



IUSS

Scuola Universitaria Superiore Pavia

Regulations for the PhD Program in Sustainable Development and Climate Change - SDC

The official and legally binding of the regulations is the one in Italian. This document is for informational purposes only and cannot be used for legal purposes.

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PART I - General provisions

Article 1 - Purpose and Scope of Application

1. The PhD course in Sustainable Development and Climate Change (SDC) has its administrative headquarters at the IUSS and is in agreement with other Italian and foreign universities and research bodies.
2. PhD students mainly carry out their research activity at the affiliated site to which the scholarship awarded on the basis of the results of the competition belongs.
3. The PhD course is divided into various training curricula intended as areas of study within a single community of research and scientific discussion.
4. This regulation governs the functioning of the course pursuant to art. 11 of the Ministerial Decree n. 226/2021 taking into consideration the size, purpose and peculiarities of the course in compliance with current legislation.

Article 2 - Bodies of the PhD course

1. The following are the bodies of the Course, in accordance with current legislation:

- the Faculty Board (Board)
- the College Coordinator (Coordinator)

2. The bodies of the Course are also:

- the Coordination Committee (Committee)
- the Curriculum Councils (Councils)
- the Advisory Board (AB)

Article 3 - The Faculty Board

1. The Faculty Board is responsible for the planning and implementation of the PhD course, also taking into consideration the indications of the Curriculum Councils and the Coordination Committee.
2. The Board is made up of:
 - the Managers of each of the curricula of the course, as defined by art. 6 c.3;
 - a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 10 members of each Curriculum Council appointed by the Council from among its members;
 - one student representative for each curriculum, elected by the students belonging to the curriculum from among them.
3. The composition of the Faculty Board must comply with the provisions of art. 10 of the Regulations for the PhD Programs of the School.

4. In order to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation, each Curriculum Council must nominate its own representatives from among the Scientific Disciplinary Sectors prevalent in the Curriculum itself.
5. The functions of the Board are governed by art. 10 of the Regulations for the PhD Programs of the School and in particular the Board:
 - a. organizes the courses and other activities of the doctorate, jointly with the Coordination Committee as far as it is concerned;
 - b. after consulting the relevant curriculum council, identifies a supervisor and one or more cosupervisors, of whom at least one of academic origin, among subjects internal or external to the Board of Professors provided that at least one possesses the requisites required for the members of the college the same, who coordinate the activities of each PhD student;
 - c. approves the training and research project of the PhD students;
 - d. indicates the structures in which the PhD student must carry out continuous study activities and decides on the possible conduct of research periods at other locations, Italian or foreign, after consulting the Curriculum Council;
 - e. at the request of the PhD student, may authorize the exercise of teaching, subsidiary and supplementary activities of the same at the School or other universities or research institutions;
 - f. can co-opt well-known Italian or foreign scholars with the role of international experts;
 - g. can appoint a Deputy Coordinator who assists the Coordinator in carrying out his/her duties;
 - h. proposes the selection board for admission to the Rector;
 - i. approves admission to the following year;

Article 4 - The Coordinator of the Board

1. The coordination of the Faculty Board is entrusted to a full-time first-tier professor or, in the event of justified unavailability, to a full-time second-tier professor of the School, also in agreement pursuant to article 6 paragraph 11 of L. 240/2010, or of one of the Universities participating in the course, in possession of a high scientific qualification, certified on the basis of the requisites provided for by the current legislation for access to the functions of first-tier professor. The function of coordinator can be exercised in only one college at national level.
2. The Coordinator of the Faculty Board:
 - convenes and chairs the Faculty Board and the Coordination Committee;
 - represents the Board of Professors and the PhD Course;
 - is responsible for the organization and overall functioning of the course.

3. The functions of the Coordinator are governed by art. 11 of the Regulations for the PhD Programs of the School and are supported by the Coordination Committee.

