

Specific regulations of the Ph.D. program in Sustainable Development and Cooperation of the Doctoral School of the University of Turin (in consortium with the University of Eastern Piedmont and the University of Antananarivo), in accordance with the University Regulations (University Directive No. 28 of 07/01/2021), limited to certain Articles.

Specific to Article 12 – Coordinator

The Coordinator appoints a vice-Coordinator, chosen from the members of the Faculty Council. The vice-Coordinator assists the Coordinator and serves as a Deputy Coordinator.

Specific to Article 14 - Faculty Council

- At the discretion of the Coordinator, Faculty Council meetings can also be held virtually.
- Within the Faculty Council, a Didactic Committee is identified with organizational functions, composed of at least three professors.

In particular, the Didactic Committee:

a) organizes the delivery of annual programs, evaluations from tutors, end-of-year reports, and evaluation sheets for teaching and research activities; it reviews their content, pointing out any issues to those involved and to the Coordinator, proposing suitable solutions based on the regulations;

b) organizes sessions for end-of-year oral presentations and collects documents to be submitted to the Faculty Council for the admission of doctoral candidates to subsequent years and final exams;

c) gathers and coordinates proposals for training activities related to research and teaching for the course.

- Within the Faculty Council, a Projects Committee is established to promote interdisciplinary aspects of doctoral projects, identify co-tutors from different fields than those of the reference tutor, and foster initiatives to support outreach and cooperation activities.

- Doctoral candidates from each cycle designate two representatives each year, who have the right to participate in Faculty Council meetings and act as intermediaries between doctoral candidates and professors.

If a representative completes the doctoral course before their term ends, they will be replaced by those excluded from the elections in order of preferences obtained.

- The Coordinator appoints three collaborators each year within each doctoral cycle, who will respectively interact with: the Coordinator and the Faculty Council; the Didactic Committee; the Projects Committee.

The collaborators have the task of assisting in the work of the three structures mentioned above.

Specific to Article 15 – Tutors

Each doctoral candidate is assigned a reference tutor and at least one co-tutor from a different field, guiding the doctoral candidate's training. The tutors are personally involved and responsible for planning, authorizing, and pre-evaluating the activities of the doctoral candidate.

The signature (in the designated space) on the evaluation form for teaching and research activities, filled out by the doctoral candidate, signifies a declaration that the tutor positively assesses the activities carried out by the doctoral candidate.

Specific to Article 21 - Admission to Courses

The selection announcement for admission to the Ph.D. program, published on the university portal, includes the list of research topics proposed by the Faculty Council in relation to the scholarship positions available.

To ensure fair rotation in the allocation of ministerial scholarships, the following elements will also be taken into consideration: the period during which a tutor has not had doctoral candidates; affiliation with the three institutions forming part of SUSTNET (University of Turin; University of Eastern Piedmont; University of Antananarivo); cultural fields; Department affiliation, also considering the contribution assigned by each Department to the Ph.D. Course. There are no limitations for doctoral scholarships funded through agreements, international projects, or apprenticeships.

Candidates who have passed the admission test but are excluded from the final ranking for the number of scholarship positions available can still access positions without scholarships offered by the Ph.D. program.

Specific to Article 24 - Course Attendance

The academic year of the Ph.D. program starts on the date of enrollment of the doctoral candidate, which in turn depends on the type of selection process in which the doctoral candidate participated and ends 12 months later. For doctoral candidates who are winners of a Ministerial scholarship, the academic year starts on November 1st and ends on October 31st of the following year.

To be admitted to the next academic year, doctoral candidates must submit all necessary documentation (detailed in the Specifics to Article 25 - Start and Duration of Courses in this regulation) within 2 weeks from the end of the year. The procedures for submitting the annual activity report are made available on the doctoral program's Moodle page, which should be referred to for details, procedures, and deadlines.

In the case of withdrawal from the Ph.D. program, the doctoral candidate must promptly communicate the decision via email to the Coordinator, who will then inform the University's Doctoral Office.

