



PhD CFU

**Recognition of credits (crediti formativi universitari – CFU)
in PhD programmes**



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TRIESTE**



Italian National Legislation

Italian Ministerial Decrees No 226 of 14th December 2021 and No 301 of 22nd March 2022 establish the rules for the creation of new doctoral degree courses and contain guidelines on the organisation of educational activities for PhD students.

The University Regulations

Pursuant to the above-mentioned decrees, the University of Trieste introduced more precise criteria for the organisation of educational activities for PhD students. It has been established that doctoral students must earn at least 20 credits (CFU) during their doctoral degree.



Activities and Credits

To earn credits, students must participate in various activities, some of which are mandatory. Each activity awards a given number of credits that may vary within minimum and maximum reference value. Educational activities for PhD students are:

1. taught components offered within their PhD programme
(or other PhD programmes at the University of Trieste or at other partner universities and institutions)
2. doctoral training activities organised by the University of Trieste
3. taught components offered within master's degrees programmes
(at the University of Trieste or at other partner universities)
4. national and international summer/winter schools
5. conferences, symposiums, workshops
6. additional academic support (supporting a taught course, tutoring)
7. outreach ('third mission') activities
(especially public engagement)









The number of hours equivalent to 1 credit varies across activities. This information is presented in a detailed table on the pages that follow.

Activities

- 1 Taught Components Offered within PhD Programmes**
(or other PhD programmes at the University of Trieste or at other partner universities and institutions)
- 2 Doctoral Training Activities Organised by the University of Trieste**
- 3 Taught Components Offered within Master's Degrees Programmes**
(at the University of Trieste or at other partner universities)
- 4 National and International Summer/Winter Schools**
- 5 Conferences, Symposiums, Workshops**
- 6 Additional Academic Support with a CFU Value**
(supporting a taught course)
Additional Academic Support without a CFU Value
(tutoring)
- 7 Outreach Activities**

Credits/hours

Limits

1 CFU = 8 hours	at least 8 CFU (no more than 10 CFU)	
1 CFU = 8 hours	at least 4 CFU (1 CFU must relate to Outreach) (no more than 8 CFU)	
CFU of the course	(no more than 4 CFU)	 mandatory
1 CFU = 2 days	(no more than 5 CFU)	 
1 CFU = 2 days	at least 1 CFU (no more than 6 CFU)	 elective
CFU of the course 1 CFU = 8 hours	(no more than 12 CFU)	
1 CFU = 2 days	(no more than 2 CFU)	

1

PhD students are required to obtain between 8 and 10 credits by attending taught components offered within their PhD programme or within other courses at the University of Trieste or at other partner universities and institutions. Attendance of taught components must be approved by the relevant Doctoral Teaching Body. 1 credit corresponds to 8 hours of lectures. In order to obtain the relevant number of credits from a given activity, students may need to pass an exam. From academic year 2023-24, course length will vary by increments of 4 hours, according to the formula $8+4n$ hours (where $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$). Based on this formula, a varying number of credits (including half credits) may be awarded (1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, etc.).

2

PhD students are required to earn between 4 and 8 credits by attending interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary training courses offered by the University. Doctoral Training may range from improvement of ICT and language skills to teaching activities, research management, knowledge of national and international research systems, knowledge valorisation and dissemination, protection of intellectual property, open access, research ethics, gender equality and professional integrity. For doctoral training activities, 1 credit corresponds to 8 hours of course. Credits will be recorded by the Doctoral Office only upon proof of attendance. At least 1 credit should be earned through 'third mission' (outreach and research dissemination) activities.

3

PhD students can obtain up to 4 credits from taught components offered within master's degrees programmes at the University of Trieste or at other partner universities. Attendance of taught components must be approved by the relevant Doctoral Teaching Body. Regardless of the number of credits a given taught component may award to master's degree students, PhD students will obtain no more than 4 credits. However, the relevant Doctoral Teaching Body has the power to award PhD students a higher number of credits. Students need to pass an exam to obtain the relevant number of credits.

4

PhD students can obtain credits by attending national and international summer and/or winter schools. The Doctoral Teaching Body will establish their relevance to the student's learning and research goals. 1 credit corresponds to two full days of attendance. No more than 5 credits can be awarded for this kind of activity.

5

PhD students must obtain between 1 and 6 credits by attending conferences, symposiums and/or workshops. The Doctoral Teaching Body will establish their relevance to the student's learning and research goals. 1 credit corresponds to two full days of attendance at conferences, symposiums and/or workshops.

6

PhD students can obtain up to 12 credits by carrying out additional academic support activities approved by the relevant Doctoral Teaching Body. Supporting a taught course will award the same number of credits earned by students attending the course (or part of it, if support was not given during the entire course). Independent academic support, such as tutoring, will earn 1 credit for every 8 hours of support.

7

PhD students can obtain up to 2 credits by carrying out outreach activities, especially when focused on public engagement. All activities must be approved by the relevant Doctoral Teaching Body. 1 credit corresponds to 2 days of activities.

Activities 1, 2 and 3 must be chosen by the student when presenting their study programme.

Activities 4, 5, 6 and 7 will be approved at the end of the academic year.

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Example of training activities in a hypothetical Doctoral Programme in Food and Nutritional Sciences. All training activities and the relevant credits were approved and the candidate was admitted to their final oral examination (viva voce).

	Duration (hrs/days)	CFU	CFU obtained
TAUGHT COMPONENTS OFFERED WITHIN PhD PROGRAMME			
1	Basic principles of leavening	8	10
	Territorial cultural identity and food	12	
	Nutritional relevance of dairy products	16	
	European labeling regulation	16	
	Dietary needs of the marathon runner	8	
	Epidemiology and nutrition	24	
DOCTORAL TRAINING ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE UNIVERSITY			
2	Academic English	32	6
	European Projects	8	
	From intellectual to technology transfer *	8	
NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL WINTER/SUMMER SCHOOLS			
4	School on "What is the future of cured meat"	3 days	1.5
CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIUMS, WORKSHOPS			
5	XXI Conference "Food Nutrition & Health", Paris, France	2 days	2.5
	VI Conference "Food Science", Miami USA	3 days	
	Workshop "Diet strategies for prevention", Erice, Italy	1 day	
ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC SUPPORT			
6	Course "Diet and diseases connection" (tutoring)	32	4

* course within the field of Outreach ("Third Mission")

Total CFU earned

24

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