



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

RECTOR'S DECREE No. 1885

Public Competition announcement for no. 11 positions to the PhD Programme in AgriFood System at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – 31st cycle – Piacenza Campus

THE RECTOR

- having regard to the Statute of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, issued by Rector's Decree on October 24th, 1996, and its subsequent amendments and additions;
- having regard to the regulatory norms of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, issued by Rector's Decree on October 26th, 1999, and its subsequent amendments and additions;
- having regard to the didactic norms of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, issued by Rector's Decree on October 29th, 1999, and its subsequent amendments and additions;
- having regard to Law no. 104 of February 5th, 1992;
- having regard to Presidential Decree no. 487 of May 9th, 1994;
- having regard to Presidential Decree no. 445 of December 28th, 2000;
- having regard to Legislative Decree no. 196 of June 30th, 2003;
- having regard to Law no. 240 of December 30th, 2010, in particular Art. 19;
- having regard to Ministerial Decree no. 45 of February 8th, 2013;
- having regard to Rector's Decree no.1867 of June 16th, 2015, indicating the “Modifications to the 'Regulatory Norms of the PhD Programmes and PhD Schools of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore'”;
- having regard to Rector's Decree no. 606 of October 29th, 2013, indicating the “Modifications to the 'Code of Conduct of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore'”;
- having regard to the report of Nucleo di Valutazione d’Ateneo of April 30th, 2015 on the “Verification of the suitability requirements for the institution of the 31st cycle of PhD Programmes”;
- having regard to the resolution adopted by the University Senate in the formal meeting of July 6th, 2015;
- having regard to the resolution adopted by the Steering Committee in the formal meeting of July 8th, 2015,



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ORDAINS

Art. 1

Opening

The opening of the public competition for admission to the PhD Programme in Agro-Food System.

For the PhD Programme, duration, number of positions, number of studentships, coordinator and calendar of competition examinations are indicated.

The number of studentships may be increased as a result of funding from public and private institutions, provided that the related agreement is signed before the completion of the relative public competitions.

An increase in the number of available studentships may result in an increase in the number of positions opened for public competition.

Duration: 3 years.

Positions: 11

Studentship-based positions: 9

of which 4 are «finalised studentship» positions related to the following projects:

- The world market and the competitiveness of the Italian agro-food industry by Fondazione Eugenio and Germana Parizzi;
- Detection of predictive biomarkers of *peripartum* diseases in farm animals;
- MICROPLAST - Gaining insights in the microbial degradation of polyethylene plastics to promote efficient bioremediation strategies;
- Production of appropriate food: sufficient, safe and sustainable food. The studentship is reserved to candidates with documented expertise in the agricultural system of developing countries;

In the 31st Cycle, besides the 4 «finalised studentships» in the Biological- Agricultural Area, studentships are available also for the following curricula:

Economic-Legal Area: 2 studentships

- Curriculum: Economics, management and efficiency of the agro-food market;
- Curriculum: Legislation and protection of food system safety, discipline of liability and sanction.



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Biological-Agricultural Area: 3 studentships

- Curriculum: Molecular biotechnologies.
- Curriculum: Food quality and security.
- Curriculum: Food technologies.

Fee-based positions: 2. Fee-based positions are allocated as follows: 1 in the Biological-Agricultural Area; 1 in the Economic-Legal Area.

Cooperating institutions granting studentships:

Fondazione Eugenio e Germana Parizzi;
Fondazione Romeo ed Enrica Invernizzi

Information: <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/agrisystem>

Coordinator:

Prof. Antonio ALBANESE.

Calendar of examinations:

Results of evaluation of qualifications for admission to the oral examination: Thursday, September 24th, 2015;

Oral examination:

at 9.30 am - Room Alfa – Biological-Agricultural Area Panel at 10.30 am - Room Beta – Economic-Legal Area Panel

Art. 2

Admission requirements

Application for participation in the competition, with no restrictions with respect to age and nationality, is open to candidates holding a Master's degree, or a degree obtained under the education system prior to Ministerial Decree no. 509 of November 3rd, 1999, and its subsequent amendments and additions, or an equivalent university degree obtained abroad and recognised as eligible.

