Doctoral programme in Development Economics and Local Systems (DELoS)

32nd cycle - 2016/2017 entry

Deadline for applications:
18th May, 2016 - 4 pm (Italian time)
An overview of the Programme
Why the doctoral programme in Development Economics and Local Systems

**Development Economics and Local Systems** (DELoS) is a new doctoral programme focusing on development economics and local development with an emphasis on an interdisciplinary and applied approach. The programme activities are jointly organized by the Department of Economics and Management and the Doctoral School of Social Sciences\(^1\) of the University of Trento and by the Department of Economics and Management of the University of Florence. The doctoral programme includes two curricula: *Development Economics* and *Economics of Local Systems*.

The three-year Programme at a glance

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<th>1st year, 2016-17</th>
<th>Activities of the first semester will be held in Trento</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 2016</td>
<td>Assignment of tutors</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Arrival and refresh courses</td>
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<td>October-January</td>
<td>1st term courses</td>
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<td>Use of statistical packages</td>
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<td>February</td>
<td>Exams</td>
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<td>Activities of the second semester will be held in Florence</td>
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\(^1\) DELoS activities are carried out in the framework of the Doctoral School of Social Sciences, a multi-programme doctoral school also offering programmes in Sociology and Social Research and in Economics and Management.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<td>March-June</td>
<td>2nd term courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Retakes (both in Florence and Trento) Assignment of the supervisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2017</td>
<td>Academic writing Preliminary research project proposal Admission to the 2nd year</td>
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**2nd year, 2017-18**

*Research activity either in Trento or in Florence, according to the student’s Research Project, and at least three months in foreign or Italian research institutions*

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>November-December</td>
<td>Seminar courses as necessary Research Projects Workshop: presentation and discussion</td>
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<td>January</td>
<td>Final research project approval</td>
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<tr>
<td>February-September</td>
<td>Research activities and field work</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Discussion of preliminary research results Advanced writing workshop for the social sciences Admission to 3rd year</td>
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**3rd year, 2018-19**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>November-May</td>
<td>Research activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Pre-graduation defence</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Final assessment by the internal committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Thesis submission</td>
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Curricula and courses

The doctoral programme is organized in two curricula, focusing on the following topics:

- **Development economics**: poverty and inequality, globalization and emerging markets, international integration and market regulation, migration, international cooperation and foreign aid, labour markets and informality, household economics, agriculture and rural development, natural resource management and sustainable development, climate change, shocks and resilience, policy impact evaluation, project management;

- **Economics of local development**: business economics and management, organization theory, urban and regional economics, industrial and spatial economics and policy, entrepreneurship, economics of innovation, inter-organizational network analysis, industrial district and cluster theory in developed and less developed countries, culture, creativity and innovation in local systems, firm internationalisation, multinational, networks and global value chains, sustainable local development patterns.

DELoS teaching activities consist of a set of courses shared by the two curricula and some courses specific for each curriculum. The courses common to the two curricula are: a crash course of mathematics, statistics, microeconomics, introduction to econometrics, institutional economics, trade and firms behaviour in open economies.
Specific courses for each curricula are as follows:

- **Development economics**: development microeconomics, development macroeconomics, poverty and inequality analysis, agricultural policy analysis, households, labour, migrations, international trade and finance, behavioural economics, advanced econometrics;

- **Economics of local development**: multivariate statistical analysis, social network analysis, case study analysis, local industrial development, policies for local development, culture, creativity and local development, immigration and local development, geography of innovation.

**Facilities**

The two partner Universities and the Doctoral School of Social Sciences provide doctoral students with:

- a personal desk and internet connection in a room equipped with PCs and personal productivity software;
- access to a certain number of licensed computer programs for special needs;
- e-mails and mailboxes;
- telephone access for local calls;
- access to photocopiers and printers;
- access to libraries;
- access to virtual libraries;
- access to databases;
- access to any other university facilities.
Internationalization

The DELoS programme is designed to offer a stimulating research environment and excellent opportunities, which it has succeeded in doing by developing an extensive international network with the following international partners:

- BBS, University of Birmingham, UK
- Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary
- HCS Montreal, Canada
- State University-Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia
- Universitat Autonoma di Barcellona, Spain
- Universitat de Valencia, Spain
- University of Athens, Greece
- University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain
- University of Jena, Germany
- University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- University of North Carolina, USA
- University of St. Andrews, UK
- University of Zhejiang, China
- Uppsala University, Sweden
- Utrecht University, The Netherlands.

In addition, the programme has collaborations with some of the most important research units of international organizations, such as OECD, FAO, and UNICEF, as well as non-academic public and private research centres, such as ISTAT, IRPET, AGMC, Einaudi Foundation.
Both the Doctoral School of Social Sciences and the Departments that support DELoS in Florence and Trento, offer an intensive calendar of seminars, conferences and workshops.

