School of Social Sciences of the University of Trento

Doctoral programme in

Local Development and Global Dynamics

29°cycle - 2013/2014 entry
An overview of the Programme
Why the doctoral programme in Local Development and Global Dynamics

The doctoral programme in Local Development and Global Dynamics (LDGD) was established in 2008 with the aim of providing research opportunities and training in the fields of development and local development. Since its foundation the programme has placed a special emphasis on an interdisciplinary and comparative approach. The activities of the doctoral programme are supported by the Departments of Economics and Management and the School of Social Sciences.

In 2011 LDGD joined the School of Social Sciences, a multi-programme doctoral school also offering programmes in Sociology and Social Research and in Economics and Management. The School is a valuable asset in that it pursues increasing coordination and exchanges across the three programmes, fostering interdisciplinary connections and offering students a wider range of teaching and research opportunities as well as a lively international and multi-cultural community.

From the 29th cycle, the doctoral programme has specified three majors: International and global economics; Development, and Local development in its socioeconomic and institutional dimensions.
# The three-year Programme at a glance

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Curricula and courses

LDGD consists of a set of common mandatory courses and three curricula with specialised courses.

The common courses are microeconomics, macroeconomics, and statistics and econometrics.

Each of the curricula has other mandatory courses, specific for the each curriculum, and some elective courses.

The programme offers three curricula:

- **International economics** focuses on firms’ behaviour in open economies, industrial dynamics, and financial constraints and growth, emerging economies and commodity markets.

- **Development** focuses on poverty and inequality analysis, household analysis, social network analysis, and impact evaluation of development policies.

- **Local development** focuses on local systems and institutions, local policies, innovation and business networks, and the challenges that global and international processes are conveying.
At the end of the first semester the student has to choose which curriculum to follow.

**Facilities**

The School provides doctoral students with:
- a personal desk and internet connection in a room equipped with PCs and personal productivity software;
- access to a certain number of licensed computer programs for special needs.
- Mailboxes
- telephone access for local calls.
- access to a photocopier and printer.
- access to databases.
Research with the LDGD Programme
Internationalization

The LDGD programme has been designed to offer students a stimulating research environment and excellent opportunities, which it has succeeded in doing by developing an extensive international network with the following international partners.

- Corvinus University, Budapest
- University of Deusto
- University of Ljubljana
- University of Zhejiang
- State University-Higher School of Economics (Moscow)
- University of North Carolina
- University of Regensburg

The LDGD faculty have also cultivated extensive networks of international relationships, which can help students organize visiting periods in foreign institutions or co-supervisions.

In addition, the School of Social Sciences offers an intensive calendar of seminars and conferences held by distinguished speakers including international scholars such as Michael Spence, Nobel Laureate in Economics 2001; J. Barkley Rosser, James Madison University, John Padgett, University of Chicago.
“Cotutelle-de-thèse”: opportunities for earning double degrees

A co-tutelle programme allows a doctoral student to obtain a double doctoral degree within the framework of an agreement between the two participating institutions. Each cotutelle-de-thèse is carried out through the cooperative supervision of two professors, one from the University of Trento and the other from the partner university. The student must fulfil the requirements for a doctorate at both universities.

LDGD offers cotutelle-de-thèse agreements with the following university partners:

• University of St. Andrews, UK
• University of Jena, Germany
• Corvinus University, Budapest

Further research at Economics and Management Department (DEM) of the University of Trento

Departmental research is the foundation of a doctoral programme. DEM offers not only specialists in the core disciplines that are taught in the doctoral programme, but faculty members with expertise in a broad range of fields.
Economics of institutions, organisations, and firms, ranging from classical to neo-institutional theories of firms, business ethics and corporate social responsibility, social entrepreneurship, and management of no-profit organisations.

Economics of globalisation, trade and emerging markets, at the firm, market, and macro level, such as firm behaviour in trade markets, international trade networks, global imbalances, emerging markets, commodity market analysis and policies, and development and poverty policies.

