



UNIVERSITY
OF TRENTO - Italy

Call for applicants to the PhD Programme in

International Studies

Academic Year 2016-17 (32nd cycle)

N.B. Please note that only the Italian version of the present call issued with Rector's Decree n. 212 of March, 21 2016 (Annex 1) is legally binding; the English version is provided for information only.



Art. 1 – SUBJECT OF THE CALL

The 32nd cycle of the PhD Programme in International Studies will commence in the academic year 2016/2017 at the University of Trento.

The PhD Programme is partially funded by the *Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Trento e Rovereto*.

Applications are therefore welcomed for:

Places: n. 5

Scholarships: n.5

The five scholarships are funded by the University of Trento.

One supernumerary postgraduate research position is available for a candidate who fulfils the requirements set out in art. 20, par. 3 of the University Regulations regarding PhD Programmes.

Deadline for applications: 10 May 2016, 16:00 Italian time

Duration: 3 years

Start of the Academic Year: 1 November 2016

Official language: English. However, all PhD students are encouraged to learn Italian during their studies.

Coordinator: Prof. Jens Woelk - Phone + 39 0461 283877
email: jens.woelk@unitn.it

PhD programme webpage: <http://web.unitn.it/en/drsis> (also contains information about second and third year admission requirements and the final exam)

Competition website: <http://www.unitn.it/en/ateneo/1946/announcement-of-selection>

Rights and duties of PhD students: <http://www.unitn.it/en/ateneo/52919/rights-and-duties-of-doctoral-students>

Information about scholarships: <http://www.unitn.it/en/servizi/1937/doctoral-scholarships>

The number of places funded by scholarships and/or covered by internship contracts or other forms of financial support may be increased, should financing from other universities, public research bodies or private organizations be made available after publication of this announcement and before candidate interviews. Any increase in the number of scholarships or other means of financial support shall result in a corresponding increase in the total number of available places. Any such increase will be published online at <http://www.unitn.it/en/ateneo/1946/announcement-of-selection>.

IMPORTANT

Intermediate and final stage selection results, i.e., the list of candidates (identifiable through ID number) who are excluded from the process after official checks and the list of candidates whose foreign degree was not considered suitable by the admissions committee, are published on the Announcement of Selection Webpage.

Publication on this webpage means that notification has been carried out officially; candidates will not receive any personal notification.



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

Art. 2 – PHD PROGRAMME AND THEMES

The PhD Programme in International Studies adopts a vigorously interdisciplinary approach. It provides a solid foundation in the disciplines that lie at the core of international studies (law, economics, sociology and politics in particular) and includes further specific training in the main subject area within which each student's thesis falls.

While considerable freedom is naturally given to PhD students in the research they carry out for their theses, it is expected that they adopt a multidisciplinary approach and that they focus on the thematic areas identified by the School of International Studies.

The teaching activities and seminars throughout the PhD Programme will be addressed from multiple disciplinary perspectives (sociology, politics, law, economics and history) and will be expressed through analysis of various issues (e.g. economic-financial crises, the evolution of European integration, participative democracy, socio-economic development models). This approach illustrates the methods used in the main disciplines and creates a common denominator among the PhD students.

Intensive Academic Writing Courses complement the PhD programme.

Link: <http://web.unitn.it/en/drsis/14919/programme-details>

Art. 3 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications for admission to the PhD programme described above are accepted from candidates (regardless of gender, age, religion or nationality), who hold:
 - a) an Italian Laurea Magistrale, recognised by Ministerial Decree no. 270 of 22 October 2004 or
 - b) equivalent degree, second level degree awarded by an Italian "AFAM" Institute (Artistic and Musical Higher Education) or
 - c) a university master's degree awarded abroad and considered suitable¹ by the admissions committee. Foreign qualifications must be equivalent to the Italian '*Laurea Magistrale*' (master's degree), in terms of duration, level and subject area² and must give access to an academic course equivalent to the PhD in the country the degree was issued. The preferred disciplines are Economics, Law, Political Science and Sociology, as well as Humanities, History and Philosophy, or other disciplines related to International Studies.
2. Applications are also accepted from candidates who expect to obtain their master's degree or equivalent by **29 July 2016**. In this case, applicants must attach the documents specified in art.4 par.6 (Obligatory Attachments) to the relevant sections in their application online.
3. Admission to the course for a successful candidate yet to be awarded their master's will be subject to confirmation. The candidate shall provide the 'PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities' (email: phd.office-cssh@unitn.it; fax n. + 39 0461 282191) with a certificate attesting to their qualification no later than **2 September 2016**, upon penalty of exclusion.
4. Candidates who hold a foreign academic qualification that has not yet been declared equivalent³ to an Italian degree can request that their qualification be recognized as eligible as part of their online application by attaching the required documents.
It is the candidate's responsibility to provide all documents useful to their evaluation.
The admissions committee may request further documentation via the administrative offices, if deemed necessary in order to establish suitability of the qualification before the start of the selection process.
5. The admissions committee will publish online a list of candidate application IDs whose academic

¹ Suitability of foreign qualifications will be ascertained by the admissions committee in line with current legislation and international accords for further education.