Article 5 - The Coordination Committee

1. The Coordination Committee has management functions of an organizational-administrative nature and supports the Coordinator of the Faculty Board in his duties. In particular, the Coordination Committee deals with:
 - organizing the activities of the PhD program common to all curricula (e.g. workshops, seasonal schools, dissemination events);
 - managing relations with foreign parties also through the preparation of agreements and conventions;
 - managing relations with affiliated universities;
 - supporting the Coordinator in the internal coordination between the academics and in the overall management of the course.
2. The Coordination Committee is composed of:
 - the Coordinator of the Faculty Board
 - the 6 Managers of each curriculum
 - possibly by further members of the Faculty Board appointed by the Coordinator up to a maximum of 3
3. The Coordination Committee draws up a report on the activity carried out and sends it together with the related documentation to the Faculty Board for the possible ratification of resolutions, if necessary, at the first useful meeting.
4. At the request of the Coordinator, the Coordination Committee can be supported in the performance of its duties by one or more members of the Advisory Board.

Article 6 - The Curriculum Councils

1. The Curriculum Councils perform consultative, propositional and preliminary functions each for their own curriculum. The Faculty Board decides on the proposals resulting from the Curriculum Councils.
2. The Curriculum Council within its own curriculum in particular deals with:
 - proposing and evaluating research and training programs;
 - organizing courses and other curricular activities in accordance with the general guidelines defined by the Faculty Board;
 - expressing an opinion on the appointment of the supervisor and one or more cosupervisors;
 - expressing opinions on the possible carrying out of research periods in other Italian or foreign locations for the approval of the Faculty Board;

- verifying the completion of the training course and the research activity of the PhD students by referring them to the Faculty Board;
 - appointing a Curriculum Manager from among its members who will be part of the Coordination Committee and the Faculty Board;
3. The Curriculum Council is made up of professors and researchers from the affiliated universities who are scholarship referents.
4. The Curriculum Manager is designated from among the members of each Curriculum Council and:
- convenes and chairs the Curriculum Council;
 - represents the Curriculum within the Faculty Board and the Coordination Committee;
 - is responsible for the organization and overall functioning of the curriculum and of the training courses envisaged therein;

The Curriculum Manager remains in office for three years and is renewable.

3. The Curriculum Manager draws up a report of the resolutions passed and sends it, together with the relative documentation, to the Teaching Body for the relevant resolutions.

Article 7 – The Advisory Board

1. The Advisory Board (AB) assists the Faculty Board in the design and implementation of the course as a whole and in particular provides suggestions on the research and training activities proposed by the curriculum Councils.
2. The members of the Advisory Board are:
- 1 representative of the RUS (Network of Universities for Sustainable Development)
 - 1 representative of the MUR (Ministry of University and Research)
 - 1 representative of the EPR (Public Research Bodies)
 - 1 representative of ASviS (Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development)
 - any well-known experts on the topics of the PhD course
 - any representatives of third parties

3. The AB is appointed by the Coordinator, after consulting the Coordination Committee.

Article 8 - The Academic Assembly

The Academic Assembly is made up of all the teachers and researchers supervising and cosupervising the PhD students.

The Academic Assembly meets at least three times a year and has coordination and consultation functions on training and research activities.

Part II – Admission

Article 8 – Admission

1. Admission to the doctorate takes place on the basis of a public selection.
2. Those in possession of a bachelor's degree (old system), a master's degree obtained in an Italian university or a similar qualification obtained abroad, recognized as suitable by the Commission, can access the courses after passing an admission exam without age and citizenship restrictions.
3. Admission to the PhD course takes place after passing a suitable selection procedure aimed at ascertaining the candidate's preparation, ability and aptitude for scientific research. The selection is made through a public competition based on qualifications and possibly by examinations or interviews (also electronically), in accordance with the regulations in force.

