UNINETTUNO and traditional universities, a strong relationship

UNINETTUNO was born from Consorzio NETTUNO. The Consorzio strongly enhanced cooperation relations with traditional Universities and enabled UNINETTUNO to rely, still from its very beginning, on highly scientifically qualified staff that is selected according to international academic qualifications. All UNINETTUNO professors, those who realised the video lectures and the educational contents, as well as those who support the students’ learning processes, the Deans, the Members of the Board of Directors, are full professors; in particular, UNINETTUNO Board of Directors includes also some Rectors of traditional Universities. These relations enabled UNINETTUNO to deliver high-quality educational services and to develop research projects jointly with traditional universities that make available physical structures such as laboratories, technological poles to make students take face-to-face exams. Many of the agreements that were concluded with traditional universities establish cooperation modes that imply also the issuing of joint or double academic titles.

The success of UNINETTUNO organisational and psycho-pedagogic and didactic model is recognised at international level and on its homepage, UNINETTUNO displays the QUALITY LABEL that was conferred to it by the EADTU, the European Association of Distance Teaching Universities, for its e-learning model. The guidelines that led and are still leading UNINETTUNO development and that represent the strong points of the International Telematic University UNINETTUNO are:
• Relations with traditional universities
• Its psycho-pedagogic model
• Innovation (research and development)
• Internationalisation.

The International Telematic University UNINETTUNO is a single great university where lecturers of high prestige, coming from several countries of the world, realised a single international pole of knowledge.

A dream come true: wherever you are, with no limits of space and time, you can attend the University.
The problem we faced when we designed UNINETTUNO didactic model was that of creating a distance education structure that, while meeting the educational needs of the cognitive society, would take account both of the evolution and development of information technology and the results of psycho-pedagogic research. The cognitive and connectionist theories are the theoretical basis for implementing the whole process of distance teaching and learning within the Didactic Cyberspace of the Internet-based portal which was wholly developed starting from the results of the research projects, carried on in cooperation with international experts and with the UNINETTUNO internal staff who developed the learning environments’ states, the Rector, Maria Amata Garito. In UNINETTUNO educational model the student is at the centre of the educational process and is not left alone to develop his own self-learning process, but he is supported by the new profile of the teacher-telematic tutor who continuously gives him the tools that facilitate his learning process. The learning environment does not limit itself to offering rigidly pre-established courses, but it offers dynamic contents that can be enriched by other contents available on the Web.

Strong points of UNINETTUNO distance teaching model:
• Student’s central role
• Co-construction of knowledge
• Integration between theory and practice
• Active and collaborative learning.

The whole teaching and learning process takes place on the Internet. In the portal www.uninettunouniversity.net. The dedicated area “Didactic Cyberspace” represents the learning environment. The videolessons, realised by important university professors coming from several countries of the world, are the starting point of the educational process. Each digitised videolesson is indexed, structured into different issues that are linked in an hypertextual and multimedia way to essays, books, exercise texts, virtual laboratories, selected bibliographical references and lists of websites. These videolessons are supplemented by virtual laboratories and exercises enabling the student, through a “learning by doing” process, to integrate practice and theory. Among the technological innovations on which didactics can rely on UNINETTUNO realised a true Island of Knowledge on Second Life, where the students’ avatars and the professors/tutors’ avatars can interact by their own voice in a three-dimensional virtual world. On Second Life practical exercises, evaluation tests, videoconferences and live practical activities take place. Finally, by means of chats, forums, wikis and social networks used by UNINETTUNO, virtual learning communities are set up. As the Rector, M. A. Garito, says: “In these virtual spaces intelligences get connected to each other, expertise is exchanged, knowledge is developed. The cultures and ideas of professors, tutors and students of different countries of the world confront each other in continuous stream of interrelations”.

