

PhD Program in Human Sciences

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Department of Philosophy, Social Sciences and Education

The PhD Program in Human Sciences provides its students with a qualified preparation in the thematic areas characterizing each one of the three curricula of this doctorate: 1. Philosophy, 2. Pedagogy and Psychology, 3. Anthropology and Linguistics.

The philosophical curriculum addresses thematic issues pertinent to the realm of Philosophy (Theoretical Philosophy, Morality, Logic and History of Philosophy); the pedagogical and psychological curriculum addresses questions related to education and teaching, as well as related to behavioural and psychological dimensions; the anthropological and linguistic curriculum addresses questions related to differences between cultures and human experiences, as well as to the relations between languages and society.

The doctorate, having a specific international quality, relies on inter-University agreements with other European countries. The University of Perugia offers scholarships to international students and encourages co-supervision in collaboration with foreign universities. It also encourages students to spend a period abroad at other European and non-European universities. The educational activities of the PhD program are organized by the PhD Committee, whose members are both internal and external professors of the University of Perugia. The objective of the PhD program is to educate and train researchers during the course of their thesis project, to foster their scientific autonomy and full competence in the topics and methods pertinent to a specific disciplinary area. For this purpose, each student will be assigned one or more tutors.

Candidates can gain access to the PhD Program through a public selection procedure, based on both their qualifications and the outcome of an interview. Among the qualifications that are to be evaluated: an outline of a research project on a topic of choice, as long as it is consistent with one of the three curricula. Candidates must submit their project outline together with the application form for their participation in the public selection process. They will be asked to illustrate their project during the aforementioned interview. The interview can also be conducted via videoconference and it can take place not only in Italian, but also – according to the candidate's choice - in English, French, German, Spanish or Portuguese.

PhD students of the program are encouraged to carry out training activities both in Italy and abroad, in order to complete their doctoral thesis. They also may carry out educational activities, including mentoring and participating in exam commissions as subject experts, or supplementary teaching activities. The PhD course has a three-year duration and must necessarily be completed within said period, concluding with the defence of the thesis in front of a commission composed of internal and external professors.