



Ca' Foscari  
University  
of Venice

# PhD Programmes

38<sup>th</sup> cycle - a.y. 2022/2023



# PhD

**Aim:** each PhD programme provides the necessary skills for taking part in world-class quality research within private and public institutions as well as within freelancing, as such contributing to the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area.

**Classification:** third-level tertiary qualification.

**Requirements:** Masters degree or other study qualification which is recognised as being equivalent. For certain PhD programmes additional requirements may be called for – a degree qualification with a specific focus, for example; it is therefore necessary to read the application carefully.

**Linguistic requisites:** a B2 level of English (as per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - CEFR) is mandatory.

**Admission:** public selection process entailing the evaluation of all qualifications, as well as of oral and written exams, including internationally recognised assessment. The selection process can vary from one PhD programme to another; for further information please refer to the application details.

**Duration:** minimum of 3 years.

**Academic Qualification:** PhD.



# Arts and Humanities

## PhD in Ancient Heritage Studies

in partnership with University of Trieste and University of Udine

### Department of Humanities

#### Educational Aims

The PhD programme takes a united perspective of the antique world and is directed at utilizing specific methodologies and techniques in order to scrutinize the multiple themes and disciplines relevant to historical and interpretive difficulties proposed by monuments and texts.

The programme has three main subject areas: 1) Philology and literature: communication of texts and textual criticism, intertextuality, translation, literary history, text exegesis, publishing of texts in the Medieval and papyrus traditions; 2) History: historical and philological historical research – Near Eastern, Aegean and Greek-Roman; 3) Archaeology: archaeological research – prehistoric, protohistoric, the Near Eastern, Aegean, classical, Medieval, and post-Medieval.

#### Research Themes

Ancient world literature and philology (Greek language and literature; Latin language and literature; classical philology; papyrology; Greek and Latin palaeography; early Christian literature; Medieval Latin literature); Archaeology (prehistoric and protohistoric archaeology; ancient Near Eastern history of art and archaeology; Egyptology; classical archaeology; Etruscology and Italic archaeology; ancient topography; Medieval and Christian archaeology); Ancient history

(Greek history and epigraphy; Roman history and Latin epigraphy; ancient Near Eastern history; Assyriology, numismatics; history of ancient historiography).

Interdisciplinary topics: Linguistics; History of ancient philosophy; History of Medieval philosophy; Classical tradition; History of ancient Mediterranean religions; Digital humanities.

#### Campus

Venice (administrative headquarter), Trieste and Udine

#### Duration

3 years

## PhD in History of Arts

### Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

#### Educational Aims

The PhD programme is designed to provide a suitable scientific and professional qualification within the European panorama for research in art history in all of its accepted meanings, with particular attention paid to the appreciation of artistic-cultural, territorial and environmental heritage. Its objective is to train and prepare researchers capable of confronting the system of the arts as it is modernly intended, whereby the historical differences between major and minor arts no longer exists, and the visual and architectural arts are inextricably connected with those pertaining to performance, music, modern media, theory and museographic practices.



#### Research Themes

Analysis and history of buildings and their urban context, focussing in particular on their economic, construction and layout history, as well as their intended uses; System of the arts, collecting, exhibitions and museology in ancient, Medieval, modern and contemporary periods; Historic-cultural and environmental heritage studied through documentation, imagery and multimedia, analysis of materials and structures; Analysis and history of musical, theatrical and cinematographic artefacts; Multimedia applications for the promotion of local artistic heritage; Contemporary system of art works and performance art, and the transformation in practices, exhibition and consumption of artefacts.

#### Campus

Venice

#### Duration

3 years

## PhD in Italian Studies

in partnership with Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Austria

### Department of Humanities

#### Educational Aims

The PhD programme is aimed at ensuring students gain complete proficiency in both the study of texts dating from the origins of the Italian language to the current day, and in parallel, the study of works in foreign languages which are produced in those same historical geographical and cultural contexts. At use are philological, linguistic, historical-critical, hermeneutic and comparative methodologies, which are applied to texts expressed in Italian produced by both Italian and foreign authors, as well as those written by Italian authors in Latin, Greek, Occitan, Antique French, or in the modern foreign languages, including dialects and slang.

