



Public Competition for Admission to the Interuniversity Doctoral Research Programme in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research - Academic Year 2021/2022.

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Dir. DF/FTLI

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THE RECTOR

- having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree No. 270, dated 22 October 2004, entitled "Amendments to Regulation No. 509 containing rules governing the educational autonomy of Universities, approved by the Ministry of Education, University and Scientific Research on 3 November 1999";
- having regard to article 4 of Italian Law No. 210 dated 3 July 1998, as amended by art. 19, paragraph 1, of Italian Law No. 240 dated 30 December 2010;
- having regard to Italian Regional Law No. 33, dated 13 December 2004, entitled "Rules governing Regional measures to ensure the right to study at university," which makes provisions for services in favour of students enrolled on PhD programmes;
- having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree No. 45 dated 8 February 2013, entitled "Regulations concerning the accreditation methods and of the locations and PhD programmes and the criteria for the institution of PhD programmes by accredited bodies";
- having regard to the agreement between the Universities of Milan and Turin concerning the institution and operation of the doctoral research programme in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research (SOMET), with administrative centre based at the University of Milan;
- having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree protocol no. 895 of 15 October 2019 whereby the Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR), pursuant to the aforementioned Ministerial Decree 45/2013, grants five-year accreditation, equivalent to three consecutive cycles, of doctoral research programmes, subject to compliance with the prescribed requirements;
- having regard to the fact that for the 2021/2022 academic year the University intends to institute a new cycle of doctoral programmes;
- having regard to the note of the Ministry of University and Research (MUR) protocol No. 7403 of 16 March 2021;
- having regard to the decisions of the Academic Senate and of the Board of Directors in the sessions of 16 and 30 March 2021, concerning the institution of the 37th doctoral cycle;

HEREBY DECREES



Art. 1 - Institution

The PhD in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research is instituted at the universities of Milan and Turin for academic year 2021/2022 (37th cycle), subject to accreditation by the MUR, and ongoing compliance with accreditation requirements.

The doctoral research programme in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research is established within the context of a network of north-western universities, NASP-West “Network for the Advancement of Social and Political Studies in North-West Italy”, in the area of social and political sciences.

A public competition for admission to the aforementioned PhD programme will be held at the University of Milan; selection will be based on qualifications and exams. The table annexed to this decree, which is an integral part thereof, contains a brief description of the programme, as well as the examination window, and a link to the University’s website. The latter provides information on the research topics identified by the Academic Board, in line with the course objectives and the relevant research and advanced training programme, that will be offered to candidates admitted to the PhD programme. The deadlines and methods for candidates to choose research topics are set out in art. 21 of the University Regulations on doctoral programmes at the University of Milan (administrative centre).

The number of scholarships may be increased should external funding become available before the deadline established by the call for submission of applications to the competition.

Foreign candidates who are in receipt of scholarships issued by their country of origin may be admitted to the doctoral programmes over and above the prescribed number, provided that they have passed the admission exams set out in this decree.

Art. 2 - Admission requirements

Candidates in possession of a second cycle degree (*Laurea magistrale*), an equivalent qualification or a qualification equivalent to the level of studies (Master’s Degree) awarded by a foreign university, may apply to take part in the competition for admission to the doctoral research programme, as per the article above.

The suitability of the foreign academic qualifications in terms of content is evaluated by the Examining Committee set up for admission to the PhD programme, in compliance with the regulations in force in Italy and in the country in which the academic qualification was issued, and with the international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the purpose of continuing studies.

Candidates who have not yet completed their second cycle (*magistrale*) degree may also apply. In this case, candidates who are admitted onto the PhD course must obtain the required qualification by 31 October 2021, on penalty of not being admitted.



Art. 3 - Application for Admission

Applications for admission must be submitted by no later than **2pm on 28 June 2021**, following the procedures described below:

1. Register on the [the University portal](#). This operation is not required of those already registered on the portal or in possession of university login details (final year students or those who graduated from the University of Milan less than a year ago);
2. Login and submit an application for admission to the [Doctoral programme admission services](#);
3. Pay the non-refundable fee of € 50.00 no later than (2pm) on **28 June 2021**.

The following documents (no larger than 10 MB) must be **uploaded** (in pdf .rtf or .jpg format) to complete the online admissions procedure:

- A. Diploma Supplement or Bachelor's/Master's diploma (or equivalent qualification obtained in Italy or abroad), with transcript of records. Upcoming graduates are required to submit a certificate of enrolment in lieu of the diploma. The documents must be in Italian, English, French, German or Spanish;
- B. CV, describing any professional experience and other qualifications held by the applicant;
- C. Research project ([using Form 1 attached hereto](#));
- D. Copy of passport (foreign applicants only);
- E. List of publications (if any);
- F. [Annex A](#).

