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ELECTIVES 101:

FAQs AND STUDENTS' OPINIONS ON UNDERGRADUATE ELECTIVES

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2023-2024 Edition

Find out more at:
astrabocconi.it

This guide has no intention of substituting the material published by the University,
that has to be considered the only official source of news on this topic.

Questa guida non è concepita in sostituzione al material rilasciato dall'Università,
che è da considerarsi l'unica fonte ufficiale di notizie sull'argomento.

Hi everyone! The following is a guide that (we hope) will help you in evaluating which elective courses to take in the upcoming academic year.

We would like to emphasize how it's formed by **students' opinions**, collected at the end of the AY 22/23, and therefore **entirely subjective** (especially regarding the level of difficulty shown). The comments also refer to the way the course has been taught during the past AY, and we can't guarantee that the teaching mode will be the same for the AY 23/24.

In order to have specific information on the topics covered by the courses, you can check by inserting the course code [here](#)^[1]. The grading system for the AY 23/24 will also be shown!

For a complete overview of your options, you should check the **Guide to the University 23/24**, linked [here](#)^[2] (sections 2.2. and 9.3.), where all the requirements for electives are shown and divided by degree.

FAQS

When do I have to choose my elective courses? When enrolling for the 3rd year at Bocconi, action that it will be possible to complete starting from Wednesday July 26th 2023.

Am I able to change the elective courses that I have selected? Yes, you can modify your study plan in January 2024 and July 2024. This allows you to change the elective courses you want to take in the 2nd semester and/or convert electives taken during the exchange program.

How do "elective courses without correspondence" work? You can take any course you like when abroad for your exchange semester and it can be converted as an elective even if there's no corresponding courses taught at Bocconi.

What do I do if I'm not sure of which electives I'll be able to take and convert in exchange? For the moment, you can select random courses. In January and June you'll be able to change the study plan and get your conversion. However, it's always suggested to select courses you're still somehow interested in, so as to be covered in case of issues with the partner university.

Can I convert my internship as an elective? Yes, if your internship satisfies the requirements you are allowed to do so. You can insert it in your study plan with the same modalities expressed above.

Do you have more questions?

Join **AstraWorld**, our **Whatsapp Community**: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/C4IJCYXLRW9DZskurVtzV4> or contact **Sara** (+39 339 6269620), **Alessandra** (+39 392 3436536) or **Beatrice** (+39 324 5813993).

[1]

[https://didattica.unibocconi.eu/ts/index.php?anno=2024?urlBack=/wps/wcm/connect/bocconi/sitopubblico_en/navigation+tree/info/curr+ent+students/course+profiles/courses+offered+in+academic+programs+2023-2024a.y./](https://didattica.unibocconi.eu/ts/index.php?anno=2024?urlBack=/wps/wcm/connect/bocconi/sitopubblico_en/navigation+tree/info/curr+ent+students/course+profiles/courses+offered+in+academic+programs+2023-2024a.y/)

[2]

https://didattica.unibocconi.it/tsg/guide.php?edizione=2024&urlBack=/wps/wcm/connect/bocconi/sitopubblico_it/albero+di+navigazione/info/studenti+iscritti/guide+all%24universita%24/guide+all+universita+a.a.+2023-2024/



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DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

30187 – ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged to better understand the various reasonings!

Comments: The content of the course is very interesting, but the exam is not too easy. You should choose the course if you're interested in learning about alternative investments!

30173 – CORPORATE BANKING

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○

Class attendance: Highly encouraged because it helps you understand the concepts more deeply.

Comments: It's very similar to the *Financial Markets and Institutions / Sistemi Finanziari* course. Don't choose it unless you're interested in IB, VC, PE, and/or finance as a whole.

30257 – CORPORATE VALUATION

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS,, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○

Class attendance: Encouraged if you have no prior knowledge of the topic.

Comments: The exam is a bit challenging if you're not familiar with the concepts, but the overall level of the course is very satisfactory.

30174 – ECONOMIA E GESTIONE DELLE ASSICURAZIONI VITA E DEI FONDI PENSIONE (course in Italian)

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: Not a demanding course, especially if you take it in partials.



30511 – FINTECH FOR BANKING AND FINANCIAL TRANSFORMATION

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged.

Comments: It's a unique course because the topics taught are not covered in any other class. Recommended but requires some effort because the concepts and the exam are not too straightforward.

30182 – PIANIFICAZIONE FINANZIARIA E ANALISI DEGLI INVESTIMENTI (course in Italian)

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged if you don't start from a solid enough *Corporate Finance* basis.

Comments: It's a sort of Corporate Finance 2, with new topics covered. The exam is doable but can be a bit tricky if you haven't studied the concepts well enough.

30151 – PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: You need to have an in-depth knowledge of the topic because the exam can be tricky. However, the slides cover everything.

30184 – RISK MANAGEMENT WITH DERIVATIVES

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○

Class attendance: Encouraged because the course load is heavy.

Comments: The course is very quantitative and covers many different topics. If you're comfortable with math and interested in the topics, 100% recommend it.



30186 – VENTURE AND DEVELOPMENT CAPITAL

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, the topics are better understood if directly explained.

Comments: It's a unique and interesting course, suggested if you're thinking of working in the VC industry!

30185 – VALUTAZIONE DELLE AZIENDE / BUSINESS VALUATION

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, classes make it much easier to understand the concepts.

Comments: The course is very insightful, take it if in doubt. It's perfectly doable study-wise.

30181 – THE MICROSTRUCTURE OF FINANCIAL MARKETS

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because of the practical way in which topics are explained in class.

Comments: The course is very interesting, but the exam can be challenging. It's not an easy 30.



DEPARTMENT OF DECISION SCIENCES

30515 – APPLIED STOCHASTIC PROCESSES

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○

Class attendance: Encouraged to have less work to do at home, it might be tricky to try to understand the concepts by yourself.

Comments: The course is full of math; very interesting but the exam requires a lot of preparation. The instructor was very engaging!

30514 – BIG DATA FOR BUSINESS ANALYTICS

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged if you're not familiar with the topics, otherwise the level of depth required is pretty standard.

Comments: You both use programming languages (MATLAB) and follow a more theoretical approach. The grading is fair because of the mix of assignments and the exam.



DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

30574 – BUSINESS MANAGEMENT IN CHINA

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: There is a very interesting (but challenging!) group project, and getting a high overall grade is a bit hard. Highly suggested if you're truly interested in the topic.

30219 – BUSINESS PLAN

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: The material covers the topics but to truly understand them it would be better to go to class.

Comments: The final exam is not hard, but there is a time-consuming group project.

30587 – DATA-DRIVEN ANALYSIS AND DECISION-MAKING IN BUSINESS

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○ (5 for the topics and a 2 for the final exam)

Class attendance: Encouraged, especially for the group project.

Comments: The group project is extremely challenging, while the exam is very straightforward.

30298 – DIVERSITY MANAGEMENT AND POLICY

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●○○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: It's not a demanding course and the topics are quite interesting.

30388 – ECONOMIA E MANAGEMENT DEI MEDIA (course in Italian)

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged to understand which the most important topics are to focus on.



Comments: It's an overall easy course and exam, but you have to study to get a good grade.

30492 – ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND NEW BUSINESS STARTUP

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because it's an unconventional course.

Comments: Very interesting topics and way of teaching. Not a demanding course.

30529 – ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND STRATEGIC INNOVATION IN THE FASHION INDUSTRY

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: If you're interested in the topics, it can be extremely interesting.

30276 – FAMILY BUSINESS STRATEGIES

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because it has some interactive "mandatory" lessons.

Comments: Very interesting way in which your grade is built, with essays and a final work if you're an attending student (highly encouraged).

30296 – GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because of different assessments.

Comments: Interesting topics. If you go to class, it's not too demanding.



30206 – INTRODUCTION TO MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Highly encouraged.

Comments: A very interesting mix of theoretical knowledge and practical examples.

30212 – MANAGEMENT DEI SISTEMI INFORMATIVI (course in Italian)

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: The course load is fine.

30221 – MANAGEMENT OF FASHION COMPANIES

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: Interesting and doesn't require too much effort.

30208 – MANAGEMENT DELLE ISTITUZIONI CULTURALI E ARTISTICHE (course in Italian)

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because of the interactive nature of the course.

Comments: The coursework is light, take it if you're interested in the topic!

30222 – NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND OPEN INNOVATION

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○

Class attendance: Encouraged to better understand the topics.

Comments: There are some discrepancies between the level of depth required in the exam and the one followed in class. It's not easy to get a good grade.



30214 – SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: The course has many interesting topics, but classes are not very engaging. The guest lectures are insightful!



DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING

30223 – COMUNICAZIONE DI MARKETING / MARKETING COMMUNICATION

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: Interesting if you like the topic. Not very demanding.

30439 – GREEN MARKETING

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●○○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: Both the exam and the group work are extremely doable.

30225 – MARKETING DELLE PICCOLE E MEDIE IMPRESE (course in Italian)

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the exam is more book-based.

Comments: It's a bit more specific than the other marketing courses, and interesting because of the guests' lectures. The material is not too easy.

30229 – MARKETING E CITTADINO CLIENTE (course in Italian)

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●○○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because of the group work.

Comments: The final grade is made of group work and an assignment, so it's quite interesting. It's a bit demanding timewise.



30228 – MARKETING RESEARCH

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because of the engaging professor.

Comments: The quantitative focus of the course makes it more demanding than the other marketing electives.

30230 – PERSONAL SELLING

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because of the specificity of some questions in the exam.

Comments: The course has some interesting complimentary lectures and not too much effort is required to get a good grade.

30498 – PRINCIPLES OF E-MARKETING AND E-COMMERCE

I / II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●○○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because of the professor's availability. However, the material covers all the topics.

Comments: Engaging if you like the topics and not too demanding.



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

30195 – ECONOMICS (POVERTY, INEQUALITY, AND INCOME DISTRIBUTION)

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged to dive deeper into the concepts.

Comments: Choose the course if you're truly interested in the topic, otherwise it might result unnecessarily boring and hard. Very nice professor

30594 – GEOPOLITICS: HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY AND POWER DYNAMICS

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, but the material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: The course load is not heavy, and the topics are interesting.

30497 – HEALTH AND SOCIETY

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged to take the exam as an attending student.

Comments: The course structure is a bit unclear, with not enough material given.

30196 – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Highly encouraged because the exam for attending students tends to be easier.

Comments: Incredibly insightful if you're interested in the topic. If you go to class and take notes most of the work is done.



30534 – ISLAM, POLITICS AND THE MIDDLE EAST

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○ (the content is very vast, but the exam is pretty lenient)

Class attendance: The slides are well made but it's fundamental to be in class not to miss anything.

Comments: Choose it if you're in doubt. Very interesting if you follow the topic!

30193 – MANAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AND SUPRANATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged to get good grades.

Comments: Very interesting course if you like the topics, suggested!! The workload becomes quite heavy if you don't go to class though.

30194 – ORGANIZZAZIONE E GESTIONE DEL PERSONALE NELLE AZIENDE PUBBLICHE (course in Italian)

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: The material uploaded covers all the topics!

Comments: Classes are not as engaging as they should be. Getting a good grade is not hard but the group work requires some effort.

30483 – POLITICS OF ADVANCED DEMOCRACIES

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged, the professor is engaging and there's a lot of class discussions.

Comments: Recommended if you're interested in the topics. Current topics are treated, and you have the chance to do a lot of research.



30444 – PUBLIC MANAGEMENT (BUSINESS GOVERNMENT RELATIONS)

II sem. (CLEF, BIEF, BEMACS, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Highly encouraged because the material for non-attending students is vast.

Comments: If you take the attending exam, you'll be fine, it requires some preparation though. The content is interesting.

30198 – STORIA DELL'IMPRESA ITALIANA (course in Italian)

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because it's enough for the exam.

Comments: The course is extremely interesting, and the workload is not much. You also get to do some research on a topic of your choice.



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

30313 – ECONOMICS OF INSTITUTIONS AND CULTURE

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance:

Comments: Engaging course, but there are discrepancies between the level of depth required in the exam and the one followed in class.

30490 – FISCAL MACROECONOMICS

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○ (5 for the topics and amount of material, 3 for the exam itself)

Class attendance: Encouraged because the course load is pretty heavy.

Comments: The material is hard, but if you're interested in the topic, it's not too much of a problem. The exam requires a lot of preparation though.

30283 – MARKETS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INCENTIVES

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○

Class attendance: Highly encouraged.

Comments: It's very interesting but you should choose the course only if you're interested in the course topics, as they go in-depth and can be quite hard.

30510 – MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICIES: CURRENT CHALLENGES

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●○○○ (especially if you have any sort of Economics background)

Class attendance: The professor is one of the most renowned Italian economists so having him explain concepts directly is added value! However, the handouts cover the syllabus.

Comments: The final grade is entirely exam-based, with a combination of T/F and paragraph answers. Overall, highly suggested if interested in the topics.



30159 – MONETARY THEORY AND POLICY

I sem. (CLEAM, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged.

Comments: Choose it if you are a macroeconomics-enjoyer, as it covers some advanced topics already explained in macro. It goes in-depth but is perfectly doable!

30147 – THE ECONOMICS OF IMPERFECT LABOUR MARKETS

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●●○

Class attendance: Encouraged because the course load is heavy.

Comments: The course is easy to study only if you're interested in the topics. It's very interesting but demanding as well.



DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

30526 – FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged to be on top of the continuous assessments.

Comments: Not hard to get a good grade, even if the topics can be a bit tricky. The continuous assessments help a lot!

30518 – INTRODUCTION TO BLOCKCHAIN

I sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged if you're not very familiar with the topic.

Comments: The exam is hard, but the topics and the group work are interesting.

30161 – REVISIONE AZIENDALE (course in Italian)

II sem. (CLEAM, CLEF, BIEM, BIEF, BEMACS, CLEACC, BESS, BIG, BAI, WBB)

Difficulty: ●●●○○

Class attendance: Encouraged because of the concept analysis done by the professor.

Comments: The grading is fair and takes different factors into account. It's very theoretical.

