

REGULATIONS OF THE 29th CYCLE OF THE Ph.D PROGRAM IN MANAGEMENT, FINANCE, AND LEGAL DISCIPLINES FOR INTEGRATED COMPANY MANAGEMENT

- Art. 1 – Subject
- Art. 2 – Title, general topics and educational objectives of the course
- Art. 3 – Duration and structure of the course
- Art. 4 – Pacts and Agreements with universities
- Art. 5 – Agreements with businesses
- Art. 6 – Requirements and access procedures
- Art. 7 – Bursaries and exemptions
- Art. 8 – Procedure for establishing the Committees for the comparative assessment of candidates
- Art. 9 – Rights and duties of the doctoral candidates
- Art. 10 – Faculty Board, Management Committee and Coordinator
- Art. 11 – Tutor and Supervisors
- Art. 12 – Study programme
- Art. 13 – Path of studies for the first two years and its assessment methods
- Art. 14 – Third year: thesis project and final examination

Art. 1 – Subject

1. These regulations set out the objectives, characteristics and operational rules for the research doctorate course in **Management, Finance, and Legal Disciplines for Integrated Company Management** (hereinafter referred to as "Course"), in compliance with Article 5 of the Regulations for governing Research Doctorate courses (hereinafter referred to as "Course Regulations"), which was approved by the Senate of the Cattaneo – LUIC University (hereinafter referred to as "University") on 6 May 2013 in acknowledgement of Ministerial Decree no. 45 dated 8 February 2013.
2. These regulations, drawn up in Italian and English and approved by the University's Senate, are issued by Decree of the Rector and published on the University's web site.

Art. 2 – Title, general topics and educational objectives of the course

1. The Course, from the title "**Management, Finance, and Legal Disciplines for Integrated Company Management**", refers to the Scientific Branch Sectors:
 - ING-IND/17 Mechanical and Industrial Plants
 - ING-IND/35 Economic-Management Engineering
 - IUS/04 Commercial Law
 - IUS-12 Tax Law
 - SECS-P/07 Business Economics
 - SECS-P/08 Economics and Business Management
 - SECS-P/07 Corporate Organization
 - SECS-P/11 Economics of Financial Brokers
2. The basic analytical instruments, functional for a more effective achievement of the Course's objectives, which are clarified below, and the appropriate integration of the correlated skills, also draws from the knowledge and methodologies of the disciplines of the Scientific Branch Sectors:
 - SECS-/S01 Statistics
 - SECS-S/06 Mathematical methods for economics and the actuarial and financial sciences
 - SECS-P/01 Political Economics
 - IUS-02 Comparative Private Law
 - IUS-17 Criminal Lawwhich are to be considered ancillary and/or functional under the profile of the investigation and analysis methods for the subjects fundamental to the Course and not independent scientific investigation fields, and as such also covered by lecturers associated with the Board in a consultative role.
3. The Course trains researchers so that they can interpret business phenomena in an integrated way, using the general methodological principles for quantitative and qualitative research in the social sciences, with the perspectives offered by subject areas of corporate economics, management engineering and law applied to business economics.

4. The objective of combining a broad spectrum integrated view with depth of analysis is achieved in the training path project which, after an initial common stage, is broken down into three curricula in distinct disciplinary areas defined broadly, clearly, and uniformly in relation to international research standards and is completed in individual doctoral theses on specific precisely identified research questions which must be of relevance for the scientific community, but with explicit significant professional spin-offs.

