



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

**Call for applications for PhD positions in the PhD Programme in
“Comparative Literatures and Language Studies” – 21st cycle**

THE RECTOR

Given Law no. 210 of 3.07.1998 and in particular, art. 4, which assigns the organization of PhD Programmes to universities in accordance with the general criteria stipulated by ministerial regulations;

Given the Ministerial Decree no. 224 of 30.04.1999, regarding the general criteria to be followed by individual universities in the organization of PhD Programmes;

Given the Decree by the Prime Minister of 9.04.2001, and subsequent amendments to the general criteria for equal opportunities regarding the right to higher education;

Given the Charter of the University of Trento and in particular art. 8, paragraph 3;

Given the University Regulations for Research Doctorate Programmes, issued with the Rector's Decree no. 997 of 16.12.2003;

Given the proposals made by the Department of Philological and Historical Sciences;

Given the report by the Scientific Committee in the session dated 10.06.2004 on the scientific relevance of the proposal to set up PhD Programmes;

Given the report of the internal Evaluation Committee dated 19.05.2004 on the requirements for the PhD Programmes proposed;

Given the resolution made jointly by the Academic Senate and the Scientific Research Committee on the 7.04.2005

decrees

ART. 1 - INSTITUTION

The University of Trento announces the 21st cycle of the PhD Programme in “Comparative Literatures and Language Studies”.

Length: three years

Specialized curricula:

- Literary Theories and Comparative Literatures
- Language Studies applied to Contemporary Cultures

Research Areas:

- Literary Criticism and Comparative Literatures
- English Literature
- Anglo-American Languages and Literatures
- Language and Translation in English
- French Literature
- Language and Translation in French
- Spanish Literature
- Language and Translation in Spanish
- Slavic languages and literatures
- Romance Philology and Linguistics
- Italian Literature
- Contemporary Italian Literature
- German Philology
- German Literature
- Dutch Language and Literature
- Language and Translation in German

PhD Programme Director: Prof. Carla Locatelli - Phone 0039 0461 881702
E-mail: carla.locatelli@unitn.it

Official language: Italian. However, some courses may be taught in languages other than Italian.

A selection for 6 PhD positions is announced, 3 of them will be supported by grants provided by the University of Trento.

The number of grant-assisted places may be increased by funds from other universities, public research organizations or qualified private organizations if they are made available after the publication of this announcement, and before the beginning of the selection. Any increase in the number of available places resulting from an increase of grants will be posted on the website:

http://www.unitn.it/ricerca/dottorati_form_av/ciclo_21/bandi.htm

ART. 2 –ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applications for the PhD positions above are invited from candidates, regardless of sex, age and citizenship, who have an Italian “*laurea specialistica*”, determined in compliance with Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 3.11.1999 as amended; a university degree granted under the Italian regulations previously in force, or equivalent degree qualification obtained abroad.

Applicants who have a foreign qualification that has not yet been officially recognized as equivalent to the Italian degree should submit a request for equivalence to be recognized in their application for the competition. In this case, candidates are required to include in their application both their degree certificate or degree self-certification (according to Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28.12.2000 concerning EU citizens) and a translation in English of the degree certificate with exams and scores obtained, signed under their own responsibility, to allow the Teaching Committee to declare its equivalence, valid for the only purpose of participating in the selection.

Successful applicants from non European countries holding a foreign qualification, must present their degree certificate with the examinations passed and the scores obtained, translated and authenticated by an Italian consulate, embassy or diplomatic representative in the country of the university that issued the degree and the respective declaration of equivalent value (“*Dichiarazione di valore*”) not later than the date set for enrolment in the PhD Programme.

Applications are also invited from students who expect to complete their degree by the date of the assessment of qualifications. In such cases admission will be "conditional" and the applicant must be able to present the relevant degree certificate, or a declaration that the degree has been conferred (applicable only to citizens of the European Union in compliance with Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28.12.2000) by the same date.

Art. 3 – THE PhD PROGRAM

The research deals with theoretical models, analytical perspectives and links of literary studies with other fields, with a view to comprehensive comparative studies.

