



Regulations for PhD courses

Favourable opinion of the Board of Directors dated February 25, 2022,

Approval of the Academic Senate on March 8, 2022

Art. 1 – Purpose

1. These Regulations govern the establishment, activation and operation of PhD Courses (hereinafter the Course or Courses) with administrative headquarters at the University of Udine (hereinafter the University) in implementing the Decree of the Ministry of University and Research of December 14, 2021, no. 226 (hereinafter Ministerial Decree 226/2021).
2. PhD courses are an integral part of the University's third-level teaching offer.
3. The PhD provides the necessary skills to carry out highly qualified research activities at universities, public bodies or private entities, to access careers in public administrations and integrate highly innovative professional paths.
4. PhD training, in line with the principles and guidelines shared at a European level and in particular of the European Charter for Researchers, allows to:
 - a) conceive, design, implement, and autonomously adapt research or innovation paths;
 - b) conduct critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis of new and complex ideas and processes in research institutions, in the production system, in the public administration and the professional occupations;
 - c) contribute, thanks to the acquisition of new scientific and transversal skills, to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals identified by the United Nations General Assembly, to the goals indicated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to their declinations in European policies;
 - d) contribute to the realisation of the European Research and Higher Education Area, taking into account its Quality Assurance Standards and Guidelines.
5. To achieve the objectives of paragraph 4, on the basis of the “Principles for innovative PhD training” approved at a European level, the PhD training:
 - a) pursues the advancement of knowledge through basic and applied research training and the promotion of quality through the promotion of self-training and constructive comparison between peers;
 - b) is carried out in an attractive and stimulating institutional environment in which the PhD student can acquire autonomy and responsibilities useful for the subsequent professional path;
 - c) promotes interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary training opportunities, also in non-academic areas, such as the industrial sector, public administration, services and cultural institutions, with the involvement of experts in the sector in training activities;
 - d) contributes to the strengthening of transnational and international relations in the field of research, also by activating joint PhDs and forms of co-supervision, and ensures, in line with the research project developed by the PhD student, periods of mobility abroad of a reasonable duration with respect to the PhD project;
 - e) provides for the acquisition of transversal skills in order to facilitate their transfer and development in the scientific and professional fields;
 - f) is carried out as part of a quality assurance system, distinct from that provided for the first and second cycles of university education, aimed at improving the quality of the research environment and defining transparent and accountable procedures for the admission, supervision, award of the degree and professional development of PhD students.

Art. 2 – Establishment, activation and accreditation of courses with administrative headquarters at the University

1. Taking into account the fulfilment of the requirements of current legislation as well as any supplementary criteria aimed at improving the quality of the courses proposed by the Evaluation Unit and/or the Research Commission, previously approved by the Academic Senate, annually, the Rector submits the proposal for a PhD offer to the Academic Senate, which evaluates and expresses an opinion on the institution, on the activation or deactivation of the Courses, after consulting the Evaluation Team. The Board of Directors

decides on the establishment, activation or deactivation of the Courses and the relative plan for allocating resources (scholarships; PhD student budget; scholarship increase per period abroad) for the academic year of reference.

2. The annual PhD offer (cycle) consists of:

- a) Newly established courses, the activation of which is subject to ministerial accreditation,
- b) Courses already accredited, without prejudice to the periodic ministerial verification on the maintenance of accreditation requirements.

3. The request to establish a new course or start a new cycle of an already accredited course is submitted, according to the methods and within the terms indicated by the Academic Senate, by the Department that proposes itself as administrative headquarters, possibly also jointly with other Departments.

4. The obligations relating to the newly established courses are carried out by the Director of the Administrative Office Department until the establishment of the Teacher's Board and the appointment of the Coordinator. The Department of the Administrative Headquarters of the Course prepares a financial plan for the sustainability of the Course in the forecast budget and provides the necessary resources to be allocated to its operation every year.

Art. 3 – PhD courses in associated form

1. The University promotes and supports PhD training also through courses carried out in an associated form according to the provisions of Articles. 3 “subjects who can apply for accreditation”, 10 “industrial PhD”, and 11 “PhD of national interest” of the Ministerial Decree 226/2021.

