



# University of Ferrara

600 YEARS OF LOOKING FORWARD



# **WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR HIGHER STUDIES**

## **IUSS-FERRARA 1391**

The University of Ferrara shows its outstanding international character establishing privileged and cooperative relationship with scientific and educational institution and other organisations through the world.

Multilateral cooperation with several Universities and other organisations aims to share and join scientific competence and direct experience as well as to develop innovative projects in educational and research areas.

Moreover, it promotes mutual comprehension and liaisons between people and nations.

Many cooperation projects with foreign universities and other institutions offers our students and researchers the chance to increase their experience in Ferrara.

IUSS-Ferrara 1301 was established by the University of Ferrara in February 2005. The activities of the Institute can be found on <http://iuss.unife.it>.

Since fall 2005 organisation and teaching activities of IUSS-Ferrara 1391 are based in via Scienze 41/b.

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# A BRIEF HISTORY OF FERRARA UNIVERSITY

## THE FOUNDATION

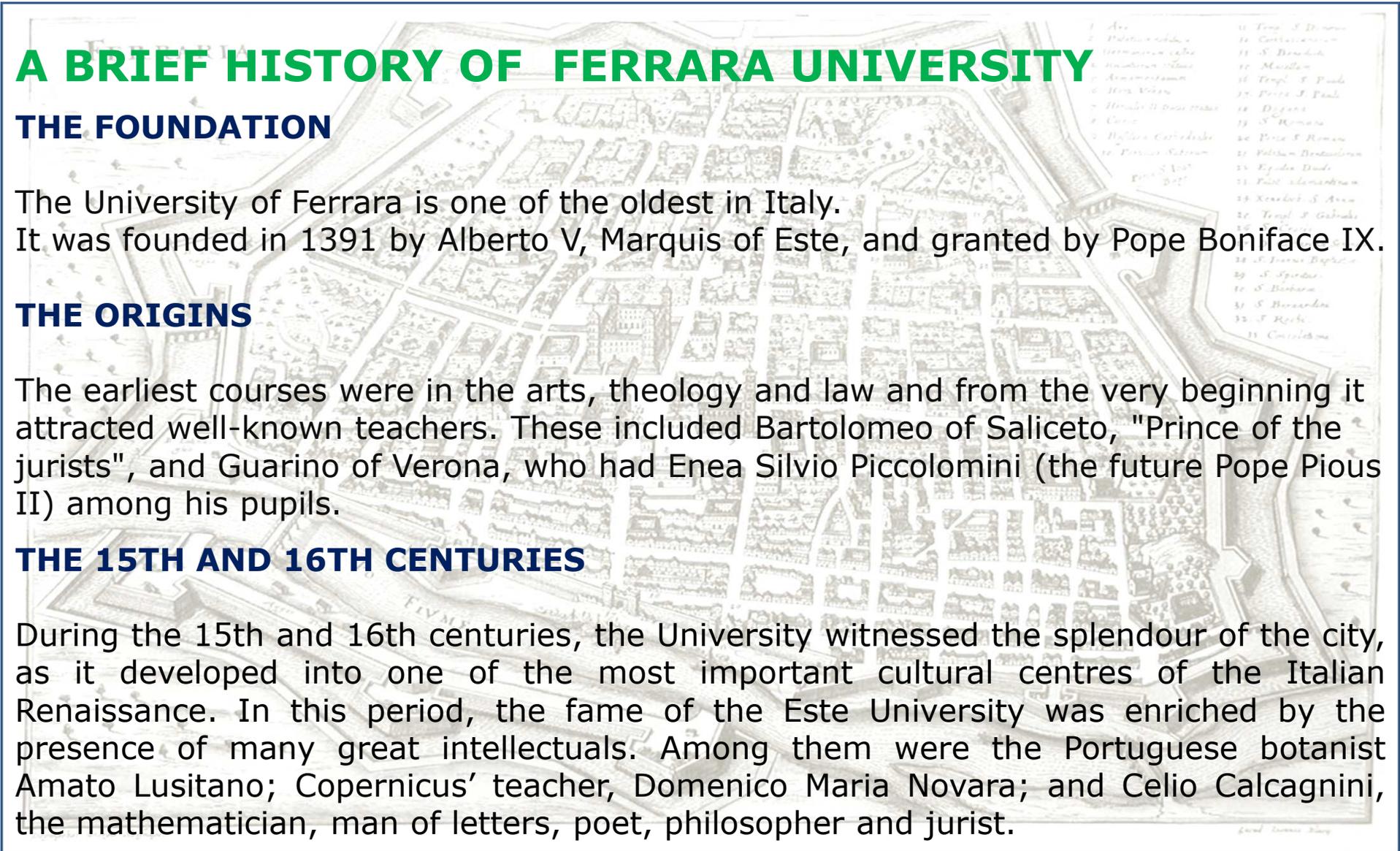
The University of Ferrara is one of the oldest in Italy. It was founded in 1391 by Alberto V, Marquis of Este, and granted by Pope Boniface IX.

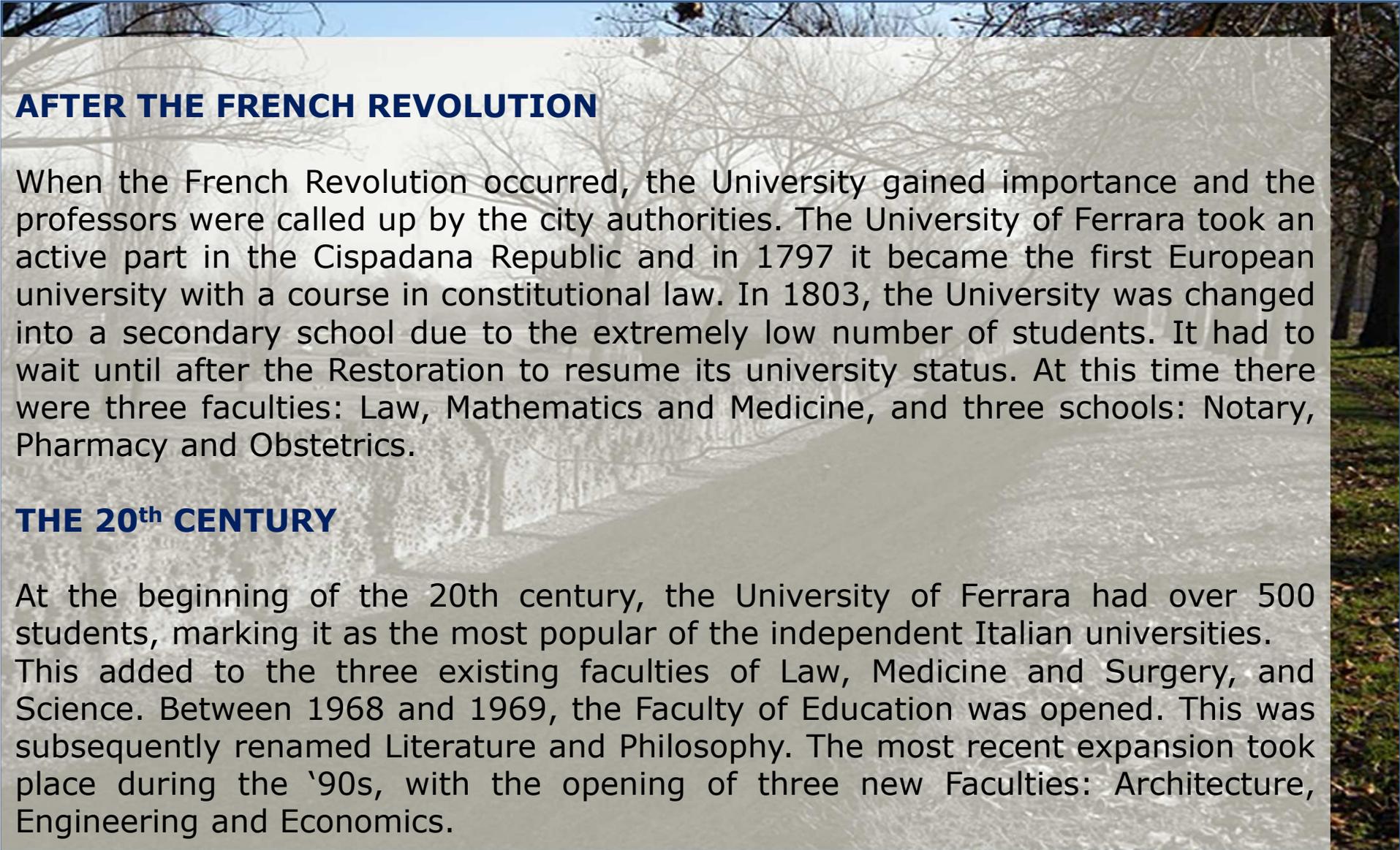
## THE ORIGINS

The earliest courses were in the arts, theology and law and from the very beginning it attracted well-known teachers. These included Bartolomeo of Saliceto, "Prince of the jurists", and Guarino of Verona, who had Enea Silvio Piccolomini (the future Pope Pious II) among his pupils.

## THE 15TH AND 16TH CENTURIES

During the 15th and 16th centuries, the University witnessed the splendour of the city, as it developed into one of the most important cultural centres of the Italian Renaissance. In this period, the fame of the Este University was enriched by the presence of many great intellectuals. Among them were the Portuguese botanist Amato Lusitano; Copernicus' teacher, Domenico Maria Novara; and Celio Calcagnini, the mathematician, man of letters, poet, philosopher and jurist.





## **AFTER THE FRENCH REVOLUTION**

When the French Revolution occurred, the University gained importance and the professors were called up by the city authorities. The University of Ferrara took an active part in the Cispadana Republic and in 1797 it became the first European university with a course in constitutional law. In 1803, the University was changed into a secondary school due to the extremely low number of students. It had to wait until after the Restoration to resume its university status. At this time there were three faculties: Law, Mathematics and Medicine, and three schools: Notary, Pharmacy and Obstetrics.

## **THE 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY**

At the beginning of the 20th century, the University of Ferrara had over 500 students, marking it as the most popular of the independent Italian universities. This added to the three existing faculties of Law, Medicine and Surgery, and Science. Between 1968 and 1969, the Faculty of Education was opened. This was subsequently renamed Literature and Philosophy. The most recent expansion took place during the '90s, with the opening of three new Faculties: Architecture, Engineering and Economics.



# IUSS - Ferrara 1391

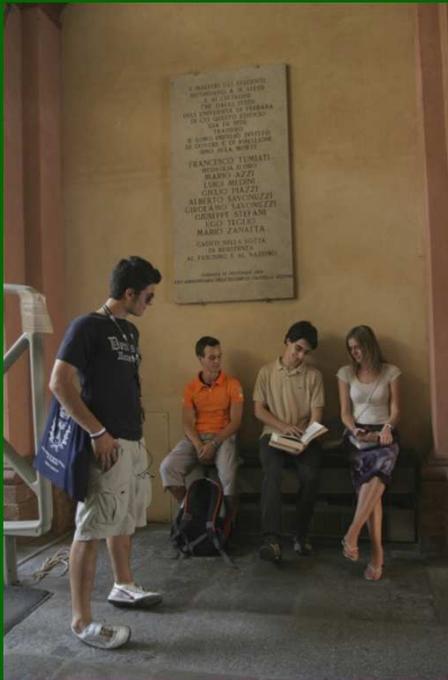
## The University of Ferrara Doctorate College



The University Institute for Higher Studies, IUSS - Ferrara 1391, is a structure that offers university courses at the undergraduate and graduate level with the highest qualification.

Its fundamental characteristics are to make the most of talent using only the highest criteria for the selection of students, an international character, the opportunity for residing in Ferrara with the creation of a Residential College, that is a point of reference for the most deserving Italian and international students, besides being tools of cultural mixing.





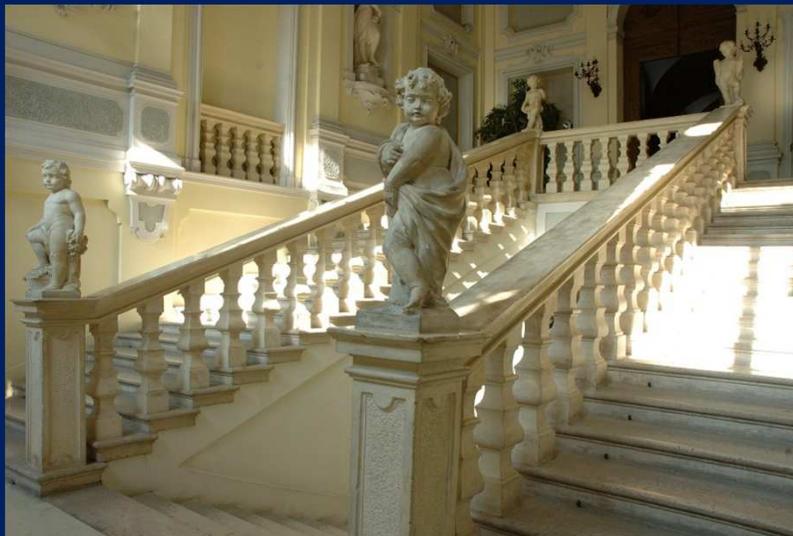
IUSS – Ferrara 1391 includes all the Doctoral Programs of the University, together with Undergraduate Honours Programs, International Master Courses and Schools of Specialisation that are selected every year by the University on the grounds of the aims of the Institute, with particular attention to quality, internationality and adherence to the needs of the European Labour Market.

The activities of the Institute can be found on:  
<http://iuss.unife.it/>

The University of Ferrara offers a wide range of doctoral courses; the length is 3 years.

Since 2006 there are 16 doctoral programs, grouped into three academic macro-areas:

- ECONOMICS – LAW-HUMANITIES – SOCIAL STUDIES;
- MEDICINE-BIOLOGY;
- SCIENCE - TECHNOLOGY



There are near 400 doctoral students, who are tutored and supervised by a large fraction of the 700 professors and researchers of the University. Many doctoral programs are in collaboration with external research institutions and companies.



# IUSS - Ferrara 1391



# DOCTORALS PROGRAMS



PLANNED ACTIVITIES

# Doctoral School in Life, Health and Environment Sciences

## MACROAREA MED – BIO

- BIOCHEMISTRY, MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY
- EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY
- MOLECULAR PHARMACOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY
- BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
- CHEMICAL SCIENCES
- PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

# BIOCHEMISTRY, MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

Coordinator: Prof. Francesco Bernardi  
E-mail: ber@unife.it

The Project of the PhD course is to transfer to the student theoretical and practical information in these fields. The PhD course is structured in two "curricula", the first being "Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, the second Biotechnology. They are organized in lectures, practical demonstrations, seminars and research activities. Students will be supervised by a tutor and will follow lessons, practical demonstrations and seminars at the Departments involved, but also outside. The students will be involved in the design and realization of a research project, under the supervision of one or more members of the Teaching Board. Since the first year, the student are encouraged to improve basic and specific knowledge, following lessons relevant to their research field. The participation to lessons, practical demonstrations, seminars and research activities will be coordinated by the tutor, depending on the student's cultural basis and interest and on the chosen research project. In addition to the tutor, the students could be supervised by a second member of the research team. This will help in the study, in solving problems and in analyzing the progress of the experimental work.

The research projects will be the following:

- (1) CURRICULUM BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY: Molecular structures; Enzymatic catalysis and its modulation; Metabolism and cellular energy mechanisms; Gene structure and expression; Molecular basis of human pathologies; Gene expression and its modulation; Molecular virology;
- (2) CURRICULUM BIOTECHNOLOGY: Cellular, biochemical and molecular biotechnology; Microbiological biotechnology; Biomedical and diagnostic biotechnology and advanced bio instrumentations; Vegetal and Agro-food biotechnology.

# EVOLUTIONARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY

Coordinator: Prof. Guido Barbujani  
E-mail: [bjg@unife.it](mailto:bjg@unife.it)

The goal of the Ph.D. programme is to provide the students with a thorough understanding of the principles of the evolution of living beings, including humans, of their behaviour and of their relationships with the environment. For that end, we emphasize a broad knowledge base ranging from the molecular level up to the individual, population and community levels. The holder of a Ph.D. in Evolutionary and Environmental Biology will be a highly qualified expert in the analysis and interpretation of biological processes and in the management of natural resources, who will be able to independently plan and conduct empirical research, to develop models and to analyse the data. Research and teaching activities related with the programme will tend to cross the bridge between basic and applied research, exposing the students to a broad range of inputs to stimulate the ability to develop innovative projects. Particular attention is given both to research projects addressing basic, fundamental biological questions, as well as projects with practical implications in areas such as the management of animal and plant populations and of the natural resources in general, with potential developments in industrial and applied research.



# MOLECULAR PHARMACOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

Coordinator: Prof. Antonio Cuneo  
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The PhD Program in Molecular Pharmacology and Oncology derives from the union of the PhD programs in Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology and Molecular Oncology.

The internal organization is articulated in three Curricula:

- 1) Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology;
- 2) Molecular Oncology;
- 3) Pharmacology of Peptidergic Systems.

In the Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology program, several methodological and cultural approaches are involved: physico-chemical techniques (receptor binding and receptor binding thermodynamics), electrophysiology (patch clamp), biochemical techniques (enzymatic activities, secretory processes, ionic movements), molecular biology (in situ hybridization, gene cloning, viral vectors), immunologic techniques (vaccines, synthetic delivery systems, immunohistochemistry) by using cell cultures, synaptosomes, purified membranes and several animal models. This curriculum gives solid technical-scientific basis for several research areas in pharmacology, biochemistry, physiology, pathology and immunology. The Molecular Oncology program is devoted to the development of basic and applied researchers in different aspects of oncology, from the set up of diagnostic systems to the proposal of advanced therapies, to the molecular analysis of solid and hematologic tumors. The curriculum in Pharmacology of peptidergic systems is particularly devoted to the pharmacologic, physiopathologic, biochemical and molecular study of central and peripheral receptors for bioactive peptides. This is an international curriculum under activation with University of Leicester (Prof. D. Lambert). The aim of the PhD program in Molecular Pharmacology and Oncology is the scientific, theoretical and practical formation of young researchers who wish to learn methodologic, theoretical and experimental themes in the fields of molecular pharmacology and oncology. These new cultural and practical skills can allow the young PhD student to be introduced in a competitive way, at national and international level, in public and private research. A researcher with experience in molecular pharmacology and oncology can be of great usefulness to University institutions and in laboratories of pharmaceutical industry, in diagnostic laboratories, in research centres of clinical pharmacology and experimental and diagnostic oncology.



# BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Coordinator: Prof. Silvano Capitani  
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Goal of this project is to form researcher able to solve main scientific problems related to basic sciences and to the different pathologies of the curricula.

A fundamental tool is the participation of the students to the scientific activities common to the presented curricula.

Scientific activity common to all curricula. Biomelecular technologies: geneitic expression analysis, gene structure analysis, methodology for the identification of DNA binding proteins, RNA isolation technics, northen blotting, DNA sequencing techniques, DNA/RNA amplification techniques, gene cloning. Cellular technologies: cell coltures, colture systems, cell cloning.



# CHEMICAL SCIENCES

Coordinator: Prof. Carlo Alberto Bignozzi  
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The doctorate in Chemical Sciences originates from consciousness within the Department of Chemistry of its highly qualified scientific competence developed over the years in research covering most areas of chemical investigations. Specifically, five fundamental areas can be mentioned: Analytical and Environmental Chemistry; Physical, Structural and Computational Chemistry; Inorganic Synthesis and Reactivity; Organic Synthesis and Reactivity.

Research topics form a homogeneous and interconnected body, where two main directions can be singled out, i.e., chemical reactivity and analytical and physical chemical investigation methodologies.

All laboratories active in the areas represented are well equipped to carry on advanced research and are then able to guarantee the high level of preparation that the Doctorate requires. Routine apparatus present in the single laboratories is well integrated by large, more advanced instrumentation which can be accessed by all groups.

# PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE

Coordinator: Prof. Stefano Manfredini

E-mail: stefano.manfredini@unife.it

The PhD course in pharmaceutical Sciences is characterized by an integrated approach to the development of new molecules having therapeutic, salutistic and cosmetic activities. The programme takes advantage from the inter-disciplinary competences of the teachers composing the board and is addressed to research themes related to the design, synthesis, isolation, characterization, formulation, quality control and delivery of pharmaceutical, salutistic and cosmetic products (health products). These aims are pursued through local, national and international inter-disciplinary collaborations. The didactical programme is accomplished through:

- a) Attending to courses and seminars issued by teachers from our university and external institutions
- b) Attending to specialization courses at national and international level
- c) participation to meetings and congresses
- d) stages at research institutions at national and international level
- e) research activities at the laboratories of our department and others operating in collaboration with the tutor
- f) seminars



# Doctoral School in Science and Technology

## MACROAREA SCI – TEC

- PHYSICS
- MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
- EARTH SCIENCES
- ENGINEERING SCIENCE
- TECHNOLOGY OF ARCHITECTURE

# PHYSICS

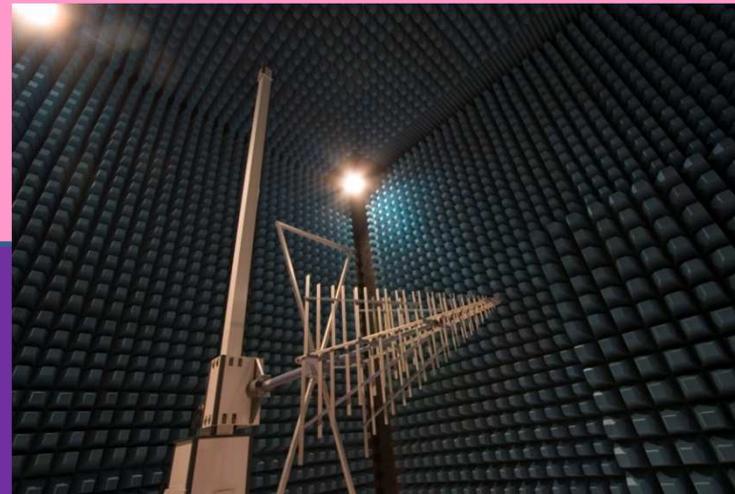
Coordinator: Prof. Filippo Frontera

E-mail: [frontera@fe.infn.it](mailto:frontera@fe.infn.it)

Goal of the our doctorate course in Physics is the acquisition of the know-how needed to perform high level researches in the field of Physics and its applications.

The scientific relevance of the Physics Department and its capability of joining new scientists are obtained given that in our Department about 70 Physicists and Engineers, partly with permanent positions of Full/Associate Professor and partly with positions of University or INFN researcher or technologist, operate and contribute to the doctorate student formation.

Most of the scientists or professors have their reasearch groups, have international collaborations and face issues of high scientific-technical relevance. In the last years the Physics Department has obtained results of key importance in several fields, ranging from the fundamental physics (Gamma Ray Bursts, astrophysics of compact objects, heavy quarks, CP symmetry, computer sceince devoted to theoretical physics) to the applied physics (solar energy exploitement, sensor development for the environment monitoring, PET tomography, nano-structures and nano-material development, gamma-ray Laue lens development).



# MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Coordinator: Prof. Luisa Zanghirati  
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The main aim and objective of the Doctorate of Research in Mathematics and Informatics/Computer Science programme is the development of highly qualified professional individuals who can be fruitfully employed in advanced scientific research, both at a fundamental as well as at an applied level, in a variety of areas in Mathematics and Informatics. These would typically include activity in universities, research institutes, industry, public administration as well as in independent commercial ventures.

The present doctoral programme follows the successful completion of courses in the Mathematics master degree and that in Informatics of the Faculty of SMFN and is the natural continuation of the common scientific methodology of these which integrates existing collaborations and encourages further developments.



# EARTH SCIENCES

Coordinator: Prof. Luigi Beccaluva  
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The Course is intended to form highly qualified researchers in the field of basic and applied Earth Science disciplines, in particular Mineralogy, Petrology-Geochemistry, Paleontology, Geology-Sedimentology, Hydrogeology, Geomorphology and Geophysics.

The training includes the attendance to basic courses, seminars, summer schools of advanced studies and stages in qualified scientific Institutions in Italy and abroad.

Laboratory facilities are provided to the Course by the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Ferrara and by various associated Institutions in Italy and abroad.





## ENGINEERING SCIENCES

Coordinator: Prof. Stefano Trillo  
E-mail: stefano.trillo@unife.it



The aim to prepare qualified researchers in the field of Engineering, to be enrolled in academic and private institutes, public administration, etc.

Each PhD student will follow general and common courses, given in terms of lectures and seminars, as well as specific lectures more related to the chosen research theme. Research themes are selected within one of the three curricula as outlined below:

- *Information Engineering*: industrial automation, control automation, robotics, fuzzy logic; physics, reliability and modelling of electronic devices, microwaves; hardware digital design, CAD digital circuit design,; operating systems, artificial intelligence, computer networks: wave propagation, optical propagation, optical fibres, wireless networks, telecommunication networks, TCPIP protocol, electromagnetic compatibility;
- *Civil Engineering*: Civil Engineering, Structural Mechanics, Project of Structures, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering, Surveying Engineering, Geotechnical Engineering, Project of Buildings, Acoustic of Materials and Buildings, Acoustic of Theatres;
- *Industrial Engineering*: machine theory, mechanism synthesis and vibration analysis for design applications; metallic, non metallic and composites materials; manufacturing process planning and analysis; conventional and Computer Aided Structural Analysis of mechanical parts and components; energy systems analysis to evaluate the performance, the pollutant emission and health state; thermodynamics and heat and mass transfer.

## TECHNOLOGY OF ARCHITECTURE

Coordinator: Prof. Graziano Trippa  
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The aim of the PhD course is to develop the subjects related to Building Technology and to strengthen the synergistic cooperation of design, process and building. The field of interest ranges from technologies based on innovative materials , to industrial design and restoration. The PhD will explore cross field research approaches, based on the research activities of the PhD Student and the active debate with the teachers taking part at the joint sittings. The researches will be developed under both a national and an international scale.

The starting point of the PhD is the necessity of developing an effective strategy to relate the needs of the design process and those of Building technology which involve the building process, its strategies and its means.

The critical issues of those two aspects are clear when they have to deal with technological innovation. Nowadays it's more and more important to understand the changes occurred to the building process: since it left the rules of tradition, a deep revision of its techniques is needed do meet the changes given by "hard" (materials, technical components, techniques) and "soft" (mutual interaction of the actors involved) innovations.

According with this idea the goal of this PhD course is to get through the schematic division of the areas in which an architectural, design or restoration project is artificially partitioned.



# **Doctoral School in Humanities and Social Sciences**

## **MACROAREA EGUS**

- LEGAL AND HISTORICAL-LEGAL COMPARISON
- CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
- EUROPEAN UNION LAW
- ECONOMICS
- HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL STUDIES
- SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

# LEGAL AND HISTORICAL - LEGAL COMPARISON

Coordinator: Prof. Arrigo Diego Manfredini

E-mail: mfa@unife.it

The doctorate in Legal and Historical-Legal Comparison has been conceived as an opportunity for early stage researchers to approach several law branches (Administrative, Commercial, Criminal, Social Security, Private and Roman Law) in a wide scenario of different historical and contemporary legal experiences. Particularly, this doctorate is aimed at relating the mentioned legal disciplines to the new challenges of the international dimension of legal relationships. One can reflect about the European and international profiles of industrial relations and labour contracts; about the wide agreements referred to a supra-national criminal law and criminal trial legislation; about the number of projects concerning the European unification of private law, to which the Roman Law, as common root of many continental legal systems can give a significant contribution.

The project and the purposes of this doctorate fit perfectly into the premises and the Library of the Department of Legal Sciences; particularly, the Comparative section of the Library has always been very attentively cultivated. One must also stress that the proposed doctorate is coherent with the "internationalization of studies and researches" pursued as a primary goal by our University.



# CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

Coordinator: Prof. Andrea Pugiotto  
E-mail: [andrea.pugiotto@unife.it](mailto:andrea.pugiotto@unife.it)

The Doctoral Program in Constitutional Law is a joint initiative of the Cagliari, Trieste and Ferrara Universities, under the auspices of the Department of Law of the University of Ferrara. The Doctoral Program gives special attention to individual coursework of each graduate student under the supervision of her/his advisor, a member of the faculty. The annual plan for the academic activity includes some seminars focused to the main issues of Constitutional Law. Graduate students have also to attend the transversal activity promoted by IUSS – Ferrara 1391. Yearly a special seminar is promoted on some methodological items of legal research, held by a well-known scholar: graduate students in Constitutional Law from all the Italian universities are invited.



# EUROPEAN UNION LAW

Coordinator: Prof. Paolo Borghi  
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This Ph.D. project will be based on a multi-disciplinary approach, aiming at giving a broad and comprehensive knowledge, from the topic concerning the application of the Treaties, unto the practical application of the EU legislation which has been (and is currently) adopted in the framework of the various EU policies, now extending over many traditional branches of law, such as contract law and consumers' policy, agricultural policy and food law, rules on biotechnology, health policy and environmental law. The teacher's board is going to organize seminars on specific issues of the above mentioned matters, held by well known professors both from Italy and from abroad, and by officials of the European Institutions.



# ECONOMICS

Coordinator: Prof. Giovanni Masino  
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The PhD Programme is connoted by an interdisciplinary and international approach. A strict interaction between economics and business, public administration, urban and regional disciplines is provided in the Programme, which is organized in three different courses (curricula):

- the first stream (curriculum) concerns topics of applied economics and economic policies;
- the second stream (curriculum) concerns topics of business management, organization and accounting;
- the third stream (curriculum) concerns topics of economics and management of the Public Administration relating to public policies and regional and local development dynamics.

The international character of the Programme is assured:

- through the participation of foreign faculties and researchers involved in the PhD activities;
- by the propensity of PhD students for experiences in foreign countries and universities aimed to stimulate innovative research paths, fully positioned within the current scientific international debate.



# HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Coordinator: Prof. Angela Andrisano

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*Italian and Latin Literatures and Philologies* the training of experts in the fields of philology and analysis of literary italian or latin texts, and of the relevant linguistic bases, with knowledges in using specific e-technologies.

*Spanish and German Literatures, Linguistics* the training of experts in the fields of philology and analysis of literary German or Spanisch or French texts, and of the relevant linguistic bases, with knowledges in using specific e-technologies. *Historiography and Territory* the training of experts in the fields of historical and geographic analysis, with knowledges in using specific e-technologies. *Performing Arts: Theater, Music, Cinema* the training of theoretical-practical experts in the fields of: philology of text and performance; theatrical theories and dramaturgy; stage performance; musical communication; film language and industry.

*Philosophy and Social Sciences* the training of experts in the fields of: history of Italian science; English philosophy in 18th century England; philosophy and religion; social theories and modernity; logic and epistemology.

*Education and Growth Psicologia* the training of experts in the fields of: methods, sources and items of educational history; libraries and learning in Italian school of late 19th – early 20th century; early infancy experimental psychology and cognitive processes the training of experts in the fields of philology and analysis of literary italian or latin texts, and of the relevant linguistic bases, with knowledges in using specific e-technologies.



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

Coordinator: Prof. Carlo Peretto

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The topic of knowledge, preservation and fruition of the cultural heritage, considered as a unitary system composed of environmental, naturalistic and cultural aspects, continues to be proposed with greater attention. This Doctorate represents, therefore, the logic conclusion of an educational program, characterized by international courses (es. Master in Quaternary and Prehistory ERASMUS MUNDUS) and that has his main cognitive and scientific strong point in the participation of numerous partners both Italian (University of Siena, Modena) and international (Musée de l'Homme in Paris (F), University of Tarragon (ES), Instituto Politecnico of Tomar (PT), University of Tràs-os-Montes (PT), Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals, Polish Academy of Science). For this reason the objectives of the doctorate wish to answer to the increasing demand of training both in the field of research and of new professions related to Heritage.

The Doctorate focuses on the following training contents:

- Origin and evolution of living beings within their natural environment;
- Human natural history;
- Studies of the most ancient evidence of social aggregation up to the development of complex societies in the context of their behavioural, cultural and symbolic peculiarities;
- Integrated analyses of palaeontological prehistoric, archaeological, palaeoenvironmental and cultural data by means of advanced digital and multimedial systems for the analysis, cataloguing and archiving of the heritage aimed at the safeguard, management and fruition of museum collections;
- Preservation and dissemination of the palaeontological, prehistoric, archaeological, artistic and cultural heritage, by means of diagnostic analysis.

## THE ADDED VALUE OF IUSS – FERRARA 1391

With respect to the individual activities of each university program, IUSS-Ferrara 1391 adds interdisciplinary and common initiatives, aimed towards internationalisation and to the highest scientific and teaching quality.

Through the Copernicus Visiting Scientists program, IUSS-Ferrara 1391 plans to attract to Ferrara the best international scholars. Special doctoral fellowship for international students are awarded each year.

The Institute provides its students with opportunities for stages abroad and special courses of foreign languages and of information technology. It offers conference cycles on an annually selected topic which is presented in its scientific aspects together with his social implications. Its also promotes interdepartmental and interuniversity initiatives for scientific workshops and refreshment courses.



## THE ADDED VALUE OF IUSS – FERRARA 1391

IUSS-Ferrara 1391 promotes and organises interdisciplinary cultural and scientific activities aimed at all postgraduate students.

Bearing in mind its international focus, IUSS-Ferrara 1391 offers Italian students the opportunity to learn foreign languages as well as offering international students the chance to learn Italian.

Each year, IUSS-Ferrara 1391 chooses a scientifically and socially relevant theme that brings together initiatives from all interdisciplinary events and various PhD research area. IUSS-Ferrara 1391 holds conferences on this chosen theme for PhD students and the people of Ferrara, which focus on scientific issues as well as other economic and social topics. These conferences aim to enrich the PhD students' cultural awareness and also act as a social event, bringing together the University community and the city of Ferrara.

Sustainability was chosen as the theme for 2011/2012.



# COPERNICUS VISITING SCIENTISTS

For the pursuit of its goals of excellence and internationalization in teaching and research, each year IUSS-Ferrara 1391 may invite distinguished foreign scholars or Italians living abroad to stay in Ferrara lasting at least monthly.

Have been appointed "Visiting scientists" the following researchers:

- Year 2011

Ernst Osterkamp (Institut fuer Deutsche Literature- Humboldt Universitaet zu Berlin)

Maysoon Al-Nahar (Dipartimento di Archeologia- Università di Amman – Giordania)

Valder Arruda (The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia)

Moe Win (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Pawan Kumar (University of Texas- Austin)

- Year 2010

Thomas Elsaesser (University of Amsterdam-department of Media and Culture), EGUS Area

Shi Jin (Department of Mathematics-University of Wisconsin), SCI-TEC Area

Richard James (Dep.of Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics -University of Minnesota), SCI-TEC Area

Roberta Rudnick (University of Maryland), SCI-TEC Area



## THE RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE



IUSS-Ferrara 1391 has its own student accommodation, which comprises a social and cultural centre allowing PhD students to stay in Ferrara and get to know students from other universities in Italy and abroad.

There is a limited number of rooms available for PhD students from the University of Ferrara. After students have enrolled onto their PhD, the SAF Council will assign rooms. Each PhD research area is assigned a certain number of rooms.

The rooms in the IUSS student accommodation are allocated for a maximum of one year, with the option to renew. Renewals are made through a specific application form.

Post graduates and researchers from other universities in Italy or abroad can also stay at the IUSS student accommodation, making use of the facilities and enjoying the benefits associated with communal living.

# The city of Ferrara

According to the well-known definition of the Swiss historian Jacob Burckardt, Ferrara was the first modern city in Europe. This was due to the "Herculean addition" commissioned by Duke Ercole I d'Este in 1492, which not only doubled the surface area of the city, but also radically changed its appearance. Ferrara is full of fascinating reminders (fortunately still intact) of the splendour of its extraordinary past, in its gardens, in the narrow streets which are only properly seen by those who take their time, preferably by bicycle.



It is a city which has included masters such as Guarini and where students such as Copernicus graduated. It is a city of poets like Ariosto and Tasso, of writers like Bembo, of artists like Cosmé Tura and De Roberti, of architects like Leon Battista Alberti and Rossetti.

It was the splendid and enlightened capital of the Estense Duchy and also the place which inspired the "metaphysical painting" of De Chirico, Savinio, Carrà and the young De Pisis. The director Antonioni and the novelist Bassani grew up here.

It is a city of silence, (although the word may not be wholly appropriate) which is loved for its spellbinding gentleness, and which inspired Bassani to write: "All of a sudden, looking at them and the enormous urban landscape, which I could see in its entirety from up there, I felt myself pierced by a great gentleness, by a peace and a horizon, brightly illuminating everything: the Jewish cemetery below me, the apse and bell tower of Saint Christopher's church a little further away, and in the background, high above the dark brown expanse of roofs, the distant masses of the Estense Castle and the Cathedral".





Even today, the city is filled with a magical atmosphere. From the austere Estense Castle to the splendid Cathedral, wherever one goes in the historical centre, one breathes the strength of the past and of tradition.

Ferrara keeps secrets which are impossible to know about by simply following tourist routes, in fact, they are often overlooked by the residents who pass close to them every day. Sometimes it is enough to pass ones hands over an old stone to feel the enchantment that runs from the medieval walls to the banks of the great river, where Ferrara becomes a city of water. Ferrara is a city of dreams which live and change day after day in the eyes of those who have chosen to find the time to admire it.





**SEE YOU SOON  
IN FERRARA!!**