



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

AREA
FORMAZIONE E DOTTORATO

PHD PROGRAMME TABLE

Call for applications for the admission to the PhD programmes (42nd cycle) - A.Y. 2026/2027 First round

PROGRAMME'S NAME	MODERN LANGUAGES LITERATURES CULTURES: Diversity and Inclusion
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2026 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	Curriculum 1: Italian, French, English Curriculum 2: Italian, English 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>
COORDINATOR	Prof. Serena Baiesi (serena.baiesi@unibo.it)
CURRICULA	1. DESE – Les Littératures de l'Europe Unie / European Literatures / Letterature dell'Europa unita 2. EDGES – Women and Gender Studies 3. WORLT LITerature and Postcolonial Studies 4. LINGMOD - Modern Languages Studies
PhD POSITIONS	4
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications and research proposal evaluation Oral examination

Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Curriculum
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	LINGMOD
4	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	WORLDLIT

The yearly gross amount of the scholarships awarded for the PhD Programme in “Modern Languages Literatures Cultures: Diversity and Inclusion s” is €16,982.64.

All winners of PhD positions must fulfil the study and research obligations decided by the Academic Board, as well as the obligations set out in the relevant regulations, in the call for applications, in the funding schemes and in any agreements relating to specific positions.

Admission Exams

	DATE AND TIME	RESULTS
Qualifications and research proposal evaluation	Applicants' participation is not required	Available from 20/04/2026
Oral examination	Date: starting from 27/04/2026 – 9.30 a.m. CEST Place: In presence, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, Via Cartoleria n. 5, Bologna. Remotely, using Microsoft Teams. Please note that those who need to take the oral exam remotely must indicate this at the bottom of their letter of motivation.	Available from 12/05/2026

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

Required and Supporting Documents to be attached to the application

Only documents **in Italian or English** will be considered valid and will be assessed by the Admission Board. Identity documents and diplomas/degree certificates issued in a language other than Italian or English must be accompanied by an official translation. The translation must be carried out by an authorized body or by the awarding university. Only qualifications obtained in the last 5 years will be taken into account, with the exception of university degrees. 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. The proposal must meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It must include on the cover page the chosen Curriculum and the languages to be assessed during the oral examination** (<u>failing to choose a Curriculum in the application form or on the cover page of the research proposal will result in the exclusion from the selection procedure</u>). The main research topics as well as the language requirements specific to each Curriculum can be found in the ‘Overview’ tab on the page of the University website dedicated to the PhD programme: all candidates are invited to carefully read the abovementioned page in order to submit a research project in line with these topics; - it cannot exceed 20,000 characters, 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); - it must include: the state of the art; description and articulation of the proposal. In accordance with the University's policy on the ethical and responsible use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in teaching and research activities , candidates must explicitly state whether they have used Generative Artificial Intelligence systems in the production of the research proposal attached to their application form, specifying which tools were used and for which parts of the document. During the oral examination, the Admission Board will assess the candidate's full mastery of the content included in the document and their ability to justify the methodological and scientific choices made in the project.
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)

Personal Statement	The statement should include the reasons why the applicant wishes to join the PhD programme and the relevant experience and research interests that make the applicant suitable for the specific PhD programme (3,000 characters max, including spaces).
Publications	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.
Other documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Postgraduate vocational training programmes relevant to the PhD Programme main research topics - Teaching activities carried out at university level - 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 - Work activity - Curricular or non-curricular professional internships - Documents attesting the applicant's foreign languages proficiency - Periods of study abroad, completed by applicants outside their countries of origin (e.g. Erasmus programme or other similar mobility programmes) - Other qualifications attesting the suitability of the applicants (scholarships, prizes, etc.)

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	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
Research proposal evaluation	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 (language/s to be chosen among the ones included in the relevant Curriculum**)	10 points max
Research proposal presentation	10 points max
Theoretic and methodological knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions, 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 the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions.

During the oral examination the Admission Board shall assess the applicants' language proficiency in the chosen languages – that the candidate must mention on the research proposal's cover page. 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".

** **More information on the specific topics and on the language requirements linked to each Curriculum is to be found in the tab "Overview" on the [PhD programme's Unibo webpage](#).**