Macroeconomics and finance, covering theoretical and empirical models of macroeconomic connections with financial markets; monetary and financial policies in particular in Europe; problems of financial instability and stabilisation in a network perspective; management and regulation of financial intermediaries, corporate finance for medium-small firms, and risk management and instruments.

Environmental studies and sustainable local development, examining problems related to economic valuation and management of natural resources in a sustainability view, in connection with analyses of institutions and policies for local development with special emphasis on the agro-food and tourism sectors.

Household and labour economics, analysing main household choices especially regarding employment, schooling, and gender issues. Poverty, inequality and under-development, analysing the processes through which under-development problems arise, policies and programs to help alleviating poverty and impact evaluation of policy activities.
Economic history, focusing on the development processes and evolution of institutions in the Alpine area, business, and bank history with special focus on co-operatives.

Quantitative methods, offering specialists in various fields of mathematics, statistics and econometrics actively co-operating in the above-mentioned research areas, and also engaged in specific topics such as mathematical tools for individual and collective decision-making, welfare measures of inequality and poverty, and fuzzy methods; development of firms’ dynamic geo-databases and of spatial micro-econometric tools in particular for phenomena of spatial concentration of economic activities; financial statistical methods for standard and non-standard risk analysis management; stochastic processes; time-series econometrics applied to macro and financial data and models; econometrics for panel data and micro-data.

Seminar meetings will be organized with DEM research groups in the first semester of the second year.
Further information can be found on the Department website www.unitn.it/economia
Further research at the Department of Sociology and Social Research of the University of Trento

Social capital as a determinant of economic development Social networks and rules and institutions for growth.

Migration as an emerging characteristic of an open global economy. Contemporary migration processes and the consequent social changes.

SMEs and entrepreneurship in local productive systems. The link between firm-level dimensions and institutional and social-local dimensions.
Some practical instructions
Please, **read carefully the call for applications** on the School of Social Sciences website www.unitn.it/en/drss

**4 Scholarships available:**
- About 1,200 euro per month
- 50 per cent increase of the scholarship for research abroad
- Additional funding for research expenses

LDGD offers 4 full scholarships for three years, subject to satisfactory academic appraisal. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit, meaning that they will be offered to the top candidates of the final ranking.

**Admission requirements**

Applications are invited from candidates, regardless of gender, age, religion or nationality, who hold an Italian “laurea specialistica” (or “magistrale”) according to Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 03/11/1999 and subsequent amendments, or other university degree according to the previous regulations in force, or an equivalent degree qualification obtained abroad.

Applications are also accepted from candidates who can certify that they qualify to obtain their degree **by October 31, 2013**. If “conditionally accepted”, the candidate must deliver full documentation of his/her degree by November 15, 2013.
Documents to be submitted

- photocopy of the applicant’s identity card or passport
- degree diplomas
- curriculum vitae in English
- research proposal

See detailed information on the Call for 2013/2014 entry.

English Language requirements

The programme is conducted entirely in English and an excellent working knowledge of that language, including a proven writing ability, is an indispensable requirement for admission.

Selection procedure

Admission to the School is on a competitive basis.

The procedure consists of two stages. A shortlist of candidates is first produced on the basis of the assessment of their curriculum, research proposal, and reference letters. Shortlisted candidates are then invited to an interview in Trento. Non-Italian candidates may be interviewed by phone or videoconference.
Fees

The PhD programme currently does not charge tuition. Admitted students however are required to pay an annual student fee of about euro 120.

Additional information

PhD students are required to be present in Trento except for research periods abroad authorized by the Programme committee.
Phd students are expected to comply with the requirements of the doctoral programme. If a student’s attendance or participation is deemed to be unsatisfactory, s/he may be expelled from the doctoral programme.

Deadline for applying: July 3, 2013
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