2. With reference to the courses referred to in paragraph 1, the University defines relations with associated subjects, including those from different countries, through the stipulation of specific agreements or the establishment of consortia, in compliance with current legislation and these Regulations.

Art. 4 – Duration of the courses and training project

1. The duration of the Courses cannot be less than three years, without prejudice to the provisions of art. 25 with regard to coordination with medical graduate schools. The duration is defined at the time of establishment of the Course and can be extended according to the provisions of art. 20.

2. The PhD student's educational project consists of:

- a) the development, under the guidance of the Supervisor, of an individual research program referring to a specific disciplinary area among those on which the Course is focused;
- b) the frequency of teaching activities of PhD level complementary to research not less than 20 credits, according to the indications of the College. The credits, which can be acquired by attending courses and other training activities, are recognised by the Teacher's Board which authorises attendance and evaluates the results.

3. The Board of Teachers approves the individual research program and teaching activities for each PhD student, also, usually providing for the carrying out of research and training activities at highly qualified institutions abroad.

4. The teaching activities, which can also be organised in common between several courses, must include support of the research activity and outline the professional identity of future PhDs: interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary training activities, linguistic and IT improvement, as well as activities in the field of teaching, research management and knowledge of European and international research systems, exploitation and dissemination of results, intellectual property and open access to research data and products and the fundamental principles of ethics and integrity.

5. The training project involves an exclusive and full-time commitment quantified in 1,720 hours per year.

Art. 5 – Course Bodies

1. The following are mandatory bodies:

- a) the course coordinator;

b) the Teacher's Board.

2. The establishment of an additional body called the Teacher's Council is optional.

3. When establishing the Course, the Teacher's Board and, if required, the Teachers' Council are convened by the Director of the Department.

Art. 6 – Coordinator

1. The Coordinator chairs and coordinates the activities of the Teacher's Board and the Teacher's Council and implements the related resolutions. He/she is responsible for the overall functioning of the Course and the training activities provided for therein and takes care of its effective execution.

2. The Coordinator is elected by the Teacher's Board from among the full-time first-level professors or, in case of justified unavailability, among the full-time second-level professors having the requirements provided for by the Ministerial Decree 226/2021. For eligibility, the requirement of art. 59 of the University Statute must be respected.

3. The Coordinator remains in office for three academic years and can be re-elected for only one consecutive time.

4. The Coordinator may appoint a Deputy Coordinator, among the professors or tenured researchers belonging to the Board, to replace him in case of absence or impediment, as well as in case of early termination of office until the installation of the newly elected. If the Coordinator belongs to an associated office, the Deputy Coordinator must be identified, as a rule, among the professors belonging to the University of Udine.

Art. 7 – Teacher's Board

1. The Teacher's Board has the scientific, didactic and organisational responsibility of the Course. It carries out functions of guidance and PhD students in scientific research, supervises the design and implementation of teaching activities pertaining to the Course and fulfils all the tasks necessary to ensure its proper functioning and high scientific profile.

2. The Board fulfils the following tasks:

- a) defines the educational objectives and themes of the Course;
- b) approves the annual report prepared by the Coordinator to be submitted to the University Evaluation Committee;
- c) manages the funds made available for the operation of the same;
- d) appoints the teachers who become part of the Teachers' Council;
- e) defines the procedures for admission to the Course and establishes the general criteria for the evaluation of qualifications as well as for their weighting;
- f) appoints the members of the Selection Board for the entrance examination;
- g) defines quality and evaluation standards of PhD students' research;
- h) appoints a supervisor for each PhD student and possibly one or more Co-Supervisors pursuant to art. 10;
- i) approves the individual research plan of the PhD students, having heard the opinion of the Supervisor and any co-Supervisor;
- j) plans and supervises the successful implementation of the PhD students' training project;
- k) decides on the admission / non-admission to the following year and the admission / non-admission to the pre-evaluation of the thesis for the purpose of obtaining the qualification.
- l) authorises PhD students to carry out tutoring activities (including paid) of students of degree and master's degree courses, as well as supplementary teaching as an integral part of the training project, within the limits defined by current legislation;



