



UNIVERSITÀ
degli STUDI
di CATANIA

UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI CATANIA Protocollo Generale	
21 LUG. 2017	
Prot. 88469	Tit. 4 Cl. 1
Rep. Decreti n°.	2641

Rector decree n.....

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PLACES IN THE PH.D. COURSE IN "COMPLEX SYSTEMS FOR
PHYSICAL, SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND LIFE SCIENCE"
XXXII CYCLE – UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA**

Having regard to the following:

- The charter of the University of Catania;
- D.P.C.M. 09/04/2001 with particular reference to art. 8, ppt. 1 and 7;
- Ministerial Decree n. 45/2013 containing the rules on the modalities of accreditation of universities and Ph.D. courses and the principles for the implantation of Ph.D. courses in the accredited universities and particularly art. 8, pt.2, concerning the possibility of different selection procedures with references to places reserved to graduates from foreign universities;
- The current Regulation of the University of Catania on Ph.D. courses;
- The decision of the Board of Trustees of the University of Catania of April 4 2016 concerning Ph.D. courses – XXXII cycle;
- Art.8, pt. 1 of Ministerial Decree 45/2013 which stipulates that selection procedures must be concluded by no later than September 30 of each year;
- The Ministerial communication 15334/2016;
- The favorable opinion of the National Agency for the Evaluation of the University System and Research published on the CINECA database;
- The Ministerial communication 17579/2016;
- The decision of the Board of Trustees of the University of Catania of July 1st 2016 concerning the Call for applications for Ph.D. courses – cycle XXXII;

the following Call is issued by the Rector of the University of Catania

Art. 1 –Selection procedures

1. For the academic year 2016/2017 the University of Catania officially launches the opening of the selection procedures for places in the Ph.D. courses in "Complex systems for physical, socio-economic and life science" - cycle XXXII.
Detailed information on the Ph.D. course, including the number of scholarships and its sources of funding, is included in the annexed information sheet which constitutes integral and substantial part of the Call (annex 1).

Art. 2 Admission requirements

1. Applications are open to candidates who hold either a Laurea (Vecchio Ordinamento) or a Laurea specialistica /magistrale or any foreign degree suitable for access to Ph.D. courses by the deadline of the present call, without regard to nationality or age.
2. The suitability of the foreign degree is assessed by the selection committee with respect to the rules in force in Italy and in the country where the degree was issued and according to international agreements on degrees recognition.
3. Applications are also open to candidates regularly enrolled in their final year of Laurea Vecchio ordinamento, Laurea specialistica/magistrale or foreign degree course who obtain their final degree by no later than 31.10.2016. In case these candidates pass the selection, their admission to the Ph.D. course is subject to the submission of a self-certification of degree completion (for holders of Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento or Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale) or a degree certificate (for holders of a degree issued by a foreign university) by no later than 05/11/2016, under penalty of exclusion.

