

The Department of Humanities promotes and organises research activities distributed within four specific sections:

- The ***Aesthetics, Music and Entertainment*** section consists of 11 components (3 PO, 4 PA, 4 RU) belonging to the M-FIL/04, L-ART/03, L-ART/05, L-ART/06, L-ART/07, L-ART/08 Academic Disciplines. The academic staff is in constant dialogue in relation to issues concerning teaching (Bachelor's degrees in DAMS, class L3; Master's degree in Musicology and Performing Arts, interclass LM 45-LM 65) and the articulation of research activities. This section, which is very present in the territory, especially thanks to international cooperation programmes and the collaboration with institutions among which the *Massimo Theatre* Foundation, owns an important specialist library and educational facilities in the musicological area, as well as a Multimedia University Laboratory (LUM "Michele Mancini"), specifically coordinated in terms of teaching and research activities within the degree courses that are activated in the section.
- The ***Languages, Foreign Literatures, Linguistics and Islamic Studies*** section consists of 28 components (4 PO, 10 PA, 13 RU, 1 RTD-A) belonging to the L-LIN/01, L-LIN/03, L-LIN/04, L-LIN/05, L-LIN/06, L-LIN/07, L-LIN/10, L-LIN/11, L-LIN/12, L-LIN/13, L-LIN/14, L-LIN /21 and L-OR/10, L-OR/12, L-OR/21 Academic Disciplines. All components are part of the most numerous degree courses in the Department, and are responsible for numerous international mobility programmes, among which Erasmus, Erasmus Mundus, Erasmus Extra-eu, double degrees with the University of Lorraine, the University of Sophia Antipolis and the University of Karlsruhe. In addition to the internationalisation of teaching activities, the section comprises international research programmes involving individual and collective forms of participation in competitive European and national projects. The research areas in this section include spheres of specialisation such as the application of tested methodologies according to new technologies, the reception of different cultures, periodical publications and press, literary tradition and contemporaneity, and innovative studies as far language teaching and translation studies are concerned. The section is actively involved in numerous Third Mission actions, which entail the participation of a great deal of members engaged in presentations and round tables within the context of the most significant local events. This contributes to the activation of language courses for teachers and other projects of interest for the general public.
- The ***Philosophical and Historical Sciences*** section consists of 24 components (6 PO, 9 PA, 6 RU, 2 RTD-B, 1 RTD-A) belonging to the M-FIL/01, M-FIL/02, M-FIL/03, M-FIL/05, M-FIL/06, M-FIL/07, M-FIL/08, M-STO/04, M-STO/01, M-STO/04 and SECS-P/12 Academic Disciplines. Lecturers and professors carry out their teaching activities within the degree courses included in the Department, but also within the context of undergraduate and second-cycle degree courses associated with other Departments. As far as the research areas in this section are concerned, attention is given to in-depth studies of heterogeneous topics that range from historiography to historical methodology, epistemology, logic, linguistic and theoretical analysis, and the history of philosophical ideas. In addition to the internationalisation of teaching and research activities accomplished by the activation of Erasmus projects, Visiting Professor stays at prestigious international universities, CORI projects (incoming and outgoing) and collaborations with European research institutes of higher education, the section is distinguished by the presence of the academic staff in advisory and/or editorial boards (with a few cases as Editors-in-Chief) for journals rated as "Class A" according to Anvur (the Italian rating agency for scientific journals) using the VQR (Research Quality Evaluation) system. The members of the section are also involved in significant activities relating to the organisation of international conferences and festivals, as well as concerning the Third Mission actions, thus, affecting the local territory and its social fabric. This is even reinforced, among other things, by the academic staff's commitment to the study of the history of mafias.
- The section ***Italian and Latin Studies: Philology, Literature and Linguistics*** consists of 20 components (3 PO, 10 PA, 7 RU) belonging to the L-FIL-LET/04; L-FIL-LET/09; L-FIL-LET/10; L-FIL-LET/11; L-FIL-LET/12; L-FIL-LET/14 Academic Disciplines. All sectors are also represented in the PhD in Literary, Philological-Linguistic and Historical-Cultural Studies, which is administratively based in the Department of Humanities, and also benefit from national and international collaborations. Although each research area is focused upon different specificities, the whole section stands out for the collaboration with the territory in which the members of the section carry out a conspicuous and significant activity of scientific divulgation and third mission. There are numerous agreements with institutions (publishing houses, libraries, schools), and there are numerous projects and activities involving the territory. In particular, the Italian Language School for Foreigners (ItaStra) plays a crucial role, since it responds to social emergencies within local contexts, while organising initial basic literacy courses addressed to unaccompanied foreign minors, as well as working in synergy with the Municipality of Palermo and its boroughs, CPIA institutions and schools. All sectors have components who, as project coordinators or participants, are engaged in research projects within the University of Palermo (FFR), on a national level (PRIN) and within the European dimension (FEI). With respect to activities within the sphere of internationalisation, the section includes Double Degrees, integrated study programmes and Erasmus exchanges.