

University of Padua
Department of Statistical Sciences
PhD School in Statistical Sciences

Vademecum for thesis presentation

October 5, 2010

The PhD programme has a standard duration of three years. Candidates can apply for a delay of 6 or 12 months in the presentation of the thesis and final exam, specifying the reason for the request. The application for a delay must be submitted to the University Rector within **November 30** of the third year, using the form

<http://www.unipd.it/stdoc/dottorati/prorogacorsiescuole23new.doc>.

In any case, the scholarship is limited to the first three years.

The thesis can be written either in Italian or in English. In the latter case, university regulations require that students should apply in due time to the School Board (see <http://www.stat.unipd.it/uploads/File/Autorizzazione%20tesi%20in%20inglese.pdf>).

The PhD thesis, which is expected to contain original research results, has to be discussed both in front of the School Collegiate (School Board, Teaching Staff and Supervisors) and, subject to positive evaluation by the Collegiate, in front of a thesis defence jury composed by Italian and foreign experts on the thesis topic. Discussion in front of the School Collegiate will take place at the end of November. By **mid-November** of the same year, students must submit to the School Director a preliminary draft (pdf file) of the thesis containing:

1. thesis front cover, composed according to the School standard (see Thesis item at <http://www.stat.unipd.it/phd/for-students>),
2. Index,
3. Chapter 1. Introduction
It has to contain two sections:
Section 1.1 Overview
Section 1.2 Main Contributions of the Thesis,
4. at least one more chapter displaying original results,
5. Bibliography
6. Curriculum (composed according to the template at <http://www.stat.unipd.it/phd/for-students>).

This draft will be sent by the Director to the School Collegiate before the day of the discussion.

The final version of the thesis has to be submitted to the Servizio Formazione alla Ricerca within a deadline to be fixed at the end of January after the end of the third year. The University web page www.unipd.it/studenti/Dopo_laurea/dottorati_ricerca/per_dottorandi/tesi.htm contains detailed information about the documentation required for the final exam.

According to the University rules, the thesis, with soft cover, is to be in two-sided A4 format with at least 25 lines per page, each containing at least 60 characters. The thesis cover has to be **white**, with black type and red university logo, as in the template at <http://www.stat.unipd.it/phd/for-students>). The spine should bear "Cycle xxxx - year of submission" and candidate's name and surname. The layout of the thesis has to be the same as the draft described in items 1–6 above, with 4. consisting of the final thesis chapters, from Chapter 2 on.

The *Doctor Europaeus* designation can be added to the doctoral degree if four conditions regarding co-supervision, assessment by an international jury, multilingualism and mobility are fulfilled (see http://www.stat.unipd.it/uploads/File/dottorato/PhD_label_uk.pdf). Eligible candidates must contact the School Director in September of the third year.

The final exam in front of the thesis defence jury usually takes place in the Spring following the end of the third year. It consists of a presentation by the candidate (30-45 minutes)

followed by questions from the committee, on any topic related to the thesis work. The final evaluation by the exam committee will take into account external reviews if the candidate has applied for the *Doctor Europaeus* designation. If the exam is failed, the candidate can repeat it only once.