PHD PROGRAMME TABLE 37TH CYCLE

PROGRAMME'S NAME	PSYCHOLOGY
DURATION	**3 years**
PROGRAMME START DATE	**01/11/2021**
LANGUAGE	**English**
MANDATORY STAY ABROAD	- **6 months** for the curriculum Psychological Sciences - **12 months** for the curriculum Joint PhD Program in Cognitive Neuroscience
COORDINATOR	**Prof. Maurizio Codispoti (maurizio.codispoti@unibo.it)**
CURRICULA	1. Psychological Sciences 2. Joint PhD Program in Cognitive Neuroscience
RESEARCH TOPICS	**Detailed list at the bottom of the present document**
PhD POSITIONS	**13**
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	**Qualifications and research proposal evaluation** **Oral examination**

Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Curriculum	Positions linked to research topics
1	**PhD Scholarship**	**Co-funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds of the project PRIN 2017 - SH4 code 2017N7WCLP_002 (CUP J34I19002900001 - Prof. Alessio Avenanti)**	**Joint PhD Program in Cognitive Neuroscience**	**Social neuroscience of error monitoring**
2	**PhD Scholarship**	**Co-funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds of the project PRIN 2017 - SH4 code 2017TBA4KS_003 (CUP J34I19002940001 - Prof.ssa Caterina Bertini)**	**Joint PhD Program in Cognitive Neuroscience**	**The critical role of brain oscillations in visual performance**
3	**PhD Scholarship**	**Co-funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds of the project PRIN 2017 - SH4 code 20174TPEFJ_002 (CUP J34I19002950001 - Prof.ssa Elisa Ciaramelli)**	**Joint PhD Program in Cognitive Neuroscience**	**The neural mechanisms of remembering and anticipating the future**
4	**PhD Scholarship**	**Co-funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds of the project PRIN 2017 - SH4 code 2017HRCPE4_004 (CUP J34I19002910001 - Prof.ssa Alessandra Sansavini)**	**Psychological Sciences**	**Early markers of Language-Learning Impairment (LLI) in infants born preterm**
5	**PhD Scholarship**	**Co-funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds of the project PRIN 2017 – SH3 code 2017924L2B_004 (CUP J34I19000860001 - Prof.ssa Monica Rubini)**	**Psychological Sciences**	**The role of gender stereotypes in perpetuating gender inequality**

6	**PhD Scholarship**	**Co-funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds of the project H2020 H-Work - Grant. N. 847386 (Prof.ssa Rita Chiesa)**	**Psychological Sciences**	**Promoting wellbeing at work in uncertain times**
7	**PhD Scholarship**	**Co-funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds of the project H2020 Perception - Grant. N. 833870 (Prof. Salvatore Zappalà)**	**Psychological Sciences**	**Organizations coping with rising multicultural trends: a work and organizational perspective**
8	**PhD Scholarship**	**Co-funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Psychology with funds of the project H2020 Escape - Grant. N. 945377 (Prof.ssa Chiara Rafanelli)**	**Psychological Sciences**	**Integrated collaborative care for elderly cardiac patients with mental and somatic multimorbidity**
9	**PhD Scholarship**	**Funded by MUR under the "Departments of Excellence" initiative**	**Psychological Sciences**	
10	**PhD Scholarship**	**Funded by MUR under the "Departments of Excellence" initiative**	**Psychological Sciences**	
11	**PhD Scholarship**	**Funded by the Department of Psychology within the framework of the project H2020 ERC IDENTITIES - GA n°101002163 (Prof.ssa Elisabetta Crocetti)**	**Psychological Sciences**	**Managing Identities in Diverse Societies: A Developmental Intergroup Perspective with Adolescents**
12	**PhD Scholarship**	**Funded by the Department of Psychology within the framework of the project H2020 ERC IDENTITIES - GA n°101002163 (Prof.ssa Elisabetta Crocetti)**	**Psychological Sciences**	**Managing Identities in Diverse Societies: A Developmental Intergroup Perspective with Adolescents**
13	**PhD Scholarship**	**Funded by the Department of Psychology within the framework of the project a valere sul Progetto H2020 ERC IDENTITIES - GA n°101002163 (Prof.ssa Elisabetta Crocetti)**	**Psychological Sciences**	**Managing Identities in Diverse Societies: A Developmental Intergroup Perspective with Adolescents**

Admission Exams

	DATE AND TIME	RESULTS
Qualifications and research proposal evaluation	**Applicants' participation is not required**	**Available from 15/06/2021****
Oral examination	**Date: starting from 23/06/2021 - 9.00 a.m. CEST*** **Place: Remotely, using Microsoft Teams**	**Available from 02/07/2021****

*** In case that the oral examination cannot be completed in one day due to the large number of applicants, the oral examination detailed schedule shall be made available on the webpage Studenti Online together with the results of the qualifications evaluation. During the oral examination and on the first page of the research proposal applicants may express their interest in one or more positions linked to specific research subjects.**

**** The results of the admission exams will be available on the webpage Studenti Online (select "summary of the requests in progress" > "see detail" and open the .pdf file at the bottom of the page. No personal written communication will be sent to applicants concerning the examinations results.**