- m) deliberates upon specific request and prior investigation, on compatibility, according to the criteria dictated by art. 22, paragraph 3, among activities outside the training project that permit to acquire the skills concerning the educational field of the PhD and the exclusive and full-time commitment required by the Course, issuing to the interested party specific authorisation with effectiveness temporally limited to the academic year in progress at the time of the deliberation, which will be reported in the Course status report referred to in art. 11;
- n) deliberates on requests for suspension of course attendance, postponement of the start of activities, and the overall duration of the course referred to in art. 25;
- o) Resolution on granting the extension of the deadlines for delivery of the thesis and the course referred to in art. 20;
- p) deliberates by issuing to the interested party specific authorisation with effectiveness temporally limited to the academic year in progress at the time of the deliberation, which will be reported in the report on the status of the Course referred to in art. 11:
 - With regard to compatibility, according to the criteria dictated by art. 22, paragraph 3, with the joint attendance of active training internships or, however, named, of training courses aimed at obtaining the teaching qualification or, in general, of training courses that require mandatory attendance without prejudice to the incompatibilities referred to in art. 22, paragraph 8;
 - in compliance with art. 25 in the case of attendance at a Medical Postgraduate School;
- q) approves, as far as it is competent, the agreements for the co-supervision of PhD theses;
- r) resolves, also during the year, the exclusion from the continuation of the Course;
- s) appoints the evaluators of the PhD theses referred to in art. 17, paragraph 3, and proposes the names of the members of the Jury of the final exam referred to in art. 18;
- t) deliberates, at the request of the PhD student, the proposal for the issuance by the University of certifications provided by international bodies if the requirements are met;
- u) carries out any other fulfilment provided by these Regulations and current legislation.

3. Members of the Teacher's Board of Teachers can be: professors or researchers at universities and research institutions, public or private, Italian or foreign, as well as external experts. The composition of the Board must respect the proportions between the different components as defined by Ministerial Decree 226/2021. The members of the Teacher's Board must be in possession of high and documented scientific or professional qualifications in the disciplinary areas of the Course, as defined by the Ministerial Decree 226/2021 and possess the quality requirements indicated by the MUR and/or the University.

4. In compliance with current legislation, the Board of Teachers of the Course must be composed of at least 12 members. The composition of the Teacher's Board must not in any case exceed 30 units, derogable exclusively on the proposal of the Administrative Department, subject to the opinion of the Evaluation Committee, the Academic Senate and by decision of the Board of Directors.

5. Applications for participation in the Teacher's Board are submitted to the Director of the proposing Department during the establishment phase of the Course. For courses already established, applications are submitted to the Coordinator. The new composition of the Board is determined annually by the Board itself, with a resolution adopted by a majority of the members. In the absence of such a resolution, it is taken by the Department Council.

6. Membership to two Teacher's Boards is allowed only if one refers to a course organised in an associated form.

7. Without prejudice to the priority of teaching in degree and master's degree courses, the teaching activity, scientific or business tutoring or supervision of the thesis, carried out and certified by university professors and researchers in the context of PhD courses, contributes to the fulfilment of the institutional obligations provided for by art. 6 of Law no. 240 of December 30, 2010.

Art. 8 – Teacher Board Meetings

1. The Teacher's Board meets at least three times a year. It is possible for the members to participate in the sessions via videoconference. Minutes of the Board meetings are drawn up and sent to the competent Administration offices for the consequent obligations.
2. The Teacher's Board is given the opportunity to meet electronically, where deemed appropriate by the Coordinator.
3. Participation in the sessions of the Teacher's Board is mandatory. Members who do not participate in three consecutive sessions except for the justified reasons referred to in art. 55 of the Statute, lose the office. This provision does not apply to professors belonging to foreign universities.
4. At the sessions of the Teacher's Board, for the discussion of didactic and organisational problems, two representatives of PhD students are also convened. Representatives are elected every two years by the students of the Course. Elections are called by the Course Coordinator. In case of forfeiture or renunciation of a representative, the following PhD student takes over in the relative electoral ranking; if there is no candidate in the ranking, new votes shall be taken; pending voting, the Board of Teachers remains validly constituted.
5. The Teacher's Board may deliberate, with an absolute majority of its members, on any changes or additions to the composition of the same, without prejudice to the maintenance of the requirements.
6. The common statutory and regulatory provisions of the University apply to the Teacher's Board regarding the functioning of the collegial bodies.

