



Rector's Decree No. 2794

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO THE RESEARCH DOCTORATE COURSE IN
CONTEMPORARY HUMANISM - ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024 (39th CYCLE)**

THE RECTOR

HAVING REGARD TO Article 4 of Law No. 210 of 3 July 1998, as amended by Article 19, Paragraph 1, of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010;

HAVING REGARD TO the Statute of LUMSA (Libera Università Maria SS. Assunta);

HAVING REGARD TO Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14 December 2021, published in the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic No. 308 of 29/12/2021, entitled "Regulation containing procedures for accrediting doctoral sites and courses and criteria for the establishment of doctoral courses by accredited bodies";

HAVING REGARD TO Ministerial Decree No. 117 of 2 March 2023, relating to the allocation of funding amounting to € 870,000.00 for the year 2023-2024, subject to the co-financing of the same amount by private companies, for scholarships under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), M4C2 - Investment 3.3, "Introduction of innovative doctorates that meet the innovation needs of businesses and promote the hiring of researchers by businesses";

HAVING REGARD TO Ministerial Decree of 2 March 2023, No. 118, relating to the allocation of funding amounting to € 780,000.00 for the year 2023-2024, for scholarships under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), M4C1 - Investment 3.4, "Teaching and advanced university skills", and Investment 4.1, "Extension of the number of research doctorates and innovative doctorates for public administration and for cultural heritage";

HAVING REGARD TO the "Regulations on research doctorate courses", issued by Rector's Decree No. 2546 of 7 March 2022;

HAVING REGARD TO the resolutions of the relevant academic bodies

Decrees:

ARTICLE 1 - ESTABLISHMENT

Henceforth is established the Research Doctorate (PhD) course in CONTEMPORARY HUMANISM -



39th Cycle, with its administrative office at the LUMSA University (Libera Università Maria SS. Assunta, hereinafter, “LUMSA”).

As per Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14 December 2021, research doctorate courses may be established only after accreditation by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR), with the favourable opinion of the National Agency for the Assessment of the University and Research System (ANVUR), and the fulfilment of ministerial accreditation requirements. In the event of an unfavourable opinion, the courses concerned shall be immediately suspended, and, therefore, the right to enrol successful candidates in the non-accredited courses shall expire.

Following below is an indication of the number of places available, the number of scholarships available, the duration, the responsible department, the admission procedures, and the person in charge of the procedure.

Course title: CONTEMPORARY HUMANISM

The doctorate in “Contemporary Humanism” is aimed at developing knowledge and critical skills in reading and interpreting the historical-cultural, literary, philosophical and educational tradition in its making and its effects on the present, starting from the synthetic and comprehensive category of humanism. This is a very topical category in current debates and promising as regards the critical reading capacity it offers of contemporary society - including in aspects that go beyond the traditional perimeter of humanistic studies - and the future prospects it opens up, also in terms of applications. The international and interdisciplinary openness of the doctorate is furthermore aimed at offering an adequate context for an integrated humanistic approach, as well as a complete and integral training of students, through a contamination of research and teaching styles and methods, transversal to disciplinary and national borders. In addition to specific activities regarding individual disciplines, the doctorate is characterized by activities common to various curricula, starting from the category of humanism, with courses structured throughout the academic year and an annual residential seminar in Italy or abroad. Through consolidated partnerships with international academic institutions, including the Australian Catholic University, in Australia, the Institut Catholique de Paris, in France, the Pontificia Universidade Católica de Chile, in Chile, the Universidade Católica Portuguesa, in Portugal, and the Université Catholique de Lyon, in France, a period of study and research abroad is envisaged for each doctorate student, with the possibility of obtaining a double-degree.