5. In this way, the Course is placed in the trend of being at an international level with regard to research activity educational products. The tendency for the functional convergence underway in the research world, by virtue of which a same phenomenon is analysed in an ever deeper way by combining different complementary investigatory perspectives, makes the choice of combining the management engineering and corporate economics approaches a distinctive fertile character of the Course, allowing its doctoral candidates to acquire a unique competence in the study of that very subject of inquiry, which is corporate and market structures and processes. Similarly, the presence of a curriculum dedicated to corporate law grafts a growing tendency at international level of linking the analysis of law to that of the essential underlying reality onto the model for important doctorates in Law & Economics or Law, Sciences & Technology

6. The award of the research doctorate in the Management, Finance, and Legal Disciplines for Integrated Company Management certifies the clear ability to:

- a) study corporate phenomena and market dynamics with advanced multi-purpose methodological tools so that their complexity and multiplicity can be best understood;
- b) make use of robust analytical tools, as an alternative or together with the managerial, management engineering and legal area, to obtain research results that are academically rigorous and professionally significant;
- c) to identify innovative research topics and develop original results of interest to the scientific and professional community.

Art. 3 – Duration and structure of the course

1. The Course lasts three academic years. The final examination must be taken before the end of the fourth year of the course, i.e. at the end of March in the year after the end of the didactic cycle, except for the cases provided for by Article 9, section 10.

2. After a common part, the Course is organized into three curricula (reference Scientific Branch Sectors in brackets):

- Management Science (SECS-P/07, SECS-P/10, SECS-P/08, ING-IND/17, ING-IND/35)
- Accounting & Finance (SECS-P/07, SECS-P/11, ING-IND/35)
- Law for Firms & Markets (IUS/04, IUS12)

Since the SECS-S/01, SECS-S/06, SECS-P/01, IUS-02 and IUS-17 Scientific Branch Sectors are functional and/or ancillary, under the inquiry method profile, to the subjects of the three curricula, it is not the main aim of the Course to prepare the students for original research activity in these fields.

3. If the number of doctoral candidates obliged to attend a course is less than **three**, the corresponding didactic activities are held in tutorial form instead of lecture room lessons.

Art. 4 – Pacts and Agreements with universities

1. With reference to the Course as of these regulations, the University can activate agreements with other Italian and foreign universities, which may be useful for broadening or deepening the research topics that are the subject of its educational objectives.

2. These cooperative solutions can be substantiated in the possibility of the doctoral candidate accessing additional educational sequences that replace or supplement those offered in house, thus allowing him/her to realise his/her research objectives better, facilitating focus on his/her area of maximum interest or opening further main research spaces, and can also provide for the award of double qualifications or joint qualifications.

3. The consortium and agreement solutions must be established in compliance with the ministerial rules and the university regulations in force on the matter.

Art. 5 – Agreements with businesses

1. The Course provides that agreements can be activated with companies and institutions involved in research and development activities. The agreement defines the nature of the company's or institution's commitment in support of the programme and/or its doctoral candidates in relation to, if indicated, specific research areas that it intends to promote. The support can be subject to conditions in terms of research activities or teaching to be carried out by the beneficiary doctoral candidates and/or the teaching staff.
2. Any agreements with companies must contain all the provisions of Article 11 of Ministerial Decree no. 45/2013 and are approved by the University's Executive Committee.

Art. 6 – Requirements and access procedures

1. For every course cycle, the University issues an announcement for admission, drawn up in Italian and English and publicized electronically on the University's site, the Euraxess European site and on the Ministry's site (Article 8, section 2, of Ministerial Decree no. 45/2013). The admission announcement, drawn up in compliance with these Regulations and the rulings of the Senate with regard to the number of bursaries, taxes and contributions, in Italian and English, must contain the link to the University's website on which it is published. The Announcement is issued by decree of the Rector.

2. Admission to the Course is by public selection and the examinations must be concluded within the term indicated in the announcement and in any case not later than 10 October.

3. The application to participate can be submitted, without limits of citizenship, by any person who holds a master's degree, or equivalent foreign qualification, or any person who thinks he/she will be awarded it within the term indicated in the announcement and in any case not later than 31 October of the calendar year of the application, on penalty of forfeiture of admission successful in the selection, in the following classes of master's degree or degree in the equivalent old four-year system:

- LM-77 Economics/Business
- LM-16 Finance
- LM-56 Economics
- LM-31 Industrial Engineering
- LM-59 Public and Business Communication and Advertising
- LM-63 Public Administration
- LM-76 Economics for the Environment and Culture
- LMG/01 Law

The commission also evaluates applications from candidates holding degrees in classes other than those listed, but their qualifications must show suitable basic knowledge of the Course's topics.

