

## PHD PROGRAMME TABLE 38TH CYCLE

Section “Available Positions and Scholarship” integrated on 12/05/2022

PROGRAMME'S NAME	<b>MODERN LANGUAGES LITERATURES CULTURES: Diversity and Inclusion</b>
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2022 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	Curriculum 1: Italian, French, English Curriculum 2: Italian, English, Spanish Curriculum 3: Italian, French, Japanese, English, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, German Curriculum 4: Italian, Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, English, Dutch, Spanish, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, German <i>For all the curricula, for non-Italian applicants, an Italian language proficiency level of at least CEFR B2 is required.</i>
MANDATORY STAY ABROAD	Curriculum 1: 12 months Curricula 2, 3 and 4: 6 months
COORDINATOR	Prof. Gabriella Elina Imposti ( <a href="mailto:gabriella.imposti@unibo.it">gabriella.imposti@unibo.it</a> )
CURRICULA	1. DESE – Les Littératures de l'Europe Unie / European Literatures / Letterature dell'Europa unita 2. EDGES – Women and Gender Studies 3. World Literature and Postcolonial Studies 4. LINGMOD - Modern Languages Studies
RESEARCH TOPICS	<a href="#">Detailed list at the bottom of the present document</a>
PHD POSITIONS	12
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications and research proposal evaluation Oral examination

### Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Curriculum	Positions linked to research topics
1	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	DESE	
2	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	EDGES	
3	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	WORLD	
4	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR under the “Department of Excellence” initiative	DESE	
5	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR under the “Department of Excellence” initiative	EDGES	
6	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR under the “Department of Excellence” initiative	LINGMOD	
7	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR under the “Department of Excellence” initiative	WORLD	
8	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures with funds made available by the project ERC NonWestLit (Grant Agreement 950513 - Prof. Seckin Dolcerocca)	WORLD	Modernizing Empires: Enlightenment, Nationalist Vanguards and Non-Western Literary Modernities

9	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures with funds made available by the project ERC Abstraction (Grant Agreement 101039777 - Prof. Marianna Marcella Bolognesi)	LINGMOD	Unlocking meaning from experience through language
10	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures with funds made available by the project ERC Abstraction (Grant Agreement 101039777 - Prof.ssa Marianna Marcella Bolognesi)	LINGMOD	Unlocking meaning from experience through language
11	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	LINGMOD	
12	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	DESE	

## Admission Exams

	DATE AND TIME	RESULTS
Qualifications and research proposal evaluation	Applicants' participation is not required	Available from <b>25/06/2022**</b>
Oral examination	<b>Date:</b> starting from <b>11/07/2022 – 9.30 a.m. CEST*</b> <b>Place:</b> Remotely, using Microsoft Teams	Available from <b>18/07/2022**</b>

\* In case that the oral examination cannot be completed in one day due to the large number of applicants, the oral examination detailed schedule shall be made available on the webpage [Studenti Online](#) together with the results of the qualifications and research proposal evaluation. **During the oral examination, applicants may express their interest in one or more positions linked to specific research topics.**

\*\* The **results of the admission exams** will be available on the webpage [Studenti Online](#) (select “summary of the requests in progress” > “see detail” and open the .pdf file at the bottom of the page). **No personal written communication will be sent to applicants concerning the examinations results.**

## Required and Supporting Documents to be attached to the application

All the documents listed below **shall be drawn up in English or in Italian**. In case of documents originally issued in any other language (e.g. identity document, qualifications), an official English translation is required.

Only qualifications obtained **during the last 5 calendar years** shall be taken into consideration, except for the University Degree. The Admission Board will assess the relevance of the supporting documents to the PhD Programme.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	
Identity document	Valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)
Curriculum Vitae	No specific CV format is required
Degrees	Documents attesting the awarding of the first and second cycle degrees, the exams taken and the marks obtained (see Art. 3 of the Call for Applications)
Research proposal	Multi-annual research proposal, with special emphasis on the <b>activities to be completed during the first-year course</b> . The proposal must meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- it must <b>mention on the cover page the Curriculum</b> the applicant is interested to and the proposal is about;</li> <li>- <b>it cannot exceed 20,000 characters</b>, including spaces and formula possibly used. This figure does not include: the title of proposal, the outline, references and images (such as graphs, diagrams, tables, etc. - if present);</li> <li>- <b>it must include:</b> the state of the art; description of the proposal; expected results; articulation of the proposal and implementation times; outlining of the criteria meant to be used to assess the research results; references.</li> </ul>