The doctorate, despite having a strong unitary nature, will be divided into 4 curricula:



1. **Education:** The curriculum aims, starting from the hermeneutic category of humanism, to offer a doctoral education of excellence in educational disciplines, from the points of view of history, such as the history of pedagogy and educational institutions, and of empirical and experimental research, and to provide adequate critical tools for the interpretation of tradition and contemporaneity, with a view to promoting the culture of sustainability and active citizenship within schools and educational institutions;
2. **Philosophy and Religion:** The curriculum aims, starting from the hermeneutic category of humanism, to offer a doctoral education of excellence in the philosophical field, from the points of view of history, such as the history of ideas, the history of philosophy and religious history, and of theory, with a particular emphasis on moral philosophy and theoretical philosophy, and to provide adequate critical tools for the interpretation of tradition and contemporaneity. Particular attention will be paid to the ethical and bioethical challenges that new technologies and social changes pose to the understanding of the human condition (e.g. post-humanism, trans-humanism);
3. **Social and Political Studies:** From the launch pad of humanism, the curriculum aims to offer advanced education in the field of political science and sociology, providing critical tools for the analysis of contemporary societies and political institutions, in addition to a historical perspective. With a plurality of sources and empirical methods, the curriculum explores new forms of subjective and collective action, new institutional and cultural configurations, and political structures emerging from ongoing change processes. Particular attention is given to the ways by which the field of humanism is strengthened, affirmed or superseded by the corpus of contemporary social and political theory.
4. **Literature and Cultural Sciences:** The curriculum aims, starting from the thematic and hermeneutic key of humanism, to offer a doctoral education of excellence in linguistic-literary (especially comparative) and cultural studies field, and to provide adequate critical tools to articulate the complexity of the historical tradition of humanism, in its many forms, with the challenges that contemporaneity poses towards this tradition in terms that are at times nostalgic and celebratory, at times critical and problematizing, and at times fiercely oppositional.

Places: no. 8 (eight);

National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) Scholarships - Ministerial Decree of 2 March 2023, No. 117: no. 3 (three);

National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) Scholarships - Ministerial Decree of 2 March 2023, No. 118: no. 3 (three);



LUMSA scholarships: no. 1 (one);

Places without scholarship: no. 1 (one);

Duration of the course: 3 (three) years.

It should be noted that 2 scholarships are funded under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) as per Ministerial Decree of 2 March 2023, No. 117, by the European Union Next GenerationEU fund, and are intended for specific projects consistent with Investment 3.3 “Introduction of innovative doctorates that meet the innovation needs of businesses and promote the hiring of researchers by businesses”, with a mandatory in-company study and research period of a minimum of 6 months and study and research period abroad of a minimum of 6 months, as specified below:

- No. 1 scholarship for carrying out a research project entitled “Youth association and the training of the governing class: the case of Catholic university students in Italy and internationally. Digital valorization of historical and documentary sources, in collaboration with Fondazione FUCI.
- No. 1 scholarship for carrying out a research project entitled “Ethics and spirituality: historical roots and theoretical perspectives”, in collaboration with the Jurt Stiftung Foundation.
- No. 1 scholarship for carrying out a research project entitled “Philosophy as therapy: historical and theoretical perspectives”, in collaboration with CIMEA.

It should be noted that 3 scholarships are funded under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) as per Ministerial Decree of 2 March 2023, No. 118, by the European Union Next GenerationEU fund, and are intended for specific projects concerning issues in line with the economic and social goals of the Italian Government, as specified below:

- No. 1 scholarship under M4C1 – Investment 3.4, “Digital and environmental transitions”, for carrying out a research project entitled “Society and digital transition: actors, opportunities and risks”, with a mandatory in-company study and research period of a minimum of 6 months and study and research period abroad of a minimum of 6 months.
- No. 1 scholarship under M4C1 – Investment 4.1, “Cultural heritage”, for carrying out a research project entitled “Study and valorization of archives and materials on the Italian political history of the twentieth century”, with a mandatory in-company period of study and research of a minimum of 6 months and study and research period abroad of a minimum of 6 months.
- No. 1 scholarship under M4C1 – Investment 4.1, “National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) Research”, for carrying out a research project entitled “Promotion of models and practices for education in sustainable development at schools using quantitative and qualitative research



methodologies”, with a mandatory study and research period abroad of a minimum of 6 months.

