

PhD Programme in RESEARCH AND SOCIAL INNOVATION	
DISCIPLINARY SCIENTIFIC AREA	14 - POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES; 12 - LEGAL SCIENCES; 11 - HISTORICAL, PHILOSOPHICAL, PEDAGOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES; 13 - ECONOMICAL AND STATISTICAL SCIENCES
COORDINATOR	PROF. ALESSANDRO LOVARI
HEAD DEPARTMENT	DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DURATION	3 YEARS
LEARNING OUTCOMES AND RESEARCH TOPICS	<p>The PhD Programme in Social and Institutional Innovation (R.I.S.) aims to train high-level researchers and professionals in the field of social, cultural, and institutional innovation, with particular attention to local/territorial development, integration and social cohesion, sustainable development, and the cultural and communicative processes connected to institutional innovation. Social innovation is a design paradigm capable of responding to the emerging needs of communities by developing innovation models that intertwine the personal/individual dimension with the political/collective one, tacit and codified knowledge, and bottom-up participation with the contribution of expert knowledge.</p> <p>R.I.S. trains scholars of social and institutional processes, and experts in public policy, capable of analyzing the potential of territories by enhancing community resources in terms of cohesion, innovation, and social inclusion. The programme deepens the understanding of how innovation is produced in contemporary society, as well as the actors, processes, and conditions under which it spreads and becomes embedded, both in ordinary and crisis situations.</p> <p>It is designed as a multidisciplinary and innovative programme in terms of content and methodology, with a focus on the social sciences and openness to disciplines such as Geography, Statistics, Demo-ethno-anthropological Studies, Psychology, and Law. This integration enriches the methodological and cultural background of the RIS PhD. In particular, courses and seminars will focus on developing skills in the epistemological and theoretical foundations of the social sciences, statistical data analysis, qualitative and quantitative research methods, and the graphic and spatial representation of social phenomena.</p> <p>The PhD programme is part of an international network that facilitates study periods abroad at qualified institutions. Moreover, the presence of scholars affiliated with national and international institutions among the RIS faculty allows for training activities to be conducted in foreign languages.</p> <p>The pedagogical approach is based on the idea of providing doctoral candidates with a toolkit of research methodologies, along with advanced theoretical and epistemological skills in a multidisciplinary perspective. The goal is to help students structure their research projects appropriately from both a theoretical and methodological point of view and to make informed choices regarding research methods.</p> <p>Teaching methods include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) ad hoc lecture-style courses, b) workshop-style courses, c) seminar-based courses. <p>Specifically, the programme is structured as follows over three years: First year: 7 courses (4 of which include a final evaluation) for a total of 100 hours. Second year: 5 courses with final evaluation, totaling 76 hours. Third year: No formal coursework is scheduled, to allow doctoral candidates to focus on data analysis and thesis writing. Doctoral students are expected to participate in seminars presenting and discussing the progress of their dissertations.</p> <p>The teaching courses are complemented by doctoral research seminars aimed at developing transversal skills (communication, organizational, social) and advancing thesis projects.</p>