Required and Supporting Documents to be attached to the application

(only documents in Italian, English, French, German and Spanish shall be considered as valid and be assessed by the Admission Board)

Only qualifications obtained during the last 5 calendar years shall be taken into consideration, except for the University Degree. The Admission Board will assess the relevance of the supporting documents to the PhD Programme.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	
Identity document	**Valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)**
Curriculum Vitae	**No specific CV format is required. The CV shall be written in English.**
Degrees	**Documents attesting the awarding of the first and second cycle degrees, the exams taken and the marks obtained (see Art. 3 of the Call for Applications)**
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
Reference letter/s	**No more than 2 reference letters** signed by Italian and/or International academics and professionals in the research field, which do not form part of the Admission Board, attesting the suitability of the applicant and his/her interest for the scientific research. **Reference letters shall be written in English**. Letters shall be uploaded following the procedure detailed in the Call for Applications (Art. 3.2).
Research proposal	**Multi-annual research proposal, written in English, that the applicant proposes to develop during the PhD programme. The proposal must meet the following requirements:** - **on the first page, it must mention the Curriculum, the position related to a research topic in which the applicant is interested and that is associated to the research proposal, and the number of words used to write the research proposal;** - **it must include: state of the art; project's purposes; hypotheses, methodology/articulation of the studies (example, independent and dependent variables, plan of the result analyses; theoretical and practical implications; times of realization) – max. 3,000 words, bibliography excluded.**
Personal statement	**The statement shall include the reasons prompting the applicant to attend the PhD Programme and those relevant experiences and research interests, that make the applicant suitable for the specific PhD Programme (3,000 characters maximum, including spaces). The Personal Statement shall be written in English.**
Publications	**List of publications (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals, volume chapters).**

Evaluation criteria *

Scores will be expressed in points out of 100, as follows.

1. **Qualifications and research proposal evaluation**

Minimum score for admission to the oral examination: 30 points, Maximum score: 50 points

Qualifications evaluation	**University degree final mark. Graduands shall be evaluated according to the Weighted Average Mark (WAM)**	**10 points max**
	Reference letters	**2 points max**
	Personal statement	**1 point max**
	Publications	**4 points max**
Research proposal evaluation	**Scientific value and innovative nature of the proposal**	**13 points max**
	Description and structure of the proposal	**10 points max**
	Proposal feasibility	**10 points max**

2. **Oral examination**

Minimum score for eligibility: 30 points, Maximum score 50 points

English proficiency	**10 points max**
Research proposal presentation	**35 points max**
General knowledge of issues encompassed by the PhD Programme	**5 points max**

Oral examination aims to assess the suitability of the applicant for scientific research as well as the general knowledge of issues encompassed by the PhD Programme (see the list of research topics at the bottom of the present document). During the oral examination, English language proficiency shall be assessed. The oral examination is carried out in Italian or in English.
***Possible further evaluation criteria will be available on the University website, selecting the relevant PhD Programme > "More information", at the bottom of the page in the section "Notices".**

Final Ranking List and Enrollment

After the publication of the results of the oral examination, the final ranking list will be available on the University website, selecting the relevant PhD Programme > "More information", section "Notices" at the bottom of the page.
Considering the expressions of interest for topic-specific positions (Art. 9 of the call of applications), the Admission Board shall express its view on the suitability of the interested applicants, taking into account their specific skills, experience and aptitude. Topic-specific positions will be awarded on the basis of the eligibility stated by the Admission Board.
Each position is reserved to one of the two Curricula. Therefore, positions are awarded on the basis of the interest for a Curriculum, expressed by the applicant at the moment of the application and on the first page of the research proposal. In case an applicant does not indicate a preference for a Curriculum, the Admission Board will assign them a Curriculum, according to the research proposal submitted.
Should one or more of the abovementioned positions remain vacant, eligible applicants from the general ranking list may be contacted, independently from the chosen or assigned Curriculum or from the eligibility for a topic-specific position.

Following the publication of the final ranking list, successful applicants shall enroll on Studenti Online by the deadline indicated on the University website, selecting the relevant PhD Programme > "More information".
If a successful applicant withdraws from a position, the following applicant in the ranking list, who is also eligible for the specific position, will be contacted. During the replacement procedure, the new terms of enrollment shall be communicated via e-mail to the chosen applicant.

Research Topics

Curriculum 1: Psychological Sciences

- **General Psychology**
- Emotions, attention and learning
- Perception and decision making
- Body action and cognition
- Spatial cognition, memory and Individual differences
- **Psychometrics**
- Psychometric methods in cognitive and clinical assessment
- Advanced inferential statistics
- Qualitative methods for psychological research
- Bayesian Inference in Statistical Analysis
- **Developmental and Educational Psychology**
- Typical and atypical development from early childhood to adulthood
- Risk and protection factors in development
- Development in the life cycle and technologies for information and communication
- Teaching, learning and social processes in educational settings
- **Social Psychology**
- Gender inequalities and prejudices reduction
- Personal and social identity
- Equal opportunity and community participation
- Psychosocial factors in risk and safety
- **Work and Organizational psychology**
- Diversity management in organizations
- Organizational change and development
- Employability and new careers
- Psychosocial factors in the workplace
- **Psychodynamic psychology**
- Perinatal psychopathology
- Developmental psychopathology in childhood
- Child and parents psychotherapy research
- Emotional intelligence in clinical and educational settings
- **Clinical psychology**
- The use of new technologies in clinical psychology
- Clinical assessment of psychological distress/well-being/adjustment/attachment