It should also be noted that additional scholarships may be allocated to specific projects in the event that specific funding is allocated by external bodies.

For such purpose, during the application process, candidates admitted to the oral exam must complete the documentation for self-certifying the requirements envisaged by such funding bodies.

Qualifications required to access the doctorate: Master’s level degree.

Venue for the course: Department of Human Sciences - Communication, Training and Psychology - Piazza delle Vaschette, 101 - 00193, Rome.

Admission assessments: curriculum studiorum et vitae, any publications, the research project plan, and the oral exam.

The exact scheduling of the exams, with an indication of the methods for carrying them out, will be made known before the oral exam by a notice published on LUMSA’s website https://www.lumsa.it/ricerca_dottorati_prove.

By means of this notice, notification for all legal purposes shall be understood to have been fulfilled.

Venue for the exams: Piazza delle Vaschette, 101 - 00193 - Rome.

Person in charge of the procedure: Dr. Raffaella Berardi - LUMSA, Via di Porta Castello, 44 - 00193 Roma – Tel. (+39) 06 68422.265 – Email address: dottorati@lumsa.it.

ARTICLE 2 - ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Those in possession of a Master’s degree obtained in Italy or a similar academic qualification obtained abroad and previously recognized as suitable can submit an application to participate in the call for applications to the research doctorate, without any limitation of age or citizenship, according to the methods indicated in the following Article 3.

If an academic qualification obtained abroad has not been recognized as suitable, the application will not be considered admissible.

Those who will achieve the qualification required by the call by the date of enrolment in the doctorate course may also participate in the admission exams, under the condition of forfeiture of admission in case



of not achieving the qualification by such time. In this case, admission will be considered “conditional” and the candidate will be required to submit, under penalty of exclusion from admission, on enrolment for the course, certification or self-certification of the relevant degree obtained.

LUMSA may, at any time during the procedure, carry out checks on the veracity of provided statements. In the event of any false or untrue declarations, LUMSA may order the immediate exclusion of the candidate from the selection procedure, without prejudice to any resulting criminal liability.

ARTICLE 3 - APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION

Applications to participate in the call must be submitted by 11:59pm (Italian time zone) on 01/08/2023. The application procedure is online and requires the payment of an admin fee of € 50.00 as a contribution to the expenses of the procedure. The methods for submitting an application are detailed in the “Guidelines for applying to the call”, made available at https://www.lumsa.it/ricerca_dottorati_bandi.

Candidates are required to submit the following documentation:

- a) a front and back photocopy of a valid identification document;
- b) a photocopy of the candidate’s fiscal code / health card (for residents in Italy only);
- c) a “curriculum studiorum et vitae”;
- d) a degree certificate with an indication of the exams taken or self-certification of graduation with an indication of the exams taken, for candidates who have obtained their qualification in Italy;
- e) a certificate or self-certification of enrolment in relevant exams, accompanied by self-certification of the presumed graduation date (to be achieved by 31 October 2023), for candidates who will obtain the qualification in Italy by 31 October 2023;
- f) proof of the academic qualification obtained abroad and recognized as suitable;
- g) a plan of the research project, written in Italian or in English, of a length between 1000 and 3000 characters, with a title and a bibliography of 10-20 references. In particular, when competing for one of the scholarships funded by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, the title must correspond with the relevant title for the National Recovery and Resilience Plan as defined in Article 1;
- h) two letters of reference in Italian or in another European language among the following: French, English, Portuguese, Spanish, and German;
- i) a list of publications and, if possible, the PDF version of 1 (one) publication (scientific article or monograph).
- j) certification or self-certification of any scientific qualifications, active participation in national and international conferences, and periods of study or post-graduate research in Italian or foreign universities



or research bodies;

k) certification or self-certification of the candidate's language skills;

l) certification or self-certification of any research grants.