4. The admissions announcement indicates the curricula that will be activated. In the application for participation, the candidate specifies the curriculum that he/she intends to enrol in.

5. Selection is by qualifications and/or examinations. The announcement for admission to the course defines any qualifications to be considered in the admission judgement, the number and nature of the examinations and the scores that can be attributed to each assessment element thus identified.

6. The admission examinations, if required, are designed to ascertain the candidate's attitude to scientific research, his/her knowledge of English and his/her basic knowledge of the topics that are the subject of the course.

7. The Commission draws up a ranking based on the sum of scores obtained by the candidates through the effect of the qualifications submitted and the results of any examinations to represent the candidate's assessed attitude to scientific research and his/her basic knowledge of the topics that are the subject of the course. The ranking is established independent of the curriculum.

8. The candidates are admitted to the Course according to their order in the ranking until the available places are taken.

This is without prejudice to the provisions of Ministerial Decree no. 45 dated 8 February 2013 on the forming of separate admission lists with reference to Agreements with Companies.

9. Applications for transfer into the course from doctoral candidates currently pursuing other doctorates are considered by the Faculty Board, which rules on any admission and in the event establishes the conditions for it based on examination of the candidate's specific situation.

Art. 7 – Bursaries and exemptions

1. The admissions announcement shows the number and amount of the bursaries, the number and conditions of the exemptions, and the amount of the charges and contributions as determined by the University Senate.

2. Bursaries and exemptions are assigned according to the admission ranking to the Course until the available places are taken. If the ranking is equal, younger age is taken into account. An exception is bursaries financed by external bodies and subject to particular constraints, e.g. frequenting a certain curriculum. In these cases, the bursary is allocated to the first classified person possessing all the requirements.

3. The bursaries and exemptions last for one year and are renewable on condition that the doctoral candidate has successfully completed the programme of activities for the previous year, which is checked in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 13. If the doctoral candidate is not assessed positively for the purpose of renewing the bursary, or renounces it, the unused amount remains at the disposal of the university.

4. If a doctoral candidate enjoying a bursary continuously fails to carry out the study and research activities, the Faculty Board can at any time revoke the bursary with a suitably justified ruling.

5. Bursaries from ministerial funds cannot be accumulated with other bursaries awarded for any reason, except those granted by Italian or foreign institutions and intended to finance, in full or part, stays outside the campus, in Italy and abroad, which are consistent with, or useful to, the doctoral candidate's educational and research activity. The student receiving bursaries agreed by the University is obliged to inform the Course Coordinator of any further form of financial support obtained so that the Management Committee can assess the consistency and usefulness of the activities thus financed for the purposes of the student's educational path.

Art. 8 – Procedure for establishing the Committees for the comparative assessment of candidates

1. The Rector, having heard the Faculty Board, appoints the Committee for the comparative assessment of the candidates and this consists of five members, also from foreign institutions, selected from tenured university lectures (ordinary, associate, fixed term and open-end researchers) and experts from accredited public and private research structures within the bounds of the following constraints:

- a) the majority of the members must be drawn from ordinary or associate professors (tenured, if Italian). The related ministerial decree is valid for determining the equivalence of foreign qualifications;
- b) the majority of the members must be in the University staff lists;
- c) there must be at least one lecturer belonging to a discipline group regarding each activated curriculum.

2. In the case of the renunciation, inability or revocation of a committee member, the Rector, by his own decree, restores the Committee with the appointment of a replacement within the constraints of the section above.

Art. 9 – Rights and duties of the doctoral candidates

1. The Course involves exclusive full time commitment from the admitted student. If the doctoral candidate cannot maintain this commitment, he/she is obliged to inform the Coordinator immediately. Acknowledging the situation, and on the basis of the term report submitted by the doctoral candidate, as specified in Article 13, section 2b, the Faculty Board consequently gives a ruling up to excluding the doctoral candidate from the Course.

