



Freie Universität Bozen
Libera Università di Bolzano
Università Lìedia de Bulsan

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: 2017/2018

Start date: 01.11.2017

Official programme languages: Italian, German, English

Programme contents

Over the three years, PhD students will actively attend the theoretical and methodological study programme. The PhD-students will have to dedicate themselves full time to the programme, which aims to develop the scientific subjects and the main research areas of the programme.

PhD students will work on a piece of original research as an individual research project. The research project is defined together with the supervisors and it will be developed under their guidance as well as under instructions of the PhD Course Teaching Committee.

Apart from the main supervisor, every PhD-student can be assigned two more supervisors (Thesis committee), one of whom may belong to another European academic institution.

The **Research and Study Plan** is planned by the student in collaboration with the main supervisor and the Coordinator. The Research and individual Study Plan (logbook) documents in detail the training provided for each student, showing clearly the type and the outcome of any intermediary assessment.

Periodically, the student, along with her/his main supervisor updates her/his Research and Study Plan, considering the progress made and developments in the research area (research report every 6 months and logbook every 3 months).

The Research and Study Plan contains a description of the work undertaken by the PhD student and 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 the scientific work related to the research area and where current research has arrived (contents should reflect the positions of the scientific community and updated references);
- determines and gives reasons of the theoretical and methodical research procedures;
- defines the group of supervisors (first supervisor up to a maximum of 2 other supervisors);
- defines the research findings and their relevance for the scientific community and for the territory;
- justifies the choice of research methodology, the originality of the research design and the critical analysis carried out;
- describes the individual scientific development plan;

- indicates a plan for publications, presentations, papers, participation in national and international conferences and stays abroad.

Over the three-year period there are several teaching activities offered.

The teaching includes a cycle of introductory lectures, practical sessions and seminars that aim to develop and illustrate the program's subjects and research areas and to focus on the most recent findings in the general pedagogy, social pedagogy and didactics research sector.

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

Other activities, apart from those listed in the study programme, are optional courses and internships done at other universities and/or public or private Research Centres (which have the prerequisites of having a high cultural, scientific and personnel standing as well as acceptable facilities), participation at conferences and research at libraries and archives. PhD students can attend, by arrangement with the supervisor, lectures, practical sessions, seminars and internships at other universities.

PhD students are also requested to participate in educational and/or information events in Italy and abroad.

Over the three years, students are required to spend at least 3 months of **research period abroad** to deepen the field of the project. This period can be divided into three stays.

The supervision of the research project, the main focus of the PhD programme, is organised through monthly or bimonthly meetings with the main supervisor. The student is required to submit a paper on the work undertaken.

The meetings with the second supervisor should be held at least twice a year.

Periodical reflection and presentation seminars will also be organized in order to monitor and develop the skills of the students (Coaching). Students will illustrate and discuss publicly the progress on their research. This practice will facilitate the preparation of presentations at meetings and conferences.

Research areas

The PhD programme is divided into three distinct branches of studies 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 are e.g.:

- 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, lifedeeep learning; intergenerational relationships).

“Training areas, disciplines and their didactics in the nursery and primary school” main research areas are e.g.:

- 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. Spirituality, society and democracy; History and geography.

“Social Pedagogy” main research areas are e.g.:

- participatory research and methods for the development of democratic processes in social and socio-educational services;
- development of social organizations, care and educational quality;

- migration and interculturality;
- independent living and social relations in advanced age.

Research questions and research methodologies are defined in accordance with the supervisors and in cooperation with the Coordinator and the Course Teaching Committee within the first half year of the study programme.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Requirements

All Master (laurea specialistica/magistrale) and all degrees from the old Italian system with final mark/grade of **minimum 108/110, Italian mark**.

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

Language requirements: The PhD-programme is trilingual: Italian, German, English.

All the candidates have to be proficient in at least two of the three languages of the programme: Italian, German, English. The students will improve their language skills by attending the courses of the Language Centre of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano (or in other language centres).

Language certificate of CEFR level B2 for 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-2016-2017.pdf>

Candidates without the certificates of the required language skills for the admission are excluded.

The language certificates have to be recognized by the Language Centre of the Free University of Bozen Bolzano: <https://www.unibz.it/en/services/language-centre/study-in-three-languages/>

Language certificate of CEFR level C1 for the second or third language is required within the end of the third study year.

Admission procedure and evaluation criteria for examinations

Admission is based on the successful participation to the selection procedure consisting of a written exam and an interview. Qualifications, research experience and language certificates as well as language proficiency are evaluated in order to admit applicants to the selection procedure.

The admission procedure consists of a written and oral exam.

The selection procedure will ascertain the candidate's ability to work independently on a high scientific level.

In the trilingual interview there will be a discussion of the written exam. Applicants are invited to the interview if they successfully pass the written exam with a mark of not less than 40/60.

The written exam can be completed in Italian, German or English, as the applicant chooses.

The interview is deemed successful if the applicant receives a mark of at least 40/60 and will be conducted in the three languages of the programme.

When the entrance exams are over, the Evaluation Committee will draw up a ranking list.

In case of tie in the ranking the decision is taken by drawing.

Examination dates:

**all candidates will have to personally attend the written and oral exams
in Brixen-Bressanone (Italy)**

Description	Date and time	Place
written exam	12 July 2017, 8.30 a.m	Faculty of Education Viale Ratisbona 16, 39042 Brixen Bressanone Room 1.50
oral exam	13 July 2017, 8.30 a.m	Faculty of Education Viale Ratisbona 16, 39042 Brixen Bressanone Room 1.25

Following steps are required for admission to the public competition:

- 1) Registration in the enrolment portal on <https://aws.unibz.it/exup/en>
- 2) Online pre-enrolment through this portal, loading a valid **ID** (passport or identity card) and the following documentation in digital format:
 - **Colour photo** (jpg recommended, passport size, 5:4, min. 290x230, max. 100 KB)
 - **Payment confirmation of the registration fee**
 - **Degree certificate/exam transcript** (in case of Italian university titles the certification MUST be substituted by a self-declaration or by the Diploma Supplement) **with final mark/grade obtained**
 - **Curriculum vitae** containing:
 - a) list of research experience;
 - b) list of publications with the respective links, if available;
 - **Language certificates** of CEFR level B2 (in case of Italian public institutions, the certificates MUST be replaced by a self-declaration) attesting proficiency in the official languages of the programme Italian, German, English;
Upload your language certificates in the section "language requirements" of the portal. The language certificates have to be recognized by the Language Centre of the Free University of Bozen Bolzano: <https://www.unibz.it/en/services/language-centre/study-in-three-languages/>
 - **Reference letters**, if available.

INTAKE AND GRANTS:

Total intake: 16 places
Intake with grants from the University: 13 places
Intake with no grant: 3 places