

LUISS



HANDBOOK
PhD Programme in
Management
(Academic Year 2023/2024)



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Welcome Note

From the Deputy Rector for Research

Becoming a PhD student is a major move towards a research career, either in the University or in other public or private institutions. Possibly, it is “the” major move towards becoming a researcher. It is the time when you will get a special mindset, namely the one that makes you go in depth during your investigations of the different realms of knowledge, start asking relevant research questions, and assemble your own special toolbox of heuristic instruments.

Here at Luiss we are ready to offer you the best environment to develop and check your talent and ambition. Everyone involved in the PhD Programme – your supervisors, the colleagues involved in teaching, the coordinator, the PhD office and tutor – is here to support you during this process, doing everything they can to make sure you complete the PhD thesis successfully. We organise a range of courses, seminars and conferences throughout your time as PhD candidates, we provide financial and practical support for you so that you can undertake study periods and research stays abroad, and we are always there to provide guidance when you need it.

You will be a key figure of our academic community, you are encouraged to take part in seminars and conferences, and your contribution to the life of our Departments is welcome. Professors, lecturers, post-doc fellows, and all the Luiss people are here to share views and discuss research themes with you.

A PhD path also implies long periods of working on one’s own, with the aim of producing an original dissertation. The defence of your thesis will be the culmination of years of work – developing an analytical frame, deciding on the appropriate methodology, gathering data in various ways and ultimately writing a book-length dissertation. That defence will be a serious test as it assesses whether your research has contributed original knowledge to our understanding of the economic, legal, social and political world; even before you will be encouraged to present and discuss part of your work both here and in the international research context.

Rome provides a wonderful environment to spend these starting years of your research career, and we are confident that you will keep good memories of both the academic and the life experience.

Welcome to the PhD Programme at Luiss University!

Stefano Manzocchi

Deputy Rector for Research

Welcome Note

From the Coordinator of the PhD Programme

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the PhD Programme in Management at Luiss University. You have been selected among a large number of participants. Congratulations and good luck!

The PhD experience is a unique journey: you will spend four years of continuous discovery in which you will learn to investigate relevant topics with the highest level of scientific rigor. It will be an experience in which your main character is yourself: you will commit your best energies in your methodological education with the solid courses we offer in the 1st year, you will choose a research topic you feel passionate about and shape it during the program with constant progresses, you will choose the supervisors that will guide you throughout the journey and accompany you to get ready for the job market.

On our end, we designed a program architecture able to put you in the best conditions to nurture your passion and make it become science: staff, highly qualified professors, an academic community, made of up your peers, young researchers and more experienced professors, for which research is a just the top priority.

As PhD coordinator you can always rely on my help and support. Even though most of my job is “behind the scene” as I am always engaged in designing and implementing, along with the PhD office, actions and innovations that keep improving the quality of the program, I am here to guide you and talk to you when needed.

The PhD in Management covers many fields: from organization theory to marketing, corporate finance, innovation, accounting, etc. You will learn selected topics in these specific areas in your second year, while the first year will be mainly devoted to providing you with the qualitative and quantitative methodologies needed to address your research questions. The period of courses will be very intensive, requiring hard work but it will be very structured and you will be strictly guided. The most challenging part will come after: it is important that you start identifying and refining your research topic since the beginning and look for the “right” supervisor. At the end of the courses, you might feel alone and you will have to find in yourself your first guide. We do our best to follow you through continuous assessments of project proposals and progress reports but the advancement of your research is a continuous process that is mainly guided by yourself. After all, the PhD trains you to become an independent researcher!

At the end of the journey, you will submit your thesis that will be judged first by external referees and finally by a Commission on the basis of its originality, rigor, relevance and capability to advance knowledge. During the journey you will face periods of doubts, discouragement, uncertainty; this is normal, it is part of the process and you will overcome them finding your way.

You have made an important choice that will shape your professional and personal life. Be sure to embark it with enthusiasm and passion and with the consciousness that advancing knowledge requires deep learning, critical thinking, and methodological rigor. I am sure you will enjoy this experience and the Luiss’ environment.

Matteo De Angelis

Professor of Marketing and Coordinator of the PhD Programme in Management



1. Introduction

The Luiss PhD Programme in Management is a disciplined – but not disciplinary – learning path for high potential doctoral candidates. It offers concentrations in strategy, organization, innovation and entrepreneurship, marketing, accounting, and corporate finance. Primary areas of the Luiss PhD Faculty research includes: consumer behavior and data-driven marketing insights; strategic management; coordination of globally distributed teams; corporate governance; global business; integrated reporting; organization behavior; organizational design, learning and adaptation; social entrepreneurship and social capital.

The Luiss PhD Programme in Management aims to educate talented students to produce rigorous and relevant research. By completing the Luiss PhD Programme in Management, successful graduates will:

- develop an ability to pursue and publish scholarly research;
- acquire in-depth knowledge of the relevant literature of the area of study;
- produce original contributions to knowledge in an area of study;
- develop an ability to use quantitative and qualitative research methods and techniques;
- develop an ability to critically assess scholarly research work;
- develop an ability to present and discuss academic work and their implications in a variety of contexts – including practitioner-oriented ones.