Specific to Article 25 - Start and Duration of Courses

- The Ph.D. program in Sustainable Development and Cooperation (SUSTNET) has a duration of 3 years (36 months). Any scholarships funded by international projects with dates that do not coincide with those of the University Regulations will be discussed case-by-case.
- Enrolled doctoral candidates must fulfill the following obligations:
 - Within 3 months from enrollment, give an oral presentation in English (maximum 20 minutes) that outlines the research project (maximum 15 minutes) and lists the planned activities for the first year (courses, seminars, conferences, etc.; maximum 5 minutes). A report with the same content (maximum 2000 words for the research project; maximum 2

pages for planned activities) must be submitted within two weeks following the oral presentation;

- First- and second-year doctoral candidates, in the designated session held at the end of each academic year, must orally present the activities conducted during the year to the Faculty Council, with a maximum 15-minute presentation in English. Doctoral candidates who are abroad for training during the presentation session can connect remotely and conduct their presentation online;

- Third-year doctoral candidates intending to take the final examination must succinctly present the results achieved throughout the training period to the Faculty Council, with a 30-minute oral presentation in English. The presentation session will be scheduled one month before the end of the third year. Taking into account the judgment of the tutors, the Faculty Council will provide an opinion on the adequacy of the work performed and inform the doctoral candidate if they are ready to take the final examination;

- Within two weeks of the oral presentation, all enrolled candidates, except those deemed ready to take the final examination, must submit to the Didactic Committee in digital format:

- a) an "Annual Report" on the activities carried out during the year, written in English, along with a list of completed activities and research outputs;

- b) a written "Annual Program" of research and training activities (courses, seminars, periods abroad, etc.) they intend to undertake in the following year.

The documents must be accompanied by approval from the reference tutor;

- One month before the end of each academic year, all enrolled candidates must submit to the Didactic Committee and the Coordinator, in digital format, the "Teaching and Research Activity Evaluation Form" detailing all activities undertaken with respective credits (Attachment 1) during the doctoral period. The form to be completed can be downloaded from the Doctoral program's Moodle page. The document must be validated by the reference tutor, who will certify the doctoral candidate's participation in conferences, schools, or other events;

The deadlines for submitting reports are published on the Doctoral program's Moodle page, along with the template for completion and guidelines for writing. All reports must be written in English.

- The doctoral candidate is required to be the author of at least one publication as first author or as the corresponding author accepted in the three-year period, either in ISI/Scopus journals or in journals listed in the ANVUR list of scientific journals at <https://www.anvur.it/attivita/classificazione-delle-riviste/classificazione-delle-riviste-ai-fini-dellabilitazione-scientifica-nazionale/elenchi-di-riviste-scientifiche-e-di-classe-a/>. A doctoral thesis that has not led to publications is generally not acceptable. Specific cases (associated, for example, with confidentiality agreements or with industrial and apprenticeship doctoral programs) will be reviewed by the Faculty Council.

- The doctoral program includes training activities aimed at specialized cultural consolidation as well as the development of critical and cross-cutting skills.

To be eligible for the final examination, doctoral candidates must have acquired at least 180 Research Training Credits (CFR) of training activities over the three-year period, including 115 to 135 CFR of research training and 50 to 70 CFR of interdisciplinary teaching. The breakdown of credit allocation is provided in Attachment 1.

Specific to Article 26 - Activity Location

The place of service for the doctoral candidate is the department of affiliation of the reference tutor. In cases where most activities need to be conducted at another suitable external facility,

approval from the Faculty Council is necessary after consulting the opinion of the reference tutor.

The doctoral candidate must conduct a training period abroad lasting at least 3 consecutive months and up to a maximum of 18 months. The doctoral candidate, in agreement with the reference tutor, must inform the Coordinator of the start of the training period abroad, and if the duration exceeds 6 months, seek authorization from the Faculty Council. The period abroad can consist of several segments if such division is functional to the training activities, subject to approval from the Coordinator.

