# PHD PROGRAMME TABLE
## Call for applications for the admission to the PhD programmes (41ˢᵗ cycle) - A.Y. 2025/2026
## Second round

Section "Admission Exams" modified on 05/06/2025

| PROGRAMME'S NAME | LAW, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY |
|---|---|
| ASSOCIATED PARTNERS pursuant to art. 3, para 2, lett. a) of the M.D. n. 226/2021 | Università degli studi di Torino |
| DURATION | 3 years |
| PROGRAMME START DATE | 01/11/2025 (dd/mm/yyyy) |
| LANGUAGE | English |
| COORDINATOR | Prof. Antonino Rotolo (antonino.rotolo@unibo.it) |
| PhD POSITIONS | 9 |
| ADMISSION PROCEDURE | Qualifications and research proposal evaluation Oral examination |

## Available Positions and Scholarships

| Pos. n. | Financial Support | Description | Position linked to a specific research topic |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | *PhD Scholarship* | Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Legal Studies | |
| 2 | *PhD Scholarship* | Funded by MUR in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative | |
| 3 | *PhD Scholarship* | Funded by the Department of Legal Studies in partnership with Alma Mater Research Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (Alma Human AI) and "Ercole De Castro" Advanced Research Center on Electonic System - ARCES | Machine learning for legal analyses and assessments |
| 4 | *PhD Scholarship* | Funded by Università degli studi di Torino | |
| 5 | *PhD Scholarship* | Funded by Università degli studi di Torino | |
| 6 | *PhD Scholarship* | Funded by Università degli studi di Torino | |
| 7 | *PhD Scholarship* | Funded by Regione Emilia-Romagna in the framework of the research training projects for PhD programmes - 41st cycle "High skills for resilience and sustainability of land and communities - ESF+ PR 2021/2027 Priority 2. Education and Training Specific Objective e) - Action No. 1 - Digital Transition" - under the public notice approved by resolution of the Regional Council n. 344 of 10/03/2025 – funding approved by resolution of the Regional Council n. 732 of 19/05/2025 – CUP J33C25000520006 | Bargaining over the algorithm: artificial intelligence from the perspective of labour protection |

| 8 | *PhD Scholarship* | Funded by the Department of Legal Studies with funds made available by the project ERC Hyperdimensional Modelling of the Legal System in Digital Society (acronimo Hypermodelex), G.A. 101055185, Ref. Prof. Palmirani | Agentic AI and Parliament using neuro-symbolic approach |
| 9 | *\*to be defined* | Funded by the Department of Legal Studies with funds made available by the project HORIZON-MSCA-2023-DN-01; G.A. n. 101169409; Ref. Prof. Monica Palmirani; CUP J33C24001880006; Project name: Harnessing AI and Data-Intensive Technologies; Acronym: HARNESS. \* Following the completion of the Italian legislative reform and in accordance with the MSCA programme, a doctoral fellowship or equivalent contractual figure will be activated. | Law as Code: searchable and enforceable AI and data regulations |

The yearly gross percipient amount of PhD scholarships is €17,500.

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.

## Admission Exams

|  | DATE AND TIME | RESULTS |
|---|---|---|
| **Qualifications and research proposal evaluation** | Applicants' participation is not required | Available from **21/07/2025** |
| **Oral examination** | **Date**: starting from ~~27/07/2025~~ 28/07/2025 – 9.00 a.m. CEST<br>**Place**: In presence, Sala Kelsen, CIRSFID, Via Galliera 3, Bologna. Remotely, using Microsoft Teams | Available from **04/08/2025** |

The results of the qualifications and research proposal evaluation shall be available on the webpage Studenti Online (select "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**.  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** | CV must be written in English |
| **Qualifications** | 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) |
| **Multi-annual research proposal** | A multi-annual research proposal, **in English only**, with special emphasis on the activities to be completed during the first-year course. The research proposal shall meet the following requirements:<br>- it shall indicate **on the cover page the research topic** covered by the research proposal and for which the applicant is applying; |

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| | - it **cannot exceed 4.000 words**, including spaces and formula possibly used. This figure does not include: the title of the proposal, the outline, references and images (such as graphs, diagrams, tables etc. - where present);<br>- **it must include**: the state of the art; description of the proposal; expected results; lead-time for implementation; references.<br>The research proposal that successful applicants shall carry out during their doctoral career may possibly differ from the proposal presented at the application stage. This shall be defined together with the supervisor and approved by the Academic Board. |
| **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS** | |
| **Thesis abstract** | Abstract of the **second cycle degree thesis**. Graduands may submit an abstract of the thesis to be defended. Abstracts cannot exceed 5.000 characters, including spaces and formulas, if present. The above figure does not include: title, outline, images such as graphs, diagrams, tables etc. if present – **In English only**. |
| **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 (2000 characters maximum, including spaces) – **In English only.** |
| **Reference letter/s** | **No more than 2 reference letters** signed by Italian and/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 for the scientific research. For more information about the specific uploading procedure, see the Call for Applications (Art. 3.2) – **In English only** (the applicants must inform the academics/professionals about the required language) |
| **Publications** | List of publications (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals, volume chapters) and minor publications (conference papers, etc.) – **In English only** |
| **Other documents** | - Language proficiency certificates (i.e. TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge Assessment, ESOL or other certificates attesting at least B1 level)<br>- Periods of study abroad, outside the country of origin (e.g. Erasmus programme or other similar mobility programmes) – **In English only**<br>- Other qualifications attesting the suitability of the applicants (scholarships, prizes, etc.) – **In English only** |

## 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

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| **Qualifications evaluation** | Graduation final mark. Graduands shall be evaluated on the basis of the Weighted Average Mark (WAM) | **7 points max**, awarded as follows:<br>- 7 points corresponding to 110 with honors<br>- 5 points from 110 to 105<br>- 3 points from 104 to 100<br>- 0 points if the final mark is less than 100<br><br>For graduands, Weighted Average Mark (WAM) evaluation:<br>- 30 = 7 points<br>- 29 = 5 points<br>- 28 = 3 points<br>- less than 28 = 0 points |
| | Publications | 5 points max |
| | Reference letter/s | 5 points max |

| Research proposal evaluation | Personal statement | 5 points max |
|---|---|---|
| | Other qualifications | 2 points max |
| | Scientific value and ground-breaking nature of the proposal | 11 points max |
| | Structure of the proposal | 5 points max |
| | Proposal feasibility | 10 points max |

2. **Oral examination -** minimum score for eligibility: 30 points, maximum score: 50 points

| English proficiency | 5 points max |
|---|---|
| Research proposal presentation | 20 points max |
| General knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions | 25 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".