Art. 3 – Application form

1. The application form is web based and must be completed electronically through the University of Catania online application system available at <http://portalestudente.unict.it/portalestudente/mapServlet>, described at pt. 10 of the present article, by no later than **September 6 2016, h.14,00 (Italian time)**.
2. An application fee of € 50,00 as contribution to costs for the organization of the selection is required. It must be paid according to the procedures described at pt. 10, let. g) of the present article by no later than **September 6 2016, h.13,59 (Italian time)**.
3. The application form can be completed either in Italian or in English and must contain the following information:
 - a) name and surname, fiscal code, date and place of birth, address (including postal code), telephone number and e-mail;
 - b) nationality;
 - c) name of the Ph.D. course in the selection of which the candidate intends to participate;
 - d) name of candidate's degree;
 - e) disability, with percentage of disability, if any;
 - f) declaration of commitment to immediately communicate to dottorati@unict.it any change of address, telephone number or e-mail;
 - g) express indication of candidature for a place reserved to graduates from foreign universities, for Ph.D. programmes including this type of places and for graduates meeting this requirement only;
 - h) declaration of acknowledgment of the content of the present call.
4. The following annexes must be attached to application form:
 - a) *Curriculum vitae et studiorum*, duly dated and signed, containing the authorization to the treatment of personal data (Legislative Decree n. 196/2003);
 - b) One of the following documents concerning admission requirements:
 - Self-certification of successful completion of the degree course, for candidates with Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento, Laurea specialistica or Laurea magistrale issued by an Italian university;
 - Degree certificate (including transcript of records, final grade and date of the award of the degree) and request of equivalence (annex 2), for graduates from foreign universities;
 - Self-certification of enrolment in the final year of the degree course, for candidates enrolled in the last year of Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento, Laurea Specialistica and Laurea Magistrale who complete the course and obtain the degree by no later than 31.10.2016;
 - Certificate stating the status of student in the final year, for candidates from foreign university who obtain the degree by no later than 31.10.2016;
 - c) Research project;
 - d) List of publications with relative abstracts, if any;
 - e) Documents attesting English knowledge, further linguistic skills or computer skills, if any;
 - f) Documents concerning the completion of further university courses;
 - g) Declaration concerning the type of place for which the candidate is applying (annex 3) for candidates applying for Ph.D. courses offering reserved places only;
 - h) Videoconference request form (annex 4) for candidates living abroad who cannot reach Catania for the interview only;
 - i) Copy of a valid Identity document;
 - j) Copy of receipt of payment of € 50,00.
5. All annexes listed in pt. 4 must be uploaded one by one onto the online application system in PDF format. No other format than PDF is accepted. If the size of the document is larger than that indicated by the system, this document must be divided into two or more parts to be uploaded separately. All annexes can be either in English or in Italian. Annexes in a language other than English or Italian must be accompanied by a legal translation in English or in Italian, under penalty of inadmissibility to evaluation.
6. Candidates who intend to apply for two or more different Ph.D. courses must complete two or more application forms separately and pay the application fee of € 50,00 for each application.
7. Application forms will not be considered if either incomplete or submitted with different modalities and/or after the deadline indicated (see pt. 1). Application forms will not be considered if the application fee is paid after the deadline indicated in pt. 2 of this article.

8. Candidates are advised to complete the application procedure well in advance of the expiration date of this call in order to avoid the clogging of the online system due to the volume of applications. The University is not responsible if the candidate cannot complete the application procedure for unforeseeable circumstances, force majeure or any event not imputable to the administration.
9. Candidates are the only responsible for the authenticity of the information included both in the application form and in the annexes. The administration is entitled to check the application forms according to the legislation in force and to exclude those applications not complying with the call requirements provided a proper motivation.
10. The application procedure must be completed through the following steps:
 - a) Go to <http://portalestudente.unict.it/portalestudente/mapServlet>;
 - b) Complete the registration entering your personal data. On completion of the registration the online system will issue to the candidate his/her PIN code. The online system will also issue a temporary fiscal code to foreign candidates in order to let them complete the application procedure. (candidates already holding a PIN code will skip this step and will start the procedure);
 - c) Enter your fiscal and PIN codes in the login box in order to access to your personal account;
 - d) Once in your account click "Prove di ammissione" and select the chosen Ph.D. course through the drop-down menu;
 - e) Enter the data required and check their authenticity;
 - f) Confirm the data clicking the apposite confirmation command;
 - g) Print the paying-in slip related to the application fee generated by the online system after the confirmation of the application;
 - h) Pay the application fee in one of the following ways:
 - Payment at the counter of any bank of the UNICREDIT banking group after minimum three hours from the issuing of the paying-in slip;
 - Online payment from your personal account via credit card (VISA and MasterCard).
 - i) Upload all the documents required in art. 3, pt. 4, onto the online application system;
 - j) Print and save copy of the application form and save physical copy of the receipt of payment.
11. Candidates with disability who need assistance during the examination must submit formal request to the University's Centre for the Integration – Assistance to people with disability (CInAP), Via A. di Sangiuliano 259, 95131 Catania, tel. 095/7307182-189-188, e-mail: personalecsd@unict.it, website <http://www.cinap.unict.it/>, quoting the name of the Ph.D. course for which they have applied. This request must be submitted by no later than **September 6 2016, h. 12,30**. (Italian time).

