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Master in Data Science and Business Informatics
Regulation for Internships Projects Intended for Writing Degree Theses
(last approved in the 12/11/2025 meeting of the Course of Study Council)

Article 1. Internships Project

An internship project is established by means of an agreement between the Department of Computer Science, a graduating student, and a company or external organization willing to host the graduating student for a specified period of time and with a shared learning objective. Graduating students are included in a company project with a learning objective relevant to the topics of the Master's Degree Program and useful for preparing their thesis. The internship project can be carried out in Italy or abroad, at public or private companies, universities and research centres.

Article 2. Agreements with external companies/entities

A specific agreement must be signed between the Department of Computer Science and the external company/organization submitting a training project proposal for the first time, in accordance with current regulations. The agreement is approved by the Department Council and maintained by the administrative office. The agreement is drawn up using a standard form prepared by the University administration. The list of affiliated companies is public.

Article 3. Tutors

During the internship, the student is supported by a company tutor and an academic tutor, who will typically also serve as the thesis supervisor. The company tutor is responsible for supervising the student's activities at the company/institution, integrating the student into the organizational context. At the end of the training program, the company tutor prepares a final evaluation report. The academic tutor supervises the training program, ensuring its quality is adequate and useful for the thesis.

Article 4. Internships and Industrial Relationships Committee

The Internships and Industrial Relationships Committee is nominated by the Course of Study Council and it is formed by up to professors. It has the following tasks:

1. Maintain relationships with external companies and organizations;
2. Evaluate training project proposals;
3. Verify students' eligibility to begin the internships;
4. Appoint academic tutors;
5. Monitor the implementation of internships regulations.

Article 5. Register of internships proposals

The Internships and Industrial Relationships Committee maintains a register of internships proposals received from organizations and companies, advertising them to students enrolled in their second year. Organizations/companies, students, and faculty of the Master's Degree program may independently agree on a internships projects.

Article 6. Appointment of academic tutors

Article 4, points 2-4, are automatically satisfied if the training project proposal is independently agreed upon between the company/institution, the graduating student, and a faculty member of the Degree Program, who, in this case, will act as academic tutor. The academic tutor appointed in point 4 is chosen from among the Degree Program faculty members who are professors or researchers at the University of Pisa. The commission will balance the training project workload assigned to each faculty member.

Article 7. Signing of the internship project proposal

The internship project proposal, drawn up using a standard template provided by the University administration, is signed by the company/institution, the student, and the academic supervisor before the start of the training project. If the Internships and Industrial Relationships Committee has not yet appointed an academic supervisor, the document is signed by the President of Course of Study Council.

Article 8. Start and duration of the internship

The student can only start the internship after having completed all courses of their study plan but for a maximum of 9 ECTS. The Internships and Industrial Relationships Committee will thoroughly check this requirement. Both the student and the proposing company/institution undertakes to take all necessary steps to ensure completion of the activities within the agreed timelines (about 670 working hours, i.e., around 6 months), save cases of unforeseen issues or force majeure that will have to be promptly communicated to the academic tutor for consultation and possible recourse actions.