The Faculty Council can grant exceptions based on well-founded requests.

These regulations do not bind industrial and apprenticeship doctoral programs.

The results achieved and the activities carried out during the period of activity conducted away from the main location must be described in detail in the end-of-year report.

Specific to Article 28 – Scholarships

Doctoral candidates are entitled to the following expense reimbursements:

	Doctoral candidates with Ministerial scholarships	Doctoral candidates with scholarships from other funds or projects	Self-funded doctoral candidates (including those with research grants, scholarships, or external employment)
50% increase in the scholarship during the stay abroad	YES, if provided for by the University Regulations	YES, if included in the agreement	YES, if the doctoral candidate is awarded a mobility scholarship.
Budget for travel and training reimbursement	YES, within the available budget	YES, if included in the agreement	YES, within the budget the University and/or the tutor made available.

Doctoral candidates with scholarships can benefit from a 50% increase in the scholarship during their stay abroad (if provided for by the University Regulations). To obtain this increase, the doctoral candidate must complete an online request for the increase before departure (for the University of Turin, by following the instructions on the website https://www.dottorato.unito.it/do/home.pl/View?doc=Supporto_finanziario.html and requesting access to the application mentioned on the website from the Doctoral Office; or by following the procedure described on the Doctoral program's Moodle page), which must be authorized by the Coordinator. Requests should be submitted at least 48 hours before departure. The increase is typically paid at the end of the stay abroad. For periods abroad exceeding two months, the doctoral candidate can indicate, at the time of the request, that the payment be divided into multiple installments instead of a single payment at the end of the stay.

For Ministerial scholarships, a maximum total increase period is established, equivalent to half of the doctoral duration: 547 days. In the case of multiple stays abroad, the limit is verified by adding the days spent abroad in each stay. For non-Ministerial scholarships, if different increases are planned from those adopted for Ministerial scholarships, specific

instructions will be included in the application notice and communicated to the doctoral candidate.

Upon return from periods abroad, the doctoral candidate must promptly complete the "Declaration of Return from Period Abroad," which is endorsed by the Coordinator, following the procedure described on the Doctoral program's Moodle page.

Doctoral candidates who do not benefit from the increase can access reimbursement for travel expenses according to the rules contained in the University's Travel Regulations.

All doctoral candidates, including those without scholarships, are provided with a budget for training expenses, missions for participation in conferences and seminars, research consumables, within the available budget upon enrollment.

Specific to Article 29 - Incompatibility

As specified in Article 22, the doctoral program involves full-time commitment. Any activities carried out by doctoral candidates outside of the program must be authorized in advance by the Faculty Council, after consulting the reference tutor. Authorization for tutoring and supplementary teaching support activities that do not exceed 40 hours annually is granted by the Coordinator. These activities are credited as detailed in Attachment 1.

Specific to Article 31 - Presentation of the Doctoral Thesis

Thesis

Admission to the presentation of the thesis is decided by the Faculty Council based on the third-year activity report, after consulting the tutors.

To be admitted to the thesis defense, the doctoral candidate must have obtained the required number of credits through both elective and mandatory activities (see Attachment 1). It is also mandatory to have published at least one work as first author or as corresponding author in ISI/Scopus journals or in journals listed in the ANVUR list of scientific journals <https://www.anvur.it/attivita/classificazione-delle-riviste/classificazione-delle-riviste-ai-fini-d-ellabilitazione-scientifica-nazionale/elenchi-di-riviste-scientifiche-e-di-classe-a/>.

Details of mandatory activities are available on the doctoral program's website.

The thesis must be written in English. The doctoral candidate may present the thesis as a 'collection' of published or accepted scientific articles, submitted or in draft form, and an introduction and a general discussion must accompany the thesis. The works included in the thesis must be related topics, ensuring coherence and uniformity.

The thesis must be printed and bound at the expense of the doctoral candidate, following the format indicated on the Doctoral program's Moodle page.