Art. 4 – Type of places

1. The Ph.D. course in "Complex systems for physical, socio-economic and life science" includes places with scholarship and places without scholarship. The Ph.D. Academic board identifies the beneficiaries of the scholarships based on their research projects.
2. Scholarships are funded by the University of Catania.
3. Places reserved to graduates from foreign universities remaining vacant can be made available for candidates to ordinary places, provided they have passed the selection procedure and comply with admission requirements.

Art. 5 – Selection procedures

1. According to specifications reported in the information sheet (see art. 1), candidates' selection is based on the evaluation of qualifications and oral examination.
2. As for the evaluation of qualifications, the following documents will be assessed:
 - *Curriculum vitae et studiorum*;
 - English language certificates;
 - Publications, if any;
 - Research project.
3. Pass mark is an aggregate 80/120.
Candidates are admitted to the oral examination if they obtain minimum 40/60 in the evaluation of qualifications according to the following criteria:

- <i>Curriculum vitae et studiorum</i>	30% of 60 points – max 18 points;
- English language certificates	10% of 60 points – max 6 points;
- Publications, if any	10% of 60 points – max 6 points;
- Research project	50% of 60 points – max 30 points

Candidates pass the oral examination if they obtain minimum 40/60.
4. The selection committee shall assess qualifications and post the results on the website of the Department offering the Ph.D. course at least one day prior to the oral examination. The selection committee is the sole responsible for the punctual publication of the results of the evaluation of qualifications.
5. The oral examination will be held in the date, hour and place indicated in annexed information sheet (annex 1). No written notice will be sent to candidates. Candidates admitted to the oral examination shall bring with them an identity document.
6. Candidates living abroad who are not able to reach Catania can take the oral examination (if applicable) in the form of video conference interview, provided it is held at either a higher education institution or consulate/diplomatic mission which guarantee the identity of the candidate.
The candidate is exclusively responsible for the correct indication of the video conference address to be used by the selection committee for the oral interview. The candidate must be available in the date of the oral interview according to the timetable in annex 1. The selection committee is entitled to arrange with the candidate the exact time of the oral interview. Before the oral interview, the candidate is required to exhibit his/her identity document.
The candidate is excluded from the selection procedure either if he/she does not indicate the video conference address or indicates an incorrect address. The candidate is also excluded from the selection procedure either if he/she is absent, whatever the cause, the day and time of the video conference interview or he/she fails to exhibit the identity document. The University of Catania is not responsible for any unpredicted technical problem impeding the oral examination.

Art. 6 – Designation and tasks of the Selection Committee

1. The Selection Committee is composed according to the regulation governing Ph.D. courses in force at the University of Catania (art. 13).
2. Prior to the evaluation of qualifications, the selection committee establishes the criteria of assignment of points to each document to be assessed (*curriculum vitae et studiorum*, English language certificates, publications and research project). The selection committee can consider any further qualification issued by academic institutions.
3. Prior to the oral examination, selection committee must establish the criteria of implementation and evaluation of the oral examination and give appropriate information to candidates.
4. Upon completion of the selection procedure, the selection committee draws up the list of selected candidates ranked in descending order of score. In case of candidates with the same score, the selection committee proceeds to a comparative evaluation of these candidates. The list is signed by both the President and the Secretary of the Selection committee and is affixed to the Notice board of the University's Department where the selection takes place and posted on the Department website.

5. In case of places reserved to graduates from foreign universities, the selection committee draws a separate list of selected candidates in descending order of score. In case of candidates with the same score, the selection committee proceeds to a comparative evaluation of these candidates. Any reserved place remained vacant after the selection procedure can be made available for candidates in the list as in pt 4 of the present article.