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
<b>Reference letter/s</b>	<b>No more than 2 reference letters</b> signed by Italian or international academics and professionals in the research field, which do not form part of the Admission Board, attesting the suitability of the applicant and his/her interest in the scientific research. Letters shall be uploaded following the procedure detailed in the Call for Applications (Art. 3.2)
<b>Personal Statement</b>	The statement shall include the reasons prompting the applicant to attend the PhD Programme and <b>those relevant experiences and research interests</b> , that make the applicant suitable for the specific PhD Programme (3000 characters maximum, including spaces).
<b>Publications</b>	Lists of publications (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals), minor publications (conference papers, etc.), abstracts and posters presented during national and international conferences, etc.
<b>Other documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Postgraduate vocational training programmes relevant to the PhD Programme main research topics</li> <li>- Teaching activities carried out at university level</li> <li>- Research activity of any kind - whether basic, applied, translational, etc. - carried out in any capacity, including when covered by research grants, and as a staff member of research projects</li> <li>- Work activity</li> <li>- Curricular or non-curricular professional internships</li> <li>- Documents attesting the applicant's foreign languages proficiency</li> <li>- Periods of study abroad, completed by applicants outside their countries of origin (e.g. Erasmus programme or other similar mobility programmes)</li> <li>- Other qualifications attesting the suitability of the applicants (scholarships, prizes, etc.)</li> </ul>

## Evaluation criteria\*

Scores will be expressed in points out of 100, as follows.

### 1. Qualifications and research proposal evaluation

Minimum score for admission to the oral examination: 30 points, Maximum score: 50 points

<b>Qualifications evaluation</b>	Second cycle (Master's) degree final mark. Graduands shall be evaluated according to the Weighted Average Mark (WAM) and the First cycle (Bachelor's) degree final mark	10 points max
	Publications	5 points max
	Personal statement	3 points max
	Reference letter/s	3 points max
	Other evaluable documents	5 points max
<b>Research proposal evaluation</b>	Scientific value and ground-breaking nature of the proposal	12 points max
	Structure of the proposal	6 points max
	Proposal feasibility	6 points max

### 2. Oral examination

Minimum score for eligibility: 30 points, Maximum score 50 points

Foreign language proficiency	10 points max
Research proposal presentation	10 points max
Theoretic and methodological knowledge of issues encompassed by the PhD Programme, suitability of the applicant for scientific research	30 points max

Oral examination aims to assess the suitability of the applicant for scientific research as well as the general knowledge of issues encompassed by the PhD Programme (see the list of [research topics](#) at the bottom of the present document).

**During the oral examination the Admission Board shall assess the applicants' language proficiency in the chosen languages and/or in the languages required by each Curriculum** (see the Research topics section for further information).

**The oral examination is carried out in Italian and in the language/s peculiar to each Curriculum.**

\* Possible further evaluation criteria will be available on the [University website](#), selecting the relevant PhD Programme > "More information", at the bottom of the page in the section "Notices".

## Research Topics

### **Curriculum 1: DESE - Les Littératures de l'Europe Unie / European Literatures / Letterature dell'Europa unita**

In accordance with the Excellence project "Diversity and Inclusion" pursued by the Department, the curriculum develops literary research in a supranational dimension in order to train specialists fluent in at least 3 languages who can manage different research typologies, methodologies and cultural contexts in a strong international dimension thanks to agreements and conventions with foreign institutions.

The research project and the thesis, that will include at least three European literatures whose language will be mandatory to know, will have to include the theme of reception understood as a process of re-readings, re-writings and intertextualities. The vehicular language in the PhD programme is French, the dissertation can be written either in French or in English. The discussion during the final exam will be in the languages the PhD student is required to know.

**Languages:** In order to comply with all the PhD programme's obligations, proficiency in the following languages is required: Italian, French, English and, if different from the previous ones, the language the PhD thesis will be about. The interview will be in Italian, French and English. The vehicular language in the PhD programme is French, the dissertation can be written either in French or in English. The discussion during the final exam will be in all the languages the PhD candidate is required to know. For non-Italian applicants, an Italian language proficiency level of at least CEFR B2 is required.

### **Curriculum 2: EDGES Women's and Gender Studies**

EDGES aims to investigate literature and cultural studies, gender methodologies and gender theories as places for the production, circulation and consolidation of cultures of equality, valorisation of diversity and social inclusion. In this perspective, EDGES shares LILEC's Project of Excellence "Diversity and Inclusion" research aims.

The program has at its base literary history and criticism, cultural studies, critical theories of gender and women's studies, literature as a space for the production of critical thinking, analyses of texts in different literary genres and their historical and cultural context.

The research theme of the 38th cycle doctorate concerns the reconstruction and responsibility of transmitting ideas and values in women's literary texts in early modern age, during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the twentieth century, and in contemporary literature.