2. The doctoral candidate follows an educational path designed for the award of an academic qualification and, as such, has the rights and duties of a student. The doctoral candidate is included in one of the University's Research Groups and is therefore to be considered, also in consideration of the EU directives, a young researcher (early stage researcher).
3. The doctoral candidate must submit an enrolment application at the start of each year of the course and pay any taxes and contributions.
Students awarded a bursary are obliged to perform, subject to ruling by the Faculty Board, tutoring activities for degree and master's degree students as well as supplementary didactic activity for a maximum of 40 hours per year of course.
Other students can be required to perform, subject to ruling by the Faculty Board, tutoring activities for degree and master's degree students as well as supplementary didactic activity for a maximum of 40 hours per year of course. In this case, the didactic activity can be paid.
4. Every doctoral candidate can carry out, after getting a favourable opinion from the Management Committee, activities in the University's Research Centres or Laboratories. These activities can be paid.
5. The University Senate establishes a maximum limit for the income that the doctoral candidate can receive per year in order to keep his/her commitment focused on the Course's specific topics.
6. Every doctoral candidate can carry out activities outside the University only occasionally and in any case subject to approval from the Faculty Board.
7. The doctoral candidate may carry out a maximum of one year's research relevant to the award of the doctorate at other universities, both according to the terms of any agreements or pacts and in the capacity of free mover if he/she obtains full approval from the Management Committee for the study and research plan drawn up for the purpose and authorized beforehand by the Tutor or Supervisors. If the student is a holder of a bursary for the doctorate, he/she must recoup the 40 hours of supplementary teaching for the year outside the campus in the periods of study carried out in the university.
8. If the doctoral candidate renounces pursuing the Course, he/she is obliged to give written notice to the Coordinator. If the doctoral candidate is a bursary holder, the provision of financial support is stopped from that date and the remaining amount is at the University's disposal.
9. The doctoral candidate who finds him/herself in the condition of interrupting attendance through maternity/paternity, illness and serious documented reasons can obtain suspension of attendance based on the documentation submitted and the ruling from the Faculty Board. The rights to any bursary enjoyed are kept, apart from interruption of the provision and subsequent recovery on resumption of attendance. The doctoral candidate is not obliged to pay taxes or contributions during the period of suspension of attendance, except for the payment of the regional tax.

Art. 10 – Faculty Board, Management Committee and Coordinator

1. The faculty Board is in charge of designing and coordinating the Course and operates under the management of the Coordinator, as set out in the Regulations for Doctorate Courses. By the terms of those regulations, there must be a Management Committee.
2. The Faculty Board, including the Coordinator, remains in office for three years. The appointments can be renewed. The composition of the Faculty Board constitutes an attachment to these Regulations.
3. If the role of coordinator is vacant, a replacement is appointed on the basis of the appointment procedure provided for in the Regulations for Doctorate Courses. When the role of coordinator is vacant, the role is covered by the member of Faculty Board who has the most seniority in the University's tenure lists.
4. If a position on the Faculty Board is vacant, the Rector appoints a replacement, after hearing the Faculty Board's opinion. The appointment must be ratified by the Senate when the new doctorate cycle is activated, after hearing the opinion of the Academic Council.
5. A representative of the doctoral candidates attends the Faculty Board meetings that deal with didactic and organizational problems. The representative is elected by the doctoral candidates in accordance with the

procedures provided for in the Regulations for the election of student representatives and remains in office for the period provided for in those Regulations.

6. The Faculty Board meets at least once a semester. The Coordinator calls the meetings by e-mail sent to the address that every member is obliged to communicate on appointment. The calls must be sent at least eight days before the date of the meeting or, in the event of an emergency, at least two days before the date of the meeting. The meetings are valid if at least a half of the members of the Faculty Board is present.