Non-EU candidates residing abroad are also required to submit an online application for pre-enrolment through [University](#), in order to obtain a student visa.

The online application cannot be modified or supplemented with further documentation once it has been confirmed.

Self-drafted affidavits are accepted as and where provided for by the laws in force.

Please note that the failure to provide even just one of the documents from A to C above, will result in the candidate being **excluded from the competition**.

Qualifications and scientific publications may be submitted in either Italian or English.

In addition to the above listed documentation, at the request of the Academic Board, as specified in the table, applicants must ask qualified referees who have been involved in their training to provide one letter of reference drafted [according to Form 2 attached hereto](#), which the referees must email as a .pdf document to the address indicated in the PhD programme description by the competition deadline. The reference letters will be looked at in conjunction with the candidate's CV but will not be awarded any points.



Art. 4 - Candidates with disabilities

In order to ensure equal treatment of candidates, those holding a certificate of invalidity and/or of disability pursuant to Law 104/1992 may apply for accommodations to the COSP Disability Office (ausili.ammissioni@unimi.it) attaching the certificate issued by the competent public health office. Candidates holding outdated certificates are required to apply for an updated certificate, to be submitted after enrolment for the purposes of using disability accommodations as offered by the study programme.

Art. 5 - Candidates with SLD

In order to ensure equal treatment of candidates, those holding a Specific Learning Disorder (SLD) certificate issued by the National Health Service, a private affiliated centre, or a private specialist (with a compliance certificate from the competent health authority), pursuant to Law 170/2010, may apply for accommodations to the COSP SLD Office (ausili.ammissioni@unimi.it) attaching the certificate. If the SLD was diagnosed in childhood, and the certificate is over three years old, students should apply for an updated certificate, to be submitted after enrolment for the purposes of using SLD accommodations as offered by the study programme.

Art. 6 - Admission exam

Admission to the PhD programme is through a public selection procedure involving the evaluation of qualifications and tests for the comparative assessment of candidates. An Examining Committee set up and appointed in compliance with current regulations will carry out the procedure.

The selection procedure aims to assess the applicant's training, capabilities and aptitude for scientific research, as well as his/her personal motivations. It involves assessment of the **CV** and a **research project**, possibly based on his/her second cycle degree dissertation, as well as an **online interview**. The research project, which must be prepared according to a standard format ([Form 1 attached hereto](#)), is relevant for the sole purposes of selection and does not constitute any obligation regarding the candidate's subsequent choice of doctoral thesis in the event that they are admitted.

The candidate's CV and research project will be evaluated prior to interview, and candidates will be able to see the result of the evaluation on the University portal.

Evaluation of the CV will take into account the candidate's entire university career, any publications, any professional experience and other qualifications held. The Examining Committee can give a **maximum of 20 points** for the **CV**, taking into consideration the statistical distribution of the exam marks for their respective study course, as well as the conditions and the amount of time taken by the candidate to obtain their qualifications

A maximum of 10 points can be awarded for the **research project**.

Candidates who obtain a score of at least 50% of the maximum points obtainable for the CV and the research project can be called for interview.

The interview is public; the date will be posted to the University portal following the assessment of qualifications. The aim is to verify the candidate's knowledge of the field of the doctorate. The



interview includes a seminar-style presentation of the research project, followed by general discussion to verify the candidate's expertise, scientific qualities and motivations. A maximum of 70 points may be assigned to the interview. The interview will be held in English.

In order to sit the examinations, applicants must show one of the following forms of ID:

- a) Identity card;
- b) Passport;
- c) (Italian) driving licence.

The outcome of the tests will be communicated by the Committee at the end of the interview.

At the end of the tests, the Committee draws up a general ranking list according to the total score assigned to the candidates for their CV, research project and interview. **Candidates must obtain a minimum score of 70/100 to pass the admission exam.**

Candidates must obtain a **minimum score of 70/100** to pass the admission exam.

The **general ranking** is published on the page [Postgraduate admission rankings page](#) in the days following the examinations.

It is incumbent on the Committee to complete procedures no later than **19 July 2021**.

Art. 7 - Admission to the PhD programmes

Applicants are admitted to the programmes according to their position in the ranking list until the number of places available has been filled. Where applicants achieve the same score, preference will be given to the younger applicant, with the exception of the right of priority criterion for doctoral grants set forth in art. 9 of this call for applications. The rankings of eligible applicants will be published in the days following the interviews on the University website [Postgraduate admission rankings page](#).

The ranking published on the University website constitutes notification to the interested parties since they will not receive written communication

Applicants admitted to the programmes lose their entitlement if they fail to enrol by the deadline. Their place is then given to the next applicant in the ranking list. This also applies if an admitted applicant withdraws within three months of the beginning of the programme. If the withdrawing student has already received any monthly scholarship payments, he/she is required to return them. Takeover applicants will be contacted personally by email by the Doctoral Students Administration Office (*Segreteria Dottorati*), which will provide instructions and deadlines for enrolment.

