



UNIVERSITÀ
DI PISA

PhD PROGRAMME IN LINGUISTIC STUDIES AND FOREIGN LITERATURES AND ITALIAN
STUDIES
ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027 (42ND CYCLE)

Coordinator professor Valeria Maria Giuseppa Tocco

Administrative headquarters: Department of Philology, Literature and Linguistics
<https://www.fileli.unipi.it/>

SELECTION PROCEDURES

Total no. of positions with grant 3

DISCI01_B	Type of selection procedure Subject-specific PhD grants with separate ranking lists: no. of ranking lists 3		
	No. of available positions with grant 3 of which		
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)
	Positions with grant		
	1	University of Pisa	Theories, methods and applications of linguistic analysis across synchrony diachrony, language teaching and language technologies. This research theme falls within the fields of general, historical, applied, computational, educational and modern foreign language linguistics.
	1	University of Pisa	Traditions, forms and interpretations of foreign and comparative literature within the European and transnational context This research theme concerns the study of major foreign literatures, with particular attention to their historical, cultural, theoretical and comparative relationships
	1	University of Pisa	Literature, philology and the history of the Italian language from the Middle Ages to the present day. This research topic falls within the field of Italian studies, with a particular focus on literary, philological, historical-linguistic and comparative perspectives.

NB: For the above-mentioned selection procedures, candidates who, on the closing date of the Call for applications, are employed under a subordinate employment contract with a public body, for a duration at least equal to that of the PhD programme, may choose whether to:

1. participate in the selection as a public employee, thereby automatically waiving the doctoral grant;
2. participate in the selection for a position with grant, without declaring their status as a public employee at the application stage.

Applicants who are public employees, in the case referred to under point 1, must declare their status during the above-mentioned online application procedure by selecting the corresponding option in the dedicated field available on the “Alice” platform <https://www.studenti.unipi.it>. Such candidates must also submit a self-declaration certifying their employment with the relevant public body, in accordance with Annex 1 to the Call for applications. Any applicant who, when submitting the online application, declares that they wish to participate as a public employee shall automatically waive the grant, and the provisions governing the ranking list set out in Article 5 of the Call shall apply. This choice is irrevocable and may not be changed at a later stage.

The information below applies to all the selection procedures indicated above

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS *(Article 3 of the Call for applications)*

Master’s Degree (LM) /Second Degree (Specialistica-LS) (or Old system University Degree): **ALL**

or

equivalent academic qualification in accordance with *Ministerial Decree of 9 July 2009* **to be obtained by 31 October 2026.**

In the event that the degree has not yet been awarded by the deadline of the Call for applications, the candidate must attach a list of the examinations taken, including the corresponding marks.

Important: In this regard, during the online application procedure for the selection, the candidate must attach a self-declaration concerning the degree already obtained, or to be obtained, drawn up in accordance with Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, as per Annex 2 to the Call for applications.

SELECTION METHODS AND CRITERIA *(Article 4 of the Call for applications)*

Curriculum vitae

The CV, duly signed and accompanied by a photocopy of a valid identity document, must be uploaded exclusively during the online application procedure for the selection, and must outline the candidate’s educational background, as well as their professional and research experience. **Candidates are advised to submit any documentation deemed useful for the purposes of assessing the CV.**

Written test

The written test may only be taken in person.

The written test is intended to assess the candidate’s academic background. It consists of a written paper related to the selected curriculum. Candidates applying for the Italian Studies curriculum must complete the examination in Italian, whereas candidates applying for any other curriculum may write the paper either in Italian or in one of the languages pertaining to the PhD programme.

Interview

The interview shall assess the candidate’s knowledge, aptitude for research, willingness to undertake training pathways in Italy and abroad, interest in further scientific study and is intended to assess the candidate’s academic background.

The interview will also include a discussion of the research project referred to below and an assessment of the candidate’s proficiency in English or, where applicable, in the language pertaining to the chosen curriculum if different from English. International candidates may take the interview in English; in such cases, their proficiency in Italian will also be assessed.

Videoconferencing **NO** Interviews will only take position in presence.

Research Project:

to be assessed together with the CV and to be presented at the interview

The research project must be uploaded **during the online application procedure for registration**.

The research project, assessed together with the CV, is intended to highlight the candidate's ability to design a research proposal and to verify the consistency of its content with the PhD programme themes.

The research project, which will be discussed during the interview, must be presented by the candidate in order to demonstrate its feasibility and sustainability.

