

NETTUNO

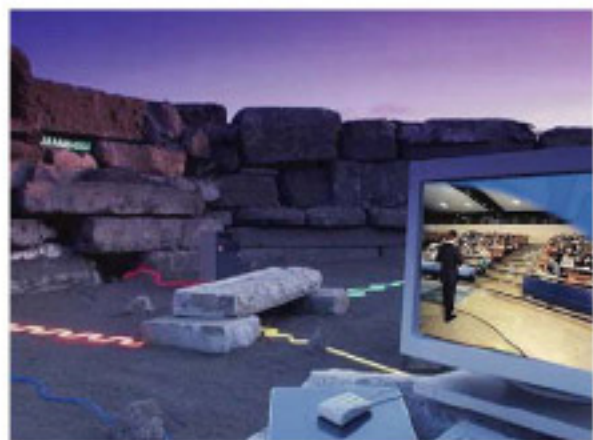
Network per
L'Università Ovunque

NETTUNO What it is

NETTUNO - Network per l'Università Ovunque is the first television and telematic University in Europe, using two satellite television channels **RAI NETTUNO SAT 1** and **RAI NETTUNO SAT 2**, and an Internet-based **Didactical Portal** (www.uninettuno.it).

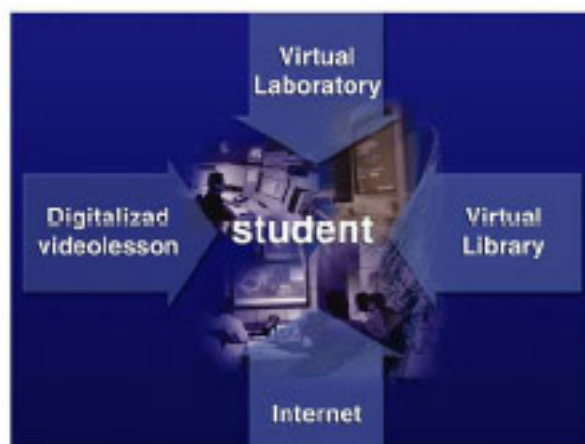
Promoted in 1992 by the Ministry of the University and Scientific and Technological Research, **NETTUNO** is a Distance University that starts off from traditional Universities. Italian Universities, International Institutions and Universities and technological companies created a non-profit association and they jointly design methodologies and contents of degree courses, distance masters, and professional training and re-training courses.

With **NETTUNO** model learning places are no longer only the University lecture-halls, but also different, real and virtual places; everybody, from all over the world, without time and space limits, having necessary technologies, can attend University.



- Technological Poles

- deliver distance students the following services: the utilisation of multimedial informatic tools, seminars face to face and/or in video/computer conferences, laboratory practice work, tutors' assistance, exam sessions, archive of broadcast videolections, course didactic texts and materials, free access to the Internet;
- supply students with a physical place to meet and overcome the sense of isolation which distance students often feel;
- are **innovation incubators** at traditional Universities' sites and can be set up either in companies: in this case, **NETTUNO** courses offer a training and re-training service for the staff. Each student can build his own Technological Pole at home.



NETTUNO's Structures

- National Centre

- coordinates the didactical activities related to distance courses;
- manages supporting technologies (satellite television, Internet, also by satellite, and audio and video conference systems);
- develops research projects related to information technologies applied to teaching processes and to face to face and distance learning.

- Supplying Universities

- manage students enrolment;
- issue the academic titles;
- realise students' assessments tests.

- Technological centres

- realise videolections, multimedia didactical products to be delivered by television and Internet, also via satellite.

The psycho-pedagogical model

The didactic psycho-pedagogical model is a mixed one that combines benefits offered by the traditional teaching and by guided learning, with those offered by a teaching distance model by means of new technologies.

The same professors, who carry out research work on knowledge contents at traditional Universities, are also face to face, as well as distance courses teachers.

For their distance courses, teachers had to learn a new language, a new way of communicating knowledge. In videolections, the teacher, besides transmitting knowledge on a given subject, guides students towards a study and learning method and a critical reading of their textbooks.

The University to watch, browse and surf in

Through the Internet, professors had to learn how to interact on-line with students in a diachronic and synchronic way.

The provided psycho-pedagogical model allows for the flexibility of the educational path and avoids students' isolation. The delivery modes are the following ones:

1. Traditional Method:

- direct interaction between teacher/tutor and students;
- seminars and practical assignments carried out at the University technological poles;
- exams and assessments.

2. Distance Method:

- academic lessons (videolessons broadcast on satellite television channels RAI NETTUNO SAT 1 and RAI NETTUNO SAT 2 and on the Internet via satellite);
- practical exercises on the Internet via satellite even through virtual laboratories;
- distance tutoring by audio and video chat, forum and videoconferencing.

In NETTUNO model the student is at the centre of the teaching process and decides, autonomously and freely, his/her learning process time and space.

By entering the learning environment on the Internet (www.uninettuno.it), from video professor web-page, you can access to digitalized videolessons, annotated bibliographies, books linked to subjects treated during courses, list of websites selected by teachers, virtual laboratories practical exercises, have at your disposal an on-line tutoring system for any discipline, and develop interactive collaborative learning processes.

Also thanks to the students' virtual communities (Nettunians), the portal www.uninettuno.it, is really a place where collaborative and cooperative learning is developed, where knowledge is exchanged, but it is also a place to meet and exchange ideas.



NETTUNO and research

NETTUNO consortium has developed a research activity and experienced different distance teaching models.

In a few years, NETTUNO has gone from the simple use of television and computer to the use of sophisticated telecommunications and satellite technologies. Besides the technological development, NETTUNO can count on the skills and availability of an ever growing number of professors capable of using new languages, but also of developing research on technologies applied to distance and face to face learning and teaching processes.

And thanks to the results of its many research projects NETTUNO was able to build a coherent system of theoretical and operational knowledge and establish a fair balance between technical and engineering components, cognitive and cultural aspects of the distance educational process.

The outcomes of this research work contributed to the creation of a distance teaching model that allows to truly get people and cultures closer and open the way to a global system of knowledge communication that changes our way of living, learning, thinking. The two projects, funded by the European Commission, LIVIVUS - Learning in Virtual Integrated University System, and Med Net'U, Mediterranean Network University.

Coordinated by NETTUNO, both projects adopt NETTUNO model in order to realise the European Virtual University (LIVIVUS) and the Euro-mediterranean Distance University (Med Net'U).

browse and surf in



In the Internet-based learning environments www.uninettuno.it/livius and www.uninettuno.it/mednetu, at present, the student can follow the same course in one of the languages that he prefers (English, French, Spanish, Italian, Arabic) and in one of Euro-mediterranean Universities participating in the projects.

These projects show that, thanks to the new technologies, the physical moving of professors and students can be virtually replaced by the mobility of ideas. Distance University can help in developing interaction from different universities worldwide, in internationalising culture and knowledge and in creating new knowledge and new values as well.

The University moves under open skies, without barriers.



University