- Psychosomatics
- Psychological interventions

Curriculum 2: Joint PhD Program in Cognitive Neuroscience

- **Social neuroscience and error monitoring**
- Action control and error monitoring
- Recognition of erroneous and painful actions
- Empathy and moral cognition
- Interoception and autonomic response
- TMS-EEG, brain connectivity and plasticity
- **Neuroscience of visual awareness**
- Conscious and unconscious visual perception
- Visual disorders in brain-damaged patients
- Brain oscillations
- Eye movements
- **Memory and future anticipation**
- Episodic memory
- Time perception
- Mental time travel
- Delay discounting and future-based choice
- Fear conditioning and extinction
- Memory-impaired patient populations

Positions linked to research topics

Curriculum 1: Psychological Sciences

Promoting well-being at work in uncertain times (1 scholarship, responsable Prof.ssa Rita Chiesa)

The aim is to explore how the uncertainty in workplace (changing working conditions, job insecurity, career uncertainty) impacts on the workers' well-being and what are the effects of uncertainty on vulnerable groups of workers (i.e. women, older workers, low qualified workers).

The role of gender stereotypes in perpetuating gender inequality (1 scholarship, responsable Prof.ssa Monica Rubini)

Gender stereotypes are stable over time and revolve around the idea that men are more competent and agentic than women, who in turn are more communal. These shared views may have dramatic consequences in preventing women from having the same job opportunities as men. Recent studies show that gender inequalities can be supported by higher and wider expectancies toward women than men in different life domains such as the work domain and the family context. The project aims to advance knowledge on gender stereotypes by addressing processes and factors that can help understand how gender inequalities are maintained, through quantitative and implicit measures.

Integrated collaborative care for elderly cardiac patients with mental and somatic multimorbidity (1 scholarship, responsable Prof.ssa Chiara Rafanelli)

The aim of the project is to develop an integrated and patient-centred intervention for both elderly patients and their caregivers, and evaluate its effectiveness in terms of patients' quality of life, using a randomized controlled trial design.

Early markers of Language-Learning Impairment (LLI) in infants born preterm (1 scholarship, responsable Prof.ssa Alessandra Sansavini)

The aim of the project is to evaluate whether early interindividual variability in motor, communicative and cognitive skills is associated to individual differences in emerging language acquisition in infants born preterm and full-term, followed from birth to 30 months of age.

Organizations coping with rising multicultural trends: a work and organizational perspective (1 scholarship, responsable Prof. Salvatore Zappalà)

With the rising flux of migrants coming to Italy, and to Europe, organizations that work directly with migrants have to adapt and innovate their organizational procedures, taking into account the cultural issues of the work as well as changes in legislation or in technology. Similarly, employees working in these organizations have to innovate their job, for instance coping with stress, or developing intercultural skills. The Ph.D. project aims at investigating these challenges through the lens of work and organizational psychology.

Managing Identities in Diverse Societies: A Developmental Intergroup Perspective with Adolescents. (3 scholarships, responsable Prof.ssa Elisabetta Crocetti)

The longitudinal IDENTITIES project has three aims, finalized at understanding:

(1) how intergroup experiences in ecological contexts (from parents, friends, school, and leisure microsystems to cultural macrosystems) influence the development of adolescents' (personal, social, and human) identities; (2) how the interplay of identities affects adolescents' (physical, psychological, and social) well-being; (3) how intergroup experiences in multiple ecological contexts influence adolescents' well-being disentangling direct and indirect effects (mediated by identities). The three PhD students will work to address the first, second, and third aim of the project, respectively.

Curriculum 2: Joint PhD Program in Cognitive Neuroscience

Social neuroscience of error monitoring (1 scholarship, responsable Prof. Alessio Avenanti)

The project lies at the intersection of neuroscience of error monitoring, empathy and moral cognition. Using brain stimulation (TMS) and electrocortical (EEG) techniques, students will investigate the neural bases of the ability to evaluate erroneous actions, in particular actions that carry negative (e.g., harmful) consequences in others.

The critical role of brain oscillations in visual performance (1 scholarship, responsable Prof.ssa Caterina Bertini)

The project investigates the relationship between brain oscillatory patterns and visual performance. Electrophysiological recordings (EEG), eye tracking techniques, behavioural and clinical measures will be used to explore the functional properties of the visual system both in healthy individuals and brain damaged patients.

The neural mechanisms of remembering and anticipating the future (1 scholarship, responsable Prof.ssa Elisa Ciaramelli)

The project is aimed at investigating the cognitive mechanisms and neural bases of the ability to remember past events, imagine future events, mentally travel in time, and use memory to guide future-oriented choice in healthy and brain-damaged controls, using behavioural and neuroimaging techniques.