Article 9 - Selection Board and Selection Procedures

1. The Selection Committee for admission to the Course is appointed by Rector's Decree on the proposal of the Faculty Board.
2. The Commission is composed of the President and a minimum of three effective commissioners and three alternates for each Curriculum, chosen from among university professors and tenured researchers pertaining to the research topics to which the PhD course refers, also from non Italian Universities. Commissioners can be members of the Faculty Board. In forming the composition of the Commission, the provisions on gender representation are generally followed by the Recommendation of the Commission of the European Communities of 11 March 2005, no. 251. The commission must be formed in such a way as to ensure the participation of foreign or external members of the affiliated subjects.
3. The Selection Board is divided into sub-committees. Each sub-committee is responsible for conducting the interviews, according to the methods and criteria defined by the Commission of selection. In consideration of the fact that each scholarship is linked to a specific research topic, the individual subcommittee can be integrated by an expert with proven competence in the subject, also belonging to the faculty of the doctorate, for each of the research topics put forward.
4. At the end of the work, each sub-committee transmits the minutes of the interviews with the relative results to the President of the Commission. The Commission of selection, divided into subcommittees, assigns the final scores and eligibility for the scholarships announced and prepares a merit ranking broken down by curriculum. The scholarships are assigned on the basis of the ranking, the qualifications obtained and the preferences expressed in the application by the candidates.
5. The Rector verifies the regularity of the competition documents and approves, with his/her own decree, the merit ranking broken down by curriculum.
6. Confirmation of acceptance of the awarded scholarship is required for each suitable candidate who has been awarded a scholarship. In the event of expressed or tacit renunciation, the ranking will scroll and the scholarship will be offered to candidates who are not already recipients of a scholarship and who have obtained a judgment of suitability for it according to the ranking order.
7. Candidates are admitted to the course according to the order of the ranking and up to the assignment of all the scholarships available for each curriculum.

Part III – Course Attendance

Article 10 - Rights and Duties of PhD Students

1. The rights and duties of PhD students, although not explicitly provided for in these Regulations, are governed by the Regulations for the School's doctoral courses.
2. Each PhD student is required to comply with the Code of Ethics and Conduct of the School and of the location where the teaching and research activity is carried out.

Article 11 - Verification of Training Activities

1. Each PhD student must carry out the training activities according to the training and research project approved by the Faculty Board.
2. The PhD course provides for a minimum number of 150 teaching hours, which the student must attend during the program, taking the related exams where required.
3. The year-end assessment of the completion of the training and research path of the PhD students is preliminarily entrusted to the competent curriculum Council. The Faculty Board, at the end of each academic year and after obtaining the supervisor's reasoned opinion, verifies the completion of the training and research activities envisaged for each PhD student, also making use of the relative written report presented by the Curriculum Council.
4. The year-round evaluation referred to in the previous paragraph takes into account the Curriculum Council report and the year-end report drawn up by the PhD student.

Article 11 – Extension

1. For proven reasons that do not allow the presentation of the PhD thesis within the time limits set by the duration of the course, the teaching staff may grant, at the request of the PhD student and subject to the favorable opinion of the curriculum Council, an extension of a maximum duration of twelve months, without further financial charges.
2. An extension of the duration of the PhD course for a period not exceeding twelve months may also be decided by the Faculty Board, upon the joint request of the supervisor and co-supervisor/s for justified scientific needs, after obtaining an opinion in favor of the Curriculum Council. Having assessed the scientific reasons presented in support of the request, the Faculty Board decides on the granting of the extension, after verifying the coverage of funds charged to the School's budget.

Part IV - Attainment of the Title

Article 12 - Final Examination

1. The procedures for the issue of the PhD qualification are provided for by current legislation.
2. Admission to the final exam of the PhD student is subject to the fulfillment of the following requirements:

- positive evaluation of the achievement of the objectives set by the training and research project and of the acquisition by the PhD student of adequate national and international scientific experience by the Academic Board, expressed on the basis of the final report presented by the PhD student and the preliminary evaluation by the Curriculum Council; ● evaluation of the thesis by the external evaluators referred to in paragraph 3 below.

3. Having consulted the supervisor, the Coordinator designates at least two evaluators, also belonging to foreign and international institutions, external to the subjects who have contributed to the award of the PhD degree and in possession of highly qualified experience, of whom at least one is a university professor.
4. For all other rules relating to the final exam, for matters not provided for in this article, please refer to the Regulations for the School's PhD courses.

Article 13 - Selection Board for the Final Exam

1. The Board is composed in accordance with the provisions of current legislation.

Part V - Final and transitional provisions

Article 14 - Final Provisions

1. These Regulations are approved by the Academic Senate of the IUSS School and any subsequent amendments are approved in the same way, after consulting the academic structures of the affiliated centers.
2. For matters not covered by these Regulations, reference should be made to the IUSS School regulations and to the national regulations as applicable.
3. These Regulations enter into force the day after the date of publication in the School Register.