Art. 9 – The Teachers' Council

1. The Teachers' Council is made up of the members of the Teachers' Board and university professors and researchers at the University or structured at other Italian or foreign universities or by researchers from public or private research institutions, Italian or foreign, or external experts appointed by the Teacher's Board.
2. The Teachers' Council has advisory purposes in the field of training, research and technology transfer in line with the training objectives and the themes of the Course.

Art. 10 – Supervisor

1. Each PhD student is assigned a Supervisor and possibly one or more Co-Supervisors, chosen by the Board also from external subjects.
At least one of the Supervisor(s) must be of academic origin, and at least one must belong to the Board.
2. The Supervisor, in collaboration with the Co-Supervisor(s), follows the PhD student in the realisation of his training project until the completion of the drafting of the PhD thesis.
3. The Supervisor, in collaboration possibly with the Co-Supervisor(s), informs the Teacher's Board about the status of the realisation by the PhD student of the training project., annually and whenever requested or deemed appropriate by the Board,
4. The Supervisor and the Co-Supervisor(s) must comply with the provisions of the University's Code of Ethics and the guidelines approved regarding the PhD path by the Academic Senate.

Art. 11 – Course Evaluation

1. Periodically within the terms and in the manner defined by the Academic Senate, the Department, subject to approval by the Teacher's Board, sends a report on the status of each Course to the Evaluation Unit of the University, of which it is the administrative headquarters. If requested, the report must be accompanied, in line with the University's objectives, by the identification of the actions to improve it, also in light of the results of ministerial accreditation and the evaluations expressed by ANVUR, the MUR and the Evaluation Unit itself.



2. The Evaluation Unit periodically assesses the proper functioning of the Courses and the maintenance of suitable quality requirements in light of the indicators prepared by ANVUR and MUR.
3. The evaluation is aimed at supporting the University in the qualitative monitoring of the courses in order to design and manage its PhD offer and in the allocation of resources.

Art. 12 – Qualifications for admission to the Courses

1. The Course can be accessed, without limitations of citizenship, by those who are in possession of the qualifications required by current legislation on the expiry date of the notice or within the deadline for enrolment in the Course, conventionally set on the starting date of the Course.
2. The starting date of the courses is November 1, unless otherwise indicated in the notice.
3. With regard to qualifications acquired abroad, the Commission for the admission examination assesses the suitability of the qualification for the sole purpose of enrolment in the Course, in compliance with current legislation on the subject in Italy and in the country where the qualification was issued and with international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies.

Art. 13 – Admission to the Courses and compatibility

1. Course admission takes place through a public selection held at least once a year. The notice may provide for places without a scholarship and with a scholarship in compliance with current legislation.
2. The admission notice, issued by Rector's decree, is written in Italian and English and is published for at least 30 days in the official register of the University, on the European website Euraxess and on the website of the Ministry.
3. For the selective procedures of the "Industrial PhD" and "National Interest" courses, the provisions of art. 10 and 11 of the Ministerial Decree 226/2021.
4. The notice may reserve a quota of places, possibly providing for differentiated admission procedures and separate rankings:
 - a) to students who graduated in foreign universities;
 - b) to scholarship holders from foreign countries or specific international mobility programs;
 - c) in the field of industrial PhDs ex Ministerial Decree 226/2021 art. 10, to employees of companies or affiliated bodies engaged in highly qualified activities.
5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, the following may also enrol in the Courses:
 - the subjects identified following selection procedures provided for in the context of national, European and international research agreements or programs in which the University participates as coordinator or partner lasting no less than that of the PhD Course;
 - students enrolled in PhD courses at foreign universities or research institutions that have signed agreements with the University for the issue of the title of PhD under the "co-supervision" regime.
6. The registration of the subjects referred to in paragraph 5 takes place after the favourable opinion of the Courses Teachers' Board concerned, without prejudice to the verification of the possession of the candidate's admission qualifications provided for in Article 12.
7. Without prejudice to the specific discipline on the Industrial PhD referred to in art. 10 of the Ministerial Decree 226/2021, the public or private employee admitted to a PhD course following the selective procedure referred to in paragraph 1, who does not obtain from his employer the placement on leave or leave to carry out the PhD course, is allowed to enrol in the PhD Course only after renunciation of the scholarship provided by the University pursuant to art. 24, paragraph 5, and following the favourable opinion of the Teacher's Board regarding the compatibility of the work activity with the PhD course pursuant to letter m) of paragraph 2 of art. 7.