² For further information about the university system in Italy: <http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/study/new-degrees.html>

³ For further information: <http://www.cimea.it/default.aspx?IDC=134>.



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

qualification has been considered **ineligible**.

Art. 4 – APPLICATION

1. The deadline for submission of the online application is **10 May 2016, 16:00 Italian time**. Application can only be made online using the form at: <http://www.unitn.it/en/apply/dott>. A username and password are required to access the UniTrento reserved area. Candidates must first register⁴ on the University website: <http://www.unitn.it/en/account>.
2. Participation in the selection process is subject to the payment of a non-reimbursable application fee of €15.00, payable by credit card⁵ as indicated in the appropriate section of the application online ('selection participation fee').
3. **Candidates are recommended to check that they have received an email confirming that their application has been successfully completed and submitted. The administration is not responsible for any online applications improperly closed by candidates.**

The candidate is wholly responsible for ensuring that his/her application is complete and correct. Incomplete or irregular applications, missing attachments, non-payment of the participation fee, or applications transmitted in ways other than those set out in this article, shall not be considered valid and will consequently be excluded from the selection process.

Admission to the selection procedure is conditional upon verification that a candidate fulfils the admission requirements.

The University of Trento is entitled to sample-check such requirements, as per art. 71, and ensuing Law no. 445 of 28 December 2000.
4. In accordance with Law 104/92, art. 20 and Law 68/99, art. 16, paragraph 1, disabled candidates or those with learning disabilities may request, in their online application, any necessary additional support or time required in order to undergo an interview. All personal data will be treated in accordance with the privacy criteria set out by the Legislative Decree 196/03, 'Data protection code'.
5. For all purposes in law, the application is considered to be a self-declaration of personal details and information provided.
6. **OBLIGATORY ATTACHMENTS** (candidates will be excluded from the selection process if one or more of the obligatory attachments are missing⁶):
 - a) **ID document:** copy of identity card (for EU citizens) or passport, in particular of the pages that include the photo, personal details, passport number, date and place of issue, expiry date;
 - b) **Academic documents**
 - **for candidates holding an Italian qualification:**
 - Self-declaration using the appropriate form as per art. 46 of Law no. 445 of 28.12.2000 and subsequent amendments (drafted using the Annex A attachment), stating that the candidate holds the academic qualification, the degree type, date awarded, issuing university, overall grade, list of examinations with dates, credits and marks attained. Trento University students need only to declare their graduation date; other information will be acquired internally.

If candidates have yet to be awarded their degree:

⁴ The issue of passwords can take up to two working days. You are therefore advised to register well ahead of the deadline.

⁵ The POS accepts the following: Carta si (Visa, V-Pay, Maestro, MasterCard); BankAmericard-Key Client.

⁶ The ID numbers of candidates not admitted due to submission of incomplete applications will be published at: <http://www.unitn.it/ateneo/720/concorso-di-ammissione>



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

- self-declaration using the Annex A attachment as per art. 46 of Law no. 445 of 28.12.2000 and subsequent amendments with the list of examinations, credits and marks attained and the expected graduation date.
Trento University students need only to declare the date they expect to graduate; other information will be acquired internally.
- a letter signed by their thesis supervisor stating that the candidate will obtain their academic title by **29 July 2016**.

for candidates holding a foreign qualification:

- an academic certificate appropriate for entering PhD studies with the list of examinations and marks attained or equivalent certification. If available, the Diploma Supplement⁷/Transcript of Records or Declaration of Value⁸ should be provided.
The candidate must provide an English translation of the certificate and diploma, unless issued in English. Translation may be completed by the candidate (who then vouches for its accuracy). This will allow the admissions committee to evaluate the eligibility of a certificate, for the sole purpose of participation in this selection process.

If candidates have yet to be awarded their degree

- an enrolment certificate listing exams taken and marks attained;
- a letter signed by their thesis supervisor stating that the candidate will obtain their academic title by **29 July 2016**.

c) **Curriculum vitae** in English

- d) a short **research proposal** in English (max. 4 pages – 2000 words, excluding any bibliography). Each candidate can only submit one proposal, which must include a title and an abstract of no more than 150 words.