7. The Coordinator chairs the Faculty Board meetings. If he/she is absent or unable to attend, the ordinary professor most senior in tenure replaces him/her. Resolutions are taken by the majority vote of those present. In the case of parity, the person chairing the meeting has the casting vote.

8. The Faculty Board appoints **at least three** of its members in the first meeting of every academic year to be part of the Course Management Committee, together and under the guidance of the Coordinator.

9. The Management Committee is called by the Coordinator, also upon request of a member, for the management of the Course's operational aspects and it gives an account to the Faculty Board in the first useful meeting.

Art. 11 – Tutor and Supervisors

1. The educational path of the first two years of the doctoral candidate's course is monitored and supported by a Tutor, the appointment of whom is approved by the Faculty Board, also upon proposal by the doctoral candidate, within three months of admission of the doctoral candidate to the first year of the course.

2. It is possible to change Tutor at the beginning of the second year. This change must be requested by the doctoral candidate, with adequate justification, from the Faculty Board and must be accompanied by the proposal for the new Tutor. Every other change of Tutor is to be considered an exceptional event, to be managed by the Management Committee.

3. The work on the doctoral thesis is monitored and supported by two Supervisors, chosen from tenured lecturers in Italian or foreign universities who have certified their willingness to follow said work. The Supervisor with primary responsibility must be in the University staff lists. The appointment of the Supervisors is approved by the Faculty Board at the end of the second year of the course, as specified in Article 13, section 4. The appointment of Supervisor is unpaid.

Art. 12 – Study programme

1. In the first two years of the course the doctoral candidate acquires, with attendance at lectures and seminars, personal study and the university lecturers' support for research activities, skills in the subject of scientific research methodology and cutting-edge concepts within the context of managerial and legal subjects relevant to integrated business management.

2. The doctoral candidate also carries out activities for linguistic and IT mastery, as well as in the field of research management and knowledge of the European and international research systems, and for creating value for the research results and intellectual property.

3. The 1st semester consists of 6 courses of 4 CFU (University Educational Credit) each, mainly with methodological connotations, common to all the curricula and which form the following three basic sequences:

A. Quantitative Methods for Managerial Sciences

A1. Optimization Techniques SECS-S/06

A2. Applied Statistics SECS-S/01

B. Business Research Approaches and Techniques

B1. Managerial Theories and Empirical Research SECS-P/07

B2. Approaches and Techniques for Business Research ING-IND/35

C. Economic & legal inquiry

- C1. Modelling Decisions and Markets SECS-P/01
- C2. Legal Comparative Analysis IUS/02

Students in the Law for Firms & Markets curriculum have the right to substitute three courses from sequence A (Quantitative Methods for Managerial Sciences) with "IUS" qualified Scientific Branch Sector courses offered in the university's master's programmes or with other clearly defined educational activities, even carried out outside LUIC. The substitution must be approved by the Management Committee, possibly before the start of the course, and in any case not later than the end of November in the first year of the course. The approval must give justification of the fact that, for the student, the substitution observes the principle of "equivalent effort", assures a formal final assessment of the skills acquired and is consistent with his/her educational objectives.

4. In the second semester, conclude the Quantitative Methods sequence or any equivalent activities as of the second section of the point above, with the following courses, again of 4 CFU each:

- A3. Cross Section Data Analysis SECS-S/01
- A4. Time Series Analysis SECS-S/01

Depending on the curriculum chosen, the students are then obliged to follow the courses of 4 CFU in the following sequences:

MANAGEMENT SCIENCE CURRICULUM

D. Operations Management and Innovation

- D1. Supply chain and logistics ING-IND/17
- D2. Innovation Management ING-IND/35

E. Strategy and Organization

- E1. Strategic Entrepreneurship SECS-P/07
- E2. Organizational Behaviour and Human Resources Management SECS-P/10

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE CURRICULUM

F. Accounting

- F1. Theory of Financial Accounting SECS-P/07
- F2. Managerial Accounting and Performance Measurement ING-IND/35

