A.D. 1308
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DIPARTIMENTO DI FILOSOFIA,
SCIENZE SOCIALI, UMANE
E DELLA FORMAZIONE

Ph.D. Program in Ethics of Communication, Scientific Research and Technological Innovation

Coordinator: Prof.ssa Elisa Delvecchio

The Doctoral Course in Ethics of Communication, Scientific Research and Technological Innovation was established in the XXXV cycle and, up to the XXXVII cycle, has been innovative that is intersectoral (by agreements with entities and companies with research and development activities), interdisciplinary (by the presence in the Teachers' Board of at least 20% of components of CUN areas 6 and 11 and a theme aggregating different disciplines and methodologies) and international (by agreements with foreign universities).

Since the XXXVIII cycle, it has been accredited as an "industrial" Doctoral Course in the associated form under Art. 10, DM 226/2021, with an agreement with the Istituto Zooprofilattico.

Educational Project:

The educational project is organized in the three curricula of Humanities, Science-Technology, and Medicine-Health to offer an attractive environment for the study of ethics and its implications in communication, scientific research, and application in innovation. It is marked by a highly interdisciplinary nature (the Teaching Board consists of members belonging to 22 Scientific Disciplinary Sectors from 10 CUN Areas and the ERC SH, PE, and LS areas), relationships with foreign universities (the FiSSUF Department has activity in exchange programs, visiting professors, staff mobility in/from North American, Asian and European universities; there are co-supervisors from University of Ottawa, Institut Catholique de Toulouse, Fritz Lipman Institute Jena, and University of Basel), and from a high interest in the intersectoral field (agreement with the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Umbria e delle Marche "Togo Rosati" and since 2025/2026 an agreement with the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale Abruzzo e Molise "Giuseppe Caporali").

The training project includes higher education and advanced research activities organized within three years of the course.

Year I: scientific orientation and acquisition of the required specialized skills to develop a highly qualified research project for the doctoral thesis, in agreement with the supervisor and one or more co-supervisors.

Year II: research work on the thesis project and stay in a university or other institution of high qualification abroad for a minimum period of 6 months.

Year III: research work and thesis writing.

The classes are planned mainly for the first two years. Classes are organized into about four classes common to the three curricula (about 36 hours) and about three classes specific to each curriculum (about 24 hours per curriculum). Classes aim to acquire high-level skills with in-depth study of one of the areas relevant to the Ph.D. program and methodologies and techniques of research and data analysis applicable to one's field of study. There are seminars and laboratory activities also concerning inter/multi/trans-disciplinary transversal skills that may be in common with other Ph.D. Programmes. Ph.D. students may also choose to attend teachings specific to other curricula of the Ph.D. Program and are invited to participate in seminars, conferences,and any intensive courses relevant to the themes of the Ph.D. Program organized by Universities, Research Institutes, Scientific Societies, and Professional Organizations.

The research activity includes, in addition to the realization of the thesis project, the following possible activities: communications at the Ph.D. day organized annually by the Doctoral Course; reports at national/international scientific events; publications such as articles/essays in scientific journals, chapters/monographs in scientific publishers, reviews in scientific journal/curated journal; and patents. The organization of conferences/workshops; appointments in scientific associations; and receipt of scientific awards or recognition are also valued. Third mission activity is also encouraged (e.g., Sharper European Researchers' Night).

At the beginning of the year, the Ph.D. student must agree with the supervisor, and one or more co-supervisors, on an educational and research activities plan to be presented to the Teachers' Board for approval. At the end of the year, they must submit a report to be evaluated for admission to subsequent years of the Ph.D. Program.

Objectives

The Ph.D. Program aims to train doctors with high theoretical and methodological qualifications on fundamental issues concerning the ethical aspects inherent in the management of communication and communication processes in science and dissemination, the implementation of research in various scientific disciplines, and the application in the innovation of the acquired knowledge.

The industrial doctoral characteristic will entail special attention to the study of ethical aspects inherent in the planned activity of enterprises and institutions to introduce new products/services and new methods of producing, distributing, and using them. The members of the teaching staff belonging to the ERC areas SH, PE, and LS, and the common and specific teachings in the three curricula Humanities, Science-Technology, and Medical-Health have been selected to enable the study

and training in the field of ethics according to precisely a scientific-humanistic, scientific-medical and technological innovation perspective.

Ethical issues related to communication, scientific research, and technological innovation will be addressed according to the needs of these three disciplines and methodologies. To this end, research projects will be developed among members of the Teachers' Board across the curricula within which projects of individual doctoral students may be located. Interdisciplinarity, transdisciplinarity, and contamination among disciplines and methodologies of study and research, even in non-academic fields, are fostered to develop transferable and soft skills as well. Particular attention is given to themes and methods functional to pursue the "Sustainable Development Goals identified by the United Nations General Assembly, the targets indicated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and their declinations in European policies."

Employment and professional opportunities

The skills acquired can be spent in public, private, and business companies/non-governmental associations where high interdisciplinary skills are required in the management of communication with journalists, the media, and social networks; in the dissemination of results of scientific studies in health care, humanities and scientific/technological innovation (e.g., dissemination of scientific and non-specialist information); in the development of codes of ethics for businesses; in the management of public relations; in the development of marketing strategies; in the management and solution of bioethical problems; in training and management of staff of public and private companies. Doctoral training also allows access to teaching and research in the academic and extra-academic fields in all those agencies that provide specializations in communication management.

Duration

Three years during which the students carry out study activities, including attending lessons with a final exam and research in Italy and abroad and preparing a doctoral thesis to be defended in the presence of a committee of at least three professors.

Admission requirements and selection: The Ph.D. Program is open to students with a master's degree obtained in Italy or abroad. Admission is based on a public selection for qualifications and an interview. The qualifications also concern a research project on a topic the candidate chose that is consistent with one of the three curricula. The project must be attached to the application form for participation in the selection and be discussed during the interview, which can also be carried out by videoconference.

Information about the selection is available at

https://www.unipg.it/didattica/percorsi-post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-avvisi-e-modulistica

Open positions: Five with a scholarship (two positions are reserved for employees of the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Umbria e delle Marche "Togo Rosati" and Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale Abruzzo e Molise "Giuseppe Caporali").

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