The training programme of the **first year** is common to the two specializations. It is based on a series of seminars which will deal with the following topics:

Discourse analysis, Text analysis, Literary hermeneutics, Philology of literary texts, Lexicography, Poetics, Rhetoric, Semiotics, Sociolinguistics, Sociology of literature, History of literary criticism, Intercultural studies, History of comparative literatures, Theories of literary genres, Theories of literary criticism, Literary reception theories, Theories of literary translation, Theories of comparative literatures, Post-colonial and genre theories.

During the first year the doctoral students are required to learn a foreign language other than the one presented at the admission examination.

At the end of the first year of the course doctoral students who have successfully completed all the seminars will be admitted to the final examination, held before the Teaching Committee, which sets out to evaluate the doctoral student's effective scientific growth, that his/her chosen area of specialization is coherent with curriculum and aptitude, and to what extent he/she has mastered his/her second foreign language.

An overall, positive evaluation gives admission to the second year of the course.

Second year

For the specialisation in **Literary Theories and Comparative Literatures** seminars will be organized in the following subjects:

Forms of narration, Literature and philosophy, Literature and religion, Literature, music and the visual arts, Comparative medieval literatures, Modernism and post-modernism, Post-colonial studies, Drama theories and forms , Inter-semiotic translation, Traditions of lyric poetry.

While, for the specialization in **Language Studies Applied to Contemporary Cultures** the following seminars will be organized in the following subjects:

From bilingualism to multilingualism, Languages of the Media, Languages of Theatre, Languages for Specific Purposes, Minority, border and hybrid languages, Translation of languages for specific purposes, Inter-semiotic translation.

After having met the requirement for course attendance, the second year PhD students are strongly advised to spend a period of time carrying out research at a foreign institute.

At the end of the second year doctoral students who have successfully completed all the seminars required by the chosen specialization will be admitted to the final examination to be held before the Teaching Committee. The Committee will evaluate the effective scientific progress of the doctoral student and his/her ability to complete a research project which will be presented and discussed. A positive overall evaluation allows admission to the third year of the course.

Third year

Doctoral students from both specializations will prepare their dissertation in close cooperation with the dissertation supervisor they have chosen.

Art. 4 – APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SELECTION

Applications may only be made using the application form attached to this announcement.

The application, including all the annexes required, must arrive at the University of Trento **by the 23rd of September 2005**, by one of the following means:

- by hand delivered to the University of Trento - Ufficio Dottorati di Ricerca, Via Inama 5 – 38100 Trento, from 10:00 am to 12:00 a.m., Monday to Friday;
- by mail to the following address: Magnifico Rettore dell'Università degli Studi di Trento, via Belenzani 12 – 38100 Trento (ITALY) (please write on the envelope “Selection for PhD Programme in Comparative Literatures and Language Studies”);
- by fax to the following number: 0039 0461 882191.

The University of Trento shall not be held responsible for misaddressed applications, changes in the candidate's address, postal or telegraphic errors not caused by the administration.

Applications arriving after the 23rd of September 2005 will not be considered, even if sent before this date.

According to Italian Law no. 104/92, art. 20, and to Italian Law no. 68/99, art. 16, para. 1, disabled applicants are expected to indicate explicitly in their application whether they require special assistance or extra time during the examinations. Under Legislative Decree 196/03, all information will be kept confidential.

Applications should include:

- photocopy of the applicant's identity card or passport;
- degree certificate or degree self-certification (according to Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28.12.2000 concerning EU citizens), with a list of the examinations passed successfully and scores obtained in each examination (except for candidates who have not yet obtained their degree certificate at the time of presentation of the application as outlined in Art. 2 of this announcement). Applicants holding a foreign qualification that has not been officially recognized as equivalent to the Italian degree, are required to attach a translation in English of the degree certificate with exams and scores obtained, signed under their own responsibility, in order to allow the Teaching Committee to declare its equivalence, valid for the only purpose of participating in the selection;
- curriculum studiorum;
- any certificates proving the knowledge of English and other languages;
- any other qualification believed useful in the assessment of the applicant (dissertations, scientific publications, study and post-graduate activities of research, prizes, grants, etc.).