G. Finance

- G1. Investment and Asset Pricing SECS-P/11
- G2. Corporate Finance ING-IND/35

LAW FOR FIRMS & MARKETS CURRICULUM

H. Legal body of knowledge

- H1. Start Up and Governance of the Firm IUS/04
- H2. Intellectual Capital and Competition Rules IUS/04

I. Practice of Law in business and corporate life

- I1. Field work & periodic workshop 1
- I2. Field work & periodic workshop 2

5. In the third semester, the doctoral candidates complete the two sequences typical of every curriculum with the following courses of 4 CFU each:

MANAGEMENT SCIENCE CURRICULUM

D. Operations Management and Innovation

- D3/E3. Technology and Information System Management ING-IND/35
- D4. Social network analysis applied to business operations ING-IND/17

E. Strategy and Organization

- D3/E3. Technology and Information System Management SECS-P/07
- E4. Corporate Strategy and Organizational Development SECS-P/07; SECS-P/10

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE CURRICULUM

F. Accounting

- F3. Advanced topics in Financial and Managerial Accounting SECS-P/07
- F4/G4. Empirical Research in Finance and Accounting SECS-P/07; SECS-P/11

G. Finance

- G3. Theory of Financial Markets and Intermediation SECS-P/11

LAW FOR FIRMS AND MARKETS CURRICULUM

H. Business and Corporate Law

H3. Governance of the Firm – Special cases IUS/04 - IUS/17

H4. Impact of Taxation on Firm Structure and Contract Design IUS-12

I. Practice of Law

I3. Field Work & Periodic Workshop 3

I4. Field Work & Periodic Workshop 49

6. The student must supplement the commitment of the 2nd and 3rd semester with educational activities of equal significance to a third sequence (16 CFU, in total), which must be agreed with the Tutor and approved by the Management Committee. The Management Committee's approval is issued after taking into account the consistency of the proposal with the doctoral candidate's study plan and the observance of the principles of equivalence and appreciability of the skills acquired.

6. a) Firstly, they can consist of courses taken from sequences offered by another curriculum in order to allow the student a broader vision, transversal to several disciplinary fields, of a same research field, that of business management in competitive markets, which puts forward complex problems and for the solving of which it is important to have a strong multi-discipline basis. This is the priority solution for students who intend to pursue careers outside academia.

6. b) Alternatively, students can opt for courses taken from LUIC master's degrees or doctoral courses provided by other universities with which the University maintains operational agreements or at which the doctoral candidate has secured permission to attend in his/her capacity as free mover. This is the preferred solution for students that intend to focus their preparation on narrower disciplinary fields or have particular research training requirements.

7. The student must complete the following complementary activities during the course of the first three semesters:

A IT Seminars (2 CFU)

B Information Literacy Seminars (2 CFU)

C Writing for Scholarly Publications Seminars (2 CFU)

D Seminars on research management, research systems and financing (2 CFU)

E Seminars on intellectual property valorisation systems (2 CFU)

F English language course to obtain BEC/ ICFE/ILEC certification (6 CFU)

8. During the 2nd and 3rd year of the course, the doctoral candidate is also obliged to attend workshops on research work, as specified by Article 14, section 2. He/she must also complete the certification of knowledge of the English language no later than the end of the second semester of the second year.

Art. 13 – Path of studies for the first two years and its assessment methods

1. The Course starts with the beginning of the academic year. During the 1st and 2nd year, the doctoral candidate must:

a) attend each course that he/she is obliged to follow and pass the examination for it, which is assessed on a scale of: honours, pass, fail;

b) document the activities carried out (courses and seminars, research, didactic activity held) producing a written report, signed and, if appropriate, commented on by the Tutor for submission to the Coordinator every four months. The doctoral candidate notes down every topic that he/she intends to submit to the Faculty Board in that report.