#### Research Themes

Editing, analysis and interpretation of literary texts from the Middle Ages to the contemporary period, either in Italian or by Italian authors who have written in Latin, Greek, Provençal, Old French, as well as in modern languages or dialects or jargons; Relationship between the Italian language, literature and culture, and the ancient and modern cultures and literatures, which have come into

contact with the former; Vulgar versions and translation of texts especially to and from Latin; Issues in historical linguistics and the history of Italian linguistics, of Medieval Latin-based languages and Italian dialects and the description of varieties of Italo-Romance languages of the past and the present; Literary civilisation of north-eastern Italy; Perspectives of Italian literary criticism.

#### Campus

Venice and Klagenfurt (only for PhD students involved in the international programme)

#### Duration

3 years

## PhD in Philosophy and Educational Sciences

in partnership with Université Paris 1 Panthéon – Sorbonne, France

### Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

#### Educational Aims

The PhD program's core is philosophical reasoning intertwined with the social, psychological, cognitive and educational sciences.

It is organized into two main subject areas:

- 1) Philosophy
- 2) Educational Sciences

The Philosophy curriculum is aimed at the learning of methods in historiography, text interpretation, the discussion of problems, and the development of original theoretical paradigms. It looks to promote originality, autonomy, clarity, skill in collaboration and reasoning, so as to formulate interpretative hypotheses and solutions to historical, theoretical and practical issues.

The Educational Sciences curriculum is characterised by the focus on individuating paths toward innovation

and the quality of higher education. It is aimed at the fine-tuning of theoretical models and intervention methodologies for research development, with reference in particular to pedagogical skills.

#### Research Themes

**Philosophy curriculum:** Theoretical philosophy; Philosophical hermeneutics; Moral philosophy; Bioethics; History of philosophy; History of ancient philosophy; History of philosophy of the Renaissance; History of modern philosophy; History of contemporary philosophy; Philosophy of religion; Political philosophy; Philosophy of language; Aesthetics; Philosophy of science; Philosophy of the social sciences; Logics.

**Educational Sciences curriculum:** General pedagogy; Cognitive sciences; Social pedagogy; Intercultural pedagogy; Labour pedagogy; Dynamic psychology; Methodology and general didactics; Technologies for education and didactics; Social psychology; Neuroscience; Special pedagogy; System assessment and educational research; Philosophy of education.

#### Campus

Venice and Paris (only for PhD students involved in the international programme)

#### Duration

3 years

## PhD in Historical, Geographical and Anthropological Studies

in partnership with University of Padua

### Department of Humanities and Department of Linguistics and Comparative Cultural Studies

#### Educational Aims

The PhD Programme aims at enhancing and coordinate the skills and areas of research developed in the University of Padua and in the Ca' Foscari University of Venice, extending the territorial scope and increasing the opportunities for dialogue and scholarly debate among teachers and PhD students.

The Course intends to be a landmark, at a national and international level, for the training of young researchers and of teachers in these disciplines. The presence, within the Course, of scientific areas such as history, physical and human geography and cultural anthropology aims at stimulating, in the research of PhD students, the learning and mastering of specific methodologies and the habit of posing open questions about the potential for cross-links both among the disciplines related to humanities research, and between the humanities and the hard-sciences. The Programme foresees the following areas of study: Historical Studies; Geographical Studies; Historical and Religious Studies and Anthropology.

#### Research Themes

**Historical Studies:** Society and cultural representations: The study of identity and identity construction (national and international, professional, religious, racial, kinship, intergenerational identities); Rules and law; Public and private sociability; Ritual and religious practices.

Politics and its functioning: Civil and ecclesiastical institutions; The history of communication and of public opinion; Military history; Colonialism and post-colonialism.

**Geographical Studies:** Analysis of spatial and territorial processes: Dynamics of the physical environment; The impact of man on physical environment, (climatic change, geomorphological processes, population); Development and sustainability projects; Landscape studies and representations; Place production; Historical, geographical and anthropological problems of globalisation: technology, politics, ethics.

**Historical-Religious and Anthropological Studies:** Social history and anthropology of the material and immaterial heritage: Ethnographic museums; Understanding the natural environment; History and anthropology of the landscape (natural and semi-natural); The history and anthropology of cities, of migration and of labour; History of spirituality; Cultural and religious transformations.

