

PHD PROGRAMME TABLE
Call for Applications for further PhD positions
funded by Next Generation EU – NRRP ex M.D. 629/2024 and 630/2024
and from other sources - PhD programmes (40th cycle)
A.Y. 2024/2025

PROGRAMME'S NAME	PSYCHOLOGY
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2024 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	English
COORDINATOR	Prof. Elisabetta Crocetti (elisabetta.crocetti@unibo.it)
PhD POSITIONS	3
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications and research proposal evaluation Oral examination

Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Positions linked to research topics
1	PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 630/2024	Funded by the EU - NextGenerationEU with funds made available by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, Component 2, Investment 3.3 (M.D. 630/2024) and by Istituti Clinici Scientifici Maugeri IRCCS S.p.A. SB	The perception of time in patients with brain injury: the use of Virtual Reality as innovative approach to rehabilitation
2	PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 629/2024 - Public Administration	Funded by the EU - NextGenerationEU with funds made available by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, Component 1, Investment 4.1 (M.D. 629/2024) – Public Administration	Research and validation of a model for the digital transition in the assessment and intervention in the field of learning skills
3	PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 629/2024 - Public Administration	Funded by the EU - NextGenerationEU with funds made available by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, Component 1, Investment 4.1 (M.D. 629/2024) – Public Administration	Psychophysiological foundations of empathy and well-being in organizations

All PhD positions winners shall fulfill the learning and research obligations decided by the Academic Board and the obligations foreseen in the relevant regulations, funding schemes and eventual agreements, in the Call for Applications, and in the MM.DD. 629/2024 and 630/2024.

Admission Exams

	DATE AND TIME	RESULTS
Qualifications and research proposal evaluation	Applicants' participation is not required	Available from 28/08/2024
Oral examination	Date: starting from 02/09/2024 – 9.00 a.m. CEST Place: Remotely, using Microsoft Teams.	Available from 03/09/2024

The results of the qualifications and research proposal evaluation shall 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) together with the oral examination detailed schedule. **No personal written communication will be sent to applicants concerning the examinations results.**

During the oral examination, applicants may express their interest in one or more positions linked to specific research topics.

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 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. The Curriculum Vitae must be written in English.
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, drawn up in English . The proposal must meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it must mention on the cover page the topic-specific PhD position (cfr. table “Available Positions and Scholarships”, and detailed in the section Research Fields) the applicant is interested to and the proposal is about, and the number of words used to write the research proposal; - it must include: the state of the art; Aims; Hypothesis; Methodology / structure of the study(s) (sample, independent and dependent variables, analysis plan; Theoretical and practical implications); Temporal plan of activities - max. 3,000 words, references excluded
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
Reference letter/s	No more than 2 reference letters 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) and written in English .
Personal statement	The statement shall include the reasons prompting the applicant to attend the PhD Programme and those relevant experiences and research interests , that make the applicant suitable for the specific PhD Programme (3,000 characters maximum, including spaces). The personal statement must be written in English.
Publications	Lists of publications (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals)

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

Qualifications evaluation	University degree final mark. Graduands shall be evaluated according to the Weighted Average Mark (WAM)	10 points max
	Reference letter/s	2 points max
	Personal statement	1 point max
	Publications	4 points max
Research proposal evaluation	Scientific value and ground-breaking nature of the proposal	13 points max
	Structure of the proposal	10 points max
	Proposal feasibility	10 points max

2. Oral examination

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

English language proficiency	10 points max
Research proposal presentation	35 points max
General knowledge of PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions	5 points max

Oral examination aims to assess the suitability of the applicant for scientific research as well as the general knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions.

The oral examination is carried out in English.

* Possible further evaluation criteria will be available on the [University website](#), selecting the relevant PhD Programme > "More information".

Research Fields

PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 630/2024: Time perception in patients with focal brain injury: The use of virtual reality as an innovative approach for rehabilitation (Supervisor: Prof. Caterina Bertini)

The project aims to investigate how focal brain lesions alter time perception and to assess the contribution of action in the ability to estimate a temporal duration, promoting a deeper understanding of cognitive mechanisms underlying time perception in humans. This project will employ a multidisciplinary approach, combining neuropsychological methods with advanced technologies (such as Virtual Reality) for developing innovative effective rehabilitative protocols for the recovery of deficits in the temporal domain.

The PhD program will take place at the Department of Psychology, taking advantage of the equipment made available at the Neuropsychology Laboratory and the Center for studies and research in Cognitive Neuroscience, and in collaboration with the hospital "Istituti Clinici Scientifici Maugeri" located in Castel Goffredo (MN). The PhD program involves a period of 6 months of study and research abroad and a period of 6 months at the company. The implementation of the project activities adheres to the principles of "Open Science" and is expected not to cause significant damage to the environmental objectives (so-called "Do No Significant Harm" (DNSH) principle, pursuant to Article 17 of the (EU) Regulation 2020/852.

PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 629/2024 - Public Administration: Research and validation of a model for the digital transition in the assessment and intervention of learning skills (Supervisor: Prof. Paola Bonifacci)

The project aims to evaluate the cross-modal validity (computerized and paper-pencil) and promote the digital transition of tests for the assessment of learning skills (reading, writing, comprehension) and cognitive processes. Further, the project aims to evaluate to what extent individual differences (cognitive variables) and contextual factors (socio-economic level, familiarity with the use of technologies) can influence the validity of testing in the two modalities. The objective is to develop and validate online testing tools that allow the early identification of risk indices and remote monitoring, with possible applications in healthcare and school contexts, encouraging the adoption of enabling technologies and solutions in the Public Administration (PA) context.

The doctorate will take place at the Department of Psychology, taking advantage of the equipment made available by the Lada Laboratory and in collaboration with Anastasis Società Cooperativa Sociale, making use of the collaboration network already active with Local Health Authorities and schools. The doctorate involves a period of 6 months of study and research abroad and a period of 6 months at the company. The implementation of the project activities adheres to the principles of "Open Science" and is expected not to cause significant damage to the environmental objectives (so-called "Do No Significant Harm" (DNSH) principle, pursuant to Article 17 of the (EU) Regulation 2020/852.

PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 629/2024 - Public Administration: Psychophysiological Foundations of Empathy and Well-being in Organizations (Supervisor: Prof. Alessio Avenanti)

This project aims to explore the psychophysiological underpinnings of empathy and its impact on well-being within organizational contexts. It will employ an interdisciplinary approach, combining advanced neurophysiological techniques (such as TMS and EEG), autonomic measurements (including cardiac and electrodermal activity), and psychological assessments to investigate empathy mechanisms and their effects on individual and collective well-being in social groups and organizations. By integrating these diverse methodologies, this research aims to advance the study of psychosocial dynamics, ultimately enhancing the quality of life within social and work organizations.

The doctorate will take place at the Department of Psychology, utilizing the equipment available at the Center for studies and research in Cognitive Neuroscience, and in collaboration with industry partners and organizations. The project includes a period of 6 months of study and research abroad and 6 months at a collaborating company. The implementation of the project activities adheres to the principles of "Open Science" and is designed to comply with the "Do No Significant Harm" (DNSH) principle, pursuant to Article 17 of the (EU) Regulation 2020/852.