

Ph.D. course Developmental Medicine and Health Planning Sciences

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EDUCATIONAL OFFER PLAN

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

For this purpose, the educational activities include:

- 1) Lectures on topics of interest for all the research areas;
- 2) Elective training activities on topics of specific interest for the Ph.D. student;
- 3) Major scientific events on multidisciplinary themes of interest for all Ph.D. students of the University of Padua and/or the Department of Women's and Children's Health.
- 4) Journal Clubs
- 5) Active teaching

1) LECTURES ON GENERAL TOPICS

The educational offer plan includes the following lectures on general topics/themes, proposed during the first year of the Ph.D. course:

Topic	Hours	Mandatory
Bioethics	2	Yes*
Omics sciences	6	Yes*
Start-up e Spin-off	2	Yes*
Clinical trials	2	Yes*
Statistics	10	Yes*

Topic	Hours	Mandatory
Research projects	2	Yes (the lecture is open to all Ph.D. students and is mandatory for first-year students)
Artificial intelligence	2	Yes*
Communicating Science Effectively (organized in collaboration with the Clinical and experimental Oncology and Immunology Ph.D. course)		No (attendance restricted to a maximum of 10 Ph.D. students)
Academic English (organized by the University of Padova Language Centre)	30	No

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

Other specific topics can be proposed each year.

Ph.D. students are required to attend the lessons organized within the Ph.D. course, to complete their education on general topics from an interdisciplinary perspective. Attendance to teaching activities is mandatory (except for the "Academic English" and the "Communicating Science Effectively" courses) and is verified by the lecturers according to the most appropriate assessment method. The minimum attendance requirement for Ph.D. 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. The "Research project" lecture is mandatory for first-year Ph.D. students.

The same seminar may be offered for more than one year, possibly with different speakers and topics. The Ph.D. student must attend the mandatory seminars at least once during the 3-year course.

2) ELECTIVE TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The elective training activities pertain to specific topics related to the research fields that characterize the Ph.D. 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 Ph.D. 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 Ph.D. 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, Ph.D. 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 upon beforehand with the supervisor. The list of attended activities has to be self-certified in the Ph.D. student's annual report. Group and journal club activities within the research group, necessary for the personal training of the Ph.D. Student, are not counted towards the number of hours required for elective activities.

3) MAJOR SCIENTIFIC EVENTS ON MULTIDISCIPLINARY THEMES

The Ph.D. 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 Ph.D. students are also considered, to broaden students' horizons in science.

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

Topics are proposed and discussed annually by the Ph.D. course Board.

4) JOURNAL CLUBS

Second-year students are invited to present and discuss relevant papers on topics shared by the various research fields of the Ph.D. course; priority should be given to topics covered during the basic lecture series (bioethics, omics, clinical trials, artificial intelligence, ...).

The choice of articles to be presented should be agreed upon with supervisors. Journal clubs will be held monthly at the Institute of Pediatric Research "Città della Speranza". Attendance is recommended for all Ph.D. students.

5) ACTIVE TEACHING

The acquisition of teaching skills by Ph.D. students is another important goal to be considered during the Ph.D. course. This objective is implemented by inviting Ph.D. students to lecture with supervisors mentoring in academic courses (i.e medical school, school of specialization).