Evaluators

By the end of the third year of the program, the Faculty Council appoints at least two external evaluators for each doctoral candidate, based on input from the reference tutor, and sets the deadline for thesis submission. The evaluators must be highly qualified experts in the field of the doctoral project, external to the three structures affiliated with SUSTNET (University of Turin, University of Eastern Piedmont, and University of Antananarivo) and the Faculty Council.

The doctoral candidate must send the thesis, accompanied by a report on the activities carried out during the doctoral program and on publications (consisting of the teaching and research activity evaluation forms for the three years and a CV), to the evaluators within the deadline set by the Faculty Council. The evaluators provide a written analytical judgment on the thesis and propose either admission to the public discussion or a deferral for a period of no more than six months if significant integrations or corrections are deemed necessary.

Evaluation Committee

The Faculty Council appoints an Evaluation Committee composed of at least three experts in the field, mostly external to the Faculty Council, along with alternates. It is possible to appoint a single committee for multiple candidates.

The doctoral candidate must send a copy of the final version of the thesis, incorporating the notes and observations of the external evaluators, to each member of the Evaluation Committee, the tutors, and the Coordinator of the Doctoral program.

Thesis Defense

The public thesis defense will take place on a date agreed upon by the members of the Evaluation Committee, the tutors, and the Coordinator of the Doctoral program. Committee members may participate in the defense remotely via teleconferencing, in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Attachment 1 - Training Credits

All training activities of doctoral candidates, excluding mandatory teaching, must be authorized in advance by the reference tutor.

The crediting will follow the detailed criteria for different activities in Tables 1 and 2, even for activities for which the organizing entity issues a certification of credits.

Over the course of 3 years, the doctoral candidate must acquire:

- 30-40 Training Credits (CFR) through theoretical training provided by mandatory courses within the Doctoral program. The training offered by the SUSTNET Doctoral program includes theoretical and theoretical-practical insights into the main research topics envisaged by the program. The list of courses and their respective credit numbers is published annually on the program's webpage.

- 20-30 CFR of specific training related to the individual path of the doctoral candidate, aimed at acquiring the necessary skills to achieve the objectives of the doctoral project. This training is to be agreed upon with the tutors and included in the annual program. It should be noted that the annual plan of training activities must be submitted to the didactic committee for approval by the Faculty Council. The student may engage in one or more of the following activities:

- Courses provided by SUSTNET and/or other doctoral programs, including those from other universities.

- Courses within Bachelor's and Master's degree programs.

- Summer/winter schools.

- Courses organized by academies, scientific societies, etc.

- Seminars relevant to the doctoral project, also within Bachelor's and Master's degree programs.
- Participation in conferences and workshops as attendees.
- Obtaining a certificate of proficiency in a foreign language (other than the mother tongue).
- Acquiring a European Computer Driving License (ECDL), at least 4 modules.
- Acquiring research methodologies through training courses.
- Assistance in teaching activities, approved by the Coordinator.

For seminars or courses not organized by the Doctoral program, a certificate of attendance in the original or certification by the reference tutor is required.

- 110-125 CFR of research activities related to the objectives of the doctoral project. Research is the main training activity and involves independent research within the scope of the topics planned by the program, guided by a reference tutor and at least one co-tutor from a different field (see specifics in Article 15). The reference tutor's signature on the final report confirms the research activity.

- 5-10 CFR of other research-related activities, such as oral and poster presentations at conferences and workshops, publication of research results, patents, organizational support roles within the Doctoral program.

- Service activities within the SUSTNET community, including roles as representatives or collaborators (see specifics in Article 14) and periodic updating of personal information on designated webpages and associated social profiles linked to the Doctoral program.

The details of crediting are provided in Table 2. For activities not covered by this regulation, the Didactic Committee assigns the corresponding number of CFR upon submission of documentation by the doctoral candidate.

