



Handbook for PhD students in Earth and Environmental Science and Technology XXXV Cycle

November 1, 2019

PhD programme Organisation

The PhD program in Earth and Environmental Science and Technology - STAT - is a doctoral program of the University of Genova (UNIGE). This document reports the main information on the educational and training activities offered by the STAT program. The PhD program is run by the PhD committee whose members are listed on the PhD web page of the Department (<http://www.distav.unige.it/drupalint/dottorato>) and is coordinated by Prof. Marco Scambelluri (marco.scambelluri@dipteris.unige.it). It is structured in two curricula, with a coordinator in each

Curricula:

- ***Earth Sciences***

Coordinator: Prof. Marco Scambelluri (marco.scambelluri@dipteris.unige.it)

- ***Biology Applied to Agriculture and Environment***

Coordinator: Prof. Mauro Mariotti (m.mariotti@unige.it).

The PhD program provides advanced courses and research training. The official languages are English and Italian.

Choice of the supervisor and of the research topic

Based on the scientific interest of the PhD students, the PhD Committee appoints at the beginning of each PhD cycle one supervisor for each student. The supervisor must be a University Professor, or a permanent University Researcher, who is responsible for the scientific, technical and intellectual training of the PhD student. Supervisors encourage and support the publication of their students' scientific results on international scientific journals, as well as their active participation to scientific conferences and schools in the relevant disciplines.

In agreement with the supervisors, the students then choose their research topics that must be approved by the PhD Committee.

By the 15th of December 2019 each neo-enrolled PhD student must submit a preliminary program, including the description of the research topic and of the learning and training activities she/he plans to attend during the first year of her/his Doctorate program. The preliminary program shall be presented and approved by the PhD Committee.



PhD Courses

During the first and second years students can attend courses according to their area of interest. The list of courses is chosen by each student in agreement with the supervisor and is submitted for approval to the PhD Committee by December 15th of each year.

The PhD students of the XXXV cycle of STAT program should obtain 80 credits (CFU), 30 of which are dedicated to structured learning activities that include attending classes, national and international schools on advanced topics. The remaining credits must be achieved in research activities. The 30 CFU of structured learning activities must be attained during the first two years. The third year should be entirely devoted to research and to the preparation of the PhD dissertation.

If, for serious and proven reasons, a student is unable to obtain the required credits and intends to continue the PhD program, she/he must inform the coordinator and the PhD committee. A written report must be submitted to the coordinator and the PhD committee, detailing the problems encountered by the student and a timely proposal for obtaining the missing credits.

Structured Learning activities

The 30 CFU dedicated to Structured Learning Activities can be obtained prevalently during the first two years¹ by attending any of the following activity typologies:

- 1) **PhD courses**, specifically offered by the *PhD STAT*² (1 CF corresponds to 4 hours lecture) or by other PhD courses from the University of Genova.
- 2) **Courses that are part of Graduate programs** (*Corsi di Laurea*) offered by the University of Genova in agreement with the supervisor and with the approval of the PhD Committee. CFU are those reported for the course on the official University website. Such courses must not exceed one third of the credits devoted to the structured learning activity program of the student.
- 3) **PhD Schools**. International PhD Schools are approved by the PhD Board upon a formal request by the Tutor including the detailed program of the School and its duration.
 - a. The certificate of attendance of the school must be presented to obtain the related CFU.
 - b. 1 CF can be assigned every 6 hours of lecture

¹ It is recommended that these Cfu are prevalently allocated over the first two years in decreasing amount, so to have the third year fully devoted to science and dissemination of results.

² the courses can be selected among the full list of courses available in STAT PhD web page <http://www.distav.unige.it/drupalint/dottorato>, or in other PhD programs of the University of Genova



Training to scientific research

At the beginning of the PhD program, PhD students formulate a research plan of activities under the supervision of her/his tutor(s). Research is expected to be carried out in the laboratories available in the Departments participating in the PhD Program.

At the end of each academic year, PhD students must submit to the PhD Committee

- 1) a detailed report of the research activities on the year;
- 2) give a presentation to the PhD Committee on the research activities carried out during the year.
- 3) a workplan for the following year.
- 4) a list of publications possibly written (under submission and/or accepted),

PhD dissertation

The final thesis must be written in English. The PhD thesis can be structured as either a monograph, or as a compilation of all peer-reviewed papers published (accepted, under review and ready to submit) during the 3 years of Doctorate. The papers have to be related to the research topic and the Student has to be the First author in each draft. The decision to structure the Dissertation in either a monograph or the compilation of papers has to be agreed among Student and Supervisor. For Dissertations that are structured as papers' compilation, it is still mandatory to include an introductory chapter and a final one highlighting the most relevant results and the conclusions of the Doctorate. The published articles and those accepted for publication must be included in the PhD thesis in their pre-print editorial version (no line numbering, figures and eventual repository material embedded in the text), to avoid copyright conflicts and embargo by the publishers.

At the end of the 3rd year each student will be assigned two referees, who will write a report on the thesis and support the admission to the final exam or suggest, if necessary, a delay of maximum 6 months for the final defense. The student must submit the thesis to the referees in time to allow reviewers to send their reports to the Coordinators and the PhD committee, in order to fix the final PhD exam and defense.

Upon request, to be made to the PhD Coordinator and to the Curriculum Coordinator during the course of the 3rd year, the student may apply for the European PhD Label (see documentation in the intranet area of the program web page).

General information

Further information on university regulations and ministerial decree concerning Italian PhD programs, are available on the website of the university: <http://www.studenti.unige.it/postlaurea/dottorati/#normativa>

Further information on the PhD program, the training and programs of the courses is available at the STAT web page: <http://www.distav.unige.it/drupalint/dottorato>