#### Campus

Padua (administrative headquarter) and Venice

#### Duration

4 years

# Economics and Management

## PhD in Economics

(English-taught programme)

### Department of Economics

#### Educational Aims

The PhD programme offers advanced training in the areas of economic and financial sciences, with a particular specialisation in quantitative and qualitative analysis of the numerous aspects and issues within financial-economic systems, at both a microeconomic level (how markets, economic organisations and businesses function, and predictions on their trends and prospects) and a macroeconomic level (issues regarding economic cycles and unemployment, and the impact of specific social and economic factors).

#### Research Themes

Microeconomics; Macroeconomics; Economic theory; Public economics; Labour economics; Health economics; Economics of ageing; Experimental economics; Computational economics; Regional economics; Econometrics; Bayesian econometrics; Financial econometrics; Finance; Financial economics; Quantitative finance; Mathematical economics; Economic statistics.

#### Campus

Venice

#### Duration

4 years

## PhD in Law, Market and Person

### Department of Economics

#### Educational Aims

This PhD programme is focused on understanding the mechanisms involved in the formation of contemporary law, as determined by the interaction between European law and national rights, with a particular focus on: the institutional dimension and government profiles; the organisation of transnational markets; the contents and methodologies in regulating exchanges; the legal dimension of the individual and the exercise of fundamental rights and freedoms in the context of a global society.

#### Research Themes

Private law; Person law; European contract law; Consumer law; Business and company law; European commercial contract law; Economic law and financial markets; Competition and market law; Sources of European law; Labour contracts; EU and comparative labour law; Public and constitutional law; Comparative, private and public law; EU law; International private and public law.

#### Campus

Venice

#### Duration

3 years



## PhD in Management

(English-taught programme)

in partnership with SKEMA Business School, France

### Department of Management

#### Educational Aims

The aim of this PhD programme is the acquisition of in-depth knowledge of the contents and methods within the fields of administration and finance, and public and private business governance. Such knowledge allows for the development of distinct skills in the comprehension and management of specific operational difficulties within the business economics environment.

#### Research Themes

Corporate and entrepreneurial theories: public, private and non profit company; Theories of credit and finance: financial function of companies and of bank and non-banking financial intermediaries; Accounting theories:

national and international accounting principles; individual, group, civil and fiscal accounting, planning and control; Organization theories, organization design, human resource management and competence analysis; Organizational economics and game theory; Business strategy and policy, marketing and economics and management of industrial sectors; Sustainability; Corporate governance and financial markets; Theories of innovation and entrepreneurship; Economic history; Organization and strategic choices of actors in the transport industry; Management of cultural production; Behavioural economics.

#### Campus

Venice and Sophia Antipolis (only for PhD students involved in the international programme)

#### Duration

4 years



# Languages and Cultures

## PhD in Asian and African Studies

(English-taught programme)  
in partnership with Universität Heidelberg, Germany

**Department of Asian and North African Studies**

### Educational Aims

The aim of this PhD programme is to provide advanced knowledge of the field as well as advanced skills in methodology and analysis. The PhD graduate will thus be capable of efficiently and innovatively comprehending the differing phenomena that occur in historical, geographical and cultural dimensions, focusing principally on primary sources within numerous Asian and North African languages. Indeed, the prominent emphasis on linguistic competency guarantees that the student acquires a rigorous

philological and literary approach, as well as refined skills in using the language as a tool for direct contact within the arts, the sciences and the various historical-social disciplines.

### Research Themes

Languages, cultures, history, thought, art, and legal and economic institutions of Asian and North Africa (reference languages: Arabic, Aramaic, Armenian, Azerbaijani, Chinese, Georgian, Hebrew, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Sanskrit, Tibetan, Turkish – other languages of interest: Hindi, Russian, Urdu, Yiddish).

### Campus

Venice and Heidelberg (only for PhD students involved in the international programme)

### Duration

3 years



## PhD in Science and Management of Climate Change

(English-taught programme)  
in partnership with Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change - CMCC

**Department of Economics and  
Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics**

### Educational Aims

The main objective of this PhD programme is to prepare experts with a broad and thorough scientific background in economics, in addition to a solid base of original and innovative research on themes regarding the dynamics of climate change, and the methodologies and techniques used in their evaluation and management in terms of mitigation and adaptation measures and policy.