Training activities are recorded by the doctoral candidate on the dedicated "Teaching and Research Activity Evaluation Form," which can be downloaded from the Doctoral program's Moodle page. The form should be completed by the doctoral candidate and validated by the reference tutor (see specifics in Article 25).

Any CFR earned beyond the obligatory 180 will be recognized in a "Diploma Supplement" that will be delivered to the doctoral candidate along with the Doctoral diploma.

The doctoral candidate is responsible for providing comprehensive, clear, and exhaustive documentation of their activities through tools available on the Doctoral program's Moodle page to facilitate credit recognition. The Faculty Council may request additional documentation if deemed necessary. The doctoral candidate has the opportunity to request explanations regarding any inconsistencies within 10 business days from the date of credit recognition communication.

Table 1 - Allocation of CFR for Theoretical Training and Specific Training

Description	Details	Recognized CFR	Maximum (in 3 years)
Internal courses within the doctoral program	3 interdisciplinary annual courses, mandatory attendance.	10/20 CFR/year	30 /40
Summer/winter schools and Workshops	Original attendance certificate required.	1 CFR per day, up to a maximum of 8 CFR.	20-30
Seminars	Participation must be documented through the specific 'registration form,' which can be filled out on the Dottorato's Moodle page.	0.5 CFR per seminar	
Courses offered within bachelor's and master's degree programs	Courses in first-level degree programs	1 ECTS of the original course corresponds to 1 CFR, up to a maximum of 3 CFR	
	Courses in second-level degree programs	1 ECTS of the original course corresponds to 2 CFR, up to a maximum of 6 CFR	
Courses offered within doctoral programs other than SUSTNET	Courses in third-level degree programs	CFR of the course	
Supplementary Training Activities to Research	Language improvement, bibliographic research, research and intellectual property valorization, scientific communication, drafting and evaluation of research projects, research ethics, public engagement, and third mission activities. Offered by the Doctoral School or other Doctoral Courses within the School, or chosen by the doctoral student outside the University of Turin or the University of Eastern Piedmont. Participation must be documented with a certificate indicating the title, date, and duration of the course/activity.	CFRs recognized by the reference tutor, up to a maximum of 5 per course or activity for a total maximum of 10 CFR	
Foreign Language	Certification at a level not lower than B2	2 CFR per certification	

Computer Science	Patente ECDL 'advanced' (4 modules)	2 CFR	
Teaching Support Assignments	Approved by the Coordinator with the advice of the reference tutor; within the limit of 40 hours/year	1 CFR per 10 hours of teaching assistance	

Table 2 - Allocation of CFR for Research Activities

Description	Details	Recognized CFR	Maximum (in 3 years)
Experimental Activities	Assigned by the tutors at the end of each year of the Doctorate	110-125 total CFR over the three years	110-125
Publications*	Publication of a scientific article in ISI/Scopus journals (or in journals listed in the ANVUR list of scientific journals https://www.anvur.it/attivita/classificazione-delle-riviste/classificazione-delle-riviste-ai-fini-dellabilitazione-scientifica-nazionale/elenchi-di-riviste-scientifiche-e-di-classe-a/) where the doctoral candidate appears as the first or last author (or equally) or as the corresponding author	Required	5-10
	Second publication as first/last/corresponding author	10 CFR	
	From the third publication onwards as first/last/corresponding author	6 CFR	
	Publication not as first/last/corresponding author	4 CFR	
Participation in conferences	Participation only	1 CFR	5-10
	Participation and presentation of a poster	2 CFR	
	Participation and oral presentation at a national conference	3 CFR	
	Participation and oral presentation at an international conference	4 CFR	
Patents	Application submitted	3 CFR per patent	
Support and organizational tasks	Service activities within the SUSTNET community, including roles as representatives or collaborators (as specified in Article 14) and regular updating of personal information on designated web pages and linked social media profiles related to the doctoral program. Approved by the Collegio Docenti	Up to 5 CFR	

*For those in their third year and those on an extension, accepted or in-press articles will also be evaluated.