Art. 8 - Enrolment

Enrolment in the doctoral programme will take place from **26 July 2021 to 2pm on 30 July 2021** using the [SIFA enrolment service](#) and following the procedures published on the [University website](#).



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

Candidates are admitted to the programme conditionally, and may be excluded from the programme if they are found not to meet the requirements.

Candidates holding a qualification obtained abroad are required to upload the following documents when completing the online enrolment process:

- Original diploma (Master of Science or equivalent) with a translation into Italian, French, English, German or Spanish;
- Italian tax ID code.

To complete enrolment, the following documents must be sent to the International Students Office, through the *Informastudenti* service, (<https://www.unimi.it/en/study/student-services/welcome-desk-informastudenti>) **by 29 October**:

- Statement of Validity (*Dichiarazione di Valore in Loco*) issued by the Italian Embassy, or Diploma Supplement, or certificate of comparability issued by CIMEA, or other declaration of validity issued by ENIC_NARIC centres;
- Student visa (only for non-EU citizens residing abroad);
- Valid residence permit (only for non-EU citizens).

Verification of the validity of foreign qualifications is made on submission of the official documents. Until then, candidates are admitted to the programme conditionally, and may drop off the ranking if they are found not to meet the requirements.

Art. 9 - Scholarships

The annual gross amount of a scholarship awarded by the **University of Milan** is € 16,350.00, the annual gross amount of a scholarship awarded by the **University of Turin** is € 17,500.00. The beneficiaries will receive the scholarship amount directly from the University that made it available.

The amount of the scholarship is exempt from IRPEF income tax under art. 4 of Italian Law No. 476 of 13 August 1984 and, in terms of social security, is subject to the regulations set forth in article 2, paragraph 26 et seq., of Italian Law No. 335 of 8 August 1995 as amended.

The regional study tax and a stamp duty will be deducted from the scholarship.

The scholarships are awarded pursuant to the PhD in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research (SOMET) Agreement, art. 5: *“The Academic Board will assign the doctoral candidates to the research groups of the Parties, and award the scholarships based on the research topics chosen by the students (among those proposed by the Board), using their ranking as a criterion for meeting their preferences, up to the number of scholarships available for either campus. Each doctoral student shall work on their research topic at the University that proposed it.”*

In the event of candidates ranked equally, scholarships are awarded by assessing the candidates' economic situation according to the ISEE (Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator).



Scholarships have a yearly duration and can be renewed on condition that the PhD student has been accepted by the Academic Board for the following year, after it is ascertained that he/she has correctly and successfully completed the programme of activities in the previous year

Starting from the second year, each PhD student is given, in addition to the scholarship and depending on the financial resources existing in the University budget, a budget for research activity in Italy and abroad appropriate for the type of course and in any case for an amount no less than 10% of the amount of the scholarship itself.

Art. 10 - Obligations of PhD Students

The doctoral research programme entails 1.500 hours of training-education and research activities per year. The rights and obligations of the PhD students are regulated by art. 22 of the Regulations of the University of Milan concerning doctoral research programmes (administrative centre).

Art. 11 - Awarding of Qualification

The qualification of Doctor of Philosophy, abbreviated to Dott.Ric. or Ph.D., is awarded jointly by the Rectors of the Universities partnered in compliance with Ministerial Decree no. 45 dated 8 February 2013.

Art. 12 - Processing of personal data

Pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003, as amended by Legislative Decree no. 101 of 10 August 2018, as well as EU Regulation no. 679/2016 (General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR), the University undertakes to respect the confidential nature of the information provided by applicants. All data provided will be processed solely for purposes related and instrumental to the competition and to manage the applicant's relationship with the University, where necessary, in compliance with current laws.

Art. 13 - Relevant regulations

Any items for which no specific provision has been made in this call for applications shall be regulated in accordance with the Italian legislation and regulations governing PhDs.

Art. 14 - Person in Charge of the Procedure

Pursuant to law No. 241 of 7 August 1990 the manager of the procedure related to this announcement is Ms Monica Delù (Head of Postgraduate Admissions and Student Public Relations Office).

For further information please use the [Informastudenti](#) service, selecting the category: Postgraduates/Doctoral research students.