Application for participation is open to candidates that obtain the qualification referred to in the first paragraph by October 31st, 2015.



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Italian, EU and non-EU candidates that obtained or will obtain a university degree abroad, by October 31st, 2015, for the sole purpose of admission to the PhD Programme will have to request recognition of its eligibility in the application form. To this end, the application shall be accompanied by appropriate documentation to enable the Admission Panel to rule on the request for eligibility.

Art. 3

Application form

Candidates who intend to participate in the competition must submit an application to the Rector of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore by Monday, September 14th, 2015.

The application form is available online at <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi-milano> until 2 pm (local time) on the expiration date of the present public announcement.

A printed and duly signed copy of the application form must be delivered by registered mail with return receipt to the following address: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Ufficio Dottorati di ricerca - Largo Gemelli 1, 20123 Milano. Receipt of applications shall be validated by post office date stamp.

In the application form, available in Italian and English, candidates shall precisely declare under their responsibility:

personal information: surname, first name, fiscal code (for Italian nationals only), date and place of birth, citizenship, residence and domicile elected for the purposes of the competition;

should candidates possess dual nationality, one of which is for a EU member state, they may opt for EU citizenship;

EU and foreign nationals should indicate an Italian domicile if possible, or the address of their Embassy in Italy, elected as domicile;

For graduate students: university degree, date it was obtained and name of the conferring university, or foreign degree;

For undergraduate students: university degree candidates are studying towards, expected date it will be obtained and name of the conferring university (whether in Italy or abroad);

foreign languages known.

On pain of exclusion, candidates must complete their application with the following documents:

detailed curriculum vitae et studiorum;



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for graduate students: self-certified Master's degree document with final mark and exam transcripts, or certification of qualification obtained abroad with final mark and exam transcripts;

undergraduates: self-certified proof of enrolment in one of the above-cited degree programmes with exam transcripts, or in a university programme abroad with exam transcripts;

a motivational letter (max. 30 lines) indicating reasons for application, expectations and fields of interest;

a research project (max. 2,000 words) indicating topic, hypotheses and methodology deemed most suitable for the development of a research project in the selected curriculum. The project must be countersigned by a university professor or researcher in national or international scientific institutions. In the absence of countersignature, a letter of introduction by university professors or researchers in national or international scientific institutions has to be included in the application; the letter must be signed by the professor/researcher and enclosed in a sealed envelope in the package containing the application;

copy of an identification document, duly signed

copy of the fiscal code (for Italian nationals only);

receipt of payment of the participation fee (not refundable)

Applications may further contain:

certification of any other qualifications, such as postgraduate and specialisation degrees, obtained in Italy or abroad, with exam transcripts;

a copy of any other qualification deemed useful for the purposes of assessment, and a list thereof on unstamped paper;

a list, on unstamped paper, of publications deemed relevant for the purposes of assessment, and a copy of the publications that candidates intend to make known to the Panel.

Applications may further contain any of the following certificates attesting English language knowledge, issued not before 2012:

BEC (Business English Certificates);

British Chamber of Commerce;

CAE (Certificate in Advanced English);

CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English);



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FCE (First Certificate in English);
IELTS (International English Language Testing System);
TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language);
Trinity College London Certificate.

Candidates that do not submit any of the certifications listed above, if admitted to the oral examination, will be interviewed to verify their English knowledge.

Candidates must indicate the curriculum/curricula of the Research Area for which they intend to apply, or if and for which «finalised studentship» they intend to compete.

It is the candidates' responsibility to notify promptly of any change of residence or domicile elected for the purposes of the competition.

Candidates holding a foreign university degree, or that shall obtain it prior to the date of the first competition examination, shall accompany their application with the necessary documentation to enable the PhD Panel to rule on the request for eligibility.