	<p>Additional activities include courses and workshops organized within the research activities of the SPOL Department, the inter-university teaching research center CIRD, and the University of Cagliari, also with a cross-disciplinary approach among different doctoral programmes. The general structure of the courses may be modified by the PhD Board, and personalized training paths may be created.</p>
<p>ELIGIBILITY AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATES (ART. 2 - NOTICE OF COMPETITION)</p>	<p>EVERY ITALIAN 2ND CYCLE DEGREE (LAUREA MAGISTRALE/SPECIALISTICA/VECCHIO ORDINAMENTO) AND EQUIVALENT AND SUITABLE FOREIGN ACADEMIC DEGREES</p> <p>The PhD programme welcomes students from various Master's degree courses; however, backgrounds in social and political sciences are particularly well-suited to the proposed academic path.</p> <p>Although not a formal admission requirement, a basic knowledge of statistics is expected (demonstrated by having successfully passed a statistics exam). In the absence of such preparation, the doctoral student will be required to take a statistics exam worth at least 6 ECTS credits during the first year of the programme, by attending courses offered by the Faculty, as indicated by the coordinator and the deputy coordinator.</p>
<p>ADMISSION TESTS FOR CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE ORDINARY POSITIONS</p>	<p>ASSESSMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND CURRICULUM VITAE, AND IN-PERSON INTERVIEW</p> <p>The interview will aim to ascertain the candidate's ability to orient on the main areas of study inherent in the doctorate and to verify his/her analytical, processing and communication skills.</p> <p>During the interview, a three-year research project proposed by the candidate will be discussed, which must be presented, in addition to the documents required by art. 3 of the call for applications.</p> <p>Candidates who, for justified reasons, are unable to attend the interview at the designated location may be granted the possibility to take it via videoconference, on the same date and at the same time scheduled for in-person interviews, according to the procedures outlined in the call for applications.</p> <p>In addition to the documents required by Article 3 of the call, the Master's thesis, which must be mandatory attached, will be subject to evaluation.</p>
<p>ADMISSION TESTS FOR FOREIGN CANDIDATES APPLYING FOR THE RESERVED POSITION</p>	<p>ASSESSMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND CV, AND ONLINE INTERVIEW</p> <p>During the interview, a three-year research project proposed by the candidate will be discussed, which must be presented, in addition to the documents required by art. 3 of the competition announcement (certificate attesting the award of a 2nd level foreign degree needed to access a PhD programme, including exams and marks, with a translation in Italian or English; certificate attesting the award of a 1st level foreign degree, including exams and marks, with a translation in Italian or English; signed Curriculum Vitae preferably in EU format, in English or Italian; documentation relating to any additional qualifications, publications (up to a maximum of 5), and professional experience must be listed in a single separate document, in Italian or English, and uploaded to the system by the application deadline; a color front-and-back copy of a valid ID document, with a clear photo, must also be uploaded (file name: research_project_surname_name).</p> <p>Reference letters, up to a maximum of 3, must be prepared using the mandatory template available at the following page: https://web.unica.it/unica/en/studenti_s01_ss05.page (How to apply for PhD selection: Guidelines and forms- Annex D), in English, by a university professor or an expert in the research fields of the PhD programme, on letterhead of their institution, dated and signed. Evaluators will send their letters directly to the email address phdcall_referenceletter@unica.it (object: surname and name of the candidate being evaluated and name of the PhD programme for which he/she is applying).</p>

	<p>Letters must be sent directly by the referees to the following email address: phdcall_referenceletter@unica.it, indicating in the subject line the surname and name of the candidate and the name of the PhD programme for which the candidate is applying.</p> <p>In addition to the documents required by Article 3 of the call, candidates must upload, by the application deadline, a copy of their Master's thesis. If the thesis was written in a non-EU language, an English translation must also be provided. Given the specific nature of the PhD project, certified knowledge of the Italian language at at least B2 level is required.</p> <p>The candidate is responsible for ensuring both the technical quality and the proper conduct of the interview if it is to be held remotely.</p> <p>The candidate bears full responsibility for the technical quality and conduct of the online interview.</p>
POSITIONS	6, 1 of which with scholarship, reserved for a foreign candidate with a 2nd level degree awarded abroad
SCHOLARSHIPS	<p>6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 funded by the University of Cagliari (funds from University budget) - 5 funded with funds from PR FSE+ 2021-2027 – Line A, reserved for university female and male graduates under 35 years at the time of application (PNR 2021-2027 research and innovation area: Social transformation, Inclusive society, Health, Creativity, Security for social systems, Digital, Climate, Energy, Sustainable mobility, Natural resources, Environment - S3 Specialisation Area: Tourism culture and environment; Smart networks for efficient energy management; ICT)
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