8. In the event that the PhD student becomes a public or private employee during the course of the PhD, the Teacher's Board shall decide to exclude him/her from the Course with the effects of art. 21, paragraph 3, except for the following hypotheses:

- a) that the PhD student renounces the scholarship provided by the University pursuant to art. 24, paragraph 5, and that there is the favourable opinion of the Teacher's Board regarding the compatibility of the work activity with the PhD course pursuant to letter m) of paragraph 2 of art. 7;
- b) that the PhD student is placed on leave by his employer until the end of the PhD course.

9. In any case, the scholarship provided by the University cannot be combined with the allowance or other emolument that the PhD student may receive as a public or private employee due to the placement on leave.

10. PhD students can carry out paid self-employment activities that allow them to acquire skills concerning the training field, subject to a request for authorisation to the Teacher's Board which deliberates pursuant to art. 7, paragraph 2, letter m) and which will be reported in the periodic report on the status of the course referred to in art. 11

Art. 14 – Commission for the entrance exam to the Course

1. The Commission for the entrance exam to the Course is appointed by the Rector on the proposal of the Teacher's Board or, failing that, on the proposal of the Coordinator or the Director of the Department.
2. The Commission is composed of three to nine members, of whom at least two must be tenured university professors. The members shall be chosen, respecting gender balance where possible, between:
 - a) university professors and researchers of the University, of other Italian or foreign universities;
 - b) first researchers and research managers or similar roles of public research bodies;
 - c) experts with proven qualifications.
3. The Selection Board appoints the President and the Secretary from among its members.
4. The Commission concludes its work within the time limits laid down in current legislation.

Art. 15 – Registrations

1. Candidates in a useful position in the ranking must submit an application for enrolment and related documentation within the terms and in the manner defined in the admission notice.
2. Without prejudice to the obligation to complete enrolment, candidates may be granted any postponement of the start of attendance, subject to a motivated and documented request and a favourable opinion of the Teacher's Board.
3. In case of withdrawal of the winners or if additional resources become available, it is possible to proceed with the scrolling of the rankings of those eligible and the relative enrolment by the starting date of the Course unless otherwise decided by the Teacher's Board concerned.

Art. 16 – Enrolment in subsequent years and admission to the evaluation phase of the thesis and to the final exam

1. The PhD student must enrol in the following years and the final exam in the manner and within the terms that the competent offices will communicate.
2. The enrolment of the PhD student is subject to the positive evaluation of the Teacher's Board regarding the activities carried out in compliance with the training project referred to in art. 4, paragraph 2.
3. The enrolment of the PhD student is subject to the positive evaluation of the Teacher's Board regarding the activities carried out in compliance with the training project referred to in art. 4, paragraph 2.

