

Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna

Department of Interpreting and Translation

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Type of organisation:						
SME	<input type="checkbox"/>	School	<input type="checkbox"/>	University	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Authority
Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	No Profit	<input type="checkbox"/>	NGO	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (Specify)		<input type="text"/>				

Fields of action :						
SMEs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Universities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Authorities
Equal opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unemployed	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other (Specify)		<input type="text"/>				

Description of the organisation

The University of Bologna was founded in 1088. It is one of the most renowned and prestigious universities across Europe. It is the most populated university community in Italy, with 86.000 enrolled students, 2800 teaching professors (full, associate and assistant) and 3000 technical-administrative staff. UNIBO is a comprehensive higher education institution with 32 departments and 219 Degree Programmes: **92** first cycle programmes (BA), **114** second cycle programmes (MA) and **13** single cycle programmes. UNIBO also offers **45** PhD programmes, **52** specialisation schools, **74** professional courses, 16 of which are international.

UNIBO is a multi-campus university with 5 campuses in the Emilia-Romagna region: the main and oldest campus in Bologna, plus 4 additional campuses in Cesena, Forlì, Ravenna and Rimini. Each campus has its own distinct scientific and educational identity and maintains active and strong collaboration ties with local authorities, organisations and communities with a view to enhancing the cultural, economic and social development of these territories.

Strongly rooted in its territory, UNIBO is the most internationalised of all Italian universities:

- Internationalised educational offer: out of 219 degree programmes activated at UNIBO, 69 are international, of which 36 leading to a dual/multiple/joint title issued with other universities
- Recruitment of international students - UNIBO has 6,300 international students regularly enrolled in its degree courses.
- Participation in international networks of E&T and of research among which: Utrecht Network, Coimbra Group, The Guild, UNIMED, UNA Europa and Climate KIC, EIT Digital and EIT Raw Material
- Participation in EU funded projects in the period 2014-2019: UNIBO has participated in 147 Erasmus+ projects and in 244 H2020 projects, plus 27 other EU-funded research projects (Interreg, Life, Creative Europe, COST)
- Mobility - Every year, more than 2,200 EU students come to UNIBO on exchange programmes, and over 2,700 UNIBO students spend a study period in other EU countries. In 2018 UNIBO was the **1st** University in Europe for Erasmus+ international mobility. If we consider also extra-EU mobility, these figures increase to more than 3,000 incoming students, and over 3,100 outgoing UNIBO students who spend a study period abroad.

As far as the specific topics of this project, in particular languages, digital education and innovative educational formats, UNIBO has developed a 5 year strategy summarised on the website [ALMA2021](#) where innovative teaching, digitalization, multilingualism and interculturality and internationalisation at home are presented as specific mid-term projects of the strategy under the macro-pillars of the strategy named “teaching” and “digital transformation”.

UNIBO will participate in the project through the Department of Translation and Interpretation.

The Department of Interpreting and Translation (Dipartimento di Interpretazione e Traduzione) was set up in 2012 in its current configuration; its members are Professors and Researchers coming from the former School of Modern Languages for Interpreters and Translators (SSLMIT). The DIT represents, thus, the knowledge and cultural identity of SSLMIT, which, for three decades, has been training professional interpreters and translators. The main fields of research of DIT members are: translation, interpreting, language and intercultural mediation, linguistics, intercultural studies, gender studies, history and foreign languages and literatures.

The Department is a member of CIUTI, the world's most prestigious association of translation and interpreting university institutes, the MA degree course in Specialised Translation has been part of the European Master of Translation (EMT) network of excellence since its creation, and the MA degree course in Interpreting is part of the European Master's in Conference Interpreting.

As part of its strategy to keep pace with the most recent advances in the technological field and the international job market, the Department has established partnerships with software houses in the translation/interpreting field (SDL, Kilgray, Atril), and has collaborated with important multinational companies (Ferrari, Ferragamo and Luxottica, among others) for the development of translational and terminological resources.

The international dimension of DIT and its ability to attract funds is further testified by a number of research projects: these include, in the period 2011-2020, 7 projects funded at the EU level (2 within the Criminal Justice programme, 2 within the Lifelong Learning programme, 1 by the European Science foundation and 4 Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic partnership projects) and 3 at the national level ("PRIN" projects).

