

PhD course in Developmental Medicine and Health Planning Sciences

EDUCATIONAL OFFER

The PhD course in Developmental Medicine and Health Planning Sciences consists of two "curricula" including heterogeneous research lines: from basic to clinical research in a variety of fields ranging from genetics and the different areas of pediatrics and gynecology to epidemiology and health planning. Therefore, the educational offer needs to integrate this wide variety of research lines and the specific interests of each PhD student, while also ensuring training on basic topics.

For this purpose, the teaching activity is structured in three levels:

- 1) Lectures on basic topics shared by all the research fields;
- 2) Elective training activities on topics of specific interest for the PhD student;
- 3) Major scientific events on multidisciplinary themes of interest for all PhD students of the University of Padova and/or the Department of Women's and Children's Health.

1) LECTURES ON BASIC TOPICS

The educational offer include the following lectures on basic topics / themes, proposed during the first year of the PhD course:

Topic	Hours	Mandatory	Lecturers
Academic English (organized by the University of Padova Language Centre)	30	No	Teachers from the University of Padova Language Centre
Scientific writing	30	Yes*	Dr. R. Crestani
Statistics	10	Yes*	Prof. M. Bolzan
Bioethics	2-3	Yes*	Prof. A. Aprile
Clinical trials	2	Yes*	Prof. G. Bisogno
Omics sciences	6-8	Yes*	Prof. L. Salviati Dr. S. Bresolin Prof. E. Baraldi

*The minimum attendance requirement for PhD students is at least 80%.

Other specific topics can be proposed each year.

PhD students are required to attend the lessons organized within the PhD course, with the personal aim of completing their education on basic topics in an interdisciplinary perspective. Attendance to teaching activities is mandatory (with the exception of the Academic English course) and is verified by the lecturers according to the most appropriate assessment method. The minimum attendance requirement for PhD students is at least 80% of lectures

on each topic; if this requirement is not fulfilled, the specific cycle of lectures should be attended during the second year, with exceptions deliberated by the teaching body.

2) ELECTIVE TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The elective training activities pertain specific topics related to the research fields that characterize the PhD Program and include:

- scientific events organized by the Department of Women's and Children's Health and by the Institute of Pediatric Research "Città della Speranza" (e.g. Grand Round in Pediatrics, seminars of the Institute of Pediatric Research); the activities planning will be periodically notified to all PhD students by the didactics office;

- seminars, courses, congresses and training events organized by the University of Padova or by other research institutes or scientific societies.

During the first year, the PhD students are required to attend at least 3 elective training activities relevant to their research field, for a total of at least 10 training hours. During the second and third years, PhD students are required to attend at least 10 elective training activities, for a total of at least 60 training hours.

The chosen activities have to be agreed beforehand with the supervisor.

The list of attended activities has to be self-certified in the PhD student's annual report.

Group and journal club activities within the research group, necessary for the personal training of the PhD Student, are not counted towards the number of hours required for elective activities.

3) MAJOR SCIENTIFIC EVENTS ON MULTIDISCIPLINARY THEMES

The PhD course promotes the investigation of topics and methodological approaches that range from basic sciences to general culture; themes not directly related to the specific research field of PhD students are also considered, with the purpose of broadening students' horizons in science.

The offered educational activities include the Winter schools and the Summer schools dedicated to all PhD programs in the medical area.

Topics are proposed and discussed annually by the PhD Board.

ACTIVE TEACHING

Finally, the acquisition of teaching skills by PhD students is another important goal that should be considered during the PhD course. This objective could be implemented giving PhD students the possibility of giving lectures in "specialization" medical schools.