The project (min. 5,000-max. 10,000 characters, incl. spaces, to be accompanied by a bibliography) must clearly illustrate its working hypothesis, research subject and methodological structure. It should also be characterised by elements of originality with respect to the state of the art and contain references to its development during the three years of the PhD program.

The research proposal, written in Italian, submitted by candidates applying to the following curricula: General, Historical, Applied, Computational and Educational Linguistics, and Modern Languages (French, English, Portuguese, Spanish, German, Baltic and Slavic languages); and Modern and Comparative Foreign Literatures (French, English, Portuguese, Spanish, German, Romanian and Slavic Studies), must be accompanied by an abstract (minimum 1,000 characters, including spaces) in a foreign language, chosen from among the languages covered by the doctoral programme. Candidates applying to the Italian Studies programme are not required to submit an abstract in a foreign language.

With regard to the individual research themes, the following points should be noted: grant on the theme 'Theories, methods and applications of linguistic analysis across synchrony, diachrony, language teaching and language technologies': preference will be given to projects addressing issues relating to the description, analysis and interpretation of linguistic phenomena, with a focus on both theoretical models and their possible applications, from synchronic, diachronic and comparative perspectives, including in relation to the documentation, preservation and promotion of linguistic heritage; grant on the theme "Traditions, forms and interpretations of foreign and comparative literature within the European and transnational context": priority will be given to projects focusing on the analysis of literary texts, genres, forms, movements and phenomena that have characterised literature from the Middle Ages to the present day, including from a transnational perspective and in terms of the circulation and reception of works. Particular consideration will be given to projects that combine philological and literary expertise with up-to-date critical methodologies, engaging with the main continental and non-European cultural traditions; grant on the theme "Literature, philology and history of the Italian language from the Middle Ages to the present day": preference will be given to projects devoted to the study of Italian literary production, the transmission of texts, the history of the language and the cultural forms that have characterised the Italian tradition from the Middle Ages to the present day. Preference will also be given to approaches that integrate philological rigour, historical awareness and a comparative perspective, including through innovative methodologies for the analysis, editing and interpretation of texts.

	Minimum score	Maximum score
CV	21 <i>(of which 15 points reserved for the research project)</i>	35
Candidates who have obtained a score of at least 21 out of 35 points shall be admitted to the written test.		
Written test	21	35
Candidates who have obtained a score of at least 21 out of 35 points shall be admitted to the interview.		
Interview	18	30
Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 60 out of 100 points		

SCHEDULE OF THE TESTS

The tests may take place in the period **between 14 and 30 September 2026**.

The schedule of the tests, for each of the selections below, will be published **by 24 July 2026** at <https://www.unipi.it/bando-dottorato>, including the indication of the venue where they will be held.

RANKING LIST AND ENROLMENT

Article 5 of the Call for applications sets out:

- the procedures for drawing up the ranking list
- the date of publication of the ranking list

- the procedures and deadlines for enrolment
- the procedures and deadlines for subsequent admissions from the ranking list.

Important: Subsequent admissions from the ranking lists, after 6 October and until 31 December 2026, are permitted only for “open” grants (i.e. those without a specific research topic)..

In the other selection procedures, as they involve subject-based grants, any unassigned positions at the end of the third round of admissions from the ranking list will be made available by means of a specific notice, to be issued by Rector's Decree in November. Such notice will be reserved for eligible candidates suitably placed in the ranking lists of the selection procedures already completed and will be published at <https://www.unipi.it/didattica/corsi/dottorati/>.

With regard to the publication of the notice and the procedures for the reallocation of the grants, **no individual email communication will be sent to eligible candidates**, as all relevant information will be provided upon publication of the ranking lists.

INFORMATION ON THE TEACHING ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAMME

Educational project and objectives of the programme:

<https://www.unipi.it/didattica/corsi/dottorati/scienze-umanistiche/discipline-linguistiche-e-letterature-straniere/>

Curricula of the PhD programme

1. General, historical, applied, computational, educational and modern languages linguistics (French, English, Portuguese, Spanish, German, Baltic and Slavic languages)
2. Modern and comparative foreign literatures (French, English, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish, Slavonic, German)
3. Italian Studies (Literary, Philological, and Linguistic)

PhD programme website:

<https://www.fileli.unipi.it/discipline-linguistiche-letterature-straniere-e-studi-italianistici/>

PhD programme regulations:

<https://www.unipi.it/wp-content/uploads/regdottdisciplinelinguistiche.pdf>

Commentato [SC1]: Si meglio perché sopra hanno usato procedures