The PhD programme has two main subject areas: Dynamic Climatology at the CMCC in Bologna; Impact and Management of Climate Change at the Department of Economics at Ca' Foscari.

### Research Themes

Dynamics of climate variations and change; Methods and techniques for the management of climate change and its impact; Assessment of economic impact of climate change; Cost-benefit analysis of mitigation and adaptation policies; Other issues related to climate change and management of climate-change-related environmental and socio-economic processes.

### Campus

Venice and Bologna

### Duration

4 years

## **PhD in Modern Languages, Cultures and Societies and Linguistics**

in partnership with Sorbonne Université, France, in partnership with Univerza na Primorskem/University of Primorska, Slovenia

### **Department of Linguistics and Comparative Cultural Studies**

#### **Educational Aims**

The PhD programme is organized into two main subject areas, which incorporate languages, language sciences, literature and culture within numerous scientific and cultural projects: 1) Modern Languages, Cultures and Societies, 2) Linguistics.

The Modern Languages, Cultures and Societies curriculum is aimed at the advanced study of languages and cultures of modern societies, based on the communication between complex cultural systems, and examined through the analysis and interpretation of literary and cultural texts in a foreign language. This essential tool in gaining a deep understanding of all cultures and traditions is applied from both a specific and a comparative angle.

The Linguistics curriculum is aimed at the development of theoretical critical thinking that is suitable for facing specialized research themes and issues in linguistic theory, language education, linguistics of various languages (including Sign Language), applied linguistics, computational linguistics, synchronic and diachronic language theory, and foreign language teaching.

#### **Research Themes**

**Modern Languages, Cultures and Societies curriculum:** Modern languages, literatures and cultures in the following areas - covering stylistic, rhetorical, philological, historical and epistemological aspects focusing on both the specific factors deriving from the differing contexts and the more broad comparative perspective regarding communication between complex cultural systems: Anglo-American literatures and cultures; English literature and culture; Postcolonial literatures and cultures in English; European French and Francophone literature and culture; Ibero-American literatures and cultures; Spanish, Catalan and Portuguese literatures and cultures from the Iberian Peninsula; Lusophone literatures and cultures from Latin America and Africa; German and Austrian literature and culture; Literatures and cultures from the Slavic and Balkan area and relative to the following language areas: Albanian, Bulgarian, Czech, Croatian, Greek, Polish, Russian, Serbian and Slovenian; Culture and literature of the Slavic and Balkan areas: Albanese, Bulgarian, Czech, Croatian, Greek, Polish, Russian, Serbian and Slovenian.

**Linguistics Curriculum:** Grammar theory; Generative grammar; Language education/educational linguistics; The teaching of foreign languages and of Italian as a foreign/second language.

#### **Campus**

Venice, Paris and Koper (only for PhD students involved in the international programmes)

#### **Duration**

3 years

## **Science and Technology**

### **PhD in Computer Science**

(English-taught programme)  
in partnership with Masarykova Univerzita, Czech Republic

### **Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics**

#### **Educational Aims**

The objective of the PhD programme is to prepare students with the formal tools necessary for rigorously implementing and developing research, allowing them to become experts in the methodologies for planning and evaluation of systems and computer systems.

The research is coordinated by three centers: Acadia (AdvanCes in Autonomous, Distributed and pervasive systems) specializes in distributed and pervasive systems, highly relevant subjects today given the diffusion of smartphones, tablets and other intelligent devices; Kiis (Knowledge, Interaction and Intelligent Systems) studies how the imposing quantity of information that is readily available in today's age can be transformed into useful knowledge for the innovation and the improvement of products, services

and productive processes; Dhv (Digital Humanities Venice), a collaboration between Ca' Foscari, EPF de Lausanne and Telecom Italia, applies information technology to the humanities, providing innovative cultural tools to the digital cities of the future.

#### **Research Themes**

Bioinformatics; Artificial vision and pattern recognition; Evaluation methods of performance and system simulation; Data and web mining; Parallel and distributed systems and algorithms; Formal methods of computer science; Fundamentals of programming languages; System security; Multimedia and information systems; Man-machine interaction; Analysis and verification of programmes; Web technologies.