If, pursuant to submission of their application, applicants have to add further information, it must reach the University offices **by the 23rd of September 2005**. The applicant's name, the PhD Programme he or she is applying for and the subject ("*Integrazione domanda*") must be clearly written on the envelope.

The University of Trento reserves the right to verify (including spot checking), declarations and documents submitted by candidates, according to art. 71 and subsequent articles of the Presidential Decree no. 445 dated 28.12.2000.

At any time, candidates failing to meet the requisites specified, may be omitted from the selection process for the PhD Programme.

Art. 5 – SELECTION

Admission to the School is decided after comparative selection assessing the candidates' aptitude for scientific research and their general knowledge of the literary and linguistic theories as well as of the latest comparative studies in the areas of interest of the PhD Programme.

The selection consists in:

- assessment of qualifications according to art. 4;
- written exam;
- oral exam.

The selection will be held only in Italian.

Candidates must prove that they have good knowledge of at least one of the following languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Swedish, Dutch.

Applicants must show a valid identification document in order to be admitted to the examination.

The Admissions Committee can assign each candidate a total score of 120 divided as follows:

- 10 points for qualifications;
- 50 points for the written examination;
- 60 points for the oral examination.

Only applicants obtaining a minimum score of 42/60 points in the assessment of qualifications together with the written examination will be admitted to the oral exam.

The oral exam is successfully passed with a minimum score of 36/60 points.

At least 20 days before the date of the examination, time and location of it will be displayed on the website:

http://www.unitn.it/ricerca/dottorati_form_av/ciclo_21/calendario_prove.htm

as laid down in Art. 19 of the University Regulations for PhD Research Programmes.

Art. 6 – PROGRAMME OF THE EXAMINATION

The written and oral examinations will cover the following subjects:

- Italian and Foreign Literatures
- Critical Methodology
- Literary Theory
- Translation Studies
- Pragmatics
- Sociolinguistics.

During the oral examination the knowledge of at least one foreign language among English, French, Spanish, German, Russian, Swedish, Dutch will be tested (to participate in the selection, the linguistic knowledge that will be verified has to be clearly pointed out in the application form.

Art. 7 – ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Rector, after hearing the Teaching Committee, appoints the Admissions Committee. It will consist of 3 members chosen from among Italian and foreign tenured professors and researchers, who are experts in the research areas of the PhD Programme. The Committee may also include no more than two Italian or foreign experts from public and private national and international research institutes.

When the entrance examinations are over, the Committee will draw up a general merit-based ranking according to the grades obtained by the applicants in each examination.

The final ranking of candidates will be posted on the website:

http://www.unitn.it/ricerca/dottorati_form_av/ciclo_21/graduatorie/index.htm

With this posting, notification concerning the proceedings is considered to be fulfilled.

The successful applicants will not receive personal communication of the results.

Art. 8 - ADMISSION TO THE PHD PROGRAMME

Short-listed applicants will be admitted to the PhD Programme according to their order on the list until all available places have been filled.

If candidates are equally worthy of admission, the student's economic situation will be evaluated for places that include a grant, in accordance with the Prime Minister's Decree (D.P.C.M.) of 9.04.2001 as amended; for places not subject to a grant, the younger student shall be given priority.

If a successful applicant withdraws before the beginning of the Programme, the next applicant on the list will be offered the place.

If a successful applicant withdraws or is excluded in the first three-month term of the first year of the Programme, the Teaching Committee may decide to fill the vacant place with another candidate according to his/her order on the merit-based ranking.

According to art. 18, para. 3, of the University Regulations for PhD Research Programmes and according to previous Teaching Committee resolutions, the Admissions Committee may admit up to 50% of the total assigned places candidates who are eligible in the general ranking, if they belong to the following categories:

- applicants from non-EU countries who have been awarded any kind of grant;
- applicants from a country with a specific intergovernmental agreement with Italy, on the basis of a bilateral agreement between the University of Trento and the foreign university (with no obligatory financial burden for the University of Trento);
- short-listed applicants who have been awarded grants under Law 449/97, art. 51 ("*Assegni di ricerca*").

