PhD in Economics and Finance

The program in short
February 2024

Alessandro Bucciol, Coordinator
(alessandro.bucciol@univr.it)
Why a PhD in Economics and Finance?

- The PhD degree is the highest level of university education
- A PhD in Economics and Finance trains students to become independent researchers in Economics and/or Finance
- A PhD graduate can undertake a career at the university or in any public/private company endowed with a research department

Why in Verona?

- The Department of Economics offers a stimulating young research environment in a lovely city
- We offer two dedicated curricula: Economics (ECO) and Mathematics and Data Analytics for Finance (MDAF)
- Students are endowed with personal research funds and have access to a dedicated room, equipped with computers and other facilities
Main features of the program

• At least four scholarships (gross amount: 16,000 euros per year)
• Personal research funds (1,600 euros per year)
• Access to dedicated room and Department facilities
• Duration: Four years full time
• Training activities entirely carried out in English
• Two curricula (ECO and MDAF)
• First year of courses on general and specific topics
• Personalized training and research path
• Interaction with PhD programs from nearby universities
• Experience abroad of six-twelve months financially supported
Activities

First year
• Students attend advanced courses, both compulsory on general topics and eligible on more specific topics
• At the end of the year, students choose a field of specialization, identify two supervisors and prepare a summer paper (ECO track) or give an oral presentation (MDAF track)

Second year
• Students start working on their research and are encouraged to shape a personalized study curriculum based on their research interests
• Students present their work on a “PhD day” jointly organized with the Universities of Padua and Ca’ Foscari of Venice
• At the end of the year, students present an internal seminar within the Department
Activities

Third year

• Students mainly work on their research
• A study and research stay in a foreign university or research institution for a period of six-twelve months usually takes place in this period
• Students present their work on a “PhD day” jointly organized with the Free University of Bozen
• At the end of the year, students present an internal seminar within the Department

Fourth year

• Students finalize their thesis, which must contain three chapters of original scientific production
• The thesis is evaluated by a pool of at least two external reviewers
• Final examinations usually take place between April and May of the year following the end of the program
Placement

- The PhD program was launched in 2021 and we do not have PhD graduates yet
- History is based on the former PhD program in “Economics and Management”
- At the time of graduation, all our students were already having a job
  - About 70% got hired in a university
  - The remaining 30% got hired in public/private companies
Admission

- Admission is through competition. The call for applications opens in April/May.
- Eligible candidates hold, or are about to hold, a master’s degree in Economics or related fields.
- The following material is required for an application:
  1. Certificate with final graduation mark or transcript with exam grades;
  2. Curriculum Vitae;
  3. Short original research proposal;
  4. Two reference letters.
- Shortlisted candidates are invited for an interview in June/July.
- Activities start in October.

- In a standard call ...
  - We receive about 150 applications from around 30 countries (20% Italians).
  - We shortlist 30-40 applicants.
Need more information?

• Visit the PhD official webpage
  https://www.dse.univr.it/?ent=cs&id=1008&lang=en

• Contact the PhD Coordinator, Prof. Alessandro Bucciol
  alessandro.bucciol@univr.it

• We look forward to hearing from you!