#### **Campus**

Venice and Brno (only for PhD students involved in the international programme)

#### **Duration**

3 years

## **PhD in Environmental Sciences**

(English-taught programme)  
in partnership with Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia - IIT – Centre for Cultural Heritage Technology

### **Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics**

#### **Educational Aims**

The PhD programme is designed to research solutions to the various global issues (environment, ecology, social development) with the aim of promoting an interdisciplinary approach. The main objective is to examine and develop knowledge of the environmental system dynamics through improving the quality of the available data, refining the understanding of the processes in place (through the development of assessment techniques and adaptation of the security networks) and perfecting the information gathered (macroscale) from higher levels of modelisation.

#### **Research Themes**

Biology; Ecology; Environmental chemistry; Dynamics of environmental processes; Environmental reclamation and technologies; Earth science; Territorial and resource management; Microbiology; Environmental biotechnology and biochemistry; Environmental physics.

#### **Campus**

Venice

#### **Duration**

3 years

## **PhD in Polar Sciences**

(English-taught programme)  
in partnership with National Research Council - CNR and with National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics - OGS

### **Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics**

#### **Educational Aims**

The objective of this PhD programme is to prepare students with in-depth scientific competences and original and innovative research activities for becoming experts on topics related to recent and past environmental and climate changes of the polar regions and of the glaciated areas of high altitude/ low latitudes sites. The state of the art of the scientific knowledge will be made available for the students for building a robust scientific understanding of the processes regulating the climate changes occurring in the polar regions with an interdisciplinary approach.

#### **Research Themes**

Glaciology; Ice core sciences; Ice sheet Modeling; Polar Biology; Polar Oceanography; Paleoclimate; Paleoceanography; Polar Climate; Remote Sensing; Polar Geography and Geopolitics; Spectral Methods for Climatic Time Series; Data Mining.

#### **Campus**

Venice

#### **Duration**

4 years



## **PhD in Science and Management of Climate Change**

(English-taught programme)  
in partnership with Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Climate Change - CMCC

### **Department of Economics and Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics**

#### **Educational Aims**

The main objective of this PhD programme is to prepare experts with a broad and thorough scientific background in economics, in addition to a solid base of original and innovative research on themes regarding the dynamics of climate change, and the methodologies and techniques used in their evaluation and management in terms of mitigation and adaptation measures and policy.

The PhD programme has two main subject areas: Dynamic Climatology at the CMCC in Bologna; Impact and Management of Climate Change at the Department of Economics at Ca' Foscari.

#### **Research Themes**

Dynamics of climate variations and change; Methods and techniques for the management of climate change and its impact; Assessment of economic impact of climate change; Cost-benefit analysis of mitigation and adaptation policies; Other issues related to climate change and management of climate-change-related environmental and socio-economic processes.

#### **Campus**

Venice and Bologna

#### **Duration**

4 years

## **PhD in Science and Technology of Bio and Nanomaterials**

(English-taught programme)  
in partnership with Kyoto Institute of Technology – KIT, Japan  
in partnership with Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia - IIT – Centre for Cultural Heritage Technology

### **Department of Molecular Sciences and Nanosystems**

#### **Educational Aims**

The aim of this PhD programme is to acquire an in-depth knowledge in these fields: to develop the ability to collaborate and compete with specialists coming from different disciplines; to use specialized literature and reviews characterized by a multidisciplinary content; to use specialized knowledge in an interdisciplinary context when this is characterized by a strong applicative value; to learn how to communicate the research results to different target audiences, to manage the intellectual property rights and to exploit their possible industrial development; to manage interdisciplinary projects, together with experts from various disciplines, with the aim to develop materials and techniques in the frame of chemico-physico-biological analyses useful for the development of bio-nanotechnologies applied to nanomedicine.

#### **Research Themes**

Theranostics: synthesis of organic (polymeric and / or micelles) or inorganic (mesoporous)

nanostructures suitable for drug delivery and as contrast medium for optical and/or magnetic imaging; study of the interaction of these nanostructures with the biological environment and their efficacy for in vivo and in vitro targeting; Development of advanced ceramic materials for medical applications (prostheses or prosthesis coatings); study of their interaction with biological systems, of degradation processes and the formation of biofilms; Simulation and numerical design of nanostructures obtained via self-assembly of anisotropic objects, or via folding of DNA and proteins; Development of electrochemical biosensors for the determination of contaminating ions in water and in foods and / or small molecules (e.g. drugs) in plasma. Study of the interphases between inorganic, organic and biological systems using Scanning Electrochemical Microscopy (SECM) and AFM with high spatial resolution; Development, production and application of targeted therapies in human diseases; Development of innovative in vitro evaluation systems of the interaction among nanosystems, tissues and organs to limit the use of in vivo tests (Organoids); Evaluation of the impact produced by new technologies; management of technology transfer from laboratory to industry.