Art. 7 – Approval of the acts of the selection

1. The acts of the selection and the list of successful candidates eligible for Ph.D. places are officially issued through a decree of the Rector of the University of Catania. The list of successful candidates is published on the website of the University of Catania.

Art. 8 – Admission to Ph.D. courses

1. Candidates are admitted to the Ph.D. course according to the descending order on the list of selected candidates until all the places available are allocated.
2. Candidates are excluded if they do not comply with enrolment procedures (see art. 9) within the deadline indicated in a subsequent notification. The place remained vacant will be offered to the following candidate on the list in descending order of score.
3. If a candidate enrolled in the program renounces to his/her place within three months from the start of course activities, the vacant place can be offered to the following candidate on the list in descending order of score who will be notified by e-mail to enrol according to enrolment procedures and within the deadline indicated (see art. 9).
4. Scholarships are assigned to the first eligible candidates on the list until all places with scholarship are allocated. The remaining eligible candidates are admitted to places without scholarship.
5. Candidates admitted to Ph.D. courses are required to pay enrolment fees whose amount is determined every year by the Board of Trustees of the University of Catania (see art. 9).
6. Candidates who previously attended a Ph.D. course with scholarship can only be enrolled in places without scholarship.
7. Candidates with disability corresponding to 66% who pass the selection procedure but occupy a position on the list not corresponding to a place in the Ph.D. course are admitted to the programme in supernumerary places without scholarship. Supernumerary places without scholarship reserved to candidates with disability can be up to half of the ordinary places. Candidates with disabilities are exempted from the payment of enrolment fees.

Art. 9 – Enrolment procedures

1. Candidates admitted to the Ph.D. course are officially appointed in a decree of the Rector available on the university website.
2. Admitted candidates must submit the enrolment form and pay the enrolment fee according to the procedure described in point 4 by no later than the deadline indicated in the notice published with the decree including admitted candidates. This notice represents the only official form of information. No personal notice is sent to candidates.
3. The enrolment application must include the following information:
 - a) Name and surname, fiscal code, date and place of birth, address (including postal code), telephone number and e-mail;
 - b) Disability (with indication of percentage), if any;
 - c) Declaration of commitment to full time attendance the Ph.D. course according to the modalities fixed by the academic board.
4. The enrolment form is web based. Candidates must complete the enrolment through the following steps:
 - a) Go to <http://portalestudente.unict.it/portalestudente/>;
 - b) Enter their fiscal code and PIN code in the specific login box;
 - c) Click "Immatricolazione" from their account;
 - d) Enter all the details required in the various stages and confirm them;
 - e) Print the paying-in slip generated by the online system after the confirmation of the details (€ 322,00 tuition fee + € 140,00 national student service contribution + € 16,00 virtual fiscal stamp);

- f) Pay the enrolment fee in one of the following ways:
- Payment at any counter of a bank of the UNICREDIT banking group at least after three hours from the emission of the paying-in slip;
 - Payment from the candidate's online profile through credit card (VISA, Mastercard or Maestro accepted).
5. Enrolment forms submitted with modalities other than those indicated in the present article or after the deadline in the aforementioned notice (see pt.2) are not considered. Enrolment forms without the enrolment fee paid in the modalities and by the deadline indicated in the present article are not considered either. The University of Catania is not responsible for failure to complete the enrolment procedure due to either accident or force majeure.
6. Candidates' failure to comply with the aforementioned provisions is considered equivalent to formal renunciation to the place in the Ph.D. course. Places remained vacant are offered to the following candidates on the list in descending order of score until the complete allocation of available places. These candidates are required to enroll in the Ph.D. course by no later than the deadline included in the notice sent to the candidate via e-mail (to the e-mail address indicated in the application form).
7. Candidates renouncing to the place in the Ph.D. program are not entitled to the refund of the enrolment fee even if they have not attended any of the program activities.
8. Selected candidates who intend to renounce to a Ph.D. place must give immediate written notice to the Ph.D. Students Office via dottorati@unict.it in order to allow the university's administration to allocate places remained vacant as quickly as possible.
9. Selected candidates admitted in places with scholarship must send to dottorati@unict.it the following documents in PDF format within the deadline in the aforementioned notice:
- a) Document from the National Institute for Social Security attesting the candidate's contributory role;
 - b) Declaration concerning the candidate's registration or not in other forms of social security;
 - c) Copy of the fiscal code or health insurance card
 - d) Copy of a validity identity document duly signed;
 - e) Form including bank details;
 - f) Declaration of acknowledgement that scholarships are exempted from income tax imposed on physical persons and that under no circumstances can they give assessments for the purpose of the career.
 - g) Citizenship certificate and Certificate attesting residence permit with indication of the authority issuing the permit itself (foreign candidates only).