The University Administration assumes no responsibility for misdirected communication due to incorrect residence or domicile information provided by candidates or to absent or late notification of any changes thereof. The University Administration shall bear no responsibility for any postal or telegraph errors in communication due to circumstances beyond their control.

The university reserves the right to adopt, even after the completion of the exams, measures which exclude candidates who do not meet the requirements or not having complied with the provisions of the public announcement.

Candidates with disabilities must specify in their application the aid required in relation to their disability, in accordance with Law no. 104 of February 5th, 1992.

Candidates are required to pay a participation fee of EUR 100.00 (not refundable) by:
credit card (VISA and MASTERCARD); or
MAV form (available online); or

- bank transfer to Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – BANCA INTESA SAN PAOLO, IBAN: IT07W 0306903390211610000191 – BIC/SWIFT:

BCITITMM988, with payment description: “Dottorati di ricerca - ciclo XXXI - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore”.

Art. 4

Admission examinations

The admission examinations consist in the assessment of candidates' qualifications and an oral examination.

In relation to the qualities ascertained, the Panels assign each candidate max. 60 points for each of the two examinations.



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Only candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 in the assessment of qualifications are admitted to the oral examination.

For this purpose, the following elements will be evaluated, in addition to research project and motivation letter: postgraduate degree, participation in university courses in higher education, internships and apprenticeships consistent with the chosen curriculum, research grants and fellowships, publications in national and international scientific journals, work experience and collaboration in the field of applied research at universities and public and private bodies, and certifications of language knowledge and skills acquired as in the previous Art. 3.

The oral examination consists in the assessment of candidates' knowledge of the general aspects of the topics of interest of the PhD Programme and research area chosen, as well as aptitude to scientific research.

The oral examination is passed with a minimum score of 40/60.

Candidates are admitted to the PhD Programme according to the two final merit-based ranking lists of each Research Area, until coverage of the number of positions opened has been completed, with the exclusion of the positions funded by «finalised studentships» for which dedicated merit-based ranking lists shall be drawn.

Candidates applying for a «finalised studentship» that result to be eligible but do not win the competition, will be inserted, based on their scoring, in the general ranking list of their reference area, so as to compete for other studentships or for a fee-based position.

The "finalised studentships" may not be assigned to candidates competing for positions different from those related to the finalised studentships.

The non-finalised studentships and the fee-based positions that, for lack of eligible candidates or due to forfeiture, are not assigned in a Research Area, may be assigned to candidates of the other Research Area based on their ranking.

In order to be allowed to take the examinations, candidates must show a valid identification document pursuant to Art. 35, second Paragraph, of Presidential Decree no. 445 of December 28th, 2000 (identity card, driving license, passport).

Art.

5 Examination Panels

Two Examination Panels for admission to the PhD Programme in Agro-Food System shall be appointed: one for the Biological-Agricultural Area and one for the Economic-Legal Area. Each Examination Panel will consist of three tenured academics, to whom no more than two (also foreign) experts from institutions and public and private research institutes may be added. The Examination Panels shall be appointed by the Rector, upon the proposal of the Teaching Panel.



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The composition of the Panels will be published, after the expiration date of the present public announcement, at <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi-milano>.

Art. 6

Results of the competition

The Examination Panels shall conduct separate comparative assessments of qualifications, and draw separate final merit-based ranking lists. For each «finalised studentship», specific comparative assessments shall be conducted and merit-based ranking lists be drawn.

The results of the evaluation of qualifications for admission to the oral examination will be published on Thursday, September 24th, 2015 at:

<http://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi-milano>

<http://dottorati.unicatt.it/agrisystem>

The oral examination will take place on Monday, September 28th, 2015, at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Piacenza campus, via Emilia Parmense 84

at 9.30 am - Room Alfa (Biological-Agricultural Area Panel);

at 10.30 am - Room Beta (Economic-Legal Area Panel).

