



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
SUOR ORSOLA
BENINCASA

DECRETO N. 587

THE CHANCELLOR, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD,

- WHEREAS** Article 19 of Law nr. 240 of December 30th, 2010, which amended article 4 of Law nr. 210 of July 3rd 1998, establishing the rules for PhDs;
- WHEREAS** Ministerial Decree nr. 45 of February 8th, 2013 issuing the *Regulation laying down the procedures for the accreditation of centres and doctoral courses and the criteria for setting up PhD courses by accredited bodies*;
- WHEREAS** MIUR note of March 24th 2014 nr. 436 *Guidelines for the Accreditation of PhD courses*
- WHEREAS** the *Regulations on PhDs* issued by this University through the Chancellor's Decree nr. 425 of July 29th 2014;
- WHEREAS** the agreement entered into by Suor Orsola Benincasa University with the University of Edinburgh on May 21st 2014 to set up an international PhD course named Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience;
- WHEREAS** the Ministerial Decree nr. 657 of 19th of August 2014, issuing the 5-year accreditation, for 3 consecutive cycles, of the Ph.D. programme of Suor Orsola Benincasa University;
- TAKING INTO ACCOUNT** The MIUR Note, protocol nr. 11677 of April 14th 2017, whereby the University received instructions to set up the Ph.D. accreditation procedure for the 2017/2018 academic year;
- WHEREAS** the resolutions of the Senate and the Board of Directors of June 8th 2017 concerning the reactivation of the international PhD course named Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience XXXIII Cycle awaiting accreditation of doctoral programmes in accordance with M.D. 45/2013;
- WHEREAS** The resolution issued by the Board of Administration on June 28th 2016 that established the fees;
- WHEREAS** the positive evaluation given by ANVUR on July 7th 2017

DECREES

**Article 1
(Institution)**

An International PhD programme has been set up for the academic year 2017/2018 lasting three years, in Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience, henceforth referred to as the 'Doctorate' and based at Suor Orsola Benincasa University - Naples, in agreement with the University of Edinburgh (UK)



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A public competition in which qualifications and examination performance will be assessed has been authorised for 4 places with a scholarship reserved for graduate students interested in attending the PhD course as part of a programme of international cooperation between Suor Orsola Benincasa University and the University of Edinburgh (UK) in order to obtain the joint qualification of Dottore di Ricerca/Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Successful candidates will carry out the activities of the doctorate in the partner institutions.

Article 2 (Admission Requirements)

1. Admission for graduates

The selection is open to anyone, regardless of age or citizenship, who holds a degree at the closing date of this notice in one of the following subjects:

- LM-6 Biology;
- LM-41 Medicine and surgery;
- LM-51 Psychology;
- 6/S (specialisation in biology);
- 58/S (specialisation in psychology);
- Degree awarded in classes equivalent to those mentioned above obtained in the previous educational systems (at least a four-year duration);
- Masters gained abroad (one or two-year duration).

Only those candidates who obtained a 2:1 Honours degree in their first-level programme (in Italy, a minimum score of 104/110) are eligible to apply.

2. Admission for candidates who are about to graduate.

Participation in the competition is also open to those who, on the closing date of this notice, is not in possession of the required university degree, but will be graduated no later than October 30th 2017. These candidates will be admitted conditionally and are expected to send a declaration attesting graduation to the following email address: area.affarigenerali@unisob.na.it no later than October 31st, 2017. In the declaration, the candidate must indicate the name of the University issuing the degree, the date of graduation, the type of degree and the mark obtained, together with a copy of a valid identification document.

Candidates who are not in possession of the minimum qualification for admission when submitting application for selection must in any case state the presumed graduation date.

Advanced knowledge of English language is a condition for application



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Article 3
(Submission of applications)

The application form, to be written as per the format shown in Form A annexed to this notice (of which it forms an integral part and which is available on the University website at <https://www.unisob.na.it/phdpsychology>), must be addressed to the Magnifico Rettore dell'Università degli Studi Suor Orsola Benincasa - Napoli, Via Suor Orsola 10-80135 Naples, and must be sent by certified email to the following email address: affari.generali@pec.unisob.na.it or by registered mail with acknowledgment of receipt to the following address: Università degli Studi Suor Orsola Benincasa - Napoli, Via Suor Orsola 10 - 80135 Napoli. The application must arrive, under penalty of exclusion, **no later than September 8th 2017, 11:45 a.m. Italian time.**

The envelope containing the application form/the subject of the e-mail must bear the following statement: “Domanda di partecipazione al XXXIII Ciclo del concorso di Dottorato di Ricerca in Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience”

The reception date of the registered mail is established by the stamp of receipt by the Protocol Office of the University and not the date of dispatch of the application. Thus, all applications received after the deadline set out in the terms of this announcement will be considered invalid.

Applicants must state, **under penalty of exclusion:**

- a) name and surname, date and place of birth, social security number, citizenship, residence, address for the purposes of the selection procedure including postal code, telephone number and e-mail address;
- b) the degree, the date and the university at which it was obtained, or the qualification obtained from a foreign University
- c) level of knowledge of the English language documented through appropriate certification;
- d) that they have / have not previously been awarded other scholarships (even for one year) for a doctoral programme;
- e) that they hold / do not hold a research grant;
- f) that they are/are not employees in the Public Administration;
- g) to undertake to attend the PhD programme full time as specified by the Academic Board;
- h) to undertake to communicate to the University any change of residence or address provided for the purposes of the selection procedure;
- i) to have read this announcement.

Applicants with disabilities must specify in their application, in accordance with current legislation, the assistance required in respect of their disability, including the possible need for additional time for the completion of the examination.



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International students can take the Interview by Skype, To this aim, they have to make explicit request that they wish to undertake the exam through Skype at the time of Application. The request must contain indication of the address of a University Department or an Embassy from where the candidate will connect by Skype. A public official must be present for identification of the candidate. The Committee will ascertain that all the formal conditions for the exam are satisfied before commencing the Interview.

By the deadline of the present call, candidates have to pay a € 50.00 fee as a contribution for the selection. Payment must be made by bank transfer. The bank details are as follows: IBAN: IT 65P0101003593100000301543 CODICE SWIFT: IBSPITNA - Università degli Studi Suor Orsola Benincasa – Via Suor Orsola, 10 80135 Napoli; reason for payment “Contributo di partecipazione alla selezione Dottorato di Ricerca in Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience XXXII Ciclo”. The contribution is not refundable.

Applications for the selection must be accompanied by the following attachments, identified by the word "Allegato" ("annex") followed by the serial number:

- Allegato (annex) 1. Photocopy on plain paper of an ID card or passport.
- Allegato (annex) 2. Curriculum vitae
- Allegato (annex) 3. A short research project (maximum 2500 words) in English.
- Allegato (annex) 4 Laurea Degree/Master Certificate with transcript
- Allegato (annex) 5. List of any publications.
- Allegato (annex) 6. Certificate of proficiency in English (IELTS: Overall score 7 with at least 6.5 in any section; TOEFL: Overall score 100 with at least 23 in any section). The results of the English Test will be required to be submitted within one month of the start of the programme.
- Allegato (annex) 7. Two letters of recommendation
- Allegato (annex)8. Receipt of payment of the fee

All applicants are admitted to the selection procedures subject to the verification of self-certified statements pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 445/2000.

The University can formally exclude an applicant at any time if deemed not to have met the stipulated requirements. Any exclusions will be published on the University website within September 15th 2017. Publication on the University website represents official notification; candidates will therefore not be sent any form of personal communication.

Article 4 (Incompatibility)



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Enrolment on the doctoral course is incompatible with enrolment on any other doctoral program, degree or diploma course, specialization course within the medical (or other) ambits and 1st or 2nd level Master courses.

In accordance with article 12, comma 10 of the *Regolamento in materia di Dottorato di Ricerca* of this University, candidates who have gained eligibility in the selection procedure and who are enrolled on Master Degree courses or Specialization courses may be granted the temporary suspension of their PhD course, should the Academic Board deem such measures applicable, in order to conclude their ongoing study course and, in any case, for no longer than six months.

Candidates cannot accumulate more than one scholarship, with the exception of funds to integrate study and research activities during periods spent abroad.

Any candidate who has already benefited from a scholarship for doctoral studies, even in the case of a one-year period, is not entitled to a second scholarship.

Article 5 (Examinations)

The examination for the doctoral programme involves:

- assessment of the CV and qualifications as per art. 3 of this announcement on the basis of criteria pre-established by the Examination Committee.
- an interview in English on the research project presented by the candidate.

The date of the interview for selection with the time and the place where the test will take place **will be published on September 21th 2017** on the University website at <https://www.unisob.na.it/phdpsychology>. This publication constitutes official notification to the candidates; they will not therefore receive any personal information.

The exams will be held on site at the Suor Orsola Benincasa University - Naples. International students are allowed to take the interview by Skype, as per art. 3 of the present announcement. The interview will take place on the same date as for Italian students. Prior to sitting the examination, candidates must show a valid identity document.

The absence of the candidate on the day, place and time set for any of the tests will be considered as a withdrawal from the test, for whatever cause.

Article 6 (The Examination Committee)

The Examination Committee for admission to the PhD will be appointed by the Chancellor of Suor Orsola Benincasa University on the proposal of the Director of the PhD. The members of the Commission shall be three professors (bands I and II) and permanent university researchers of both Universities belonging to the scientific and disciplinary areas pertaining to the doctorate, to which no more than two experts may be added, chosen from public and private research facilities.



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Article 7 (Assessment)

The Examination Committee has up to 120 points for the evaluation of each candidate as follows:

- 60 points for the assessment of qualifications;
- 60 points for the interview.

To be admitted for interview, the candidate must obtain a score of no less than 36/60 for the qualifications presented.

The pass mark for the interview is 36/60.

A short list of applicants admitted to the selection will be published after the evaluation of the qualifications on the website: <https://www.unisob.na.it/phdpsychology>. The final list of students admitted to the doctoral programme will be published on the same page.

Upon completion of the examinations, the Committee will rank the candidates on the basis of the marks obtained by each candidate in the assessment of the academic qualifications and in the interview.

The list will be made public, following Chancellor's approval, on the website: <https://www.unisob.na.it/phdpsychology>.

Publication constitutes official notification. Thus, applicants will receive no personal notification concerning the final ranking.

The statutory deadline for appeal will commence from the date of publication of the final ranking.

Article 8 (Admission)

Candidates are admitted to the doctoral programme according to the criteria established in the Memorandum of Understanding until the number of places available for each profile has been covered. In the event of withdrawal by successful candidates before the start of the programme, the corresponding number of candidates for each profile will be drawn from the list. Every student admitted to the doctoral programme will be formally enrolled at Suor Orsola Benincasa University and, at the University of Edinburgh.

Article 9 (Enrollment)

The students who have been awarded the scholarship must enroll by 31st of October 2017. The modality of enrollment will be notified concurrently with the publication of the final ranking. Those who do not comply with enrolment procedures by the deadline indicated in the present announcement or who made any fraudulent statements will be excluded from the list and replaced by the next eligible candidates, as per art. n. 7 of the present announcement. The students admitted to the programme with delay, are obliged to make up for lost time following the modalities indicated by the Academic Board.



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Article 10 (Scholarship)

Those candidates admitted to the doctoral programme, are entitled to a scholarship up to the number of scholarships made available. In accordance with the Local Law n. 16 of 7th of August 2014, the students enrolled in the Ph.D. programme are obliged to pay a fee of € 140 to the ADISU (Agenzia di Diritto allo Studio Universitario) for each year of their studies. The students are obliged to pay a tax (imposta di bollo) of € 16,00. The modality of payment will be notified concurrently with the publication of the final ranking. The yearly value of the scholarship amounts to € 13,638.47 (thirteen thousand, six hundred and thirty-eight euros and 47 cents) including social security contributions, as established by articles 1 and 3 of the Ministerial Decree of June 18th 2008, published in the O.G. 241 of October 14th 2008.

The amount of the scholarship increases by no less than 50% in the event of periods abroad for valid study purposes. Periods of residence abroad may not, in any case, constitute more than a half of the duration of the PhD programme. As of the second year, each PhD candidate is granted a budget for research activities in Italy and abroad, amounting to 10% of the scholarship. Scholarships are paid in monthly instalments. Scholarships are confirmed for the successive academic year, subject to the presence of merit requirements and upon the proposal of the Academic Board.

Scholarships may not be combined with other scholarships awarded for the same purpose, except those awarded by Italian or foreign institutions for research activities abroad for the training and/or research activities of PhD candidates.

Those who have already received a scholarship to study for a doctorate, even for only one year, cannot obtain a second one.

Article 11 (Obligations of doctoral candidates)

All students are required to diligently carry out the duties pertaining to individual research as stated in the international cooperation agreement and in accordance with the rules laid down by the Academic Board. Students are required to attend all the activities of the PhD programme in accordance with the rules laid down by the Academic Board, to present oral and written reports on the progress of their research and to abide by whatever the Board legitimately demands.

At the end of each academic year, each student will submit a report in English on his or her activities.

Based on the assessment of the activities carried out by the students, the Academic Board may decide, with appropriate justification, to exclude a candidate from the doctoral programme.

PhD students must participate in educational activities and seminars, as well as carry out internships with organisations or institutions with which the two universities have entered into special agreements. Students are required to spend at least 1 year (and no more than 18 months) at the University of Edinburgh.



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Attendance of the PhD programme may be suspended in the following cases, following a decision by the Academic Board:

- childbirth;
- military or civil service;
- documented serious illness.

Exclusion from the PhD, with a grounded decision of the Academic Board, may take place in any of the following cases:

- a negative judgement by the Academic Board on the results obtained for the year of the course attended;
- employment on the part of doctoral students without the prior consent of the Academic Board;
- prolonged and unjustified absence.

In such cases the scholarship is discontinued and the scholarship holder is required to return the amount hitherto received in the year regarding which the measure was taken.

Article 12 (The PhD qualification)

The title of Doctor of Philosophy/Dottore di ricerca is conferred by the Chancellor at the conclusion of the programme and upon passing the final examination, subject to the submission of a thesis. The examination (Viva) will be held in English. The partner universities will issue a joint qualification after the submission of a thesis written in English.

All candidates will take their final examination at the University of Edinburgh.

The procedures for the award of the qualification and its academic recognition will comply with the regulations in force in each country.

Art. 13 (Collection of documents and publications)

After 90 days from the publication of the final ranking, and up to 2 months, the documents and publications presented can be collected by the candidate, provided no controversy is in course. The documents and publications can also be sent by regular mail, but the candidate is in charge for postal expenses. After 5 months from the publication of the final ranking, the University will be no longer obliged to give the documents back to the candidate.

Article 14 (Privacy policy)

The university administration, in accordance with Legislative Decree nr. 196 of 30/06/2003 *Code regarding the protection of personal data*, undertakes to use the personal data provided by the candidates for the purpose of selection procedures and for institutional reasons.



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Article 15
(Official in charge of the Procedure)

The official in charge of the selection procedure referred to in this announcement is the Manager of General Affairs of the Suor Orsola Benincasa University - Via Suor Orsola, 10 - 80135 - Naples, e-mail area.affarigenerali@unisob.na.it, telephone number +39 081 2522211/433

Article 16
(Legal Regulations)

For matters not covered by this notice, please refer to the University Regulations for PhD programmes and the legal provisions in force. This Decree will be published in the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic.

Naples, 25/07/2017

THE CHANCELLOR
Prof. Lucio d'Alessandro