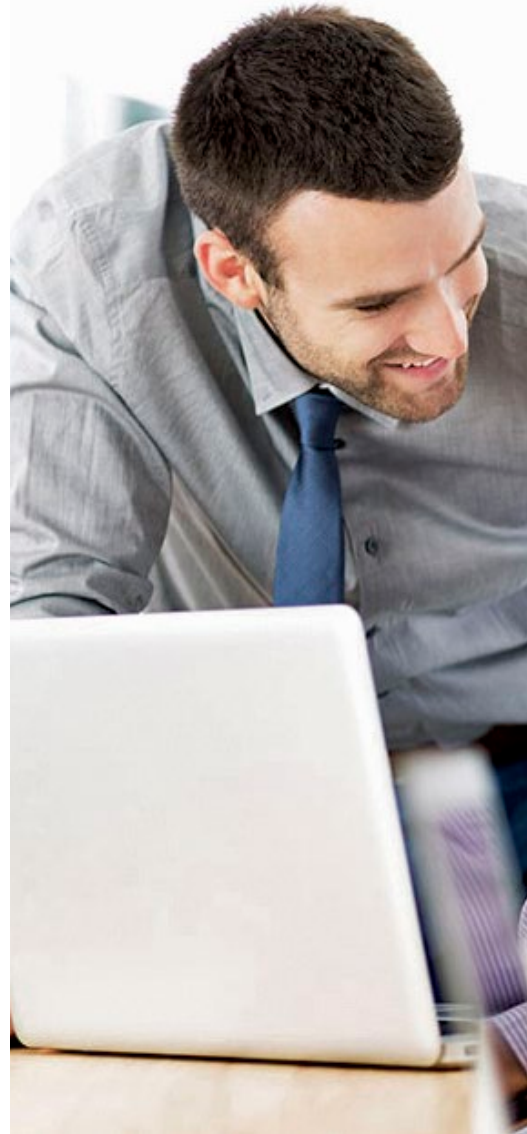
DOES ALMA MATER ORGANIZE STUDENT EXCHANGES AS PART OF THE ERASMUS+ PROGRAM?

Yes. Alma Mater has signed Erasmus+ mobility agreements with more than 100 universities throughout Europe. Among them are highly ranked universities such as KU Leuven and Sapienza University of Rome. For more information on mobility, visit the [website](#).

IN WHAT PROJECTS DO ALMA MATER STUDENTS PARTICIPATE?

We support students in all their activities and endeavors. More than 20 social activities take place at Alma Mater, including: Team Alma Mater, a sports association (an inter-university football, basketball, and volleyball league); the University Sports Association, where students as members benefit from such advantages as cheaper exercise and cheaper ski tickets; the Alma Mater Alumni Club, and the like.

Students often participate in international conferences.





The Student Council organizes social events for students in collaboration with the tutors or the Alma Mater Team. Students are active as volunteers in the promotion of healthy lifestyles.

A German course is offered free of charge to students. Upon request they can also learn the German terminology in their field of study, since after graduating, many of our students find work in neighboring Austria.

IS ALMA MATER PRESENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

Alma Mater has social media profiles on many platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Alma Mater regularly publishes its Newsletter.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE CONTENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL COURSES OFFERED BY ALMA MATER?

Visit our [WEBSITE](#).



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Dr Reinhard Wagner

»The PhD in Project Management was an ideal complement to my professional career, which has been dedicated to project management for many years. The program at the Alma Mater Europaea - ECM is highly international, provides valuable impulses for dealing with project management from a scientific perspective, and really gives a boost to one's career, whether with a professional background or even with the ambition of a scientific career.«



Dr Gunnar Lühr

»Alma Mater Europaea's PhD program in Project Management allowed me to explore the field that interests me. My studies gave me in-depth knowledge of my professional area and various projects.«