#### **Campus**

Venice and Kyoto (only for PhD students involved in the international programme)

#### **Duration**

3 years

## **PhD in Chemistry**

in partnership with University of Trieste  
**Department of Molecular Sciences and Nanosystems**

#### **Educational Aims**

The PhD programme merges the cultural excellence of the two Universities with the aim of offering to students a broad range of expertise that covers all chemical disciplines and some areas of chemical engineering and of biology. The research topics span from classical organic synthesis to nanotechnologies, from green and sustainable chemistry to computational chemistry, just to cite a few. The graduate students will be given the opportunity to join a scientifically rich and stimulating environment, characterized by many national and international collaborations, and to be part of advanced research projects under the supervision of experienced and motivated scientists. The students will also attend specific courses (in English, upon request) and seminars on hot research topics. The graduated students will be trained with all experimental and theoretical tools necessary to manage general problems which will be encountered when developing new

chemical compounds or processes, as well as their industrial implications, to carry on an independent and autonomous research activity.

#### **Research Themes**

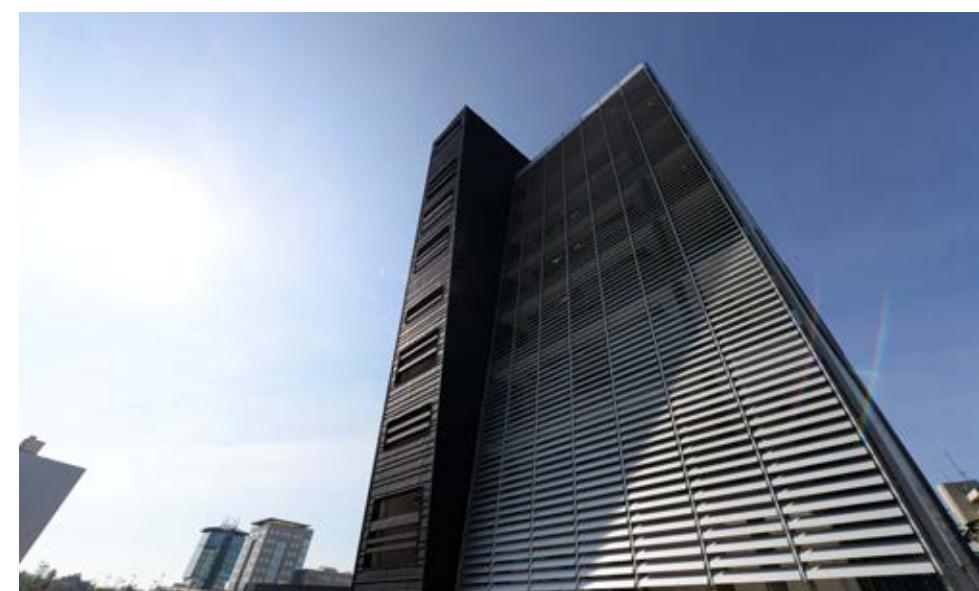
Biocrystallography; Pharmaceutical biology; Inorganic, bio-inorganic and organometallic chemistry; Organic and bio-organic chemistry; Homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysis and bio-catalysis; Supramolecular chemistry and catalysis; Theoretical and computational chemistry; Medicinal chemistry; Analytical and environmental chemistry; Chemistry for Cultural Heritage; Electrochemistry and sensors; Green and sustainable chemistry; Chemical engineering; Advanced materials and thin films; Nanosciences and nanotechnologies; Molecular spectroscopy; Pharmaceutical Technologies; Physical chemistry; Industrial chemistry.

#### **Campus**

Trieste (administrative headquarter) and Venice.

#### **Duration**

3 years



## Note



**Research Area  
PhD Office**

San Sebastiano  
Dorsoduro 1686,  
30123 Venezia

[phd.office@unive.it](mailto:phd.office@unive.it)  
[www.unive.it/phd-degrees](http://www.unive.it/phd-degrees)