“Cotutelle-de-thèse”: opportunities for earning double degrees

A co-tutelle programme allows a doctoral student to obtain a double doctoral degree within the framework of an agreement between the two participating institutions. Each cotutelle-de-thèse is carried out through the cooperative supervision of two professors, one from the University of Trento and the other from the partner university. The student must fulfil the requirements for a doctorate at both universities.

DELoS offers cotutelle-de-thèse agreements with the following university partners:

- University of St. Andrews, UK
- University of Jena, Germany
- Corvinus University, Budapest
Further research at the University of Trento and Florence

Departmental research is the foundation of a doctoral programme. The contributing institutions at the Universities of Trento and Florence offer not only specialists in the core disciplines that are taught in the doctoral programme, but faculty members with expertise in a broad range of fields.

Economics and Management Department, University of Trento
• economics of institutions, organisations, and firms
• economics of globalisation, trade and emerging markets
• macroeconomics and finance
• environmental studies and sustainable local development
• household and labour economics
• poverty, inequality and under-development
• economic history
• quantitative methods.

Further information can be found on the Department website http://web.unitn.it/economia

Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento
• social capital and economic development
• migration in a global economy
• SMEs and entrepreneurship in local productive systems.

Further information can be found on the Department website http://web.unitn.it/sociologia
Department of Economics and Management, University of Florence

- macroeconomic policies for development
- economic dynamics modelling
- environmental and natural resource economics
- foreign direct investments and global value chains
- international finance
- agriculture and rural development
- health economics
- nutrition and human development
- household and labour economics
- social capital and collective action
- industrial districts and local development patterns
- creative clusters and innovation
- promotion of local development
- inter-organizational network analysis
- geography of innovation patterns.

Further information can be found on the Department website
http://www.disei.unifi.it/index.php
Department of Statistics, Informatics and Applications, University of Florence

- population and demography
- mathematical tools for individual and collective decision-making
- welfare measures of inequality and poverty
- fuzzy methods
- development of firms’ dynamic geo-databases
- spatial micro-econometric tools
- financial statistical methods
- stochastic processes
- time-series econometrics
- econometrics for panel data and micro-data.

Further information can be found on the Department website http://www.disia.unifi.it/index.php.
Some practical info
Please, read carefully the call for applications on the Doctoral School of Social Sciences website www.unitn.it/en/drss

Total number of positions open for the 2016/2017 entry: 9 (7 with scholarships + 2 additional positions without scholarships)

Each scholarship is awarded for three years, subject to satisfactory academic appraisal. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit, meaning that they will be offered to the top candidates of the final ranking.

The scholarship includes:

- About 1,000,00 euro per month
- 50 per cent increase of the scholarship for research abroad
- additional funding for research expenses

Deadline for applications: May 18, 2016 at 4 pm (Italian time)

Admission requirements

The programme accepts applications from candidates, regardless of gender, age, religion or nationality, who hold one of the following:

- an Italian university degree (“laurea specialistica” or “magistrale”) according to Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 03/11/1999 and subsequent amendments;
- other Italian university degrees (at least 4 years) according to the regulations in force before to Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 03/11/1999;
- an equivalent degree qualification obtained abroad.

Applications are also accepted from candidates who can certify that they qualify to obtain their degree by October 31, 2016. If “conditionally accepted”, the candidate must deliver full documentation of his/her degree by November 14, 2016.
Documents to be submitted

Each applicant must submit the following documents:
• photocopy of the applicant’s identity card or passport
• degree diplomas
• curriculum vitae in English
• research proposal in English
Furthermore, applicants are invited to submit also the following:
• English language certification
• max 2 reference letters
• any other document the applicant deems useful to prove his/her research abilities/skills.
See detailed information on the Call for 2016/2017 entry http://www.unitn.it/drss-call

English Language requirements

The programme is conducted entirely in English and an excellent working knowledge of that language, including a proven writing ability, is a requirement for admission.
Selection procedure

Admission to the PhD Programme is on a competitive basis. The procedure consists of two stages. A shortlist of candidates is first produced on the basis of the assessment of their curriculum, research proposal, and reference letters. Shortlisted candidates are then invited to an interview in Trento. Non-Italian candidates may be interviewed by phone or videoconference.

Fees

The PhD programme currently does not charge tuition. Admitted students however are required to pay an annual student fee of about 156,00 euro. Participation in the selection process is subject to the payment of a non-reimbursable application fee of 15,00 euro, by Bank transfer or credit card, as indicated in the appropriate section of the application on line.
For further information please contact
Doctoral School of Social Sciences
via Verdi 26 - 38122 Trento IT
ph. + 39 0461 282290/3756
fax: + 39 0461 282335
school.socialsciencess@unitn.it

www.unitn.it/en/drss