Art. 7

Admission to the PhD Programme

Candidates are admitted to the Programme according to the final merit-based ranking lists, until coverage of the number of positions opened has been completed.

Should successful candidates withdraw before the beginning of the programme, the positions will be covered by the candidates next in line in the ranking.

Provided that they are successful in the admission examinations, holders of research grants may be admitted to a PhD Programme as supernumerary in the fee-based positions and retaining their grant, upon condition that the PhD Programme refers to the same scientific area of research for which they are enjoying research grants.

Art. 8

Enrolment

Competition winners must hand or send Ufficio Dottorati di ricerca dell'Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore - Largo Gemelli 1, 20123 Milan, within 7 (seven) days from the day after receipt of request via email, the following documentation:

- application form to enrol in the PhD Programme available online;
- 2 card-size photographs;
- receipt of payment of the admission fee



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Art. 9

Incompatibility

Attendance of the PhD Programme is not compatible, in Italy, with simultaneous attendance of university degree courses, Postgraduate courses, non-medical Specialisation schools, Tirocinio Formativo Attivo (TFA) or other PhD Programmes (granted the agreements of dissertation joint supervision).

Art. 10

Aid and studentships

Tuition fees for the Programme at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore are set out annually by the Board of Directors.

The PhD students are required to pay the admission fees to the PhD Programmes amounting to € 2,000.00, to be paid in 2 instalments, the first upon matriculation or renewal of enrolment, and the second on June 30th each year.

The enjoyment of a studentship to attend the PhD Programme is compatible with other income earned, also on a regular basis, in the calendar year of the studentship, provided that such income does not exceed the amount of the studentship itself. Should these income limits be surpassed, the studentship shall be revoked for the year in question. For the verification of the income limits, studentship assignees shall annually declare the income earned and notify exceeding of the prescribed limit.

The studentships are annual and are renewed provided that the PhD students have completed the programme of activities set for the previous year.

The amount of the studentship, paid in monthly instalments, is € 13,638.47 per year, before social security charges. The studentship is subject to the payment of social security contributions (INPS separate management) pursuant to Art. 2, Paragraph 26, of Law 335 dated of August 8th, 1995, and subsequent amendments. The studentship is exempt from local income tax and personal income tax (IRPEF).

The studentship amount shall be increased by max. 50 percent, for a period not over 18 months, if the PhD student is authorised by the Teaching Panel to conduct research abroad.

Starting from the second year, to each PhD student, with or without a studentship, is granted a sum covering research activities in Italy and abroad amounting to 10% of the annual gross amount of the studentship, equal to € 1,363.85.

Candidates previously in receipt of studentships (even if partially) may not receive PhD studentships.



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Art. 11

Public employee

To public employees admitted to the PhD Programme applies current legislation on leave of absence or special leave.

Art. 12

Certificates and documents in foreign language

Certificates and documents in a foreign language must be translated and legalised by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular offices abroad, and must comply with the national regulation.

Art. 13

Rights and Obligations of PhD students

PhD students are required to regularly participate in the activities set out in their curricula, and to commit to individual and guided study programmes and to carrying out the research activities assigned by the Scientific Panel.

PhD students are also required to consult the Code of Conduct of Università Cattolica and to comply with its principles and aims.

Art. 14

Public disclosure

This public announcement is published on the website of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore at <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi-milano> on the Euraxess European website and on the MIUR website.

Art. 15

Final provisions

For any matter not expressly contemplated in this public announcement, the provisions indicated in "Regulatory Norms of the PhD Programmes and PhD Programmes of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore" and regulation in force shall apply.

Further information can be obtained from the PhD Programmes Secretariat (office hours: Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 12.30 pm), phone no. 0523599.476, or at agrisystem-pc@unicatt.it or at <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/agrisystem>.

Head of the procedure of the present selection is Dott. Roberto BRAMBILLA, Head of Postgraduate Education Services, Via Carducci 28/30, Milan.

Milan, July 10th, 2015

THE RECTOR
(Prof. Franco Anelli)