



Call for 7 PhD positions with starting date November 1st 2017

Doctoral programme in Sociology and Social Research

School of Social Sciences - University of Trento, Italy

Deadline: June 7th 2017, 4pm Italian time (please check carefully the official call).

Online application: <https://www5.unitn.it/Apply/en/Web/Home/dott>

The doctoral programme in **Sociology and Social Research** is part of the **School of Social Sciences at Trento University (Italy)**, a multidisciplinary and lively international environment, providing its doctoral students with advanced training and guiding them towards cutting-edge social research.

The PhD programme has duration of **four years** and is **fully funded**.

We actively promote interdisciplinary exchange on relevant topics within the social sciences, on methods and approaches, and foster internationalization. Students are encouraged to spend research periods abroad, participate in international conferences and integrate their training by specific summer schools. The PhD programme also offers the possibility of joint or double degree programmes with top-level European universities as well as many other opportunities for exchange.

The doctoral programme in Sociology and Social Research (PhD-SRS), sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Social Research, was established in 1983 and joined the School of Social Sciences in 2011. PhD-SRS provides state-of-the-art research training and teaches advanced professional skills in sociology and social research. Besides providing a solid foundation in the discipline, including a broad range of quantitative and qualitative methods, the Programme places strong emphasis on theoretically driven empirical sociology.

The programme is open to all topics of interest for Sociological research. Particular attention will be paid to proposals fitting in the following **research areas**:

The study of social and demographic change; comparative sociology; welfare and social policies; social inequality studies and stratification research (class, cohort, gender, sociology of education); economic sociology, labour market and organizational studies; migration studies; political sociology (social movements, public opinion); communication and culture.

Please refer to our webpage to learn about the composition of the PhD board.

The official languages of the doctoral programme are English and Italian. Language of instruction is English.

The international research environment

The PhD programme offers students a stimulating research environment and important opportunities of skills and career development. The SRS faculty has developed an extensive network of high-quality international relationships that can help students to visit foreign institutions and to get in contact with external experts. Almost all our PhD students spend a longer period abroad.

The department of Sociology and Social Research is a multidisciplinary entity and is ranked among the best in Italy, according to newspapers' university rankings and the official assessments of the quality of research. It has consistently carried out high-quality research, often within larger international comparative studies and has successfully attracted both national and international funding. The department is associated with the European Consortium of Sociological Research (ECSR), the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) and the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR).

Courses

The PhD-SRS programme consists of a set of common mandatory courses in the first year and a series of specialized courses and elective seminars in the second year. Topics covered include classical and contemporary sociological theories, various statistical and research methods, as well as substantive issues. Courses on academic writing are offered as well. The course programme often involves international visiting scholars, we offer the opportunity to participate in various summer/winter schools and training is integrated by a rich calendar of seminars and conferences organized by the department or school.



The offer

Doctoral scholars are provided with office space, IT equipment, conference and summer school travel support. Trento University provides also helps with accommodation. Scholarships are slightly above 1,000 EUR a month, with a possible 50% increase for research stays abroad. The PhD programme does not charge tuition, but students are required to pay an annual student fee of about €150.

Application

We invite applications from qualified graduates (Master's degree or equivalent) in one of the social sciences (Sociology, Economics, Demography, Anthropology, Social Statistics or closely related fields). Students who have not obtained their master degree yet can also apply and be "conditionally accepted" if they obtain their degree **by October 31, 2017**. In this case full documentation needs to be provided no later than November 14, 2017.

The programme is conducted in English and a very good working knowledge of that language, including a proven writing ability, is required.

Admission is on a competitive basis and progress to successive years is subject to satisfactory academic appraisal. Please check our website for details.

Closing date is **June 7th 2017, 4pm** Italian time (please check carefully the official call).

Participation in the selection process is subject to the payment of a non-reimbursable application fee of €15.00, by bank transfer or credit card, as indicated in the appropriate section of the on-line application.

Please, **read carefully the official call!** The link will also be available on the Doctoral School of Social Sciences and University of Trento websites:

<http://www.unitn.it/en/ateneo/1963/announcement-of-selection>

For questions please contact us (see below).

The **selection procedure** consists of three stages.

First, a shortlist of candidates is produced on the basis of the assessment of the CV, research proposal, and possible reference letters. Shortlisted candidates are required to sit a multiple-choice test. Once passed, candidates are invited to an interview at Trento (in some cases candidates may be interviewed by phone or video conference).

Documents to be submitted

- Photocopy of the applicant's identity card or passport
- Degree certificates (Italian "laurea specialistica" (or "magistrale") according to Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 03/11/1999 and subsequent amendments, or equivalent titles obtained abroad).
- Curriculum vitae in English
- Research proposal (in English of about 3000 words, excluding bibliography and abstract, and an abstract of about 150 words. The research project is used for evaluation only and does not necessarily determine the PhD project)
- Maximum two reference letters (not mandatory) and a brief letter of motivation (not mandatory)

For further information please contact

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