Art. 17 – Final exam and achievement of the title

1. The title of PhD is issued by the Rector after passing the final exam. The final Diploma is accompanied by a document (Diploma Supplement) that certifies the training activities carried out.
2. The final exam consists of the discussion of a thesis. The thesis is delivered within the legal duration of the Course without prejudice to the provisions of Article 20. The thesis, accompanied by a summary in English, is written in Italian, English, or another language with the authorisation of the Teacher's Board. The thesis must be accompanied by a report of the PhD student on any publications carried out and on the activities carried out during the PhD course.
3. The thesis must be examined by at least two highly qualified evaluators appointed by the Teacher's Board.
4. The evaluators, of which at least one university professor, must be external to the Teacher's Board, the University and the associated subjects and must not have been involved in the research activity of the PhD student. Within 30 days of receipt of the thesis, the evaluators express an analytical, written judgement on the thesis and propose its admission to the final exam or postponement for a period not exceeding six months if they consider additions or corrections necessary. In case of postponement, after the period of six months, the thesis is sent again to the evaluators, who can propose admission or non-admission to the final exam. After this period, the thesis, accompanied by a new written opinion given by the evaluators, is, in any case, admitted to discussion.
5. Admission to the final exam is subject to the deposit of the thesis in the Institutional Open Access Archive, which fulfils the obligation of legal deposit at the National Libraries of Rome and Florence.
6. The PhD theses are published in full in free access, at the latest within 18 months of the discussion in case of embargo request for reasons related to the protection of intellectual property and limited to the cases provided for by the same, according to the will expressed by the PhD student and the Supervisor or by the Co-Supervisor(s). The University will also deposit PhD theses in the ministerial database as required by current legislation.
7. The exams for the conferral of the PhD qualification take place, before a Commission for the examination, in periods periodically defined by the Academic Senate.
8. At the end of the discussion, the Commission expresses a written and reasoned opinion on the thesis, and when it unanimously recognises a particular scientific importance, it can award praise.
9. The final exam cannot be repeated.
10. In the event that the Course has been deactivated, the students must still be guaranteed the achievement of the qualification.

Art. 18 – Commission for the final exam

1. The Commission for the final exam is appointed by the Rector on the proposal of the Teacher's Board or, failing that, on the proposal of the Coordinator or the Director of the Department. The proposal for the appointment of the Commission must take place in good time to ensure that the final examination is conducted in an orderly manner.
2. The Commission shall be composed of three to seven members, chosen to respect, where possible, the gender balance between:
 - a) university professors and researchers of the University, of other Italian or foreign universities;
 - b) first researchers and research managers or similar roles of public research bodies;
 - c) experts with proven qualifications.
3. At least two-thirds must belong to the categories referred to in paragraph 2 letter a), and at least two-thirds of the members must be external to the University and the associated subjects. Where the Teacher's Board deems it

necessary, it may request the simultaneous appointment of several Commissions in consideration of the different training and research paths of the candidates.

4. For the final examination, the Commission appoints the President and the Secretary from among its members.
5. The members of the Commission can also participate in the discussion of the thesis via videoconference.
6. Even if the Commission meets in whole or in part in presence, the PhD student can carry out the final exam by videoconference on the basis of a motivated and documented request, subject to the favourable opinion of the Teacher's Board.
7. In the presence of emergency situations that prevent the final exam from taking place in presence, the University of Udine reserves the right to carry out the final exams by videoconference for all PhD students.

Art. 19 – Suspension of training and research

At the request of the PhD student, the Teacher's Board grants a suspension of the course for the following proven reasons, incompatible with the exclusive and full-time commitment required:

- a) maternity leave;
- b) serious health reasons;
- c) serious family reasons;
- d) Parental leave;
- e) compulsory military service (if provided in the candidate's country of origin);
- f) attendance of active training internships or, however, named, of training courses aimed at obtaining the teaching qualification or, in general, of training courses that require mandatory attendance, in the event of failure to issue the authorisation referred to in art. 7, paragraph 2, letter p).

2. Periods relating to frequency suspensions will have to be recovered at the end of the cycle.
3. The PhD student with a scholarship provided by the University, who benefits from suspensions, will still receive the scholarship for a period equal only to the legal duration of the course, without prejudice to the provisions of art. 20 c. 2.
4. Cumulatively, the periods of suspension of attendance of the PhD course may not exceed six months, except in the specific cases provided for by law.

Art. 20 – Extension of the deadlines for delivery of the thesis and the course

1. For proven reasons that do not allow the presentation of the PhD thesis within the time limits provided for by the legal duration of the Course, the Teacher's Board may grant, at the request of the PhD student, an extension of the maximum duration of twelve months of the deadlines for the delivery of the thesis, without further financial charges for the University.
2. An extension of the duration of the course for a period not exceeding twelve months can also be granted to a PhD student by the Teacher's Board within the legal term of the course for justified scientific needs, identifying the fund on which to burden the costs resulting from the extension of the duration of the scholarship.
3. The extension periods referred to in this article and suspension periods referred to in art. 19 may not exceed a total of eighteen months, except in specific cases provided for by law.