Milan, 27 May 2021

THE RECTOR
(Elio Franzini)



Doctoral Programme in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research (SOMET)

Learning objectives

The doctoral programme in Sociology and Methodology of Social Research offers theoretical/analytical and technical/methodological research training in the best tradition of international empirical sociology. It is intended to train researchers capable of analysing social and cultural change through close integration between theory and empirical research. The programme combines a solid theoretical/conceptual grounding with full mastery of the most up-to-date quantitative and qualitative research methods and techniques, including digital. This means providing doctoral students with all the tools for carrying out original investigations, both theoretically oriented and empirically based, on a wide range of aspects of contemporary digital societies. Great emphasis is placed on the comparison of different social situations and contexts, including with a supranational focus, and through prolonged periods of research abroad. Teaching is delivered in English. While firmly anchored in the concepts and methods of sociological disciplines, the doctoral programme will constantly interact with other social sciences - anthropology, psychology, political science, economics, demography, statistics, computer science - with a view to a better understanding of researched phenomena.

The programme is delivered entirely in English.

Academic disciplines

13/D (Statistics and mathematical methods for decision-making)

14/C (Sociology)

14/D (Applied Sociology)

Partner Universities

University of Milan (administrative centre)

University of Turin

Research topics

Research topics are available on the [University portal](#)

Duration

3 years

Places available

6

Scholarships

3 University of Milan



3 University of Turin

Doctoral programme coordinator

Prof. Giovanni Semi, associate professor in the SPS/07 scientific-disciplinary sector,
giovanni.semi@unito.it

Admission requirements

All classes of second cycle degrees (*laurea magistrale*)

Letters of reference

The Academic Board requires 1 letter of reference, drafted according to [Form 2](#) attached hereto, to be sent to dottorato.somet@unimi.it

Doctoral programme selection phases - Sociology and Methodology of Social Research (SOMET)

Qualification assessment date

The assessment will take place on 7 July 2021.

The assessment outcome will be posted to the University website by the interview start date.

Interviews

Online interviews will be held from 8 to 16 July 2021.

The interview will be in English.

Exam procedures, the calendar with interview dates and times, and the title of the candidate's project will be posted to the University website.

Online posting is equivalent to a notice to the persons concerned.

Annex A

DICHIARAZIONE SOSTITUTIVA DI ATTO NOTORIO

Self-drafted affidavit

(art. 47 del DPR n° 445/2000)

(art. 47 Presidential Decree n. 445/2000)

Il sottoscritto/The undersigned

cognome/surname _____ nome/name _____

nato a/born in _____ il/on _____

consapevole delle sanzioni penali richiamate dall'articolo 76 del Dpr 445/2000 in caso di dichiarazioni non veritiere e falsità in atti

aware that making false statements and submitting false documents are crimes punishable by law (articles 75 and 76 of Presidential Decree No. 445/2000)

**dichiara sotto la propria personale responsabilità
declares under his/her own responsibility**

che le pubblicazioni/ i titoli sotto elencati, prodotti in copia, sono conformi all'originale:

that the publications and the qualifications listed below, produced as copies, comply with the originals:

Milan, _____

Data/date

Firma/Signature _____

Ai sensi dell'art. 3 del DPR 445/2000 l'autocertificazione può essere utilizzata solo dai cittadini appartenenti all'Unione Europea. I cittadini non europei devono produrre documenti originali o in copia autenticata secondo la normativa vigente.

Pursuant to art. 3 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, only EU citizens are entitled to use this form. Non-EU citizens must submit the original documentation or photocopies authenticated in compliance with the law in force.

Form 1

PROJECT

Applicant's Name

PhD

1) Project title

2) Abstract

3) Project aims and their relevance in the context of the state of the art

4) Project description

5) References

The project should count at least 2,000 and no more than 4,000 words, excluding references.

Form 2

ACADEMIC REFERENCE FORM

Applicant's surname and name _____

Degree Applying for Ph.D. Program in _____

Enrolment: Autumn 2021

Applicant's Waiver

The following waiver statement is provided in accordance with Italian privacy law. You may waive your right to inspect this reference by signing the statement at your own discretion. Should you decide not to sign, you may have access to the reference when you enrol in the graduate school.

This is a confidential reference and will not be disclosed to me without the prior consent of the referee.

Applicant's signature _____

Date _____

Referee's name _____

Title, employer _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

1. How long have you known the applicant?

<1yr	1yr	2 yrs	3yrs	4 yrs	> 5 yrs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. In what capacity do you know the applicant?

Professor Employer/Manager/Supervisor Colleague Other

3. On the following scale, please rate the applicant relative to other students / employees / applicants you have known:

	Top 50%	Top 25%	Top 10%	Top 5%	Top 2%
Scholarship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Writing Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Originality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Openness to other cultures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Academic Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please attach a frank letter addressing the following questions.

1. What are this applicant's major strengths?
2. What are this applicant's major weaknesses?
3. Please describe the quality of the applicant's contributions in a group/team environment (professional or classroom).
4. Please rate the applicant relative to other graduate school applicants you have known.
5. If the applicant's native language is not English, please comment on his/her abilities in English.

Referee's signature _____

Date _____

Mailing instructions:

Please send the completed form together with the letter of academic reference directly to dottorato.somet@unimi.it

Thank you for your cooperation.