In the case of candidates enrolled in degree courses in Italy whose qualification has not yet been achieved, self-certification of the presumed graduation date must be submitted. It is understood that this qualification must be obtained without exception by 31 October 2023 and duly transmitted to the Doctoral Office by that date, under penalty of non-enrolment in the doctorate course.

International candidates or candidates in possession of a qualification obtained abroad, in addition to their degree certificate, which must be translated and legalized by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representatives abroad, must also present the Declaration of Value and Apostille, issued by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representative abroad, under penalty of non-admission of the application. Alternatively, the foreign qualification may be accompanied by the Certificate of Comparability, instead of the Declaration of Value, and the Certificate of Verification, instead of the Apostille, from the credential evaluation service of Cimea (www.cimea.it). For European candidates, the Declaration of Value and the Certificate of Comparability may be replaced by the Diploma Supplement issued by the university at which the degree was awarded. Documents presented in languages other than French, English, German or Spanish must be accompanied by translations legalized by the competent authorities.

Foreign candidates or those in possession of a qualification obtained abroad who, as per the call's procedure, may be admitted to the doctoral course must also register on the University portal (www.universitaly.it) in order to formalize their application. In case of the denial of a visa by the competent authorities, admission shall be forfeited and LUMSA will automatically proceed with the exclusion of the student from the course.

LUMSA reserves the right at any time to request additional documentation or to carry out checks on statements made.

It is not possible to supplement the submitted application documentation after the deadline for the call.

Candidates, whose application has been declared inadmissible, will be notified of their exclusion from the call by email to the email address indicated by the candidate.

As per Article 20 of Law No. 104/92, and Article 16 of Law No. 68/1999, in order to benefit from any additional aids and time in the admission exams, eligible candidates with relevant disabilities or impairments must apply via the dedicated online procedure when applying for the call. Before accessing the online procedure, such candidates are advised, in any case, to notify the Scientific Research Office (dottorati@lumsa.it). The data collected in this regard will be kept and treated with the confidentiality required by current applicable legislation on the protection of personal data. For any further information,



please refer to the Privacy Policy annexed to this call, drawn up as per Article 13 of EU Regulation 2016/679, and specific provisions for the management of data relating to persons with Specific Learning Disabilities (SLDs). All the relevant documentation is always available upon request by writing to privacy@lumsa.it.

ARTICLE 4 - ADMISSION EXAMS

The selection process for the doctorate will be carried out in two phases aimed at ascertaining the candidate's abilities and aptitudes for scientific research in the disciplinary fields of the doctorate, as well as adequate knowledge of the English language and of any additional foreign languages, among French, Portuguese and Spanish, as declared by the candidate.

The first selection phase consists in the evaluation of the following: a) the curriculum studiorum et vitae; b) any scientific publications; c) the research project plan.

Candidates will not be present during this first phase of evaluation of the applications.

The research project plan may be written in Italian or in English, must be of a length between 1000 and 3000 characters and must have a bibliography of 10-20 references. For each research project, the Selection Board will evaluate: a) relevance to the central topics of the doctorate, in one of the curricula indicated above; and for scholarships funded under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) by the European Union Next GenerationEU fund, relevance to the project funded by the PNRR; b) the innovative potential for research; c) the methodology applied in the research design.

After enrolment in the course, the final research project, which in any case may evolve over the course of the three-year period, will be approved by the Academic Board on the basis of the objectives of the doctorate. In this regard, the definitive research project may not necessarily coincide with the one presented by the candidate during the selection phase.

The second phase of the selection consists of an oral exam, aimed at: a) discussion of the presented research project; b) assessment of knowledge of the English language, and of any other foreign languages, among French, Portuguese and Spanish, and, for foreign candidates, knowledge of the Italian language, considering that all candidates must have knowledge of the Italian language and the English language equal to at least level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR); c) assessment of knowledge of the topics of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) projects referred to in Article 1, in the event that candidates declare, during the oral exam, an interest in competing for the assignment of a PNRR scholarship.

