Frequently asked questions

1. What are the prerequisites for the master and the entrance exam?

There is no specific list of prerequisites. However, you need to have a good knowledge of standard university courses on real and complex analysis, ordinary differential equations, the theory of Lebesgue integral, and some basic probability theory. Having gaps in some of the subjects is not a big problem; however, you need to show high-level mathematical culture, rigour of logic and clarity of writing.

2. Is the entrance exam mandatory for being accepted in the master?

The entrance exam is necessary to ensure that students of the master programme have comparable levels and are able to follow the courses. Therefore the entrance exam is also in the interest of the applicants. On the other hand, if you have very good grades for your Bachelor degree and strong recommendation letters from your teachers, you may apply for an admission without exam.

3. Is the Bachelor degree mandatory to be enrolled in the master?

Bachelor degree is necessary to be enrolled in a master programme of our partner universities, in which case you may be entitled to a double master degree. However, if you are interested only in our master programme, then all what you need is to pass the entrance exam and to attend the interview after it. Your previous diplomas do not play any role in our assessment of your level in mathematics and your capability to follow our courses. In particular, if you have successfully completed two or three years of studies in mathematics or physics and obtained very high grades, you can apply for an admission. You should be aware, however, that if you are accepted, then you should continue your undergraduate studies in parallel with our master, and this may be rather complicated.

4. Where do the classes take place?

All the classes take place at the <u>American University of Armenia</u>. The exact rooms and schedule will be announced in due time.

5. Is the presence mandatory?

Yes, it is. When there are classes, you have 1.5 hour of lecture and 5 hours of tutorial per day. You need to be present for the simple reason that the programme is difficult, and it would not be wise to miss an opportunity to work under the close supervision of your teachers.

6. What is a follow-up period?

The guest lecturers stay in Yerevan only for two weeks, while the total duration of each course in eight weeks. Once the two-week period is over, the students work autonomously for six weeks following a precise programme given by the lecturers. During this follow-up period, students will have a possibility of weekly one-hour collective audiovisual session with the lecturers. Students are encouraged to attend these sessions, to report their progress and to ask questions.

7. How much time do I need to work during the follow-up periods?

This is very individual question. However, given the ambitious programme of this master, it would be reasonable to say that you will need to work about ten hours a day to succeed.

8. What kind of diploma do I get?

You may choose to enrol with one of the partner universities, <u>Russian-Armenian University</u> or <u>Yerevan State University</u>. In this case, if you are successful, you may be entitled to a double degree from the partner university and <u>CY Cergy Paris Université</u>. If you are not enrolled with a partner university, then you will get the diploma of our master programme from the <u>CY Cergy Paris Université</u>.

9. What is the probability that I'll get a diploma?

This master is not bound by any obligations concerning the success rate, and the percentage of students who will have a diploma of our master may vary between 0% and 100%. The counterpart is that you can be absolutely sure that there will never ever be any compromise on the quality of our diploma, and those who get it will have very solid knowledge of the subjects they studied.

10. Is there any guarantee that I'll be enrolled in a PhD programme after finishing the master?

If you have high grades and are willing to do PhD in mathematics or mathematical physics, then you will certainly have a possibility to continue in a PhD programme in a very good European or North-American university.

11. Why there is no concrete information about the tuition fee?

There is no tuition fee specific to our master. If you want to have a diploma of our master programme, then you only need to pay a fee 243€ per year covering administrative expenses. If you want to have a double master degree, then you will need to enrol with a partner university, and this may imply an additional tuition fee payable to the partner university.

12. Why there is no tuition fee charged by the master programme?

Our visiting lecturers have kindly accepted to deliver their classes for free. This may sound strange, but this type of phenomena happen very often in the academic community. A real scientist is open for discussions and for sharing their knowledge with others, especially with students. This is called *service to the community*, and it may take many different forms. Free teaching allowed us to keep the cost of this master at a rather low level, and the expenses are covered by some funding agencies.

13. What can I do to serve the community?

At this stage, the best way for you to serve the community is to work very hard towards your master degree and to share your impression about this master with your younger colleagues. Our master degree will open a road for doing a PhD at a top level university and for becoming an established researcher within five years after your PhD. At that point, you will have a lot of possibilities to serve the community through teaching, sharing your experience, popularising mathematics and physics, etc.

14. *Is there an office I can go to in case I have a question?*

Having an office would mean additional cost for the master programme and higher fees, so we have decided not to have any. However, if you are enrolled with one of the partner universities, you will certainly have an interlocutor there. If your question is specifically related to the master programme, then you should contact the directors or managing directors of the programme.

15. What should I do if I have problems with the master programme?

If your problem is related to your classes, then you should address your lecturers. Otherwise, you should contact the directors or managing directors.