2. No later than July of the first year of the course, the doctoral candidate verbally illustrates a summary of the activity carried out to the Faculty Board, highlighting the progress made in the research area and the results obtained. The Faculty Board, having acknowledged this verbal presentation, the four-monthly reports produced and the results of the examinations rules on the passage of the doctoral candidate to the second year of the course. If the assessment is not positive, the Faculty Board rules that the doctoral candidate be excluded from the Course, or authorizes him/her to submit a new presentation to be held no later than October of the same year in order to prove that the highlighted problems have been resolved. In this case, following the new presentation, the Faculty Board approves admission to the second year of the course or rules the doctoral candidate be excluded from the Course.

3. No later than October of the 2nd year of the course, the doctoral candidate verbally illustrates a summary of the activity carried out, the progress made in the research area and the results obtained to the Faculty Board. He/she also proposes, with the support of a written project, the preliminary title of his/her research thesis, the objectives and the plan of work envisaged for completion of that thesis. This proposal is accompanied by the indication of the two Supervisors, who can be supplemented by an expert outside the academic tenures. The Faculty Board, acknowledging the verbal presentation, the four-monthly reports submitted, the examination results and proposed thesis project, approved by the supervisors, rules on the doctoral candidate's passage to the third year of the course admitting him/her to the preparation of the thesis work. If the assessment is not positive, the Faculty Board rules that the doctoral candidate be excluded from the Course, or authorizes him/her to submit a new presentation to be held no later than March of the following academic year in order to prove that the highlighted problems have been resolved. In this case, the doctoral candidate can be conditionally enrolled in the next year of the course. Following the new presentation, the Faculty Board approves admission to the third year of the course or rules the doctoral candidate be excluded from the Course.

Art. 14 – Third year: thesis project and final examination

1. During the third year of the course, the doctoral candidate is involved in drafting the thesis counting on the Supervisors' support and monitoring.

2. During the third year of the course, the doctoral candidate submits the progress of his/her thesis work and discusses the most relevant literature on the topic of the thesis in a workshop on research works, which all doctoral candidates in the second and third year of the course are obliged to attend.

3. No later than July of the third year of the course, the doctoral candidate preliminarily submits the results obtained in his/her thesis work to the Faculty Board, supplemented by the Supervisors if necessary. Alternatively, the doctoral candidate can request an extension of no more than six months for this presentation. If the assessment is not positive, the doctoral candidate is only allowed a second possibility of preliminary presentation, to be held within six months of the first. A further negative assessment determines the doctoral candidate's exclusion from the Course.

4. Following the positive assessment of the presentation as of the section above, the Coordinator, having heard the Supervisors, appoints two highly qualified assessors, also belonging to foreign institutions, external to the University. On indication of the Supervisors, the doctoral candidate sends a copy of the thesis to the assessors when it is complete; they express an analytical judgement on the thesis and propose admission to public discussion or send it back for a period of no more than six months if they consider significant supplements or corrections are necessary. Once that period has elapsed, the thesis is in any case admitted to public discussion, accompanied by the same assessors' new written assessment drawn up in light of any corrections or supplements made.

5. The doctoral thesis, accompanied by an abstract in Italian and English, is drafted in Italian or English and is attached to the doctoral candidate's report on the activities carried out in the course of the doctorate and any publications made. The thesis contains the statement of a maximum of three scientific disciplinary sectors to which the research work is linked with specification of which of these is the main one. The indication of the language and the chosen scientific disciplinary sectors is shown in the written thesis project as of Article 13, section 4.

6. The public discussion takes place before a Committee appointed by the Rector after hearing the Faculty Board and this consists of three members chosen from the tenured professors (the majority) and researchers, also from non-Italian universities, who are specifically qualified in the Scientific Disciplinary Sector stated for the thesis or in similar areas. The Committee can be supplemented by not more than two experts belonging to public and private research structures, also foreign, on the Faculty Board's proposal. The public discussion takes place within 90 days of the Rector's appointment decree.

7. At the end of the discussion, the thesis is approved or rejected with justified joint written judgement. In the case of approval, the Committee awards the qualification of doctor of research, abbreviated with the wording: "Dott. Ric." or "Ph. D.". The curriculum is indicated in the qualification.