

Faculty of Education

PhD-programme in General Pedagogy, Social Pedagogy, and General Didactics and Disciplinary Didactics

Website:

<https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/phd-in-general-pedagogy-social-pedagogy-didactics/>

Duration: 3 years

Academic year: 2022/2023

Start date: 01.11.2022

Official programme languages: Italian, German, English

Places and grants: Study places covered by grants: 6

Study place without grants: 1

Total study places: 7

di cui ai sensi del:

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| DM 351/2021 a valere su PNRR | 2 borse | con obbligo di minimo 6 mesi all'estero |
| Tema di ricerca delle due borse: | | 1. Teaching and Learning Heritage 2. Enhancement of educational services at the university |

PROGRAMME CONTENTS

Over the three years, PhD students are expected to actively attend the theoretical and methodological course of studies and dedicate themselves full-time to the programme, which aims to develop both the broad research areas in pedagogical sciences and specific disciplinary subjects.

PhD students will work on a piece of original research as an individual research project. The research project is defined by the student with the supervisors and is developed under their guidance according to the guidelines established by the PhD Course Teaching Committee.

PhD students shall draw up and keep update the **Research and Study Plan** in collaboration with the supervisors and the PhD Coordinator. The Research and individual Study Plan documents in detail the training provided for each student, showing clearly the type and the outcome of any intermediary assessment.

The Research and Study Plan contains a description of the work undertaken by the PhD student. Specifically, it does the following:

- describes the research field of the student and the relevance of the chosen topic within the PhD research areas;
- includes a literature review of scientific work related to the research area up to where current research has arrived (contents should reflect the positions of the scientific community and updated references);
- determines and gives reasons for the theoretical and methodical research procedures undertaken;

- defines the research findings and their relevance for the broad scientific community and for the specific regional territory;
- justifies the choice of research methodology, the originality of the research design and the critical analysis carried out;
- outlines a plan for publications, presentations, papers, participation in national and international conferences and stays abroad.

Research questions and research methodologies are defined in accordance with the supervisors and in cooperation with the Coordinator and the Course Teaching Committee.

Over the three-year period, several **teaching activities** are offered: lectures, practical sessions and seminars that aim to develop and illustrate the programme's subjects and research areas and to focus on the most recent findings in the Education and Didactics research sector.

Teaching activities mainly concern the philosophy of science, the epistemology of related disciplines, research methodology, actual questions and methods drawn from the international context.

The cycles of compulsory and optional classes, workshops and seminars (study plan) are decided by the PhD Course Committee at the beginning of the cycle.

PhD students regularly present and discuss their research progress in front of the members of the Course Committee. Periodical **reflection and presentation seminars** are organized in order to monitor and develop the skills of the students.

PhD students are also expected to participate in **scientific conferences** and present papers, in Italy and abroad, and to submit a **peer-reviewed contribution** in a journal or edited volume.

Over the three years, students are required to spend a **research period abroad, of at least 3 months**, in order to deepen the field of their project. This period can be divided into different stays (minimum 3 consecutive weeks).

STUDY PLAN

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| Methodological courses and seminars 1st study year - <i>module</i> | 32 CP |
| <i>Introduction to the philosophy of science</i> | |
| <i>Epistemology of Education</i> | |
| <i>Ethnography</i> | |
| <i>Statistics for Education and Social Science and SPSS Lab. I</i> | |
| <i>Research methodologies: qualitative and quantitative methods</i> | |
| <i>Multivariate data analysis: quantitative and qualitative data and SPSS Lab. II</i> | |
| <i>Coaching I</i> | |
| <i>Academic writing in English</i> | |
| <i>Information literacy</i> | |
| Draft of the own research paper (state of art, research question, methodology) | 7 CP |
| First performance review (1st study year) | 6 CP |
| Cycle of seminars 1.st study year | 3 CP |
| Participation in a language course (recommended in the language with the lowest level) or language certificate attesting proficiency in the third language according to the table of the unibz recognized language certificates | 2 CP |
| Second performance review (for admission to the following study year): Presentation and discussion in front of the Teaching Committee and written report of the research activities (1st study year) | 10 CP |

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| Methodological courses and seminars 2nd study year: <i>Coaching II</i> | 1 CP |
| First performance review (2nd study year) | 10 CP |
| Research stay abroad -university or research centre | 25 CP |
| International conference research paper | 5 CP |
| Participation in a language course (recommended in the language with the lowest level) or language certificate attesting proficiency in the third language according to the table of the unibz recognized language certificates | 2 CP |
| Optional activity (Academic English course for PhD students of the Language Centre unibz, Summer School, documented participation in a course meaningfully related to research of at least 20 hours, documented research stay of at least 3 weeks in Italian research institutions) | 2 CP |
| Second performance review (for admission to the following study year): Presentation and discussion in front of the Teaching Committee and written report of the research activities (2nd study year) | 15 CP |
| Methodological courses and seminars 3rd study year: <i>Coaching III</i> | 1 CP |
| First performance review (3rd study year) | 6 CP |
| Contribution for a peer-reviewed journal or volume | 8 CP |
| "Final examination: Doctoral dissertation (monograph) and public defense of the dissertation" | 45 CP |

RESEARCH AREAS

The PhD programme is divided into three distinct branches of study and research: General Pedagogy, General Didactics and Disciplinary Didactics, as well as Social Pedagogy.

The three programmes share core training on the epistemology of research and on qualitative and quantitative research methodologies.