Art. 21 – Forfeiture, exclusion and renunciation of studies

1. The PhD student who, despite having the qualification, does not enrol in the following year or the final exam within the established terms will be declared forfeited.
2. At any time, the Teacher's Board may decide to exclude the PhD student from the Course in the event of:

- a) negative opinion on the activity carried out as part of the training project referred to in art. 4, paragraph 2;
- b) prolonged absence, not approved by the Teacher's Board;
- c) failure to pass the evaluations scheduled at the end of the year;
- d) carrying out activities outside the training project not authorised in advance by the Teacher's Board pursuant to art. 22, paragraph 3.

3. Failure to admit to the evaluation process of the thesis and, therefore, to the final exam by the Teacher's Board is cause for exclusion from the Course.

4. The exclusion from the Course involves the interruption of the scholarship for those who use it, starting from the date of exclusion. The exclusion is ordered by Rector's decree notified to the interested party.

5. The PhD student may apply for a waiver at any time. The waiver is irrevocable and involves the interruption of the disbursement of the scholarship.

Art.22 – Rights and duties of the PhD students

1. In line with the values and guiding principles established by the Statute of the University and for the realisation of its educational project, the PhD student has the right to access the academic facilities and to use the services provided for the students of the University, having to operate with honesty, integrity and responsibility, respecting the community and the reputation of the institution of which he/she is temporarily part.

2. Admission to the course involves an exclusive and full-time commitment, quantified by art. 5, paragraph 5, without prejudice to the possibility of a specific discipline pursuant to art. 25.

3. Activities outside the training project can be justifiably authorised pursuant to art. 7, paragraph 2, letter m), and 13, paragraphs 7 to 10, by the Teacher's Board provided that they permit to acquire skills concerning the educational field of the PhD, are not in conflict of interest with the University and are carried out in a manner, and with methods and times suitable to allow the PhD student to carry out the individual research program and the regular attendance of the teaching activities provided for by art. 4. These activities will be reported in the periodic report on the status of the course referred to in art. 11.

4. PhD students are obliged to comply with the training project referred to in art. 4 and to:

- a. support the planned checks;
- b. submit to the Teacher's Board an annual and a final report on the progress of the research;
- c. request authorisation, pursuant to paragraph 3, for the performance of activities outside the training project, presenting the documentation deemed necessary by the Teacher's Board, possibly also in self-certification;
- d. comply with the University's open-access policies;
- e. comply with the provisions of the University's Code of Ethics and the guidelines approved regarding the PhD path by the Academic Senate.

5. PhD students can carry out research and training activities in Italy and abroad, subject to the authorisation of the Supervisor and the Coordinator. For periods of more than six months, the approval of the Teacher's Board is required. During periods of permanence in places other than the University, PhD students are required to relate to the Supervisor and to take the planned checks in the manner defined by the Teacher's Board.

6. PhD students can carry out tutoring activities (also paid) as an integral part of the training project, subject to the authorisation of the Teacher's Board and without this entailing any increase in the scholarship, of students of degree and master's degree courses as well as, in any case, within the maximum limit of 40 hours in each academic year, integrative teaching activities. After the third year of PhD, the limit of 40 hours is repealed.

7. PhD students in the medical area can participate, upon request, in clinical-assistance activities with third parties, as an integral part of the training project, subject to authorisation from the Teacher's Board and without this involving any increase in the scholarship.

In this case, the possession of professional qualifications will be required, as well as insurance coverage against professional risks.

8. Enrolment in a course is incompatible with enrolment in other PhD courses at other Italian and foreign universities or institutes or research institutions, without prejudice to co-protection, and in degree and master's degree courses, first and second-level university master's degrees and specialisation schools without prejudice to the provisions of art. 25.

9. PhD students are subject to the provisions of the legislation on the Right to Education.

10. Each PhD student has assured a budget for research activities in Italy and abroad appropriate to the type of course and, in any case, of an amount not less than 10% of the amount of the scholarship defined by the ministerial decree. This provision does not apply to PhD students from foreign countries who receive scholarships or financial support under specific mobility programmes.

11. PhD students have an obligation of confidentiality concerning research activities in which they participate. Any exceptions may be granted, at the request of the interested party, by the Teacher's Board, after consulting the Supervisor.