Art. 9 – HOW TO ENROL

Successful applicants should forward their application for enrolment on paper with attached tax stamps to the following address:

“University of Trento - Direzione Servizi e Comunicazione – Ufficio Dottorati di Ricerca, Via Inama 5 – 38100 Trento (ITALY)”

within 15 days following the date of the publication of the final list.

In particular cases provided for under Italian law, the receipt of payment of the provincial tax for the right to university study ("*Tassa provinciale per il diritto allo studio universitario*"- TDS) must be attached to applications.

In their applications (application forms are available at the University of Trento - *Ufficio Dottorati* and on the website: http://www.unitn.it/ricerca/dottorati_form_av/ciclo_21/download/modulo_iscrizione_eng.doc) candidates should declare:

- ask / not ask to be awarded a grant (including successful applicants who are not eligible for a grant in case an applicant eligible for a grant gives up his/her place);
- declare that they already receive / do not receive a grant by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs or by other Italian or foreign institution;
- declare that they have / have not already been awarded (even for a single year only) a grant for an Italian PhD Programme;
- declare that they are not already enrolled and undertake not to enrol on any other programme for a diploma, degree, an Italian “*Scuola di Specializzazione*” (Specialisation programme), PhD Programme or master’s programme, whether of the I or the II level, for the duration of this PhD Programme; in the event that they are, they will cease attending such a school before the start of the PhD Programme;
- declare that they are / are not employed by the Italian public sector;
- declare that they will request authorization for employment from the Teaching Committee in advance;
- undertake to inform the University immediately of any changes to their residential details or address.

Successful applicants from non European countries, holding a foreign qualification, must present their degree certificate with the examinations passed and the scores obtained, translated and authenticated by an Italian consulate, embassy or diplomatic representative in the country of the university that issued the degree and the respective declaration of equivalent value (“*Dichiarazione di valore*”).

Successful applicants who do not send their application **within 15 days** following the date of publication of the list on the website: http://www.unitn.it/ricerca/dottorati_form_av/ciclo_21/graduatorie/index.htm lose the right to enrol and the corresponding place will be offered to the next candidate(s) on the list.

Art. 10 – GRANTS

Grants are assigned on the basis of the merit-based ranking of applicants drawn up by the Admissions Committee.

If a candidate awarded a grant forfeits this right, the next candidate on the list will be offered the grant.

Successful applicants can choose one of the grants offered by the University or those offered by external bodies according to their position.

The annual PhD scholarship amounts to Euro 10,561.54 inclusive of all applicable social security contributions payable by the PhD student, as specified by current Italian Law¹.

Grants are normally paid bi-monthly in advance, with recovery of undue payments if the student is expelled or suspended.

¹ At the time of publication, Italian Law states that the PhD scholarship is subject to social security contributions (INPS 10% or 18%, 1/3 of which must be paid by the PhD student), according to art .2, para. 26 of Law no. 335/95 as amended.

Grants cannot be combined with other grants, except those awarded by national or foreign scientific institutes for periods spent abroad and deemed useful for the research activities of the student.

The grant is increased by 50% for any periods spent abroad that are authorized by the Director or by the Teaching Committee.

The study grant is awarded for the entire duration of the Programme following confirmation by the Teaching Committee of the results achieved every year.

Failure to attend the Programme for over thirty days will lead to the grant being suspended.

Art. 11 - PhD STUDENTS RIGHTS AND DUTIES

PhD students must undertake to attend the PhD Programme and to carry out research activities on a full time basis according to the schedules and the regulations laid down by the Teaching Committee, as specified in Art. 3 of the present announcement.

Students writing an inter-university thesis are also obliged to carry out study and research activities in compliance with the agreement with the foreign university.

In case of negative opinion given by the Teaching Committee regarding activities and studies, the Rector can exclude students from the PhD Programme.

Grants financed by external bodies where specific research is required limit the grant holder to carry out this work for the entire Programme.

For the duration of the PhD Programme, students are insured by the University against accidents and damage to third parties that occur in circumstances pertaining to the PhD Programme.