Art. 10 - Scholarship

1. Candidates are granted a scholarship according to the law in force.
2. Each scholarship amounts to € 13,638,47 per year, after taxes charged on the scholarship holder. This amount is adjusted according to increases established by the law. The amount of the scholarship is increased up to 50% in correspondence and proportionally to study periods at foreign universities or research centres for maximum 18 months of the entire duration of the Ph.D. course.
3. The duration of each scholarship corresponds to the duration of the Ph.D. course (36 months). They are assigned to candidates according to their position on the list of candidates admitted to the Ph.D. course. The grant of the scholarship is confirmed if the candidate is admitted to the year following the first.
4. At the end of each year Ph.D. students submit a detailed record of their research activity to the academic board. The academic board assesses each doctoral student research work and admits him/her to the following year or exclude him/her from the course.
5. By no later than November 15 of each year Ph.D. students must enroll in the following year. The enrolment is subject to the decision of the academic board according to art. 15, pt. 4 of regulation of the university of Catania for Ph.D. courses. Failure to renew the enrolment leads to the exclusion from the Ph.D. course.
6. The payment of the scholarship is conditioned to the effective attendance to course activities. Any remains will be deposited to be used in subsequent cycles of Ph.D. course.
7. The provisions concerning tax benefit included in art. 4, Law 476/1984 apply to scholarships.

8. Scholarships cannot be combined with other scholarships unless these extra scholarships are granted by national or international institutions and destined to research work abroad.
9. Candidates who have already benefited from a Ph.D. scholarship or even portion of it cannot be granted a scholarship for a second time.

Art. 11 – Rights and duties of Ph.D. Students

1. With reference to rights and duties of Ph.D. students, candidates are required to refer to chapter V of the Regulation of the University of Catania for Ph.D. courses.

Art. 12 – Personal data

1. According to law 196/2003 and the regulation on treatment of personal data of the University of Catania, each candidate's personal data are treated with exclusive reference to the management of their career as Ph.D. student.

Art. 13 – Official in charge of procedure

1. According to art.5, subparagraph 1, of Law 241/90, the official in charge of the procedure is:
 - the chairperson of the selection committee with reference to the selection procedure, from the appointment of the committee members to the publication of the selection results;
 - Mr Paolo Moscato (Ph.D. Students Office), with reference to the procedures connected to the present call;
 - Mr Salvatore Libertini (Ph.D. Students Office), with reference to the procedures concerning foreign candidates.

Art. 14 – Final measures

1. The administration considers the possibility of modifications, updates or integrations to the present call - to be exclusively advertised through www.unict.it - in case the number of places of scholarships increases due to further funds made available after the issuing of this call and before the conclusion of selection procedures.
2. Any aspect(s) related to Ph.D. course and not expressly covered in the present call is governed by Ministerial Decree 45/2013, International cooperation agreements and other legislation in force concerning Ph.D. course.

CATANIA,

THE RECTOR
(G. Pignataro)
Il Pro Rettore
A. Gentile

Annex 1

Name of the Ph.D. Course	COMPLEX SYSTEMS FOR PHYSICAL, SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND LIFE SCIENCE	
Scientific field	Interdisciplinary	
Department	Department of Physics and Astronomy	
Department website	http://www.dfa.unict.it/	
Ph.D. Coordinator	Prof. Andrea Rapisarda	
Partner Institution	None	
Brief description	<p>The Ph.D. course is aimed at providing the student with sound scientific knowledge in the field of complex systems, allowing to attain techniques of modelling and quantitative analysis, both physical-statistic and informatics, dedicated to complex systems of several types and big data, besides autonomous skills of planning and implementation of the research. Students will receive interdisciplinary training through course activity additional to that provided by degree courses of origin (Biology, Medicine, Mathematics, Informatics, Physics, Engineering, Economics and Social Science) and above all through training for research activity on frontier interdisciplinary topics within groups with qualified scientific expertise recognised at international level.</p> <p>Given the wide range of subjects involved, specific learning paths will be implemented, with a common mathematic and computational base, which encompass principal research lines of interest for this Ph.D. course in Complex Systems: statistical techniques of analysis, modelling and mining of big data, modelling and efficiency of social, economic and financial systems in the domain of eco-physics, application of the theory of complex nets, smart cities and mobility systems, life science and bioinformatics.</p>	
Places	<p>Ordinary Places:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Places with University scholarship: 2 2) Places without scholarship: 1 <p>TOTAL: 3</p>	<p>Places reserved to graduates from foreign universities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Places with University scholarship: 2 <p>TOTAL: 2</p>
Selection	<p>Ordinary Places:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Evaluation of Qualifications; 2) Oral Examination (Examination language: Italian or English). <p>Candidates meeting the requirements as in art. 5, pt. 8, can take the oral examination in the form of video conference interview.</p>	<p>Places reserved to graduates from foreign universities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Evaluation of Qualifications; 2) Oral Examination (Examination language: Italian or English). <p>Candidates meeting the requirements as in art. 5, pt. 8, can take the oral examination in the form of video conference interview.</p>
Date and place of Oral Examination	<p>Date: September 26 2016, h. 9,30</p> <p>Place: Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia, via S. Sofia 64 – 95123 – Catania</p>	

Annex 2

REQUEST OF EQUIVALENCE

The undersigned.....(name and surname)
born in(place of birth)
on.....(date of birth)
nationality
requests to the selection committee for the Ph.D. course in
..... XXXII cycle
the recognition of equivalence to Laurea Magistrale of the following diploma:

Name of the master degree: _____

Awarding university: _____

Country: _____

Date of awarded diploma _____

Place and date,
.....

Signature

.....

SP
m
2
VR

Annex 3

**Declaration concerning the type of place
(for candidates applying for Ph.D. courses offering reserved places only)**

I, the undersigned

Surname:			
Name:			
Gender:	M	F	
Birth:	Date		
	City		
	Country		
Residence:	City		
	Country		
	e-mail		

DECLARE (Please tick one of the following)

for ordinary places ☐

for reserved places ☐

Ph.D. course in :

(PLACE) (DATE) / / (APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE)

Handwritten signatures and initials in the bottom left corner.

Annex 4

VIDEO CONFERENCE INTERVIEW FORM

WARNING: to be filled in as part of the application process where applicable and to be uploaded (through the procedure available at the link <http://portalestudente.unict.it/portalestudente/mapServlet>) by the deadline for submitting the admission application with a copy of a valid ID document.

I, the undersigned

Surname:			
Name:			
Gender:	M	F	
Birth:	Date		
	City		
	Country		
Residence:	City		
	Country		
	e-mail		

REQUEST

to take the interview for the admission to the Ph.D. in _____

in video conference, as specified in the relevant attachment to the Admission Announcement and therefore provide the technical details required:

Video conference software:

Personal account for the remote connection: _____

I ALSO DECLARE

to be aware of the provisions of the Admission Announcement, particularly art. 3 and. 5

(PLACE) (DATE) / ____ / ____ (APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE)

.....

Handwritten signatures and initials:



