

## **PH.D. IN HUMAN SCIENCES**

**Coordinator:** Prof. Claudia Mazzeschi ([claudia.mazzeschi@unipg.it](mailto:claudia.mazzeschi@unipg.it))

**Mail to:** [dottorato.scienzeumane@unipg.it](mailto:dottorato.scienzeumane@unipg.it)

The Doctoral Programme in Human Sciences is an advanced academic course (third level of university education) that aims to train highly qualified scholars and researchers in the field of Human Sciences. The three-year training programme represents an opportunity to develop in-depth knowledge of the humanities and contribute to contemporary scientific dialogue.

### **Objectives of the course**

The doctorate aims to:

- Deepen the interdisciplinary study of human sciences, spanning disciplines such as philosophy, history, literature, linguistics, anthropology, art, and cultural studies.
- Provide advanced theoretical and methodological tools for critical analysis and research.
- Prepare doctoral students to contribute originally to knowledge through publications, conferences, and innovative research projects.
- Promote skills that can be used both in academia and in sectors such as publishing, cultural heritage, communication, and public or private institutions.

### **Course structure**

The programme lasts three years and includes:

- Theoretical training: Seminars, advanced courses, and workshops on specific topics in the humanities.
- Individual research: Realization of an original research project under the supervision of one or more professors.
- Interdisciplinary activities: Participation in conferences, collaborations with other doctoral students and researchers, study periods abroad.
- Doctoral thesis: An original and significant contribution on a specific topic chosen by the candidate, which will be discussed before a committee.

## **Description and objectives of the Doctoral Programme**

The internationalization of the Doctoral Programme in “Human Sciences” is accomplished through the collaboration with a number of foreign universities, offering Ph.D.-students a growing international academic learning environment. In particular, the Doctoral Programme allows the enrolment of Ph.D.-students who have acquired their access title abroad.

The Doctoral Programme offers three curricula:

1. Philosophy
2. Education and Psychology
3. Socio-cultural Anthropology and Linguistics.

Across all curricula, common advanced training targets are both theoretical and methodological and can be research-oriented as well as applied. The programme promotes international scientific cooperation and interdisciplinary work at different levels. Ph.D.-students will develop their advanced and autonomous research capacity, both in terms of abstract theoretical understanding and with regard to the dissemination and the public engagement of their research.

The interpretation of different aspects of the contemporary world is carried out in interdisciplinary perspectives that draw on a range of disciplines of the humanities, including philosophy, psychology, education, linguistics and socio-cultural anthropology.

Doctoral students will have the opportunity to plan, develop and implement their own research project under the guidance of one or more mentors, focusing on an original and innovative topic that should be presented as well in conferences and published in scientific journals or volumes. Within the framework of each curriculum, the training objectives of the Ph.D. are achieved through individualised training and research plans, tailored around the chosen thesis topic.

**Didactic and interdisciplinary activities** - Over the three-years doctoral programme, each Ph.D.-student will have to carry out training activities (“Ad hoc teachings”, Seminars, Laboratories), and research activities (thesis work).

21 “Ad hoc teachings” (with final exam): max. 60 hours over the three-years.

At the beginning of the three-year period, the Ph.D.-students agrees with his/her mentor a personalized educational and research plan that aims at the elaboration of the thesis. Along with his/her mentor, each Ph.D.-candidate can choose up to 21 “Ad hoc teachings” in the first two years, for a maximum of 60 hours.

The transition to the following years of the Ph.D.-Programme is subject to approval by the College of the Doctorate, after submission of an annual report on the advancement of the candidate’s work. In agreement with her/his mentor, each Ph.D.-student, in addition to the thesis work can choose participation to conferences, publication of articles, reviews, monographs, tutoring activities, supplementary teaching, organization of conferences and workshops, etc. (for the types of activities refers to the university’s

Ph.D.-regulations). Before being discussed, the thesis will be reviewed by two external evaluators.

**“Ad hoc teaching”**- In agreement with her/his mentor, each Ph.D.-student, in addition to the “ad hoc teachings” indicated in the curriculum, can choose modules related to other curricula, both in relation to the interdisciplinary character of the training, and for the methodological planning of basic and advanced research. It is recommended to follow the teachings in the 1 and 2 year of the Ph.D- course.

**Additional training activities** - In addition to the possibility of participating in workshops, summer schools and conferences (regularly scheduled and, in any case, communicated by e-mail to Ph.D.-students), research stays can

be carried out in Italy (outside the institutions that already collaborate with the Ph.D.- Programme) and abroad (both within the institutions that collaborate, and outside, medium 6 months).

Year I - Scientific orientation and acquisition of the required specialized skills to develop, in agreement with the mentor, a highly qualified research project for the thesis work.

Year II - Research work on the thesis project and stay in a university or other Institution of high qualification (medium 6 months).

Year III - Research work and doctoral thesis writing.

## **Objectives**

Across all curricula - 1) Philosophy, 2) Education and Psychology, 3) Socio-cultural Anthropology and Linguistics -, common advanced training targets are both theoretical and methodological and can be research-oriented as well as applied. The programme promotes international scientific cooperation and interdisciplinary work at different levels. Ph.D.-students will develop their advanced and autonomous research capacity, both in terms of abstract theoretical understanding and with regard to the dissemination and the public engagement of their research.

The interpretation of different aspects of the contemporary world is carried out in interdisciplinary perspectives that draw on a range of disciplines of the humanities, including philosophy, psychology, education, linguistics and socio-cultural anthropology.

Doctoral students will have the opportunity to plan, develop and implement their own research project under the guidance of one or more mentors, focusing on an original and innovative topic that should be presented as well in conferences and published in scientific journals or volumes.

Moreover, the doctoral programme allows its students the acquisition of high level theoretical and methodological skills, both research-oriented and applied.

Within the framework of each curriculum, the training objectives of the Ph.D. are achieved through individualised training and research plans, tailored around the chosen thesis topic.

## **Employability and career development**

Ph.D.-students will be able to apply the acquired skills at different levels: local, national and international. Specific professional careers are in so diverse areas such as in education and research in academic and extra academic contexts, in national and international non-governmental organisations, as well as in training and personnel management contexts of public and private companies. Another career option is related to the field of cultural heritage and museums, the organisation of exhibitions and, in general, in the promotion of local cultures. Welfare, the health system, health, international cooperation, the reception and integration of migrants, cultural mediation and family mediation are other areas where Ph.D.-students can find employment. More generally, the fields of application of the acquired skills can refer to the broader targets for sustainable development and the building of an inclusive and supportive society.

### **The Doctoral Programme in Human Sciences collaborates with universities and foreign research bodies:**

1. SCOALA NATIONALA DE STUDII POLITICE SE ADMINISTRATIVE
2. UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE DE LYON (Faculté de Philosophie)
3. CHONGQING UNIVERSITY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES OF CHINA
4. PEDAGOGICAL STATE UNIVERSITY OF MOSCOW (UPSM) – Russian Federation
5. NIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SAO CARLOS - SAO CARLOS (SP) - Brazil
6. UNIVERSIDADE ESTADUAL PAULISTA JLIO DE MESQUITA FILHO (DEPARTAMENTO DE ANTROPOLOGIA, POLITICA E FILOSOFIA, DELLA FACULDADE DE CINCIAS E LETRAS CAMPUS DE ARARAQUARA) - SAO PAULO – Brazil
7. INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AND PHILOLOGY DELL'ACADEMIA SINICA – Taiwan

## **Doctoral Curricula**

### **1) Philosophical curriculum**

The main research fields of the philosophical curriculum (SSD PHIL-01/A, PHIL-02/A, PHIL-05/A, GSPS-01/A, ARTE-01/B) investigate the fundamental topics of History of Philosophy, Theoretical Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion, Logic and Philosophy of Science, with a specific focus on the different meanings of dialectic, gnoseology, hermeneutics, phenomenology and analytics as they are developed both in modern and contemporary philosophy. The themes of general, social and personal ontology are widely faced; a particular attention is paid to the topics of humanism, in its multiple meaning both in diachronic and synchronic sense, in relationship with the question of technics and environment; courses concerning language, communication and virtual reality are also headed. Another important field of research concerns the reflection on art and history of art devoted to a responsible management of the cultural heritage. All those research fields, the specific courses, the seminars, the planned laboratories, the meetings and conferences and the constant supervision of the professors are the fundamentals for the formation to the basic research for the PhD students

## **2) Education and Psychology curriculum**

SSD: PAED-01/A, PAED-02/A, PISC-01/A, PISC-04/A, PHIL 05/A - The research in the pedagogical area broadly covers the theoretical-foundational fields and epistemological-methodological aspects of the indicated pedagogical fields; hence the focus is on general, social, family, intercultural pedagogy, philosophy of education, work pedagogy, training, lifelong education and the history of pedagogy and educational institutions. It is also interested in scientific and didactic-training activity of a theoretical, empirical and experimental nature concerning didactics, training, special pedagogy, orientation and evaluation in the various educational, instructional and training contexts; methodologies of educational design, training and animation; media education and e-learning; product, process and system evaluation; special didactics for people with disabilities and problems of social and cultural integration.

From the perspective of the psychological disciplines involved, the curriculum is oriented towards the investigation of the mechanisms and processes of personal and interpersonal functioning (in adulthood, as well as at different stages of development and in different life contexts) both on the basic and applied research side (clinical, health and rehabilitation contexts), also declined from the context of neuroscience. Research is linked to the challenges associated with social and systemic changes in which man is immersed and which he helps to define. Attention is given to the methodological dimension of research (conceptual, quantitative and qualitative research) with a focus on empirical research and evidence-based psychology (EBP).

## **3) Anthropological-linguistic curriculum**

Research interests of the members of the Anthropological-linguistic curriculum (SSD S-DEA -01/A, GEOG-01/A, ASIA-01/F) include the area of social and cultural anthropology, oriental cultures (in particular, China), and human geography. In particular, specific research is been carried out in the subfield of medical anthropology and the study of the body with its historical processes of incorporation, the relationships between cultural dynamics, social suffering and collective action in the field of mental health (in Italy and Brazil). Another particular research direction is the study of the cultures of East-, South- and South-East Asia, with a particular focus on the forms of modern and contemporary Buddhism. Research is also conducted on innovative forms of socio-political activism and transversal Arab-Jewish dynamics of solidarity in Israel / Palestine. Spatial, social and political changes are studied by focusing on the forms of living and the reconfiguration of territories affected by the challenges of cultural, environmental and economic changes. Ethnographic research focuses on local contexts and transnational dynamics with reference to the processes of cultural heritage (Italy, China, Brazil), policies of horizontal transparency in the agri-food field, urban-rural relations, conflicts and legal forms in migratory contexts. These research activities are reflected within the "ad hoc teaching", seminars, scheduled laboratories, and further in-depth conference proposals and the supervision of the Ph.D.-candidates.