From the beginning and for the whole duration of the PhD course, a public service employee accepted for a PhD Programme may request leave of absence for reasons of study, without monetary allowances, and may benefit from the study grant, where the required conditions are met.

In the case of admission to a PhD Programme without a study grant, or should he/she waive it, the person on leave of absence enjoys the economic remuneration and social insurance and retirement benefits by the public administration where he/she is employed. Should the employee terminate employment in public administration within the two years succeeding his / her having obtained a PhD, the amounts paid out during the course of the PhD studies will be reclaimed.

Art. 12 – CONFERRAL OF THE PhD

The PhD title, conferred by the Rector, is granted when students pass the final examination which will take place at the end of the three-year PhD Programme.

The Examining Committee will be nominated by the Rector, upon the advice of the Teaching Committee, according to the University Regulations for PhD Research Programmes.

Art. 13 – PERSONAL DATA

The University of Trento, in accordance with Legislative Decree 196/03 “Italian Personal Data Protection Code”, will use the applicants’ personal data only for the purposes of the selection procedures and for institutional reasons.

In observance of the above-mentioned law, participation in the selection process is tantamount to the applicant’s unspoken consent to give the University of Trento permission to publish his/her personal data and the data concerning the results of the selection procedure on the University website.

Art. 14 – REFERRAL RULE

For matters not explicitly mentioned in the present announcement, art. 4 of Law no. 210 of 03.07.1998, the Ministerial Decree no. 224 of 30.04.1999 and the University Regulations for PhD Research Programmes issued with the Rector's Decree no. 997 of 16.12. 2003 shall apply.

Trento, the 4th of July 2005

The Rector
prof. Davide Bassi

**TO THE MAGNIFICO RETTORE
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRENTO
VIA BELENZANI, 12
38100 TRENTO – ITALY**

**I, the undersigned, apply to be included in the competitive selection for the PhD Programme in
COMPARATIVE LITERATURES AND LANGUAGE STUDIES – 21st cycle
Specialized curricula²**

<input type="checkbox"/> Literary Theories and Comparative Literatures	<input type="checkbox"/> Language Studies Applied to Contemporary Cultures
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For this purpose I, the undersigned, declare³

SURNAME	
FIRST NAME	
DATE OF BIRTH	
PLACE OF BIRTH Town/City	
COUNTRY	

PLACE OF RESIDENCE

Address			
Postcode			Country
Tel.			Fax
E-mail			

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE (if different from residence)

Address			
Postcode			Country
Tel.			Fax

- **THAT I HAVE _____ CITIZENSHIP**
- **THAT I HAVE AN ITALIAN DEGREE _____ with mark _____**

IN (subject)	
FROM (University)	
CONFERRED ON (date)	

² It is compulsory and binding to write down the curriculum of interest between the two proposed.

³ It is a criminal offence to provide incorrect or incomplete information; any candidate found to have done so will be automatically rejected.

ENCLOSURES⁶:

- photocopy of the applicant's identity card or passport;
- degree certificate or degree self-certification (according to Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28.12.2000 concerning EU citizens), with a list of the examinations passed successfully and scores obtained in each examination (except for candidates who have not yet obtained their degree certificate at the time of presentation of the application as outlined in Art. 2 of this announcement). Applicants holding a foreign qualification that has not been officially recognized as equivalent to the Italian degree, are required to attach a translation in English of the degree certificate with exams and scores obtained, signed under their own responsibility, in order to allow the Teaching Committee to declare its equivalence, valid for the only purpose of participating in the selection;
- curriculum studiorum;
- any certificates proving the knowledge of English and other languages;
- any other qualification believed useful in the assessment of the applicant (dissertations, scientific publications, study and post-graduate activities of research, prizes, grants, etc.).

⁶ On conclusion of the entrance examination procedure, applicants intending to request that the documents attached to their application to sit the entrance examination for admission on the PhD Programme be returned to them, must address to the Administration (*Ufficio Dottorati di Ricerca*) a specific request within a year of the expiry date of this announcement. Any postal expenses will be met by the applicant.