EDGES will therefore privilege the development of research themes related to the critical re-reading and re-elaboration of texts over the centuries to understand how the heritage of the past should be received and re-read today to reconstruct a collective cultural heritage. Following gender studies and feminist criticism methodologies, the projects will also intersect approaches such as ecocriticism, disability studies, and cultural heritage. EDGES includes a compulsory internship on equal opportunities, access to education and appreciation of diversity.

**Languages:** The interview will be in Italian, English, and Spanish (for the latter the ability to read and understand a literary text will be assessed); the dissertation must be written in English.

### **Curriculum 3: World Literature and Postcolonial Studies**

In accordance with the "Diversity and Inclusion (Dive-In)" Excellence project pursued by the Department, the curriculum in World Literature and Postcolonial Studies (WORLIDLIT) will offer theoretical approaches as well as cross-disciplinary and methodological insights into the specific areas of Postcolonial Studies, Transmedia Studies, Border Studies, Heritage Studies. It will also focus on the analysis of new forms of textuality that are increasingly widespread in contemporary society. Particular attention will be devoted to the functioning of the world publishing market, translation policies, migratory phenomena, hyper-diversity and, more generally, the loosening of the link between language, culture and territory on which the study of national literatures and the literary field partition were based for at least two centuries.

The research theme of the 38th cycle of the PhD program revolves around the concepts of ethics of reconstruction and responsibility, both individual and collective. In particular, the WORLIDLIT curriculum will privilege research projects related to the (re-)construction, through critical and responsible re-readings of past and present texts, in connection to social categories (including minorities) and forms of communication, in the perspective of the paradigm shift from binarisms to plurality, and in order to enhance the present and future role of the humanities. Applying World Literature methodologies, the projects may also intersect with investigative approaches such as Ecocriticism, Digital Humanities, Cultural Heritage.

**Languages:** Knowledge of Italian is mandatory. The interview will also be in the two languages chosen by the applicant among the following: English, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian or Spanish.

### **For ERC scholarship NONWESTLIT**

**Research Theme:** The ERC project is a comparative study of cultural reforms, linguistic renewal and literary renaissance movements in three imperial traditions, Russia, Ottoman Turkey and Japan. The candidate is expected to work on the nineteenth century literature and culture in Russia in a comparative perspective within the scope of the research project. They will have co-responsibility in the collection of data and their analysis. The applicant must hold an MA degree in Literary Studies, Russian Studies or a related field.

NB: Applicants interested in this scholarship must explicitly indicate “ERC project NONWESTLIT” within the curriculum 3 World Literature.

**Languages:** Excellent command of English and Russian (preferably, native or near-native Russian fluency) is required, familiarity with 19th century Russian orthography a plus. The interview will be mainly in English, the level of knowledge of Russian will also be assessed.

#### **Curriculum 4: LINGMOD - Modern Languages Studies**

This curriculum involves teaching and research on modern languages from the perspectives of pragmatics, communication, translation and translation theory, aiming to train specialists in at least two languages in different theories and methodologies. Languages can be chosen from the following: Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, English, Dutch, Spanish, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, German. In addition to two other languages chosen from this list, knowledge of Italian is mandatory.

The projects submitted for the 38th cycle of the PhD Programme must address topics connected with the ideas of reconstruction and responsibility which emerge from the Departmental Project of Excellence and will be analyzed from a linguistic point of view. The curriculum prioritizes the study of language and languages in context/ in action, especially their intertwining with sociocultural issues relevant to the concept of reconstruction (re-writing, re-formulation) and responsibility (responsibility in intercultural communication, in relationships among speech communities and languages; translation role and responsibility in a multilingual ecosystem). Scientific knowledge and methodological expertise are developed and enhanced through a variety of approaches, especially within the scope of the following disciplines: sociolinguistics, pragmatics, discourse analysis, conversation analysis, interactional linguistics, linguistic anthropology, applied linguistics, language acquisition, translation studies and digital humanities.

**Languages:** Knowledge of Italian is mandatory. Languages can be chosen from the following list: Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, English, Dutch, Spanish, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, German. The interview will assess their knowledge.

#### **For ERC scholarships: ABSTRACTION**

**Research Theme:** The ideal candidates are interested in investigating language, cognition and computation. Candidates are expected to work on linguistic and behavioral data collection in person and from remote (crowdsourcing platforms) or corpus linguistics (corpus construction), and quantitative methods for linguistic data analysis and statistical modelling of linguistic data. Ideal topics of research: abstract and concrete concepts, semantic categorization, language processing, distributional semantics, discourse analysis and text readability.

NB: Applicants interested in this scholarship must explicitly indicate “ERC project ABSTRACTION” within the curriculum 4 (LINGMOD - Modern Languages Studies) in their application and their Research project.

**Languages:** Excellent command of English and Italian. The interview will be in Italian and English.