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Educational Offer 2015/16

THREE-YEAR DEGREE COURSES
• Communication, media and advertising
• Psychosocial disciplines
• Economics and business management
• Civil and environmental engineering
• Management engineering
• Computer engineering
• Operator for cultural assets

SECOND-CYCLE DEGREE COURSES
• Business and digital technologies
• Law
• Cognitive processes and technologies
• Civil engineering
• Management engineering
• Computer engineering

MASTER’S COURSES
• Master of Law in Chinese Business Law
• Master in Global Journalism
• Master in European Law and Policies
• Master’s Courses in Impact of Traumatic and/or Stressing Experiences: Prevention and Intervention Strategies
• Master’s Course in Strategies and Techniques of Project Management
• Master of Science in Health Management
• Master in “Cultural Heritage and Enogastronomy”
• Master in Energy Management
• Global MBA*
• MA in Investments and Finance*
• MA in Strategic Marketing*
• MA in International Business Law*
• MA in International Tourism, Hospitality and Event Management **
• MA in Fashion Retail and Luxury Management **
* in partnership with LSBF - London School of Business and Finance
** in partnership with LCCA - London College of Contemporary Arts

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UNINETTUNO strength: innovation, research and experimentation

Innovation, research and experimentation are at the basis of the International Telematic University UNINETTUNO model. The present that anticipates the future. UNINETTUNO research activity is at the same time theoretical-experimental, pure and applied and involves international-level experts in different disciplines (technologists, computer scientists, pedagogues, learning psychologists, experts in various languages and in communication). Actually, the interdisciplinary results obtained can be traced back to different areas: technical-engineering, psycho-cognitive, pedagogical, socio-cultural, methodological organisation ones and enabled to identify new modes for realising both face-to-face and distance teaching-learning processes that already have a significant impact on the theories related to learning processes, teaching methodologies, distance interaction relationships. In addition, they represented the starting point of the evolution of the psycho-pedagogic and didactic model that led to the realisation of the new distance teaching and learning model and of the e-learning model applied by UNINETTUNO and recognised by the international scientific community. Moreover, UNINETTUNO, thanks to the results of its research activities, has already concretised some significant innovations linked to the:

- Organisational model of the university structures
- Organisation models of course organisation and delivery (flexibility, accessibility, continuous support to the learning processes)
- Teaching and learning models
- Role of professors and students
- Evaluation procedures.

To have a detailed overview of the dozens of research projects implemented and being implemented at UNINETTUNO see the website www.uninettunouniversity.it/research-area.

UNINETTUNO is today a reference model in terms international standards for e-learning quality in Europe

In Europe, the International Telematic University UNINETTUNO was taken as an example for the quality of its e-learning model. The results of the E-xcellence+ Project, funded by the European Commission, enabled to establish the evaluation criteria and quality standards of the distance education and e-learning systems to be adopted at European level.

The project, which involved the best European distance teaching Universities and among these UNINETTUNO (the only Italian telematic university member of the European Distance Teaching Universities EADTU as well as of the world organisation ICDE, International Council for Open and Distance Education) enabled to track a path for integrating e-learning quality assessment parameters at European level and to highlight the fact that distance teaching is and can be a synonym for quality in education, when we follow the best international-level consolidated practices. Practices that the European universities identified in the psycho-pedagogic model adopted by UNINETTUNO. Thanks to this model, in academic year 2010/2011 enrolments doubled compared to those of the previous year. Over 85% of enrolled students complete their study path almost succeeding in eliminating the trend of study drop-outs occurring in traditional Universities. At present the students enrolled in UNINETTUNO are about 12,000.

The growth in enrolments results from the overall quality of the services that UNINETTUNO offers to the students and that gave rise to a favourable grapevine that can be found in the blogs and forums directly managed by the students.

DEMOCRATISING THE ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE IS AT THE BASIS OF EVERY UNINETTUNO ACTIVITY

For UNINETTUNO democratising the access to knowledge is not an abstract concept, but a consolidated practice; since 1992, thanks to its two television channels, UNINETTUNO.UNIVERSITY.TV and the web TV UNINETTUNO.tv, the outcomes of the research activities conducted by the Rector, M. A. Garito and by her staff enabled to create a new television language, a new model of television: “The Television of Knowledge”, of public concern.