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

In the last 5 years Bologna has been selected as coordinator and partner in a large number of EU projects, in order to foster internationalization of education through activities such as the creation of joint programmes and modules, the organization of mobility flows, the creation of mobility windows within study programmes and the development of special services for international students. Many Erasmus+ funded projects are financing innovative educational programmes and are closely linked to the needs of society, as foreseen by the Strategic Plan of the University, and which foster innovation in research, education and increasingly on the Third Mission of the University, namely the close links to the needs of society, social responsibility and the social inclusion. Specifically regarding the last year Erasmus+ calls, we have been selected for 9 KA1 EMJMD, 7 KA1 Consortia, 67 KA2 Strategic Partnerships, 2 KA2 Knowledge Alliances project, 31 KA2 Capacity Building projects, 9 KA3 project, 18 Jean Monnet projects, 3 Sport projects, and 1 University Alliance (UNA EUROPA/1Europe).

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Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

The University of Bologna has developed a 5 year strategy summarised on the website ALMA2021 where innovative teaching, digitalization, multilingualism and interculturality and internationalisation at home are presented as specific mid-term projects of the strategy under the macro-pillars of the strategy named "teaching" and "digital transformation". In terms of the commitment of UNIBO to supporting and developing foreign language competences, the Multilingualism project has set up, through the Language Centre specific courses in Academic English for teaching staff and doctoral students and a series of courses aimed specifically at language competence in professional and administrative staff. The Language Centre, moreover, has developed a substantial offer in Italian language, both on line and in the classroom, to cater for the needs of incoming students. With the help of specific competences available in the Department for Interpreting and Translation, the Multilingual project has begun an experimental "Educational Interpreting" project giving interpreting support to degree courses taught primarily in English, and organized courses in languages as part of degree programmes in non-linguistic and non-literary areas.

The main fields of research of DIT members are: translation, interpreting, language and intercultural mediation, linguistics, intercultural studies, gender studies, history and foreign languages and literatures. DIT offers a Bachelor's degree course, two Master's degree courses and a PhD. The high quality of teaching is also testified by DIT attractiveness, with an average percentage of students enrolled in the selection tests ranging between 300% and 650% of available places. The Department has more than 10 equipped labs for teaching simultaneous interpretation and for computer-assisted and multimedia translation.

Contributions that can be provided to the project

The QuILL project can rely on a long-term expertise developed by DIT teachers and researchers in the field of language learning and teaching, with 12 foreign languages taught at BA and MA levels by mother tongue lecturers.

The competences in language learning and course development acquired and substantiated in the Language Centre and the DIT will be at the disposal of the QUILL project.

Reasons of involvement in the project

Digital innovation is on the Italian political agenda of the last years. This focus has been accelerated by the COVID-19 Pandemic and its impact on daily work and on learning processes at all level of education.

The university of Bologna has promoted the digital transformation of educational services shortly after the lockdown and in the second semester of 19-20 all the activities, including lessons, exams and thesis discussions, have been realised online. In A.y. 2020-2021 lessons have started in a blended format to allow students to attend both online or physically. In order to sustain the digital access, UNIBO has promoted a specific policy offering students resources (SIM cards) and facilities (secure places where to access to online activities).

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Sandro M. Moraldo is Associate Professor of German Languages at the University of Bologna, Department of Interpreting and Translation. His main research interests in German linguistics are in the field of Interactional Linguistics, German as a Foreign Language, the German Language and the New Media and Spoken Language. He is interested in applied linguistics insofar as he investigates the didacticization of phenomena of language change in German in the teaching of German as a foreign language. He has organized numerous international conferences and congresses on language criticism, language change and interactional linguistics and has edited numerous books on German as a foreign language. He was Visiting Professor at the Institute for German as a Foreign Language at the University of Heidelberg (Germany) in 2014/15 as part of the Excellence Initiative in Germany and Max Kade Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures of the University of Rhode Island (Kingston, R.I.; USA) in the 2016 fall semester.

Erika Dalan holds a PhD in Translation, Interpreting and Intercultural Studies at the University of Bologna (Forlì Campus) and she is now a full-time administrative member of staff working as research manager at the Department of Interpreting and Translation. Together with the International Relations Division of the Central Administration, she gives continuous support on general management aspects of EU funded projects, monitoring project's activities as well as financial reporting.