

Università degli Studi di Brescia
Dipartimento di Ingegneria Civile, Architettura, Territorio, Ambiente e di
Matematica (DICATAM)

Advanced Skill Course (ASC)
Accurate assessment and strengthening techniques for existing
masonry, reinforced concrete and prestressed reinforced concrete
structures and infrastructures, including those belonging to
cultural heritage

Brescia, 10–17 April 2026

Call for applications for the selection of a **maximum of 6 students/researchers** belonging to the **Latin American universities that are partners in the TNE project (as listed in Annex 1)** for participation in the Advanced Skill Course (ASC) entitled *Accurate assessment and strengthening techniques for existing masonry, reinforced concrete and prestressed reinforced concrete structures and infrastructures belonging to the cultural heritage*, organized by the Department of Civil, Environmental, Architectural Engineering and Mathematics (DICATAM) of the University of Brescia from 10 to 17 April 2026.

Art. 1 – Training activities

The internationalization project aims to develop a network for advanced research and training on issues related to the accurate assessment and strengthening of existing structures, with particular attention to masonry, reinforced concrete and prestressed reinforced concrete structures, including those belonging to the cultural heritage.

The main objective of the collaboration is the organization of an intensive one-week course on the above topic, structured into lectures, seminars and workshops, which will be held in Italian, Spanish and English.

Furthermore, the course *Accurate assessment and strengthening techniques for existing masonry, reinforced concrete and prestressed reinforced concrete structures and infrastructures belonging to the cultural heritage* aims to:

- Develop advanced skills in the diagnosis, vulnerability assessment and mechanical characterization of existing structures and infrastructures;
- Provide up-to-date knowledge on analysis methods and tools for inspection, monitoring and structural modelling;
- Deepen criteria, techniques and materials for strengthening and retrofitting interventions, with particular attention to compatibility with the cultural heritage;
- Promote the ability to integrate structural, regulatory and conservation aspects

in the definition of intervention strategies that are sustainable and respectful of the historical and architectural value of the assets.

Art. 2 – Participation requirements

In-person attendance is required.

Art. 3 – Eligibility criteria

The course is open to participants who meet at least one of the following requirements:

- Are enrolled in a master's degree, PhD or postdoctoral programme at one of the Latin American universities that are partners in the TNE project;
- Are researchers or lecturers at one of the Latin American universities that are partners in the TNE project;
- Hold a qualification deemed equivalent to the above.

As a priority, admission will be reserved for students and lecturers belonging to the following disciplinary areas, listed in order of priority: **Engineering and Architecture**.

Art. 4 – Applications and deadlines

Participation in the Advanced Skill Course is limited to a maximum of **6 students**. Applications must be sent to both the e-mail addresses fausto.minelli@unibs.it and luca.facconi@unibs.it, with the subject line: ASC – BRESCIA – CULTURAL HERITAGE – 2026, (by preferably 20/03/2026).

The application must be accompanied by the following documents:

- Application form (see Annex 2);
- Motivation letter;
- A copy of a currently valid identity document (ID card) or passport.

In addition, for students:

- Curriculum vitae including the list of examinations taken and the grades obtained.

For researchers:

- Curriculum vitae and list of teaching activities, if any, and of scientific publications, with a maximum of 12 titles from which the main research topics of the candidate can be inferred.

The selection will be based on an overall assessment of the submitted documentation and will be carried out by the Selection Committee of the ASC. The results will be published on the project websites of the University of Brescia and communicated by e-mail.

Art. 5 – Scholarships

Applicants may compete for the award of up to **six (6)** scholarships. The selection of scholarship recipients will be carried out in accordance with the criteria set out in **Art.**

6 and will be decided exclusively by the Scientific Committee of the Advanced Skills Course, whose decision will be final and not subject to appeal.

Each selected beneficiary shall be granted an all-inclusive scholarship of **€2,500.00** as a contribution towards travel, accommodation, meals, and other related expenses. **Travel expenses only will be advanced by UniBS following the selection.** Upon the beneficiary's arrival in Italy, the remaining amount of the scholarship will be disbursed.

Scholarships will be subject to the tax and social security regulations in force at the time of payment.

Art. 6 – Merit criteria for the evaluation of applications

The evaluation of applications will be carried out by the Selection Committee of the Advanced Skill Course on the basis of the following merit criteria:

- Academic curriculum – up to 60 points
For students: assessment of the university career, with reference to the grade point average, regularity of studies and consistency of the educational profile with the content of the ASC.
For lecturers: assessment of research output and teaching activity in relation to the topics addressed in the ASC.
- Motivation letter (for both students and lecturers) – up to 40 points
Clarity, coherence and relevance of the motivations expressed with respect to the educational and scientific objectives of the programme.

Candidates who obtain a total score of not less than 60/100 will be considered eligible.

Art. 7 – Scientific and organizing committee

Prof. Fausto Minelli (UNIBS)

Prof. Luca Facconi (UNIBS)

Prof. Giovanni Plizzari (UNIBS)

Prof. Marco Preti (UNIBS)

Prof. Roberto Ranzi (UNIBS)

ANNEX 1: Latin American universities partners in the TNE project

No.	Institute Name	Acronym	Country
1	Universidad Nacional de Mar del Plata	UNMDP	Argentina
2	Universidad Adolfo Ibañez	UAI	Chile
3	Universidade de São Paulo	USP	Brazil
4	Universidad de Oriente	UO	Cuba
5	Universidad de Holguin	UHO	Cuba
6	Universidad del Azuay	UAZUAY	Ecuador
7	Escuela Superior Politecnica de Chimborazo	ESPOCH	Ecuador
8	Universidad Regional Amazonica	IKIAM	Ecuador
9	Universidad Politécnica Salesiana	UPS	Ecuador
10	Universidad San Francisco de Quito	USFQ	Ecuador
11	Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara	UJG	Mexico
12	Universidad de Chile	UChile	Chile
13	Instituto de Altos Estudios Nacionales Postgraduate University of Ecuador	IAEN	Ecuador
14	Universidad de Antofagasta	UANTOF	Chile
15	Universidad Catolica de Cordoba	UCC	Argentina
16	Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile	UC	Chile
17	Instituto Tecnológico Autonomo de Mexico	ITAM	Mexico
18	Centro nacional de Educacion Sexual	CENESEX	Cuba
19	Universidad de Belgrano	UB	Argentina
20	Universidad Nacional de Rosario	UNR	Argentina
21	Universidad de Buenos Aires	UBA	Argentina
22	Universidad Catolica de Santiago de Guayaquil	UCSG	Ecuador
23	Universidad Federal do Paraná	UFPR	Brazil
24	Universidad de Medellin	UDM	Colombia
25	Universidad de l'Habana	UH	Cuba
26	Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Perú	PUCP	Peru
27	Universidad de Cuenca	UCuenca	Ecuador
28	El Istituto Universitario de la Paz	UNIPAZ	Colombia
29	Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro	UFRJ	Brazil
30	Universidad de la República	UDELAR	Uruguay
31	Universidad Federal de Bahia	UFB	Brazil
32	Universidad Central de Chile	UCC	Chile
33	Universidades Estadual de Campinas	UNICAMP	Brazil
34	Universidade Federal Fluminense	UFF	Brazil
35	Universidade Federal do Amazonas	UFAM	Brazil
36	Universidade Estadual Paulista "Júlio de Mesquita Filho"	UNESP	Brazil
37	Universidad De Especialidades Espiritu Santo	UEES	Ecuador
38	Universita' Federale Del Ceara'	UFC	Brazil
39	Universita' Catolica Del Maule	UCM	Chile
40	Universidad el Externado de Colombia	UExternado	Colombia
41	Universidad Nacional del Comahue	UNCOMA	Argentina
42	Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro	PUC-Rio	Brazil
43	Universidad Nacional de Cordoba	UNC	Argentina

No.	Institute Name	Acronym	Country
44	Universidad Tecnica Federico Santa Maria	UTFSM	Chile
45	Pontificia Universidade Católica Do Rio Grande Do Sul	PUCRS	Brazil
46	Pontificia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais	PUCMINAS	Brazil
47	College of Law of Sao Bernardo do Campo	FDSBC	Brazil
48	Universidad del Salvador	USAL	Argentina
49	Universidade Federal de Alfenas - Minas Gerais	UNIFAL-MG	Brazil
50	Instituto Tecnologico de Buenos Aires	ITBA	Argentina
51	Pontificia Universidad Javeriana	PUJ	Colombia
52	Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios de Monterrey	TECMont	Mexico
53	Universidad de los Andes	Uniandes	Colombia
54	Pontificia Universidad Catolica Argentina	PUCA	Argentina
55	Universidad Argentina de la Empresa	UADE	Argentina
56	Universidad de Valparaiso	UV	Chile
57	Universidad nacional de Colombia	UNC	Colombia
58	Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos	UNMSM	Peru
59	Universidad Nacional de Cuyo	UNCUYO	Argentina
60	Universidad Nacional de Ingenieria	UNI	Peru
61	Centro Universitario Catolica do Leste de Minas Gerais	UNILESTE	Brazil
62	Universidad Mayor	UMAYOR	Chile
63	Universidad Catolica de Salta	UCASAL	Argentina
64	Universidad de Guadalajara	UDG	Mexico
65	Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina	UFSC	Brazil
66	Universidad Diego Portales	UDP	Chile
67	Universidad Nacional del Litoral	UNL	Argentina
68	Universidad Isalud	ISALUD	Argentina
69	Universidad Andina Simon Bolivar	UASB	Ecuador

ANNEX 2 – APPLICATION FORM

ADVANCED SKILL COURSE

“Accurate assessment and strengthening techniques for existing masonry, reinforced concrete and prestressed reinforced concrete structures and infrastructures, including those belonging to cultural heritage”

10–17 April 2026

First name:

Last name:

Address:

City of residence:

Nationality:

Date of birth:

Email:

Phone number:

Identity document (ID card or passport):

Degree (MSc., PhD, researcher...):

Attached documents:

1. Motivation letter;
2. A copy of a currently valid identity document (ID card) or passport.

In addition, for students:

3. Curriculum vitae including the list of examinations taken and the grades obtained.

For researchers:

3. Curriculum vitae and list of teaching activities, if any, and of scientific publications, with a maximum of 12 titles from which the main research topics of the candidate can be inferred.

I hereby declare that the information provided in this application is true and complete. I understand that incomplete, inaccurate, or false statements may result in the revocation of my enrolment or admission.

Date:

Signature: