

UNIVERSITY of SIENA

PhD program in Engineering and Science of Information

Via Roma, 56 – I-53100 Siena

<http://phdesi.ing.unisi.it>

Rules for obtaining a Doctorate for PhD students starting from the XXIX cycle on

Request for thesis defense

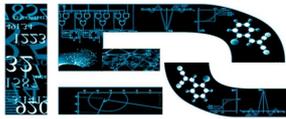
- During the last year of coursework, preferably three months before the end of coursework, doctoral candidates should request permission from the PhD Board (“Collegio dei Docenti”) to defend their theses.
- All requests will be considered, as long as the tutor has provided a positive recommendation.
- No extensions will be granted. (MIUR prot. 12835 of 18/5/2016).

Doctoral thesis

- The doctoral thesis can be written in Italian, English or another language.
- It must be accompanied by:
 - A synthesis in Italian or English (necessarily English for candidates with Pegaso grants);
 - A summary of activities conducted during the course of study, including a list of publications (if any).
- The thesis must be submitted to the course coordinator within three months of the end of coursework so that it can be evaluated and so that the final defense can take place within six months of the end of coursework.

Thesis reviewing process

- Thesis reviewers will include at least two highly qualified researchers from outside the University of Siena.
- Reviewers may evaluate more than one thesis.
- The PhD Board will nominate the reviewers within fifteen days of the submission of a thesis.
- The reviewers will provide a written evaluation of the thesis and either suggest that the thesis be admitted for final defense or that it be returned to its author for changes and/or corrections to be carried out during a period of no longer than six months, after which the thesis will be admitted for final defense accompanied by a second written evaluation.



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Committee for thesis defense

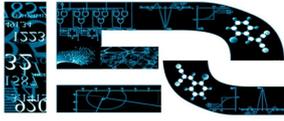
- The committee for the thesis defense will be nominated by the Rector based on recommendations from the PhD Board provided within fifteen days of receipt of the thesis and composed of at least three members chosen from among qualified experts in the relevant disciplines.
- At least two committee members must come from universities other than the University of Siena. At the discretion of the PhD Board, the committee may be joined by up to two more experts.
- The commission can be different for each candidate.
- The members of the defense committee may also be thesis reviewers.
- The decisions of the PhD Board with regard to the selection of committee members, admission to the final defense and the date, time and location of the final defense must be communicated to the University administration office at least one month in advance.
- The names and contact information of the committee members will be mailed to the candidates.
- The same committee can be engaged for the first and second sessions of defense.

Thesis defense

- If the reviewers approve the thesis upon first examination, the final defense must take place within six months of the end of coursework on the date indicated by the PhD Board.
- If the reviewers reject the thesis upon first examination, the PhD Board will establish a new deadline for the thesis defense, according to the time extension (not more than 6 months) deliberated.

Doctor Europaeus

- The University of Siena, together with the title of Doctor of Research (“Dottore di Ricerca”), can confer a European-recognized title, namely “Doctor Europaeus,” as long as the following conditions are met:
 - The doctoral thesis must be prepared, at least in part, following a research period of at least a trimester carried out in a country, other than Italy, that adheres to the Bologna Process;
 - The thesis must be reviewed by at least two professors belonging to two universities of two countries other than Italy that adhere to the Bologna Process. In this case, the role of “evaluators” indicated in the rules holding from the XXIX cycle on will be played by these two professors.



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- At least one member of the Committee for the public defense must belong to a university in a country other than Italy that adheres to the Bologna Process;
- The thesis defense must be held at least in part in a European Union language other than Italian.