12. If by virtue of their stay in the University facilities, PhD students become aware of confidential information belonging to the University, to individual researchers or external subjects with whom the University maintains relations, they must treat such information, in whatever form, oral, written, graphic, electronic or digital, as strictly confidential.

13. The PhD student is required to communicate any situations that may compromise the regular conduct of the training or research program referred to in art. 4 c. 2, in order to allow the Teacher's Board to evaluate any suspensions referred to in art. 19.

Art. 23 – Fee for access and attendance

1. Students are required to pay a fee for access and attendance to the extent determined annually by the University in compliance with current legislation.

Art. 24 – Scholarships

1. The PhD scholarships have a total duration of at least three years and are renewed from year to year for a maximum period equal to the legal duration of the Course and any extension pursuant to art. 20 c. 2, provided that the PhD student has completed the program of planned activities, as verified by the Teacher's Board.

2. The amount of the PhD scholarship, to be paid in monthly instalments, is determined to an extent not lower than that provided for by current legislation. This amount is increased by 50% for a total period defined by the notice and, in any case, not exceeding 12 months for research activities abroad; This period can be extended up to 18 months for PhDs in co-supervision and PhDs in an associated form. The increase is due for continuous periods of permanence of not less than 30 days.

3. Those who have already benefited from a PhD scholarship within the Italian university system, even partially, cannot use it a second time.

4. The scholarship cannot be combined with other scholarships for any reason awarded except with those granted by national or foreign institutions useful to supplement the training or research activities of scholarship holders with permanence abroad.

5. The PhD student holding a scholarship, subject to motivated communication to the Teacher's Board, may at any time renounce the scholarship without forfeiting the Course.

6. In order to promote the internationalisation of the courses, foreign PhD students from abroad can be paid contributions to support residential costs, according to the parameters established by the University.

7. The University may decide to assign contributions to PhD students to promote mobility and prizes for research activities.

Art. 25 – Coordination of PhD courses with medical specialisation courses

1. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 22, paragraph 8, joint attendance of the PhD course and a medical specialisation course is allowed in compliance with the following general criteria:

- a) compatibility, also in consideration of the distance between the locations, the activities and the commitment provided by the specialisation school and the PhD course, attested by the Council of the School of Medical Specialization and the PhD Board;
- b) incompatibility between the PhD scholarship and the emoluments, however, denominated, received in relation to the activities of the specialisation school.

2. In cases of joint attendance referred to in this article, it is possible to submit an application for a reduction of the duration of the PhD course.

The application is accepted by the Teacher's board of the PhD course after a positive evaluation of the consistency of the research activities already carried out in the medical specialisation course with the PhD project. In order to accept the application referred to in this paragraph, the judgement of compatibility, expressed by the council of the specialisation school, of the PhD project with the educational purposes of the specialisation school itself is also required. In the event of acceptance of the application, the PhD course lasts not less than two years.

3. Detailed rules can be defined in the notice for admission to the PhD course.

Art. 26 – Ownership of results and copyright

1. Without prejudice to the legislation on copyright, the ownership of the results achieved in the context of the PhD or of collaborations with research groups of the University remains with the University or third parties with whom the University has signed or will sign specific agreements.

2. The University recognises to the scholarship holder inventor the moral right to the ownership of the invention and, in the case of its commercial exploitation, a fair compensation quantified in the terms provided for in the Internal Regulations on patents.

3. The laws and provisions contained in the University Patent Regulations apply to anything not expressly provided in this article.

Art. 27 – Entry into force and transitional regulation

1. The provisions of these Regulations shall enter into force with reference to the XXXVIII cycle and following

2. For PhD students enrolled up to the XXXVII cycle, the provisions of the regulation issued by Rector's Decree no. 808 of 22 September 2021 continue to apply, without prejudice to the application of the provisions of Articles. 19, 20 and 24 of this Regulation.

3. The provisions of these Regulations do not apply to courses with administrative headquarters at another University in which the University participates as an associated university.



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

The translation of these Regulations is part of the actions aimed at implementing the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R). The official and legally-binding Regulations are in Italian only. This document is only meant to provide information in English on the contents of the Regulations.