2. The Team

Programme Coordinator

Professor Matteo De Angelis
mail: mdeangelis@luiss.it

The coordinator is in charge of the strategic choices related to the programme, such as taught courses, research activities, the organisation of seminars and the relations with both internal and external colleagues. Matteo De Angelis is Full Professor of Marketing at the University Luiss Guido Carli of Rome, Coordinator of the Luiss PhD in Management, Director of the Academic Research Unit at Luiss X.ite Research Center, and Rector's Advisor for definition and implementation of Luiss' marketing strategy.

PhD Tutor

Isabella Iavarone
mail: iiavarone@luiss.it

The role of the tutor is to help PhD candidates with any issues related to the programme, as well as acting as a mediator between the PhD candidates, the Coordinator and the PhD office. Furthermore, the tutor offers support to every activity related to the organisation of seminars, events, teaching and collection of forms. Isabella Iavarone graduated in Consulenza Aziendale at the University Luiss Guido Carli of Rome and she works with the Department of Management.

PhD Office (Ufficio Dottorati)

Leonardo Risorto (Head)
Francesca Pandozy, Tina Rovella, Nina Nachkebia, Gianluca Grilli
mail: dottorati@luiss.it

The PhD office is responsible for all official communications between the PhD candidates and the University. It helps PhD candidates on all aspects related to administration and compliance with the PhD Programme.

The PhD office is also in charge of the strategic organization, according to the University Strategic Plan, the management, innovation and coordination of the PhD Programmes and the ministerial accreditation process.

PhD Representative

Domenico Di Prisco
mail: ddiprisco@luiss.it

The PhD representative is elected by the PhD candidates for a period of two years and he represents the PhD candidates during the PhD meetings and the Academic Board meetings.



3. The Academic Board of the PhD programme (*Collegio dei Docenti*)

Each PhD Programme has an Academic Board (*Collegio dei Docenti*) that consists of at least sixteen academic staff belonging to broad fields consistent with the programme's educational aims and with documented research results at international level in the disciplines covered by the doctoral programme.

The board is chaired by the Coordinator of the PhD Programme, Prof. Matteo De Angelis.

Members:

- Paolo Boccardelli, Full Professor of Management and Corporate Strategy at Luiss
- Saverio Bozzolan, Full Professor of Accounting and Corporate Governance at Luiss
- Cristiano Busco, Full Professor of Accounting and Integrated Reporting at Luiss
- Andrew Davies, Professor of the Management of Projects at University College London
- Luca Giustiniano, Full Professor of Organization Studies at Luiss
- Fabian Kurt Falk Homberg, Full Professor of Human Resource Management and Organisational Behaviour at Luiss
- Ioannis Kallinikos, Full Professor of Organization Studies at Luiss
- Maria Isabella Leone, Associate Professor of Business Economics and Management at Luiss
- Mats Magnusson, Full Professor of Product Innovation Engineering at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm
- Antonio Majocchi, Full Professor of International Business Management at Luiss
- Daniele Mascia, Associate Professor of Organization and Human Resource Management at Luiss
- Elisa Mattarelli, Associate Professor of Industrial Engineering at Modena and Reggio Emilia University
- Luigi Marengo, Full Professor of Economics at Luiss
- Valentina Meliciani, Full Professor of Applied Economics at Luiss
- Pierluigi Murro, Associate Professor of Corporate Finance at Luiss
- Niels G. Noorderhaven, Full Professor of International Management at Tilburg University
- Raffaele Oriani, Full Professor of Corporate Finance at Luiss
- Enzo Peruffo, Full Professor of Corporate Strategy at Luiss
- Andrea Prencipe, Full Professor of Organisation and Innovation at Luiss
- Simona Romani, Full Professor of Marketing at Luiss
- Alessandro Zattoni, Full Professor of Strategy at Luiss

Details about the membership of the board can be found at this website

<https://phd.luiss.it/management/about/faculty/>

4. Teaching Programme and deadlines

The PhD programme consists of four years of full-time study. The overall path consists of research and teaching training, a visiting period abroad, and dissertation preparation. The first two years are dedicated to coursework and preparation of the dissertation proposal.

- Year 1

Students must attend all the courses scheduled in the learning plan (inter-doctoral courses included, if any) for a total amount of 64 credits.

Year 1 consists of disciplinary courses in Management models and theories, Research methods (quantitative and qualitative), Organization theory, Theory of the firm.

By February 15, 2024, students must choose the thesis supervisor from the members of the PhD Collegio dei Docenti and the thesis co-supervisors and inform him/her/them. Upon his/her/them informal approval, students have to inform the PhD Coordinator about their choice; if the PhD Coordinator agrees, the supervisors and co-supervisors assignments will be ratified by the PhD Collegio dei Docenti.

Each PhD student is assigned a supervisor and one or more co-supervisors. The supervisor and co-supervisor(s) are assigned to students by the Academic Board during a meeting within the first year of the PhD students' course. The supervisor must be a Faculty member of the PhD to which the student belongs, whereas the co-supervisor can be external but must be in possession of the scientific requirements of the Faculty in question. In case of more than one co-supervisor, at least one must belong to the same academic background and must be in possession of scientific requirements of the Faculty in question.

After the formal assignment of supervisorship, students and the main supervisor should meet regularly (at least once every three weeks for the 1st year) with updates about the progress of the thesis. The PhD student should be aware that he/she should present tangible advancements in every meeting.

In case of documented problems with the supervisor(s), PhD students can ask for a change to the Coordinator of the PhD Programme and the choice of the new supervisor that must be approved by the Collegio dei Docenti.

In order to be admitted to the second year the students must pass the first-year exams earning credits for at least 90% of the total amount of the first year's credits.

At the end of the first year (2nd half of June 2024), students will hand in a first-year paper and formally present it to the whole department, as a progress report. Such a paper should be the result of the progress made on the student's research idea, including the regular meetings with the supervisor. It is expected that the student is clear about research idea, literature review, contribution to research and practice, conceptual framework and methodology. It is also recommended that he/she has collected and present preliminary empirical findings.

After the presentation, the supervisor should send to Collegio dei Docenti a formal evaluation of student's progresses.

- Year 2

Students must attend all the courses scheduled in the learning plan (inter-doctoral courses included), attend the department seminars and discuss their Research Proposal by 15 June 2025. Such a Research Proposal should present a significant advancement compared to the 1st year paper. In particular, the PhD student should have written an advanced draft of paper 1, including a robust empirical part. He/she should also include an advanced idea, literature review, conceptual frameworks (and possibly some preliminary findings) for paper 2 and at least a clear idea about paper 3. In order to achieve this goal, students should

meet regularly with the supervisor (at least twice a month) and show continuous progresses on the thesis.

The Research Proposal presentation is a moment of formal evaluation.

A committee made up of three Professors indicated by the Collegio dei Docenti should decide about the outcome of the presentation, which could be:

- 1) unconditionally accepted;
- 2) accepted with minor changes (no need to present it again);
- 3) major revisions (the student needs to present it again next October).

In the last case if the student does not present significant improvements in the next presentation, **the Collegio dei Docenti can decide to exclude the participant from the program.**

Co-supervisors are not obliged to meet the student as regularly as with supervisor but the student should regularly update them about the progress of their thesis.

Before the Research proposal presentation, by the end of January 2025, the supervisor should send the PhD office, for evaluation of Collegio dei Docenti, a formal assessment of his/her student's progresses.

The second year's credits will be divided as follows:

- 27 credits passing the second-year exams
- 15 credits attending the Faculty seminars and the PhD seminars and workshops
- 20 credits from the research activities (Research Pre-Proposal, Research Proposal and general development of the research project).

In order to be admitted to the third year the students:

- must pass the first-year exams earning credits for at least 90% of the total amount of the first year's credits;
- must receive a positive evaluation by the supervisor (in the final-year supervision report) and the PhD Collegio docenti.
- must receive a positive evaluation by Research proposal evaluation committee and the PhD Collegio dei Docenti.

- **Year 3**

Students must develop the research project, also attending the Faculty seminars, the PhD seminars and workshops and the Soft-skills/Research-skills seminars. Each student has to spend a research period abroad (Visiting PhD-student period). It will be also possible to attend other conferences and seminars in Italy or abroad on a specific research topic, in addition to the Visiting PhD-student period. The result of the research activities will be the Progress Report, to be delivered by 15 June 2026.

The third year's credits will be divided as follows:

- 6 credits attending the Faculty seminars, the PhD seminars and workshops and the Soft-skills/Research-skills seminars (the PhD Collegio Docenti will assess the consistency of the credits recognized and the total amount of these activities)
- 50 credits from the research activities for the general development of the research project, including the research period abroad (Visiting PhD-student period) and other conferences and seminars in Italy or abroad on a specific research topic.

In order to be admitted to the fourth year the students:



- must attend the Faculty seminars, the PhD seminars and workshops and the Soft-skills/Research-skills seminars to earn the 6 credits;
- must receive a positive evaluation by the supervisor (in the final-year supervision report) and the PhD Collegio docenti on the Progress Report.

- **Year 4**

Students must spend the fourth year in research activities to complete the doctoral thesis (they may continue the Visiting period abroad if agreed by the Collegio Docenti) in order to submit the final version by 15 September 2027.

They can also attend conferences and seminars in Italy or abroad on a specific research topic; any credit will be assigned for seminars and conferences during the fourth year.

The fourth year's credits will be divided as follows:

- 25 credits from a positive evaluation of the Thesis Draft by the supervisor (supervisor report – 15 January 2027)
- 36 credits from the final defence of the doctoral thesis.

Possible eligible activities for the 25 credits:

- Development of the research project
- Conferences and seminars in Italy or abroad on a specific research topic
- Draft of the thesis (with supervisor's evaluation by 15 January 2027)

Possible eligible activities for the 36 credits:

- Development of the research project
- Final version of the doctoral thesis (with final positive evaluation by the supervisor (5- 15 September 2027)
- Final defence

The PhD Programme is also enriched with scholarly meeting sessions. Indeed, Luiss University and – in particular, the Department of Business and Management – regularly host international scholars in the broad area of management. The PhD Team organize one-to-one sessions for each student in order to interact with, receive advice and suggestions from such scholars.

List of Courses

MANAGEMENT XXXIX CICLO				
1° YEAR 2023/2024				
Term 1 - September / December 2023				
n.	Subject	Professor	hs	CFU
1	Epistemology	Giacomo Sillari	20	4
2	Statistics and Data Analysis for Management	Davide Angelucci	10	2
3	Management Research Methods	Raffaele Oriani	20	4
4	Qualitative Research Methods	Luca Giustiniano / Lakshmi Balachandran Nair	20	4
5	Econometrics I	Paolo Santucci de Magistris	20	4
6	Introduction to time-series and panel data	Maria Elena Bontempi	12	2
7	Topics in econometrics	Roberto Basile	12	2
8	Organization and Technology	Luigi Marengo	20	4
Term 2 - February / May 2024				
n.	Subject	Professor	hs	CFU
9	Econometrics II	Toke Reichstein	35	7
10	Organization Theory	Joannis Kallinikos	20	4
11	Introduction to Organization Theory	Joannis Kallinikos	9	2
12	Experimental Methods	Giovanna Devetag	14	3
13	How to get published	Driem Faems	20	4
14	Social Network Analysis	Daniele Mascia	20	4
15	Theory of the Firm	Alessandro Zattoni / Giovanni Valentini	20	4
16	Structural Equation Modelling	Gaetano Miceli	20	4
17	Advanced Qualitative Research Methods	Niels Noorderhaven	20	4
18	Project studies	Niels Noorderhaven / Andrew Davies	10	2
2° YEAR 2024/2025				
Term 1 - September / December 2024				
n.	Subject	Professor	hs	CFU
19	Economics and Management of Innovation	Mats Magnusson	15	3
20	Accounting	Saverio Bozzolan	15	3
21	Corporate Governance	Alessandro Zattoni	15	3
22	Marketing	Rumen Pozharliev	15	3
23	International Business	Matteo Caroli	15	3
24	Industrial dynamics	Valentina Meliciani/Francesca Lotti	15	3
25	Corporate Finance	Pierluigi Murro	15	3
26	Research in ethics responsibility and sustainability	Tommaso Ramus	15	3
Term 2 - February / May 2025				
Faculty Seminars + PhD Seminars and workshops		/		15
Research proposal				20
3° YEAR 2025/2026				
Term 1 - September / December 2025				
Other activities			/	6
Visiting period or other activities				25
Term 2 - February/ May 2026				



Visiting period or other activities		25
4° YEAR 2026/2027		
Term 1 - September / December 2026		
Thesis drafting		25
Term 2 - February / May 2027		
Final Thesis	/	36
	total	240

5. PhD Supervision

Each PhD student is assigned a supervisor and one or more co-supervisors. The supervisors and co-supervisors are assigned to students by the Academic Board during a meeting within the first year of the PhD students' course. The supervisor must be a Faculty member of the PhD to which the student belongs, whereas the co-supervisor can be external but must be in possession of the scientific requirements of the Faculty in question. In case of more than one co-supervisor, at least one must belong to the same academic background and must be in possession of scientific requirements of the Faculty in question.

The Supervisors monitor and assesses the PhD Candidate's research activity and reports to the PhD Academic Board as per progression to the next year of study – i.e. pass/fail concerning pre-proposal, proposal, and ensuing admission to the following years.

Supervisors accompany the doctoral PhD Candidate's journey towards a doctorate, providing academic support and advice as per the research area, methodology, structure of thesis, and publication strategy.

Supervisors designate the external referees of the doctoral thesis and provides their names that have to be approved by Collegio Docenti.

It is worth noting that the responsibility for the quality and content of a doctoral thesis is entirely that of the PhD Candidate. The Supervisor provides advice and support the PhD Candidate's training and personal development.

- **Supervision relationship**

Choosing the supervisor is an extremely important decision. We would like students to take this decision having good information at hand. In addition to their own thinking (backed by independent research on Luiss Faculty resumes), students will have the possibility to meet groups of Faculty between October and December in order to get to know them better. Then, they should choose the supervisor (among the PhD Collegio dei Docenti members) by February 15, 2024.

Accepting being a thesis supervisor requires being aware to have an important responsibility. The supervisors monitor and guide students during the course their program to make constant progresses over their research, providing academic support and advice as per the research area, methodology, structure of thesis, and publication strategy.

It is worth noting that the responsibility for the quality and content of a doctoral thesis is entirely that of the PhD Candidate. The Supervisor provides advice and support the PhD Candidate's training and personal development.

To ensure a proper supervision, it is required that the student and the supervisor meet regularly (see above) with the students showing significant progresses from one meeting to the next.

The supervisor should send a formal final evaluation of student's progress at the end of the 1st year, at the end of 2nd year, at the end of 3rd year and mid-year evaluations in January of 1st, 2nd and 3rd year.

6. The PhD Thesis

Students are required to submit a thesis at the end of the fourth year (September 2027). Before this final submission, they are required to submit two different drafts in the fourth year (January 2027 and June 2027).

The final thesis consists of three papers in compliance with the following guidelines:

- *Aim*
The thesis should provide a substantial and original contribution to knowledge.
- *Structure*
The manuscript should include:
 - An introduction that clearly indicates the link between the three separate papers and or places them in the context of an established body of knowledge;
 - Three papers – each including: a literature review, research methods section, results, discussion and conclusions that clearly indicates implications for management theory and practice of the research results;
 - An appendix with detailed description of data tables and figures.
- *Format*
Please follow the APA style
 - Font: 12 TNR font, 1,5 spaced
 - Margins: 1 inch (2,54 cm)
 - Tables and figures: Please position tables and figures at the end of your paper, in the Appendixes, after References, but indicate the position of each in the text.

7. The Road Towards Thesis Defence

The supervisor proposes two external referees to review the supervisee's thesis. The PhD coordinator will contact the chosen referees in order to ensure their participation both in the review process and in the Defence Committee. If they accept, their participation will be formalised during the following meeting of the Academic Board.

The PhD office will circulate the candidates' theses and the evaluation sheets among the respective referees. Referees are expected to carry out their review and to return their evaluation sheets within two months of the reception of the theses.

The role of the referees is to assess the candidates' theses, and to either determine their admission to the public defence or to suggest a postponement of up to six months. More specifically, they will evaluate:

- The quality of the research project;
- The quality of the research methods;
- The relevance of the topic and findings, as well as their implications;
- The ability to demonstrate of a researcher's mindset – i.e. the ability to frame and investigate a relevant research problem, to adopt the most appropriate research methods, to discuss the relevant findings and their implications, and to suggest solutions based on the research results.

Once the thesis has undergone the review process, the relevant candidate will be able to revise and resubmit it following the suggestions offered by the referees. If the revised thesis is deemed as satisfactory, the candidate will be admitted to the public defence.

The candidate will defend their thesis in front of the Dissertation Exam Committee, which consists in at least three scholars appointed by the Academic Board and approved by means of a Rector's decree. More specifically, the Committee will be composed by one internal examiner, chosen on the basis of their expertise, and by the two external referees. Three substitutes will be appointed as well. Should one or more members of the Committee be affiliated with an institution abroad, they may attend the public defence remotely via a conference call.

At the end of the defence, the thesis will either be approved or rejected by means of a collegial decision. The Committee may unanimously decide to award a cum laude distinction to a particular thesis, if its findings and results are of exceptional academic relevance.

Procedures for the award of PhD qualifications jointly supervised with institutions abroad must be regulated through specific agreement and must comply with the laws applicable in the country where the doctoral programme is run.

The following table outlines the various steps on the road for the thesis defence. A detailed schedule will be circulated in due time for each cohort that is due submit their thesis.

No.	Actions
1	Candidate submits draft thesis to supervisors – by 15 January
2	Supervisor(s) provide comments and suggest final revisions on draft thesis prior to formal submission – by 15 June
3	Supervisors(s) propose possible referees and internal examiner to coordinator + informally exploring their availability – by 15 June
4	Supervisor(s) and PhD candidates declare absence of any conflict of interest with proposed referees – by 15 June
5	Supervisor(s) submits thesis to plagiarism check – 5 September



6	Final thesis submission – 5/15 September
7	Board approves submission of thesis and appointment to the referees and of internal examiner
8	PhD Office sends thesis, explanatory notes and evaluation form to referees
9	Referees submit their reports to the PhD Office and Coordinator within two months
10	Candidates submits final version (if necessary) and required documents by the updated deadline
11	PhD Office contacts jury members and PhD candidates to schedule defence
12	PhD Office circulates announcement about thesis defense
13	Public defence of the thesis in front of jury (and the public)
14	PhD Office circulates announcement of successful PhD defence
15	Luiss University celebrates successfully defended PhDs at an annual graduation



8. Plagiarism

Plagiarism, and in any case any improper use of academic material in the writing of dissertation for assessment, is forbidden. Plagiarism has obvious consequences for the academic evaluation of the guilty PhD candidate, but it can also give rise to further moral and legal sanctions. A judgement in the matter is given on a case-by-case basis by the Ethics Committee, which informs the University's top bodies thereof. Acknowledgment of the sources and of the work of others to which the work of others has been used and/or for which the assistance of individuals, associations or institutions has been obtained, shall be clearly reported in notes, references and appendixes. Plagiarism consists in using the intellectual work of others without acknowledgment. According to academic conventions and copyright law, participants are required to acknowledge the use of ideas of others whether paraphrased or quoted verbatim. Verbatim quotations must be either in inverted commas or indented and sources – e.g., books or journal articles - thereof must be indicated in the bibliography. LUISS will check plagiarism in all the doctoral thesis uploading them on a specific software.

If PhD Candidates plagiarise their own work or others can be expelled from the PhD upon decision of the PhD Academic Board.



9. Milestones

Year 1	Courses scheduled in the learning plan (inter-doctoral courses included) for a total amount of 66 credits.	Sept 2023 – Jan 2024 Feb 2024 – June 2024
	Choice of the thesis supervisors and co-supervisors	February 15, 2024
	Approval of the supervisors by the PhD Collegio Docenti	March 2024
	Research 1st paper (by the PhD Student)	June 15, 2024
	Final-year Supervision Report (by the Supervisor)	July 15, 2024
	Presentation of the 1st paper	July 15, 2024
	Admission to the 2nd year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ students must pass the first-year exams earning credits for at least 90% of the total amount of the first year’s credits. ♦ Students must receive a positive evaluation by the supervisor (in the final-year supervision report). Approval by PhD Collegio Docenti	July 2024
Year 2	The second year’s credits will be divided as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 24 credits passing the second-year exams - 15 credits attending the Faculty seminars and the PhD seminars and workshops - 20 credits from the research activities (Research Proposal and general development of the research project) 	Sept 2024 – Jan 2025 March 2025 – June 2025
	Mid-year Supervision Report (by the Supervisor)	January 31, 2025
	Research Proposal (by the PhD Student)	June 15, 2025
	Final-year Supervision Report (by the Supervisor)	July 15, 2025
	Presentation of the Research Proposal (with a formal assessment by a Committee)	July 15, 2025



	<p>Admission to the 3rd year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Students must pass the first-year exams earning credits for at least 90% of the total amount of the first year's credits; ♦ Students must receive a positive evaluation by the supervisor (in the final-year supervision report). ♦ Students must receive a positive evaluation by Research proposal evaluation committee. <p>Approval by PhD Collegio Docenti</p>	<p>July 2025</p>
<p>Year 3</p>	<p>The third year's credits will be divided as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 credits attending the Faculty seminars, the PhD seminars and workshops and the Soft-skills/Research- skills seminars (the PhD Collegio Docenti will assess the consistency of the credits recognized and the total amount of these activities) - 50 credits from the research activities for the general development of the research project, including the research period abroad (Visiting PhD-student period) and other conferences and seminars in Italy or abroad on a specific research topic. <p>Mid-year Supervision Report (by the Supervisor)</p> <p>Progress Report (by the PhD Student)</p> <p>Final-year Supervision Report (by the Supervisor)</p> <p>Admission to the 4th year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - students must attend the Faculty seminars, the PhD seminars and workshops and the Soft-skills/Research- skills seminars to earn the 4 credits; - students must receive a positive evaluation by the supervisor (in the final-year supervision report) and by the PhD Collegio docenti on the Progress Report. <p>Approval by PhD Collegio Docenti</p>	<p>Sept 2025 – Jan 2026 March 2026 – June 2027</p> <p>January 31, 2026</p> <p>June 30, 2026</p> <p>June 30, 2026</p> <p>July 2026</p>



Year 4	<p>The fourth year's credits will be divided as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25 credits from a positive evaluation by the supervisor on the Draft Thesis (supervisor report – 15 January 2026) - 36 credits from the final defense of the doctoral thesis. <p>Possible eligible activities for the 24 credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development of the research project - conferences and seminars in Italy or abroad on a specific research topic - draft of the thesis (with supervisor's evaluation by 15 January 2026) <p>Possible eligible activities for the 36 credits: development of the research project</p>	<p>Sept 2026 – Jan 2027 March 2027 – June 2027</p>
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10. Academic Events

- *PhD Welcome Day*
A Welcome Day is organized at the beginning of the academic year. It provides an opportunity for the new PhD Candidates to meet the top academics such as the Rector and the Deputy Rectors, the PhD Coordinator, and the PhD Academic Board. The new PhD Candidates will have also the opportunity to meet some PhD Graduates, the PhD Tutor and the PhD Candidates enrolled in the previous cycles.
- *PhD Seminars*
The PhD seminars will provide a forum for the discussion of both academic and administrative matters, bringing together our entire PhD community across the various years. The initiative will be led by the PhD candidates in terms of format, topics, and speakers to be invited. One function of these seminars is to create a space for the presentation and the discussion of the PhD candidates' own work in progress, and indeed provides a platform for PhD candidates to present their papers that can serve as additional means of assessing their progression to subsequent years of study.
- *Departmental Research Seminars*
The Departmental Research Seminars are part of a more comprehensive research and networking activities carried out by the Department of Management. All Seminars are mandatory for students of 1st and 2nd year. The aim of the seminars is to offer PhD candidates the chance to network with fellow colleagues, to provide and receive feedback on research materials, to engage in fruitful debates both with junior and senior scholars.
- *Other academic events*
The PhD Coordinator, the PhD office and individual PhD candidates may be engaged in the organisation of external conferences and other activities. The conferences may be hosted by both Luiss University and other national or international institutions. External conferences have the aim of promoting Luiss University as a global hub for high-level research, networking and academic experiences.

11. Study and Research Period Abroad

PhD candidates should spend at least 3 months in a foreign university as visiting students. Longer periods are encouraged, up to maximum 12 months (18 months if there is a cotutelle agreement). The choice of the university will be agreed with the supervisor and the PhD coordinator and then approved by the Academic Board.

The amount of the scholarship is increased at the end of this period, on the basis of a confirmation letter released by the hosting University or Institution. We expect students to go abroad in the third year (please check section n. 13 – “Funding”).

For research periods abroad longer than 1 continuous month, PhD Candidates with scholarship (specific types of scholarships may have different provisions) may ask for an increase of 50% of their scholarship. That increase may not be used for periods spent in the PhD Candidate’s country of birth, citizenship, residence or domicile.

12. Funding

- *Scholarship*

PhD Candidates awarded a scholarship (specific types of scholarships may vary), will receive an annual amount set in Ministerial Decree n. 247 of 23 February 2022 and is worth € 16.243,00 paid in 12 monthly instalments.

The scholarship is subject to social security deductions according to current legislation and benefits the tax relief provided by art. 4 L. 476/1984 (IRPEF exemption).

Scholarships shall be initially awarded for one year and will be renewed on condition that the candidate has completed the programme of activities envisaged for the previous year as checked in accordance with the procedures laid down for each doctoral programme.

Those checks must be passed also to keep the scholarships in subsequent years.

- *Research Budget*

PhD Candidates with scholarship (specific types of scholarships may have different provisions) have an annual research budget of € 1.624. Eligible expenses include travel, conference and seminars fees, consumables (e.g. audio-visual media, photocopies...), publication fees, specific training aimed at research (e.g. language courses).

The procedure for a Reimbursement Request can be consulted [here](#).

- *Increase of scholarship for visiting periods abroad*

For research periods abroad longer than 1 continuous month, PhD Candidates with scholarship (specific types of scholarships may have different provisions) may ask for an increase of 50% of their scholarship.

That increase may not be used for periods spent in the PhD Candidate's country of birth citizenship, residence or domicile. The amount is paid according to the exact number of days spent abroad, to be confirmed with an official letter released by the hosting University or Institution.

PhD Candidates should spend a visiting period abroad, at least 3 months up to maximum 12 months; this period may be extended up to a maximum total of eighteen months for PhDs in cooperation with foreign Faculties. In case of a cotutele plan the mobility period is specified by the agreement between the involved universities, however the increased scholarship remains limited to a maximum of 18 months. The University may sign specific agreements for the creation of joint research PhDs with universities in foreign countries, which provide for the co-tutoring of theses. The PhD student's course of study, the procedure for obtaining the degree and the composition of the relevant committee will be defined in a dedicated agreement, in compliance with the regulations in force in the countries in which the PhDs are activated. In any case, the scholarship increase will be paid up to the eighteenth month.

The minimum period should depend on the rules set by each PhD Academic Board. The choice of the university will be agreed with the supervisor and the PhD Coordinator and then approved by the Academic Board.

13. Relevant Rules & Regulation

Beyond the provisions in this handbook, PhD candidates should be aware of the following rules and regulations that also apply to the programme.

Please consult our website for the [Code of Ethics](#) and the [Research Doctorate Regulations](#) of Luiss University.

Rules of Conduct

PhD Candidates are obliged to observe applicable laws and regulations and act in keeping with the principles of honesty, propriety, earnestness and cooperation in their dealings with fellow PhD Candidates, Faculty and all Luiss personnel.

PhD Candidates' behaviour must be informed by the principles of personal dignity, non-discrimination on the basis of physical condition, political opinion, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation and disability. PhD Candidates must dress in a sober and dignified manner on university premises in keeping with the fact that they are at an academic institution and refrain from consuming alcohol and/or drugs.

Without prejudice to freedom of expression and the right of criticism, PhD Candidates must always express themselves (in writing, verbally and through digital channels) in a dignified and civilized manner, avoiding violent and discriminatory language that could damage the University's reputation.

PhD Candidates must not damage the facilities (including Luiss property, premises and resources) that they use and must abide by the instructions given by Governance Bodies, Faculty, Employees and other workers of Luiss or other university/institution where they are staying for a period of study.

In addition, PhD Candidates are required to adopt an attitude consistent with the principles of environmental protection and sustainability, avoiding the waste of resources, energy and food.

The provisions of this article also apply when PhD Candidates spend a period of study at other Italian or foreign institutions/universities, consistent with the latter's own rules.

Obligations and Responsibilities of PhD Candidates

Admission to a doctoral programme entails an exclusive and full-time commitment in line with what is specified in the plan for the research doctorate programme concerned, without prejudice to the special rules that may be made for the doctoral programme organized under article 16 of these Regulations.

Enrolled PhD Candidates must attend doctoral courses and activities and continuously undertake study and research within the context of the facilities intended for such purposes and in the manner established by the academic board. Specifically, PhD Candidates are responsible for:

- Developing the research proposal and sharing it with supervisor;
- Discussing with the supervisor the type of guidance and comment which will be most helpful, and agreeing upon a schedule of meetings;
- Taking the initiative in raising problems or difficulties with supervisor and with the PhD Coordinator in the case she or he feels that the working relationship with the supervisor is not effective;



- Maintaining the progress of work in accordance with the milestones as agreed with the supervisor, and in particular the timely submission of written work to allow for comments;
- Being aware of the Luiss Codes of Ethics and observing the principles contained therein.

Social Media Policy

Luiss University

- recognizes and guarantees freedom of expression of thought under article 21 of the Constitution as a fundamental human right;
- understands the importance of social media platforms as a tool for communication and expression of the thoughts of each individual and for the dissemination and sharing of information;
- has established the policy set forth herein concerning the use of social media during conversations that may have an impact on the University's reputation.

The aim of the policy is to make the conversations involving the University fluid, transparent and respectful, to protect the University's image, reputation and credibility as well as that of all those who work at or interact with it and to promote the use of virtual communication tools having regard to the principles of legality, ethics and propriety.

The policy is addressed to the governing bodies, managers, employees, other staff, faculty, PhD Candidates, alumni, stakeholders, persons who work with the University or on its behalf and, in general, to any user who engages in conversations related to Luiss on social media platforms.

The University respects and cherishes freedom of expression and the sharing of information and knowledge but asks that such occur in a manner that respect the liberty and rights of others.

Therefore, it is recommended that everybody express their opinion correctly and in a measured tone, based as much as possible on verifiable facts and respecting the opinions of others.

The fundamental distinction in this matter is that between the use of Luiss institutional accounts and personal, private and in any case non-Luiss accounts. In the event of improper use of institutional accounts, one risks incurring serious sanctions of a business and legal nature. On the other hand, in the event of improper use through channels other than institutional ones, the case is formally more complex. The case in question will be submitted to the Ethics Committee, which will decide what to do on a case-by-case basis, resorting - if deemed necessary - to legal assistance in the event of existing contractual commitments or to the courts.

Use of Luiss Social Media Accounts

Luiss social media channels pursue the aim of contributing to the communication and dissemination of knowledge of information, events, services and opportunities.

Comments to the University's posts are considered as constituting important feedback for the institution and are therefore encouraged, provided that they pertain to topics of public interest and bearing in mind that they express exclusively the author's point of view.

In the use of social media networks, users are free to discuss the University and their experience here, provided that this is done with respect for the name and prestige of the institution and in a manner that does not harm the institution's image, credibility and reputation.

It is forbidden to publish information and content that may be considered contrary to the mission and values of Luiss as defined in the Code of Ethics, including legality, efficiency, transparency, competence, integrity and propriety.

You can find the Code of Ethics at the following address:

https://www.luiss.it/sites/all/Code_of_Ethics_aprile_2020_rev.pdf

Teaching and research assistantship

According to the Luiss University PhD regulations (article 20), '[A]s an integral part of their training doctoral students may undertake tutoring of those studying for bachelor's and master's degrees and also additional teaching of up to forty hours per academic year, subject to clearance from the academic board and without such entailing an increase in their scholarship.'

The PhD Programme includes both Teaching and Research Assistantship obligations towards the completion of the programme. Teaching and Research Assistantship must be agreed upon with supervisors and the PhD Coordinator and approved by the PhD Academic Board. In any case, they cannot take place before the admission to the Year 2 – i.e. after the approval of the research proposal. Students are advised not to take on any teaching obligations without the permission of the PhD Academic Board.

Cotutelle agreement

The University may enter into specific and special purpose agreements aimed at achieving a joint research doctorate Programmes with a university in a foreign country that entail the joint supervision of theses.

The cotutelle agreement shall generally provide that PhD Candidates must undertake their research under the guidance of two Supervisors, one for each university involved, committed to cooperating in a spirit of a common responsibility. The PhD Candidates' educational track, the procedures for the awarding of the qualification and the composition of the relevant exams commission shall all be set out in a special purpose agreement, in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable in the countries where the doctoral Programmes themselves are run.

The PhD Candidate has the possibility to ask for a cotutelle agreement during the first year or the early beginning of the second year.

Suspension

In the case of serious and documented illness or for proven reasons that make it impossible to attend courses and undertake the activities scheduled for the PhD Programme, PhD Candidates may request a suspension. The application for a suspension, stating the reasons therefor, must be submitted for approval by the academic board of the doctoral programme concerned. If the application is approved, a suspension of at most one year may be granted. During that period of suspension PhD Candidates cannot use any scholarship that they may have.