



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



PhD Programme in Psychology

Prof.ssa Mariagrazia Benassi – *PhD Programme in Psychology
Coordinator*

Prof. Raffaella Nori - Vicecoordinator

Dr.ssa Elisabetta Lombardo, Dr.ssa Chiara Bonechi– *PhD Students in
Psychology Representatives*

Department of Psychology «Renzo Canestrari» - University of Bologna

What is a PhD Programme?



✘ What the PhD Programme IS NOT



The natural
prosecution of your
studies after Master's
Degree



A course where you
attend lessons and you
pass exams until you
graduate



A job based on
research activities

✔ What to expect when you attend a PhD Programme



Autonomously conducting research projects under the supervision of your Tutors



Deepen your knowledge on a specific psychology field



Learning and practicing methodologic and analytic research skills



Attending lessons, seminar, and congresses to learn more about research in your field



Improving and practicing your soft skills



Develop and strenghten local and international academic relationships and networks



Disseminate your research results to the academic community



Doing Research: a journey in *your* Laboratory collaborating with *your* Research groups

The 80% of the training activities are dedicated to Research activities!
Research = Community

- **CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**
- **MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES**
- **INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS**

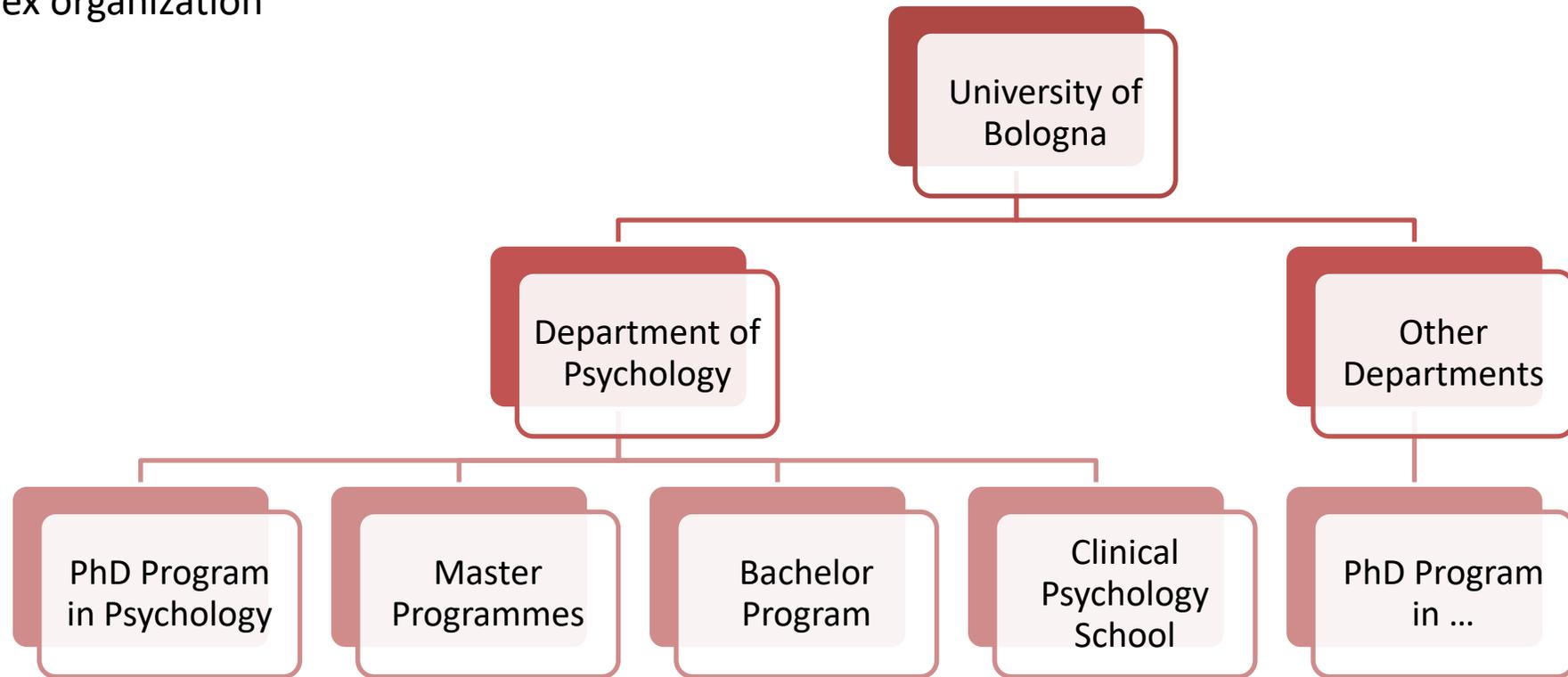
<https://psicologia.unibo.it/it/ricerca/laboratori-di-ricerca>

<https://psicologia.unibo.it/it/ricerca/gruppi-di-ricerca>



PhD Programme and Department of Psychology UNIBO

Be part of a complex organization



PhD Students' Representatives



PHD PROGRAMME
Psychology

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PhD Student's Representatives

They are elected for a three-year term, represent the student body, and participate in activities pertaining to the educational, organisational, and evaluation aspects of the programme.

