



Ca' Foscari
University
of Venice

PhD Programmes

39th cycle - a.y. 2023/2024

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.



The interdisciplinary PhD Programmes are included in more than one area

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

in partnership with University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

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



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

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 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 (Advanced 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

We are working on the transformation of the Phd Programme into a Doctorate of National Interest (duration 3 years)

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
in partnership with National Cancer Institute - Centro di Riferimento Oncologico di Aviano – CRO
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 nano-medicine.

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 Sustainable Chemistry

(English-taught programme)
in partnership with Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia - IIT – Centre for Cultural Heritage Technology
Department of Molecular Sciences and Nanosystems

Educational Aims

The primary goal of the PhD in Sustainable Chemistry is to provide advanced training in chemistry, fostering the integration of sustainability concepts and practices into solutions to current technical, social, environmental and scientific problems, shaping the next generation of leaders in sustainable chemistry who will add value to the scientific knowledge generated in Italy. In addition to fostering cutting-edge science, the PhD in Sustainable Chemistry promotes the integral education of the student by creating opportunities for the development of soft skills in leadership, innovation and ethical practices concerning science and its application for the benefit of society. The PhD in Sustainable Chemistry ensures that candidates: have the ability to develop a systematic understanding of new situations, and multidisciplinary contexts, in the various fields of Sustainable Chemistry; acquire skills that enable the integration of basic knowledge and state-of-the-art technology; be able to conceive, design, and develop research, choosing methods that allow solving complex problems, in novel situations or in contexts that require the use of multidisciplinary knowledge; produce original and competitive research, meeting international requirements and standards, the results of which are published, or submitted for publication, at least in part, to recognized independently reviewed journals; are able to critically analyze the results obtained, evaluate and synthesize new complex situations, provide solutions and make decisions in situations of limited or

incomplete information, evaluating their appropriateness; be able to communicate knowledge of Sustainable Chemistry, and the rationale behind the conclusions, to specialists and non-specialists alike, clearly and unambiguously; utilize knowledge or research results, are able to provide examples of the link between knowledge and technology, and rationalize the relevance of both to social, cultural and technological progress.

Research Themes

Sensing; development of sustainable processes and renewable materials; sustainable organic syntheses; water purification; carbon capture and storage; development of catalytic, photocatalytic and biocatalytic systems; energy conversion and storage; waste recycling and valorization.

Campus

Venice

Duration

3 years



Note

[illegible]



**Research Area
PhD Office**

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