



PhD PROGRAMME IN POLITICAL SCIENCES
ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027 (42ND CYCLE)

Coordinator professor Andrea Salvini

Administrative headquarters: Department of Political Sciences
 (<https://www.sp.unipi.it/it/ricerca/phd-programme-in-political-science/>)

SELECTION PROCEDURES

Total no. of positions with grant 3

SC_POL01_B	Type of selection procedure Single ranking list for research project		
	No. of available positions with grant 2 of which		
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)
	Positions with grant		
SC_POL02_B	Type of selection procedure Single ranking list for research project		
	No. of available positions with grant 1 of which		
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)
	Positions with grant		
	1	Domus Mazziniana	The History of Democracy, Citizenship, and Republicanism from the Age of Revolutions to Contemporary Society, with Particular Regard to Mazzinianism in its Various Forms, including within the European and International Framework

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.**

The assessment of CV will take into account the candidate's academic background, publications and research experience, as well as the coherence and relevance to the PhD programme's scientific areas. In particular, the assessment will be based on the candidate's academic and scientific CV, including publications, scholarships or finding of research, internships, participation in conferences with presentations of abstract and periods of study or research carried out abroad.

Interview

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

The selection of candidates will be based on an interview focusing on the presentation and discussion of the submitted research project and on the candidate's research interests, which must be relevant to the research topics specified in the call for applications.

The interview will also assess the candidate's proficiency in the English language.

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 will be assessed together with the CV in order to evaluate the candidate's ability to develop a research project, as well as the alignment and relevance of its contents to the research topics of the PhD programme

and to the specific research topic specified in the call for applications. The presentation and discussion of the proposal during the interview will serve to assess its originality, scientific relevance, and potential for successful realization.

The research proposal must be consistent with the disciplinary fields characterising the research topic specified in the call for applications and will be evaluated on the basis of its scientific quality, originality, and innovativeness. The proposal must clearly set out the scientific background, the research objectives and research questions, the proposed methodology, the expected outcomes, and an indicative timetable for the planned research activities.

The research proposal must be between three and six pages in length, with approximately 2,500 characters (including spaces) per page, and must include a list of references.

	Minimum score	Maximum score
CV	42	60
Candidates who have obtained a score of at least 42 out of 60 points shall be admitted to the interview.		
Interview	28	40
Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 70 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/en/education/courses/phd-programmes/legal-economic-and-political-social-sciences/political-sciences/>

PhD programme website:

<https://www.sp.unipi.it/it/ricerca/phd-programme-in-political-science/>

PhD programme regulations:

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