CONTACTS

Chiara Bonechi

39th Cycle

[Write an e-mail](#)

[Go to the website](#)

Graziano Gigante

39th Cycle

[Write an e-mail](#)

[Go to the website](#)

Elisabetta Lombardo

40th Cycle

[Write an e-mail](#)

[Go to the website](#)



Teaching courses (some example from this year)



Academic writing and scientific dissemination

The publication process

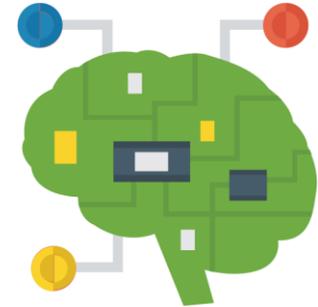
Systematic reviews



Psychological methods, introductory and advanced statistical models

Statistical analyses

Open Science Revolution

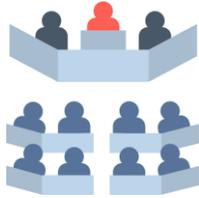


Cutting-edge topics in Psychology

Artificial intelligence

Populism

Other training activities



Congresses and conferences

Italian Psychological Association Section meetings (AIP)

Italian Reproducibility Network (ITRN)...



Seminars with international speakers

Psychological interventions for sleep problems

Qualitative Data Analysis: How Codes and Themes are Developed Using Grounded Theory...



Summer schools

Data analysis with R

Structural Equation Models...



Soft skills courses

Scientific communication

Data management

Career out of academy...



Choosing a topic



Tip: You can check on the psychology department website who is conducting research on your topic of interest, so you can then ask more information about tutoring

Conducting your research



Define your three years project under the supervision of your tutor and co-tutor



Work on research and publications



One paper submitted and one paper published



Conducting research and trainings all along the three years



Where?



Bologna

Department of Psychology



Cesena

All the PhD activities are done in presence. The Department of Psychology of the University of Bologna is located in two Campuses: Bologna and Cesena. Teaching activities are held in either the Campus of Bologna or the Campus of Cesena. Research activities are held primarily in Bologna or Cesena, according to the Lab to which PhD students are assigned.



Going abroad



Mandatory



At least 6 months



Need more info?



You can check the UNIBO Psychology PhD Website!



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<https://phd.unibo.it/psychology/en>



Already interested? Beware...



Commitment



Passion

CHALLENGING



Network



Flexibility



Ok, I'm convinced! Now what?

*Well, time to do a
step forward!*



How to apply?

The 2026 call (42nd Cycle) will be published soon!!

unibo.it/en/study/phd-professional-masters-specialisation-schools-and-other-programmes/phd/2025-2026/psychology-1

PHD IN
Psychology

Details Overview Contacts

Academic Year: 2025-2026

Subject area: Humanistic Studies

Cycle: 41

Coordinator: Prof. Elisabetta Crocetti

Language: English

Duration: 3 years

Scholarship amount: Minimum
€ 1,195.48 net per month (the amount may vary if you are a member of Italian professional pension funds or if you have other employment income that leads to a reduction in the social security rate)

PhD website (for information on research topics and programme organization)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APR 03, 2025 AT 11:59 PM

Call for Applications - First Round - 41st cycle

[Call for applications](#) [PhD Programme Table](#)

Doctoral programme start date: Nov 01, 2025

<https://www.unibo.it/en/study/phd-professional-masters-specialisation-schools-and-other-programmes/phd/2025-2026/psychology-1>



What should I apply for?



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AREA
FORMAZIONE E DOTTORATO

PHD PROGRAMME TABLE

Call for applications for the admission to the PhD programmes (41st cycle) - A.Y. 2025/2026
First round

PROGRAMME'S NAME	PSYCHOLOGY
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2025 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	English
COORDINATOR	Prof. Elisabetta Crocetti (elisabetta.crocetti@unibo.it)
PhD POSITIONS	9
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications and research proposal evaluation Oral examination

Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Positions linked to research topics
1	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
2	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
3	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
4	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	
5	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	
6	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	

7	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds made available by the project H2020 H-Work	Digital Maturity, Meaningful Work, and Workplace Innovation in the Digital Transformation Era
8	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds made available by the project H2020 Perceptions	Human-AI teaming in industries and enterprises
9	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds made available by the project MUR FARE CUP J33C22003590001	Managing identities during the COVID-19 outbreak: A longitudinal study on long-term implications for adolescents' psychosocial development



PhD Positions



PhD Positions
linked to a
specific research
topic

*Check the final two pages
for a description of each
and the supervisor*



What documents are needed?