To sit the oral exam, the candidates must present one of the following valid identification documents: a



national identity card, a passport, a driving licence, an identification card or document with photograph and official stamp or equivalent issued by a State Administration.

The oral exam shall be public.

Candidates may request to take the oral exam via electronic means, by making a request to the Scientific Research Office (dottorati@lumsa.it) within 3 days from the date set for the oral exam.

The absence of a candidate on the day and time of the oral exam shall be considered as a waiver of the exam itself, whatever the cause.

ARTICLE 5 - SELECTION BOARD

The Selection Board of the call, appointed by the Rector under guidance from the Academic Board, will be made up of three (3) effective members and three (3) alternate members chosen from among professors and full-time university researchers of LUMSA or of other Italian or foreign universities who are experts in the topics pertaining to the macro-sectors consistent with the objectives of the course, and may be supplemented by another two (2) experts, chosen from public or private research institutions or entities.

The Selection Board will evaluate each candidate out of 40 (forty) points for the first selection phase (evaluation of relevant qualifications) and 60 (sixty) points for the oral exam, of which 10 (ten) points will be reserved for the assessment of competence in the English language.

Only candidates who have achieved a score of at least 27 out of 40 points in the first selection phase will be admitted to the oral exam. Notice of the oral exam and the procedures for carrying it out will be published on the LUMSA website https://www.lumsa.it/ricerca_dottorati_prove.

The oral exam (interview) will be considered as passed if the candidate obtains a score of no less than 40 out of 60 points, of which at least 6 out of 10 points pertaining to the candidate's competence in the English language. Once the call procedures have been completed, the Selection Board will compile a general merit ranking based on the scores obtained by the candidates in the individual exams. Eligibility for the selection will be considered over a minimum score of 67 out of 100 points.

The Selection Board will make the results public through publication on LUMSA's website http://www.lumsa.it/ricerca_dottorati_graduatorie.

By means of this notice, public notification for all legal purposes shall be understood to have been fulfilled. Therefore, no communications will be sent by email and/or to the candidate's physical address.



ARTICLE 6 - FINAL RANKING AND ADMISSION TO THE COURSE

In the oral exam, each applicant may communicate to the Selection Board an interest in one or more PNRR-funded topic places.

Applicants who pass the admission tests and win one of the call places will be admitted to the doctoral courses according to the order of the general merit ranking, up to the number of places available.

In cases of equal merit, the younger applicant will be selected, and, in the event of a further tie, the applicant with a Master's degree mark will be selected.

As per Article 51, Paragraph 6 of Law No. 449/97, the course may be attended, also exempting the set number of places, by holders of research grants who have passed the admission exams.

ARTICLE 7 - ENROLMENT IN THE COURSE

The enrolment procedure for the PhD course is online, and must be completed by 31/10/2023.

All the doctoral students will be required to pay the Annual Regional Tax (€ 140) and the associated Stamp Duty (€ 16), to be paid online.

Doctoral students without a scholarship must additionally pay a second annual instalment (equal to € 1,100) and a third annual instalment (equal to € 1,100) by the deadlines set at the beginning of the academic year and published on the web page https://www.lumsa.it/ricerca_dottorati_modulistica.

Candidates admitted to the PhD course must send their formal acceptance via email (dottorati@lumsa.it) within 5 days of the publication of the final ranking. Beyond this deadline, the candidature will be considered withdrawn, and the corresponding doctoral places will be made available to the next suitable candidates according to the order of the ranking.

ARTICLE 8 - SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarships, the number of which is indicated in the above Article 1, are assigned after a comparative evaluation of merit based on the exams set by the Selection Board, and according to the order of the final ranking.

The annual scholarship, determined as per Article 1, Paragraph 1, of Ministerial Decree No. 247 of 23 February 2022, is equal to € 16,243.00 (sixteen thousand, two hundred, and forty-three / 00), subject to the separately managed INPS social security contribution, as per Article 2, Paragraphs 26 and following,



of Law No. 335 of 8 August 1995, as amended and supplemented.

