

PHD COURSE IN LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND CULTURES IN CONTACT 40TH CYCLE A.Y. 24/25

Course description and objectives

The PhD programme aims at the advanced study of the phenomena of contact between languages, literatures and cultures. The category of “contact” marks the history of civilisations and constitutes an indispensable part of cultural heritage.

The field of study is characterised by the transversal nature of the discipline and the multiplicity of research (linguistics, literature, history, cultural studies, psychology and sociology, anthropology and ethnography, new media, artistic and communication languages) with further possible disciplinary branches, united by the theoretical centrality and heuristic value of the “contact” paradigm.

The course of study focuses on transnational themes such as; (1) migratory movements and their linguistic, literary and cultural influences, both because of the richness of their history and the topicality of the phenomena that characterises our current day culture, and also because of the theoretical and conceptual complexity that their study entails; (2) the dynamics of the formation of identity and otherness, including their effects on processes of cultural hybridisation, such as travel literature and tourism. Another line of study on which the course focuses is translation and intercultural mediation, intertextuality and intersemiotic practices, and the phenomena of exchange of cultural, symbolic and social capital.

The reference framework of the PhD is based on the goals of the 2030 UN Agenda, in particular:

- 4. Quality education.
- 5. Gender equality.
- 10. Reduced inequalities.
- 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions.
- 17. Partnerships for the goals.

Expected occupational and professional outlets

The programme aims to provide students with a mastery of up-to-date critical and cognitive tools that allow them to carry out specialised research in the field of linguistic, literary, artistic, cultural and social phenomena that characterise situations of contact between different civilisations and cultures in both synchronic and diachronic perspectives. It is aimed at young scholars of linguistics, foreign and comparative literatures, Italianists, historians of art, culture and ideas, anthropologists and sociologists, communication and new media scholars, experts in translation and intercultural mediation.

The programme aims to train scholars or experts in the field of discourses of and on contact - figures capable of correlating advanced academic training and research, even in its most experimental forms, with the historical, social, linguistic and cultural reality of the contemporary age.

In addition to the training of specialists in academic research in this field, the PhD with this profile will also have preparation for careers in schools, cultural institutions in Italy and abroad, theatre, cinema and television, new media, museum institutions, publishing houses, consultancy and communication in national and international social and humanitarian organisations linked to the problems of multiculturalism, in the production and communication of cultural events in a multicultural context.

Programme of planned teaching activities, a.y. 2024/25

The activities of the first year are aimed at making doctoral students aware of the complexity of the topic at the centre of the doctoral programme: contacts are analysed from a linguistic, literary and culturological perspective. In their multiplicity, these activities aim above all at a survey of the state of the art of studies on the subject.

They are aimed at providing theoretical-methodological tools, suggesting interpretative keys and indicating possible study perspectives to enable doctoral students to develop their own research projects by selecting the most relevant contemporary themes on which to elaborate.

The seminars and lectures held by Department lecturers and also by guest lecturers will focus on the four fundamental areas of the PhD programme:

- (a) Intertextuality and interculturality.
- (b) Interlinguistic contacts.
- (c) Translation and Literary History.
- (d) Research methodologies in the humanities.

Board of Professors for PhD in "Languages, Literatures and Cultures in Contact"

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