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	
Identity document	Valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)
Curriculum Vitae	No specific CV format is required. The Curriculum Vitae must be written in English.
Degrees	Documents attesting the awarding of the first and second cycle degrees, the exams taken and the marks obtained (see Art. 3 of the Call for Applications)
Research proposal	Multi-annual research proposal, drawn up in English . The proposal must meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it must mention on the cover page the eventual topic-specific PhD (cfr. table “Available Positions and Scholarships”, and detailed in the section Research Fields) the applicant is interested to and the proposal is about, and the number of words used to write the research proposal; - it must include: the state of the art; Aims; Hypothesis; Methodology / structure of the study(s) (sample, independent and dependent variables, analysis plan; Theoretical and practical implications); Temporal plan of activities - max. 3,000 words, references excluded
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
Reference letter/s	No more than 2 reference letters signed by Italian or international academics and professionals in the research field, which do not form part of the Admission Board, attesting the suitability of the applicant and his/her interest in the scientific research. Letters shall be uploaded following the procedure detailed in the Call for Applications (Art. 3.2) and written in English .
Personal statement	The statement shall include the reasons prompting the applicant to attend the PhD Programme and those relevant experiences and research interests , that make the applicant suitable for the specific PhD Programme (3,000 characters maximum, including spaces). The personal statement must be written in English.
Publications	Lists of publications (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals)



Check the Evaluation criteria

1. Qualifications and research proposal evaluation

Minimum score for admission to the oral examination: 30 points, Maximum score: 50 points

Qualifications evaluation	University degree final mark. Graduands shall be evaluated according to the Weighted Average Mark (WAM)	10 points max
	Reference letter/s	2 points max
	Personal statement	1 point max
	Publications	4 points max
Research proposal evaluation	Scientific value and ground-breaking nature of the proposal	13 points max
	Structure of the proposal	10 points max
	Proposal feasibility	10 points max

Final step: the oral examination!



English language proficiency

• 10 points

Research Proposal Presentation

• 35 points

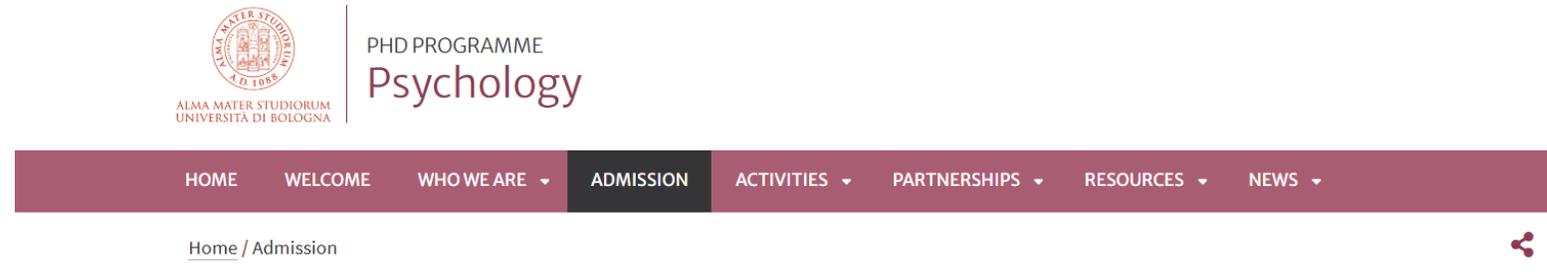
General knowledge of PhD programme's structure and research topics

• 5 points



**For FAQ regarding
the admission
process see:**

<https://phd.unibo.it/psychology/en/admission>



Admission

Students from all over the world can apply for the Ph.D. programme in Psychology. If you are interested, here you can find the FAQ.

When can I apply for the PhD program in Psychology?

You can apply only when there is an open Call.

In 2026, the PhD program in Psychology has two calls (the deadlines will be published soon). You will find it [here](#).

On 12nd of February 2026 , a public event to present the PhD program and the first call will be held.

I have questions related to the application and enrollment procedures. Who should I contact?

You need to contact the PhD office. See [here](#) for contact details.

What must I do to apply for the PhD program in Psychology?





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Hoping to see you in the 42nd Cycle!

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www.unibo.it





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Thanks!

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