"Educational development projects and processes" main research areas include:

- development and learning in childhood (history of educational institutions, pedagogical-didactic methodologies, methods and theories; early education in the context of lifelong learning; personal, emotional and social skills development, soft and life skills);
- quality and effectiveness of school services and pedagogical-didactic innovations;
- individual and linguistic-cultural diversity and inclusion (personal characteristics, gender training, deficit/talents);
- lifelong learning (lifelong, lifewide, lifedeep learning; inter-generational relationships).

"Training areas, disciplines and their didactics in nursery and primary school" main research areas include:

- language, media, "language L1" and "L2, L3 Language" in multilingual contexts;
- the world's knowledge, mathematics, science, technology, environment;
- aesthetics, art and culture; music, dance and vocals; movement and physical education;
- The self and the other. Society and democracy; history and geography.

“Social Pedagogy” main research areas include:

- participatory research and methods for the development of democratic processes in social and socio-educational services;
- development of social organizations, care and educational quality;
- community development
- migration and interculturality;
- independent living and social relations in advanced age.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

Requirements:

All Master and all degrees from the old Italian system with **final mark/grade of minimum 100/110** Italian system. (*laurea specialistica/laurea magistrale, see also article 2 of the public competition announcement*).

Prerequisites for admission to the PhD-programme are related to having acquired an appropriate educational, and/or cultural, and/or professional background in the field of General Pedagogy, of Social Pedagogy and Social Sciences, or of General Didactics and Disciplinary Didactics.

Language requirements: All candidates have to be proficient in at least two of the three languages of the programme: Italian, German, English.

Language certification **at B2 level (CEFR) in two of the three languages of the PhD programme (Italian, German, English)** is a prerequisite for participating in the selection process according to the table of the unibz recognized language certificates: <https://www.unibz.it/assets/Documents/Languages/unibz-recognised-language-certificates-2019-2020.pdf>

Knowledge of the language may also be demonstrated by qualifications (secondary school/bachelor/master) related to a programme held entirely in the language to certificate. In this case, Italian and EU candidates must declare this on the pre-enrolment portal, both in the section related to the general application and in the one related to the language certificates. Also non-EU citizens must upload a copy of their diploma and any additional documentation indicating the language of instruction related to the foreign qualification in both sections. Candidates demonstrate their language proficiency in the application portal (in the section “upload language certificates”) after they have created an application in the section “create/manage applications”.

Applicants, who are not able to certify the language level with a certificate referred to in the previous paragraph, can take the language exams offered by the Language Centre at unibz, (in order to meet the minimum language requirements for admission to the degree course you are interested in), information at the link: <https://www.unibz.it/en/services/language-centre/study-in-three-languages/>

Candidates without the certification of language proficiency are excluded from the admission procedure.

Admission procedure and evaluation criteria for examinations:

Admission is based on the successful outcome of the selection procedure. The selection procedure consists of the assessment of a research project, which applicants upload to the application portal, and a personal interview.

Those candidates whose project receives a minimum score of 40/60 points will be admitted to the oral examination.

The research project to be submitted/uploaded to the portal contains the following information at the top of the first page:

- a) the main research area, classified among the 3 research branches mentioned above,
- b) the title, which is coherent with one of the above-mentioned research topics (see page 3).

The research project can be completed in Italian, German or English, according to the free choice of the applicant.

Evaluation criteria for the research project:

- Formal register and terminological accuracy;
- Task completed according to the title indicated, which is coherent with the research topics of the doctoral programme;
- Clear and logical argumentative structure;
- Demonstrated knowledge of scientific debates in the field;
- Originality of the proposed research project;
- Clear methodological approach for the proposed research project.

The evaluation criteria of the oral test take into consideration the following criteria:

- The quality of discussion on the subject of the research project submitted, on issues of general culture, and on personal research interests;
- The ability to present an argument for one's own research project with reference to the theoretical and methodological assumptions of the research field;

To be successful in the interview, candidates must receive a minimum mark of 40/60.

At the end of the exam period, the Admission Board will draw up a rank list of candidates (*see article 6 of the public competition announcement, general Call*).

Composition of the Admission Board:

Prof. Giulia Cavrini *chair*, Prof. Demis Basso, Prof. Annemarie Augschöll;

Substitute members: Prof. Beate Weyland, Prof. Monica Parricchi, Prof. Elisabeth Tauber.

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| Oral exam (meeting via MS Teams) | |
| Date and time: | 13 - 14 July 2022 , from 9.00 a.m. |

APPLICATION:

The following documents are required **for the application** to the doctoral programme (*see article 3 of the public competition announcement*):

- **Degree certificate/exam transcript** with an indication of the **final mark/grade obtained (minimum 100/110)**:
in case of Italian university qualifications, the certification MUST be substituted by a **self-declaration** or by the Diploma Supplement.
- **Language certification** at **B2 level** (CEFR) attesting proficiency in two of the official languages of the programme – **Italian, German, English** – according to the table of the unibz recognized language certificates: <https://www.unibz.it/assets/Documents/Languages/unibz-recognised-language-certificates-2019-2020.pdf>
(in the case of Italian public institutions, the certificates **MUST** be replaced by a self-declaration).
- **Curriculum vitae** containing:
 - a) a list of research experience;
 - b) if available, a list of publications with the respective online links.

- **Research project** (pdf format) written in Italian or German or English (max. 5 pages) to be uploaded to the portal and containing the following information at the top of the first page:
 - a) the main research area, classified among the 3 research branches mentioned above,
 - b) the title, which is coherent with one of the above-mentioned research topics (see page 3).

Only one research project can be submitted per application.