The scholarship covers the entire duration of the course, however the effective disbursement must be confirmed by the Academic Board as valid at the end of each year of enrolment in the course subject to the passing of assessments to verify the work carried out.

The frequency of payment of the scholarship will be monthly starting from the beginning of the course. The amount of the scholarship will be increased by 50% for the period of study abroad of the doctorate student.

The granting of the scholarship categorically excludes the establishment of any subordinate employment relationship with the University.

When enrolling in the PhD course, students receiving a scholarship wholly or partly funded by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR) will be asked to sign a letter of commitment to comply with the obligations set by the Ministry of Universities and Research (MUR), under penalty of revocation and the return of the scholarship.

It should be noted that any additional scholarships destined for specific research projects will be disbursed only after the granting of the funding by the granting bodies. Doctoral students receiving a scholarship funded or co-funded by external bodies will be required to carry out the research project admitted for funding by the funding body, in compliance with the project's technical specifications.

When enrolling in the PhD course, PhD students receiving a scholarship funded or co-funded by external bodies will be asked to sign a letter of commitment to comply with the obligations set out in the respective agreements, under penalty of revocation of the scholarship and the return of the amounts already received at the time of withdrawal.

ARTICLE 9 - RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE DOCTORATE STUDENTS

Admission to the doctorate course implies an exclusive, full-time commitment to the course. The Academic Board must authorize any paid work by PhD students, verifying its compatibility with the teaching, study and research activities of the course. It is also under the discretion of the Academic Board to authorize any double enrolment of doctoral students in specialization schools, postgraduate courses, degree courses, etc.

To this end, a self-certification form concerning work activities and double enrolments will be provided to the candidates admitted to the oral exam.

The rights and duties of the doctoral students are governed by Article 15 of the Regulation on PhD Courses (<https://www.lumsa.it/sites/default/files/dottorati/RegolamentoDottorati.pdf>).



ARTICLE 10 - AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF THE RESEARCH DOCTORATE

At the end of the course, doctoral students are required to pass a final exam by submitting a written thesis, in order to demonstrate that they have obtained results of significant scientific value. These results are assessed by a specific Assessment Board.

The Assessment Board for the final exam is formed and appointed in accordance with the “Regulations on research doctorate courses”.

ARTICLE 11 - PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

As per EU Regulation No. 2016/679, the personal data provided by the candidates will be collected and processed at LUMSA for the purposes of managing the selection process, as well as for statistical purposes. The provision of such data is mandatory for the purposes of assessing the admission requirements, under penalty of exclusion from the call for applications.

The relevant comprehensive privacy policy is annexed to this call for applications (Annex A).

ARTICLE 12 - OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS

For matters not provided for in this call, reference shall be made to the “Regulations on research doctorate courses”, and to current applicable legislation on doctorate programmes.

The submission of an application for participation in the selection process implies acceptance by the candidate of the rules and regulations contained in this call and in the “Regulations on research doctorate courses”.

The person in charge of the procedure for applications to the doctorate in CONTEMPORARY HUMANISM, as referred to in this call is Dr. Raffaella Berardi - LUMSA - Via di Porta Castello, 44 - 00193 Rome - Tel. (+39) 06 68422265 - Email address: dottorati@lumsa.it.

For academic and scientific questions relating to the doctorate programme and the selection procedure, interested parties are invited to contact Prof. Stefano Biancu at s.biancu@lumsa.it.

This call for applications is published on the LUMSA website (https://www.lumsa.it/ricerca_dottorati_bandi), on the European website of Euraxess, and on the website of the Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR).

Notice of the publication of the call on the LUMSA website will be published in the Special Series “Concorsi ed esami” (trans. “Calls and exams”) of the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic.



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**Finanziato
dall'Unione europea**
NextGenerationEU

Rome, 07/06/2023

THE RECTOR
(Prof. Francesco Bonini)