Candidates are advised to consult the list of International Studies' teaching staff and their respective research topics at <http://web.unitn.it/en/dr/sis/11118/faculty> and then indicate a potential PhD supervisor in their research proposal.

- e) a **short statement of purpose** (max. 500 words) outlining their reasons for undertaking doctoral research and for choosing International Studies at the University of Trento.

- f) an **international certificate** attesting the candidate's **knowledge of English** at C1⁹ level or higher in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Candidates who are mother-tongue speakers of English must attach a self-declaration attesting to this.

Documentation of qualifications considered equivalent to mother tongue or C1:

- Candidates who have completed a BA or MA course taught entirely in English are requested to attach evidence thereof; a link to the relevant University's webpage (where the official course language is specified) must be included.
- In the absence of such certificates or statements, candidates can submit a declaration¹⁰ made by the company or organization for which they have worked, that states they have at least two years of full-time or equivalent overseas or international experience, and that English is the language of communication in that company or organization.

⁷ The Diploma Supplement accompanies a higher education diploma in order to improve international "transparency" and facilitate recognition of academic and professional qualifications obtained (diploma, degrees, certificates, etc.). The Diploma Supplement must be issued by the same institution as the qualification it accompanies. Further information at: http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/diploma-supplement_en.htm

⁸ For further information visit <http://www.cimea.it/default.aspx?IDC=134>

⁹ e.g. IELTS minimum band score of 7 on each of the 4 modules of the academic version; Cambridge CAE (minimum grade B) or CPE; TOEFL IBT minimum score of 110; Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic minimum score 76.

¹⁰ EU citizens may use a self-declaration as per Law no. 445, 28/12/2000, and subsequent amendments.



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

7. **OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS:**

- a) list of **scientific publications** (if applicable);
- b) any **other qualifications**, such as international examinations (GRE or equivalent);
- c) any other documents which help demonstrate the candidate's research skills (awards, scholarships, post-graduate study and research, etc.);
- d) **up to two letters of introduction** in English.

Candidates may nominate two people as referees. Within 24 hours of the candidate completing and saving the relevant section, the system will send an automatically generated email to each referee, giving instructions on how to complete and return the form.

Candidates are advised to check with their referees to make sure that their references are uploaded onto the website by **13 May 2016**.

If the candidate needs to upload further documents after completing their online application and closing the procedure, they are required to deliver these **by the deadline for application** to the following email address: ateneo@unitn.it (stating in the email's subject field: "Application ID – Surname and Name – PhD Programme in International Studies – 32nd cycle – supplement to application"). Additional material will only be accepted if sent by the method specified.

A candidate whose application is discovered not to meet the admission criteria may be excluded at any time. The candidate will be given written notice to this effect, including an explanation of the decision.

Art. 5 – ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

1. The evaluation of the applications is carried out by an Admissions Committee, appointed by the Rector. It is composed of a minimum of three members chosen from among the university's permanent professors and researchers, including non-Italians, qualified in the academic fields related to the PhD Programme. The committee may also include a maximum of two other experts, of any nationality, selected from either public or private research institutes.
2. The selection is based on:
 - an **assessment of qualifications** (see Art. 3 of this announcement) in accordance with the criteria established by the admissions committee;
 - an **interview** (for candidates whose academic qualifications pass the assessment with at least 48/80) to evaluate:
 - the extent of the candidate's knowledge in the area of their proposed research;
 - their competence in English.
3. Candidates who also intend to compete for potential topic-specific grants, made available after the publishing of this call, must express their intention to the admissions committee before the interview, during the identification process. Those candidates will be evaluated on the knowledge of the specific subject matter(s) of that grant.

A candidate's request for the allocation of a topic-specific grant implies that candidate's preference for the specific scholarship above all other grants.
4. The admissions committee awards a maximum of **200** points:
 - **80** points for qualifications;
 - **120** points for the interview.



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

5. Candidates require a **score of at least 48/80** points for their qualifications **in order to be offered an interview**.
6. Results following the qualifications assessment stage will be published at: [announcement of selection Webpage](#)
Information regarding interviews – times, date and venue – will be made available with at least 20 day notice at [announcement of selection Webpage](#).
Candidates must show valid ID before the start of their interview.
7. Candidates unable to attend their interview in person - whether because they reside abroad, or because of serious obstacles - may request a remote interview via video-conference in their online application. The candidates concerned must carefully fill in the relevant section of the online application ('remote interview') and identify a suitable location, at either a university or a diplomatic mission, and nominate an official who can formally confirm the candidate's identity before the interview.
Remote interviews are subject to the admissions committee's approval and to a prior technical feasibility check.
8. Candidates who obtain a **minimum score of 72/120** points are considered to have passed the interview.