In the last years research work on television languages enabled to identity new languages and new methodologies for teaching Arabic on television to the illiterate adult people of Morocco. The outcomes of this research work enabled to realise a televised course that is broadcast on the Moroccan national television, including 150 videolesson, usable also on DVD format, linked to new models of books to teach how to read and write to the adult illiterate population of Morocco. “The method that we proposed for the first time – says the Rector, M. A. Garito - enables to teach the Arab language as communication functional language, teaching is put into a context: letters, words and grammar structure are constantly linked to objects and behaviours of everyday life of a typical Moroccan family”.

On Second Life, on the UNINETTUNO Island of Knowledge, the Moroccan house becomes a three-dimensional scenario: the theatre in which for the first time avatars become actors, create the tale, represent in a concrete way an event, an experience, a link between sound and image, supplying the tools to enhance the audio and visual memory of the letters” and thanks to the realisation of the project “I Learn Arabic - The Treasure of the Letters”.

Students enrolled in UNINETTUNO
The strong point of UNINETTUNO development is undoubtedly represented by the fact of having succeeded in rapidly getting and developing to an international level concluding significant agreements with Mediterranean countries, as well as with universities of the United States, Ecuador, Europe, Slovenia, Russia, Poland, China and other countries of the world.

The students currently enrolled come from 140 different countries of the world. On the 16th December 2009, in premises of the Conference of the Rectors, in Rome, was held the first ceremony of the awarding of the diplomas of the Master’s Course in Euro-Mediterranean Cultures and Policies which united, along a shared path of training and interaction, students coming from the Universities of countries such as Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey and professors of high prestige coming from different European universities.

The students, for the first time, without leaving their homes and thanks to the distance teaching model of the International Telematic University UNINETTUNO and to its didactic portal www.uninettuno.net, get a study title acknowledged in Italy, in Europe and in their respective countries.

The “internationalisation of our University” states the Rector of UNINETTUNO, Maria Amata Garito “developed a lot thanks to the model of our Internet-based portal in different languages. The young people coming from different places of the world exchange information on forums, blogs, Facebook and Twitter where several communities of NEPTUNIANS were born. In a short time this gave rise to a veritable network of shared knowledge – of continuous interactions among the international community of students and professors, open to the understanding of cultural differences and to the development of new forms of cooperation”.

The students of UNINETTUNO come from 140 countries of the world. They are supported by a Technological Network including 11 Production Centres and 31 Technological Poles, based in various countries.

UNINETTUNO UNIVERSITY.TV is the “Television of Knowledge”, a television of public concern that brings culture and academic knowledge from prestigious universities around the world into everyone’s home, even of those that do not have the possibility to attend university. Every day, 24 hours a day, on UNINETTUNO.UNIVERSITY.TV the best professors from prestigious universities in Europe and the Arab World deliver their courses in many languages: Italian, Arabic, English, French, Greek and shortly also in Russian and Polish within the courses of Engineering, Economics, Law, Psychology, Philosophy, History, Literature, and Art and Communication, including lessons aimed at teaching how to read and write Arabic and therefore fighting illiteracy for the benefit of thousands of people.

UNINETTUNO UNIVERSITY.TV helps viewers to develop personal knowledge and skills. Every day, UNINETTUNO UNIVERSITY.TV, there are also special lessons delivered by the protagonists of contemporary culture: artists, poets, writers, musicians, painters, actors, philosophers, etc… who present their works, speak about their creativity, and lead viewers to understand the various forms of expression of modern thinking. Lessons by the great teachers that talk about human values: love, goodness, generosity, respect of differences, dialogue among religions and lessons on peace around the world and that had as lecturers Nobel Peace Laureates such as Gorbachev, the Dalai Lama, Pérez Esquivel and Rigoberta Menchú who attracted a great deal of interest among the audience.

UNINETTUNO UNIVERSITY.TV presents to the world the cultural heritage of European and Arab countries, enabling viewers to better know and to re-read history and to identify the common paths between the East and the West; it helps to raise awareness about differences and to internationalize culture and knowledge and to facilitate dialogue between peoples having different cultures and religions.

With UNINETTUNO UNIVERSITY.TV a new television language was created as well as a new model of television of thinking and reflection, a Television of Knowledge where the star is Knowledge indeed.

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UNINETTUNO UNIVERSITY.TV, the television of knowledge to spread learning

Countries of origin of the students of the International Telematic University UNINETTUNO