ART. 6 – RANKINGS

1. Once the interview process has been completed, the committee will finalize their candidate ranking by combining the points assigned for qualifications with those for interview.
2. Scholarships are awarded to candidates on the basis of:
 - a) their position in the final ranking;
 - b) their position in the ranking and the number of potential scholarships available for topic-specific PhD places. The admissions committee's evaluation of a candidate's suitability based on his/her educational profile is a decisive factor in the allocation of these topic-specific scholarships.
3. Request for a topic-specific grant implies the candidate's preference for that specific scholarship with respect to the others. The successful applicant awarded the topic-specific scholarship is therefore required to accept it; renouncing the topic-specific grant results in the candidate losing his/her right to enrol in the PhD Programme.
4. Non-allocation of such scholarships results in a reduction in the number of places available.
5. The ranked list (again using candidates' application IDs) will be published on the announcement of selection Webpage.

Publication of this ranked list means that notification has been carried out officially.

Successful candidates will **not** receive any personal notification, since the ranked list of candidates will be posted on the website.

Art. 7 – ADMISSION TO THE PHD PROGRAMME AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFER

1. Candidates will be admitted to the PhD Programme according to their position in the ranking, until all available places are filled.
2. Should two candidates obtain the same score, the candidates' economic situations shall be the deciding factor for funded places, in accordance with the criteria established by Law on 9 April 2001 and subsequent amendments and integrations.
3. Should a successful candidate withdraw before the beginning of the course (1 November 2016), the next candidate in the ranking will be admitted. Such a candidate will be expected to accept the offer **within 8 days** of receipt of communication from the relevant University Office ('PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities').



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

If a successful candidate withdraws or is excluded within the first three months of the first year, the PhD Programme Committee may decide to offer their place to the next candidate on the shortlist.

4. Successful candidates must confirm that they accept the PhD place offered **within 8 days** of publication of the shortlist. Offers are accepted online and instructions can be found at: <http://www.unitn.it/en/ateneo/2696/enrolment-and-extension>.
5. Successful candidates with foreign academic qualifications are required to provide the University of Trento PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities (email phd.office-cssh@unitn.it – fax +39 0461 282191) with the following by **31 October 2016**:
 - the Declaration of Value¹¹ together with the foreign degree certificate listing examinations and grades translated and authenticated by the Italian Diplomatic mission or consulate in the country where the issuing institution is located. The Declaration of Value shall certify that the foreign qualification is valid in the country where the issuing institution is located and that it grants access to an academic course equivalent to the PhD Programme (third level of Higher Education, as defined by the *Bologna Process – European Higher Education Area*);
 - or, as an alternative to the Declaration of Value, a Diploma Supplement can be provided. It must be in English and in the format established by the European Commission, the Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES.
6. Successful candidates who fail to submit their acceptance according to the terms and procedures set out in par. 4 of this article, lose their right to enrol. Their places will be made available to other eligible candidates, in order of their position on the shortlist.

ART. 8 – SUPERNUMERARY POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH POSITIONS

1. In accordance with art. 20, par. 3 of the University Regulations regarding PhD Programmes, the admissions committee can admit **one extra candidate**, further to the number of places initially announced, providing that the candidate has been shortlisted and without granting a university scholarship. Such a supernumerary candidate must belong to one of the following categories:
 - a) shortlisted non-EU candidates who are granted scholarships by other entities;
 - b) shortlisted candidates from countries which have specific inter-governmental agreements with Italy, and subsequently make a special agreement with the University, without the University of Trento being required to assume any financial obligations;
 - c) be a research fellow at the date of the beginning of the PhD programme and be researching a subject relevant to the PhD research programme (subject relevance to be determined by the PhD programme committee);
 - d) be employed in the public sector or state legal system. Admission is dependent on candidates being given leave of absence or exceptional leave, in accordance with article 2 of the Law of 13 August 1984, no. 476 and subsequent revisions. Neither public employees who have already been awarded PhDs, nor those who have been enrolled on a PhD Programme for at least one academic year (having been granted exceptional leave), are entitled to exceptional leave, either with or without research grants, whatever their subject area.
2. Candidates who wish to take advantage of the supernumerary position also have 8 days following publication of the ranking in which to request enrolment and present the necessary documentary evidence of their eligibility to Divisione Supporto Corsi di Dottorato e Alta Formazione-Polo Città e Rovereto (email phd.office-cssh@unitn.it – fax +39-0461-282191).
3. Supernumerary enrolment is limited to the number of places specified in article 1 and is subject to the final ranking.
4. Supernumerary candidates will receive an offer via email from the PhD office once the documentation regarding their eligibility (see par. 2 above) has been verified. They must then

¹¹ If the Declaration of Value has not been issued by the date above, a copy of the request sent to the relevant diplomatic office is required. The student must then send the original Declaration of Value once available.



UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO - Italy

formally accept this offer within 8 days of receipt, using the online procedure at the link mentioned in art. 7, paragraph 4.

Art. 9 – ENROLMENT

Registration on the doctorate course for the successful candidates, who have accepted their places according to the procedures in the previous article, will automatically be formalized as soon as the Ministry of Education, University and Research sets out the requirements for PhD Programmes for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Should accreditation not be given, candidates who have accepted places will be notified immediately via email and the local education tax (TDS) will be refunded.

Art. 10 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS TO RESEARCH RESULTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Without prejudice to the Italian law on copyright (decree 633/1941 and subsequent amendments), the use of results derived from doctoral research conducted with scholarships financed by external bodies may be subject to restrictions imposed by specific funding agreements; doctoral grant-holders will be informed upon award of the scholarship of any such restrictions.

Art. 11 – DATA PROTECTION

The University of Trento, in accordance with the Law 196/2003 (Personal data usage), shall use the personal details provided by the candidate for the sole purpose of participation in the selection procedure.

Participation in the selection procedure implies, in the full respect of the above mentioned norms, that candidates implicitly accept that the results of the selection procedure be published on the University of Trento's website.

The University of Trento, via Calepina 14, 38122 Trento is the data controller.

Art. 12 – REGULATIONS

For matters not explicitly mentioned in the present announcement, please refer to Law no. 398 of 30.11.1989, to art. 4 of Law no. 210 of 03.07.1998, as amended by art.19 par. 1 of Law no. 240 of 30.12.2010, to Ministerial Decree no. 45 of 08.02.2013, to the University Regulations for Doctoral Courses issued by Rector's Decree no. 383 of 04.07.2013, subsequently amended by Rector's Decree no.160 of 18.03.2014 and to University's Code of Ethics and the Regulations of the PhD Programme in International Studies approved by the School's Council on 12.09.2013.

Any changes or additions to this Call will be published on the webpage listed in art.1.

ANNEX A

Declaration substituting **DEGREE CERTIFICATE¹²**

(Article 46 - letters l, m, n - D.P.R. 28 December 2000, No. 445)

The undersigned _____

Place of birth (*city+country*) _____ date of birth _____

Official postal address (*street, number, zip code, city, country*) _____

Phone _____ Mob. _____ email _____

aware of the penal sanctions pursuant to Article 76 of the Italian Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28.12.2000 for falsifying documents and making mendacious declarations

DECLARES

A) TO HAVE GRADUATED (click the corresponding box):

- Type of degree
- Master's degree
 - Laurea specialistica/magistrale
 - Italian University degree of the previous regulations in force
 - Other (specify) _____

Degree title: _____

on ____/____/____ University of¹³ _____

Country _____ with mark _____ out of _____

AND TO HAVE PASSED THE FOLLOWING EXAMS (fill out the following section C, **obligatory in either case A) or B)**

Alternately:

B) TO HAVE NOT YET GRADUATED and to be aware that admission to the Doctorate is conditional upon submission of the degree certificate by the date cited in the announcement.

Graduating in: _____

University of: _____ Country: _____

¹² (*) **To be noted:**

- Non-EU students can provide self-declarations only concerning facts and information which can be verified by an Italian public administration and only if they are in possession of a valid residence permit, to be attached to the declaration;
- The self-declaration shall provide all the information required, in particular the admission requirements and those related to the mark, date and place of obtainment of the degree and/or English certificate;
- The self-declaration shall be duly signed and dated.

¹³ Graduates of the University of Trento must only declare the date of awarding of the title; other information will be collected automatically.

ANNEX A

Expected graduation date: _____

AND TO HAVE PASSED THE FOLLOWING EXAMS (fill out the following section C, **obligatory in either case A) or B)**

SECTION C: List of exams taken (marks and dates mandatory):

Course Title	Mark/Out of	Number of credits	Date

Date and place, _____

Signature of the declarant
(full and readable)

This declaration is exempt from stamp duty, pursuant to Article 37 of the Italian Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28.12.2000.