

2018



University of Bucharest  
**DOCTORAL STUDIES**

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# Introduction

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The University of Bucharest is a leading institution of higher education in Romania and in the European Union. Officially founded in 1864, its roots can be traced to the Academy established in Bucharest by prince Constantin Brâncoveanu in 1694, which has educated Christians from all Southeastern Europe. In its over 150 years of existence, the University of Bucharest has gained solid national and international prestige. Ranked first in the latest national evaluation of the Romanian universities, it works hard to improve its position as well in the international rankings.

Currently, the University of Bucharest offers study programmes in a large variety of fields, from humanities and social sciences to natural sciences and mathematics, for all cycles and forms of organized university training, as well as numerous other higher postgraduate programmes, and programmes for professional re-conversion and enhancement. All programmes are accredited or authorized.

## FIELDS OF STUDY

Doctoral studies have a long and rich tradition at the University of Bucharest. The first PhD has been awarded in 1905, and since that time the University of Bucharest has awarded more than 10,000 doctoral titles. Currently, the University of Bucharest awards doctorates in 19 fields of study – biology, chemistry, communication sciences, cultural studies, education sciences, environmental sciences, geography, geology, history, informatics (computer science), law, mathematics, philology, philosophy, physics, political sciences, psychology, sociology, and theology. The scope of the doctoral studies is in progress, so the University of Bucharest was the first university in Romania which started in 2016 a doctoral programme in cultural studies.

## WHY YOU SHOULD STUDY HERE

There are many reasons why prospective doctoral students should choose the University of Bucharest. This institution stands at the center of the academic life in Romania and is also part of many first-rate international research and innovation networks. It provides a stimulating environment for exploring students' passion in various fields of scientific study. Bucharest's main university has a supportive community, offers numerous research facilities and values critical thinking, just to mention some of the components that transform graduate studies into a genuine personal and professional adventure. At the University of Bucharest, doctoral students have the opportunity to experience the vibes of the dynamic cultural life of Romania's capital city; they are encouraged to take part in intellectual debates, to further scientific knowledge and social progress, and to be active in shaping the society of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## BEING PART OF THE COMMUNITY

Currently, the University of Bucharest has about 2,100 doctoral students, enrolled in 21 doctoral schools. Institutionally, the doctoral studies are coordinated by the Council of Doctoral Studies, composed by members elected by the doctoral supervisors and by the doctoral students, as well as by directors of the doctoral schools. The Council is chaired by a Director with the rank of a Vice-Rector.



## ADMISSION

The admission to doctoral studies is competitive. The admission competition is organized in September, but for foreign candidates there is also an additional competition in January. Prospective doctoral students compete for places allocated from the national budget by the Ministry of Education, but they can also choose to finance themselves their doctoral studies. For all fields of study there is an interview based on a research proposal, but some doctoral schools also include other oral or written exams as parts of the admission competition. Starting with 2017, candidates can register also online, and bring the required documents only on the day of the admission competition. For more information, see <http://admitere.unibuc.ro/infoadmitere>.

## THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

The doctoral programmes include a programme of training based on advanced courses (generally about 3 months) and a research programme. They are normally scheduled for 3 years (180 ECTS), but the existing national and institutional regulations allow for extensions in well motivated situations, so that no doctoral student is rushed into finishing his doctoral thesis before it is ripe for public defense. Quality requirements are severe, and the national debates regarding doctoral plagiarism have determined the hardening of procedures. Each doctoral student is advised by a doctoral supervisor (or even two in cases of co-tutelle), and by a guiding committee composed of three members. She/he has to present a number of research projects and to publish at least two scientific articles. When finished, the doctoral thesis has to be checked electronically against plagiarism and presented before the doctoral supervisor and the guiding committee. After this, the thesis is officially submitted, the rector nominates a defense committee in which there are at least two members from other universities or research institutes, and there is organised a public defence. The whole procedure is checked by the National Council for University Titles, Diplomas and Certificates, and after the minister awards the doctoral title, the University of Bucharest also issues the doctoral diploma.



*At the University of Bucharest we consider that it is our mission to turn the doctoral studies into a memorable experience, which contributes significantly to the personal and professional development of our graduates. Besides attempting to secure an honorable standard for all doctoral titles awarded, we work hard to stimulate the doctoral students to achieve their potential, to provide facilities, incentives and opportunities for the best doctoral students to make themselves and us proud of them. We want thus not only to be the best in Romania, but also to be globally competitive.*

Prof. **BOGDAN MURGESCU**, PhD  
Director of the Council for Doctoral Studies

UNIVERSITATEA

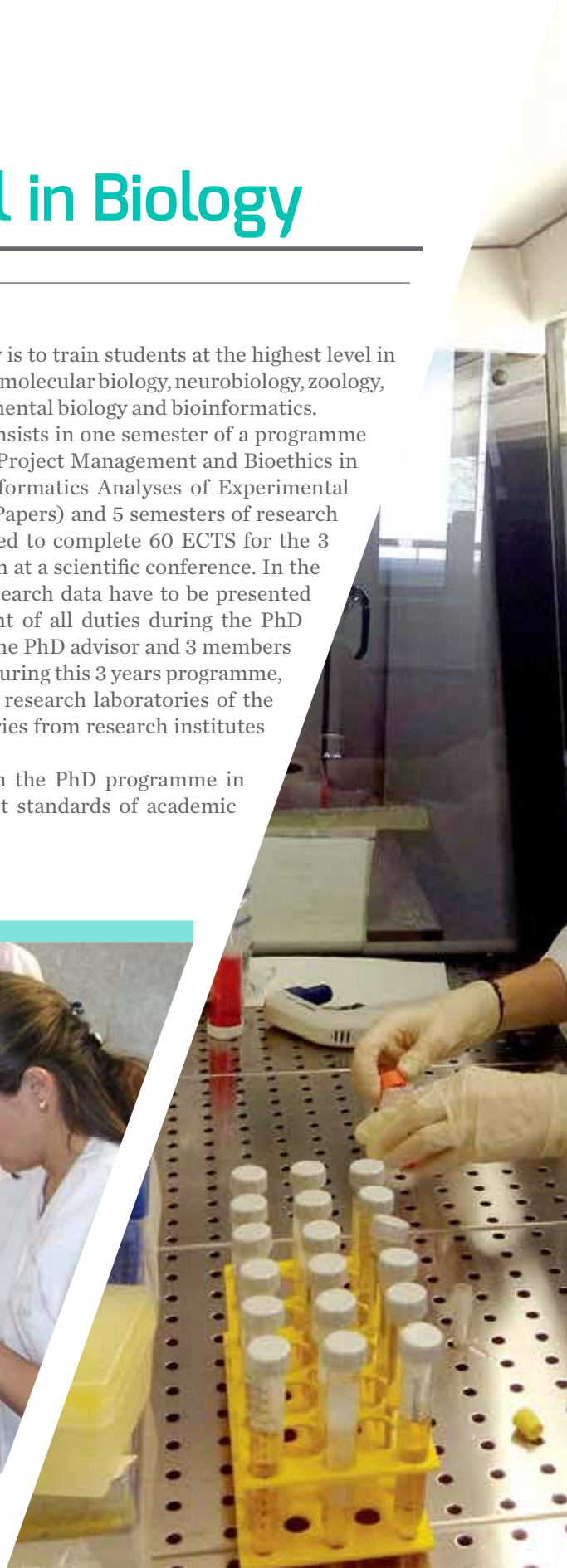


# Doctoral School in Biology

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The purpose of the PhD programme in Biology is to train students at the highest level in one of the fields within modern biology: cell and molecular biology, neurobiology, zoology, microbiology, genetics, biochemistry, developmental biology and bioinformatics. The three year PhD programme in Biology consists in one semester of a programme of advanced university education (Courses of Project Management and Bioethics in Biological Research, Mathematical and Bioinformatics Analyses of Experimental Data, and Planning and Writing of Scientific Papers) and 5 semesters of research activity. In the first year, students are expected to complete 60 ECTS for the 3 exams, 2 theoretical reports and a presentation at a scientific conference. In the next two years, 2-3 scientific reports with research data have to be presented by the PhD student each year. The fulfillment of all duties during the PhD programme of every student is supervised by the PhD advisor and 3 members of the permanent thesis advisory committee. During this 3 years programme, the research activities can be achieved in the research laboratories of the University of Bucharest and in other laboratories from research institutes from Romania or abroad.

All students, faculty and staff associated with the PhD programme in Biology are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity and scholarly ethics.





*I recently completed my PhD programme at University of Bucharest, Faculty of Biology. The University of Bucharest is a fantastic place to study, work and live in the midst of a cosmopolitan dynamic city with a rich mix of cultural, artistic, leisure and social activities. As my Alma Mater, I can state that the University of Bucharest truly provides intellectual nourishment and support to its students. At the University of Bucharest, students are not limited by traditional academic boundaries. They acquire knowledge and research skills on how to conduct personal and original research projects, work at the interface of bioscience, medicine and human sciences, preparing themselves to excel in their science career. As a result, they develop the conceptual freedom, flexibility and confidence to pursue groundbreaking research, with direct access to academia, industry, governmental institutions, and other organizations worldwide. The graduate programme at UB delivers a unique blend of research opportunities and individualized education. Throughout the graduate programmes, there are ample opportunities to publish research in highly rated journals, and for outstanding students to be recognized with awards or scholarships for their engagement in innovative dissertation research projects.*

#### **ANDREEA OANA MOCANU**

Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio, USA  
(completed PhD in Biology 2017)

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#### **DIRECTOR: Prof. Otilia ZĂRNESCU, PhD**

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# Doctoral School in Ecology

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Since 1990, the Department of Systemic Ecology and Sustainability (DESS) of the University of Bucharest (UB) has established itself as a founder and a promoter of the improvement of human resources and scientific research at national level, via appropriate training. DESS / UB is a co-founder and a global promoter of an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, using and integrating resources from natural, social, and economic sciences and also technical-engineering.

DESS/UB is structured to undertake multiple roles as: i) a school for postgraduate programmes (masters, doctorate); ii) a center for fundamental and applied research; iii) a center for the transfer of methodology and knowledge that meets the emerging requirements of the development and application of knowledge in transdisciplinary socioecological complexes. The activities within the doctoral school are inter- and transdisciplinary and the teaching team involved has expertise in the overall approach of Systems Ecology and Sustainability and in the study of their complexity at different spatiotemporal scales.

The doctoral school is organized into five subdomains:

- ⦿ Dynamics of the structure, role and functions of populations/species within an ecosystem
- ⦿ The composition, structure, processes and functions of ecosystems and ecosystem complexes (land/waterscapes)
- ⦿ Socio-ecological systems (Combined Human-Nature systems)
- ⦿ Identification, mapping and assessment (monetary and non-monetary) of services related to ecosystems and ecosystem complexes
- ⦿ Indices and indicators for the monitoring and the evaluation of national capital components integrity and socio-ecological systems sustainability

The doctoral programme comprises five semesters and it involves research activities, data analysis, literature synthesis and the publication of two research papers. Research activities are based in the field and laboratory and are conducted for a minimum period of two years. These activities are all supported by the infrastructure and the resources of the Center for Research in Systemic Ecology and Sustainability (CCESS).

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## WHY CHOOSE

Since 1992, DESS / UNIBUC has chaired the UNESCO-Costeau Ecotechnie Programme. The potential and the high level of performance are proven by the implementation of research projects financed by European funds (PC4, PC5, PC6, SEE, Horizon2020) and by recognition at a national and European level (Excellence center/CNCSIS-MEC/2001, ALTERNET). Offering an intensive research programme, DESS / UNIBUC attracts many talented PhD students every year, including students from outside of Romania. Students from abroad have the option of undertaking their PhD studies in English or French, in thematic areas including biogeochemical cycles of elements, biotic interactions between aquatic and terrestrial adjacent ecological systems, environmental policies, and dynamics of ecosystem functions.

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**DIRECTOR: Prof. Mariana Carmen CHIFIRIUC, PhD**

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# Doctoral School in Chemistry

The PhD programme in Chemistry offers the students a general comprehensive structure including lectures in modern chemistry and training in critical analysis of the scientific literature, results assessments and preparation of grant applications, defending results, writing scientific papers and communication skills for paper presentation. Lectures programmes includes training in mass spectrometry and NMR, green chemistry and “operando” investigations, surface plasmon resonance, applied electrochemistry.

The students are integrated into the Department by joining internationally recognized research groups covering a broad spectrum of chemical science ranging from catalysis and biocatalysis (1) to organic, inorganic (2) physical, analytical (3), bioanalytical (4) and theoretical chemistry.

The Department disposes of modern apparatus and has access to sophisticated facilities such as synchrotron in-situ and operand investigations, HRTEM, HADAF, XPS, STEM characterizations. Moreover, there is a culture of publication in high ranked journals and participation in top international conferences.

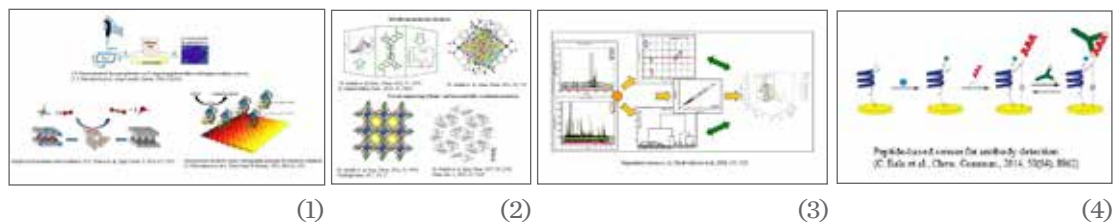
The Doctoral school is well anchored in the European strategy for the PhD students. There are many applications for the European International Training Network projects, conventions of internationals cotutelles and bilateral agreements for exchange PhD students.



*The PhD programme in Chemistry at the University of Bucharest has given me the opportunity to grow into a free-minded, enthusiastic and multidisciplinary research environment. Professionally, when you're getting a PhD from one of the top universities in Romania you're well trained for the future. The expectations for you as a PhD student in chemistry are higher but very soon after I start my research programme I become conscious that the programme I follow helps me compete successfully with other students from top school in Europe. I had the chance to work in a group which offers me an excellent environment for my intellectual development.*

Dr. **NATALIA CANDU**

Assistant Professor, Faculty of Chemistry,  
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# Doctoral School in Communication Sciences

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The Doctoral School in Communication Sciences of the Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences of the University of Bucharest (FJSC) is based on an interdisciplinary approach. It is structured around the following areas: *media and the public sphere, media anthropology, popular culture, intercultural communication, media semiotics, media discourse, political communication, critical studies and gender studies, media and religion, public relations, international communication, cultural industries, mass media economy, ethics and public relations.*

Doctoral studies last for three years. The programme is completed upon the successful public defence of a PhD thesis. A two-year Master's degree is a prerequisite.

FJSC's Doctoral School has the following goals:

- theoretical and methodological training in communication sciences at the highest level
- the professionalization of research and teaching by providing students with expertise in fields related to communication sciences
- linking the doctoral programme with research projects and activities within the faculty
- providing high standards in doctoral research and a wide range of educational facilities

## Overview of the doctoral programme

The programme of doctoral studies offers interdisciplinary courses on research methods in communication sciences and courses on subjects that provide essential theoretical and methodological training, ensuring a thorough knowledge at high standards of rigour and quality.

Our school organizes workshops, conferences and research seminars, giving PhD students the opportunity to present their ongoing research and to meet well-reputed professors, researchers and experts from Romanian and international universities. These spaces of exchange of scientific ideas and debate contribute to the development of the student's intellectual autonomy and research skills. Our Doctoral School has established strong partnerships with similar schools in Europe and the US, and can develop and carry out co-tutoring agreements. The doctoral programme supports the professionalization of research, allowing PhD students to participate as partners in projects and research contracts managed by our faculty.

In this respect, the FJSC doctoral students have the possibility to take part in research activities related to the topic of their PhDs within one of the faculty's research laboratories: *Media and public space, Organizations and public communication, Journalism and new technologies.*



*A doctoral school is the path towards a new world: the world of scholarly knowledge, of discoveries, of changing our personalities. I have strongly believed that our doctoral school is the place where we have been investing time and energy in an act of reciprocal molding and enrichment, and of challenging one another in seeking new horizons. A doctoral school in communication sciences is, by its nature, a challenge: in this field, things keep on changing with an overwhelming speed, new research areas are a constant novelty, theories are permanently redefined. This is one of the main reasons for which our doctoral school is an invitation and a challenge for each daring spirit and maybe, why not, even for an iconoclast.*

**MIHAI COMAN**

Dean, Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences

*The doctoral school of the Faculty of Journalism and Communication Science aims to be a pluralistic and interdisciplinary centre of excellence for the analysis of communication in relation with culture and society. For this purpose, we have achieved a successful combination of university teaching and well-established research activities, academic tradition and innovative practices, developing a competitive programme that prepares doctoral and postdoctoral students for a career in a wide range of research-related fields. Our doctoral school offers learning and research training opportunities at high quality standards. You will find here a dynamic intellectual community, committed to the values of academic inquiry within a vibrant research environment.*

**CAMELIA BECIU**

Director of the Doctoral School

*From an excellent supervision to varied access to the international research environment, the PhD programme at the Doctoral School of the Journalism and Communication Sciences Faculty was a way of gaining a solid academic knowledge, and of developing skills adaptable to either a further research career or a track of business and consultancy.*

**ALICE TEODORESCU**

Former PhD Student

*For me, the Doctoral School of the Journalism and Communication Sciences Faculty has been the perfect completion of Bachelor's and Master's courses (both in communication sciences). It has been the best possible choice for my development in a highly professional environment, in which the balance between research and teaching has always been proper.*

**ANA MARIA NEAGU**

Former doctoral school, teaching assistant

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# Doctoral School in Computer Science

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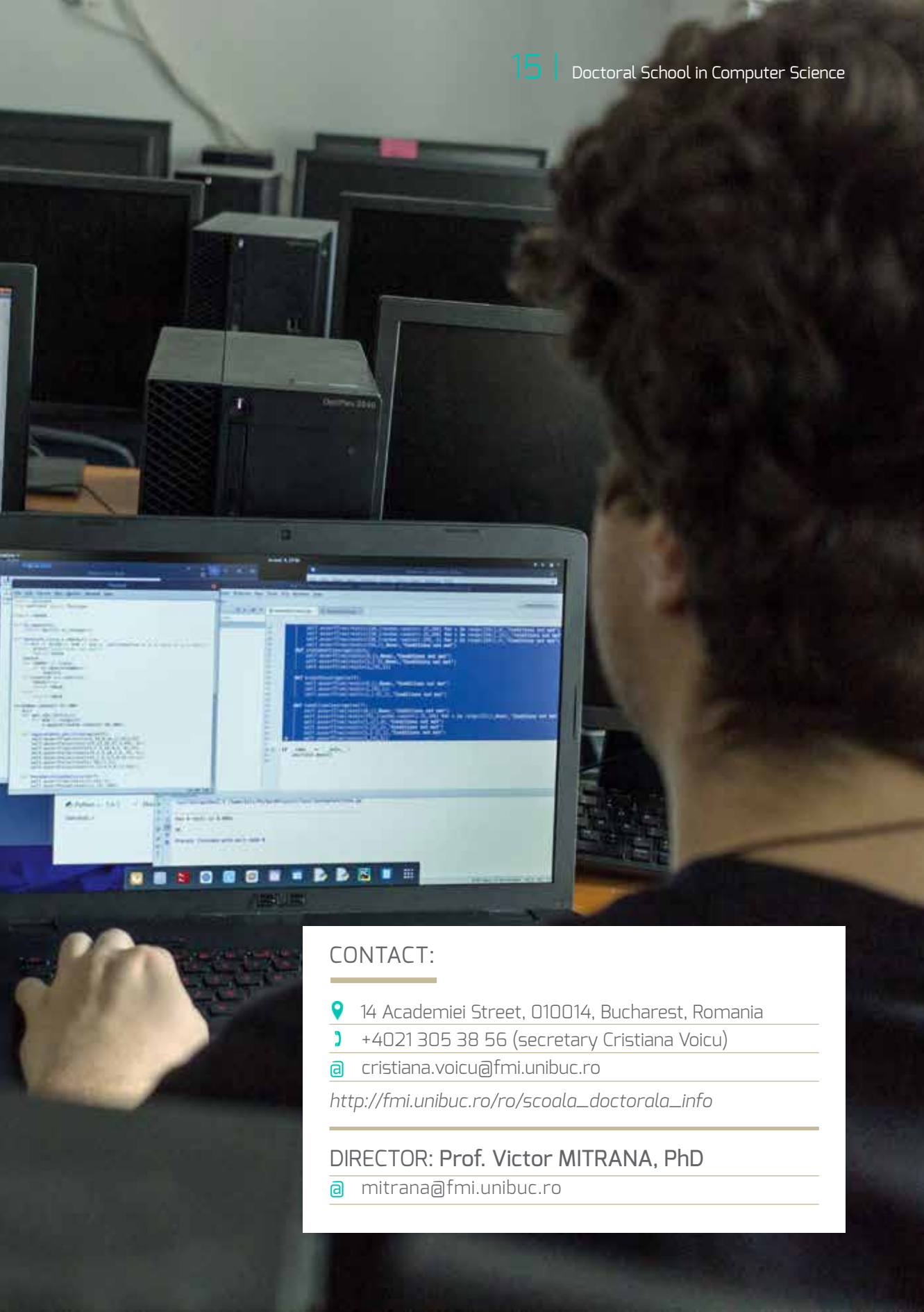
The PhD programme in Computer Science is distinguished by the ranking of our faculty, by a long and prestigious research tradition, and by the wide range of the areas of computer science covered. The programme has been growing steadily since its founding in 2007. Over the past nine years we have increased our strength in areas such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, software engineering, software testing, verification and validation, natural language processing, parallel and distributed computing, bioinformatics, while maintaining our depth in traditional areas such as theory of computing, algorithms and data structures, logics in computer science, graph theory and combinatorics.

The admission process consists of an oral exam. Every candidate is asked to contact a professor of the doctoral school who will be his/her supervisor. Each candidate is to be examined on the themes presented in the application. The list of 10 themes is established by the candidate under the guidance of his/her supervisor. During the oral exam the selection committee evaluates candidate's knowledge, scientific abilities, creativity. The selection committee makes a ranking of all candidates and selects the successful candidates.

The doctoral school provides an open and friendly atmosphere that encourages the sharing of ideas across all areas. Students may have a joint supervision, if it is really necessary. Each student focuses from the very beginning on a specific topic of research and begins a preliminary investigation of that topic. The initial results are presented during oral evaluations, which are administered by the members of the guidance committee led by the scientific supervisor. The final oral examination, before the public defense of the dissertation, holds in the presence of all members of the doctoral school.

*The PhD programme in Computer Science at the University of Bucharest has been designed to attract very high quality scholars and to provide them with world-class research and teaching skills. This is located in one of the most prestigious university in Romania and it is delivered by an outstanding international PhD school staff. Students should work in close consultation with their advisers to develop an appropriate programme plan. Courses provide the background knowledge that is often needed to successfully complete research and allow students to learn more broadly about a field or related fields in a structured fashion. We expect all students obtaining a PhD to have experience with the theoretical foundations of computer science, to have some knowledge of how to build large software, to connect computer science to other fields, to provide an outlet for developing new applications.*

Prof. **VICTOR MITRANA**, PhD  
Director of the Doctoral School



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**DIRECTOR: Prof. Victor MITRANA, PhD**

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## “Simion Mehedinți – Nature and Sustainable Development” Doctoral School in Geography

Doctoral researches are focused on large applicability issues in physical geography, human geography, regional geography, tourism geography. The studies are elaborated as solutions to some various geographic space problems generated by climatic and geomorphologic instability, resources limitation and energetic crisis, demographic dynamics, globalization, geomorphological restriction in urban and rural space development, the need of comfort and specialized services, etc. The subjects imply large themes of theoretical geography, physical geography, territorial development planning, tourism geography, social geography, political geography, environment. The students have the possibility to elaborate joint doctoral degrees with other EU universities professors and they can benefit from scholarships provided by programmes financed by the Romanian Government through its institutions or from European funds. The PhD in Geography is an advanced supervised research programme leading to the submission and defense of an original thesis. Graduates are provided with a range of elective courses, destined to develop their focus on a specific area of study and familiarize them with standards of academic research.

*Doctoral researches are focused among large applicability issues in physical geography, human geography, regional geography, tourism geography. The studies are elaborated as solutions to some various geographic space problems generated by climatic and geomorphologic instability, resources limitation and energetic crisis, demographic dynamics, globalization and geopolitical identity crisis, geomorphological restriction in urban and rural space development, the need of comfort and specialized services, etc. The subjects imply large themes of theoretical geography, physical geography (dynamic geomorphology, engineering geomorphology, implemented geomorphology, environment, geoarchaeology, meteorology, hydrology, geoinformatics), territorial development planning, tourism geography, social geography, political geography, medical geography.*

*Professor Member of the Department for Human and Economic Geography, Courses on Economic Geography, Regional and Local Development, University of Bucharest, Faculty of Geography, 1, Nicolae Balcescu Boulevard, Bucharest, Romania.*

*The professional activity of Braghina Cristian as Professor Doctor at the Faculty of Geography, Bucharest University, includes the following list of professional competences: The evolution of territorial governance, Concepts and practices in European spatial planning, Cohesion and territorial cooperation, Developing new spatial concepts, intersection between technology and urban and territorial planning, The geography of services, Voluntary work: Present in different ecological activities, Territorial management plans, The study of metropolitan areas.*

Prof. **CRISTIAN BRAGHINA**, PhD  
Director of the Doctoral School (2009–2017)



*The Doctoral School Simion Mehedinți – Environment and Sustainable Development of the Faculty of Geography provides high level training for students in the general field of Natural Sciences. The students following this Doctoral Programme acquire advanced knowledge and skills in Physical geography, Human geography and Environmental geography, as well as in various areas related to these major geographical fields (e.g. geomorphology, pedology, meteorology, climatology, hydrology, tourism, social and economic geography, territorial planning and development, geographical risks, cartography and cadastre, etc.), enabling them to conduct performant researches and activities both disciplinary and interdisciplinary. Most graduates of the Doctoral School Simion Mehedinți – Environment and Sustainable Development were employed by education, research and development institutions as well as by public or private agencies/establishments profiled in their fields of specialty, and they became successful and appreciated professionals.*

**LILIANA ZAHARIA, PhD**

*My name is Marola Diana and I am in the first year of PhD at the Doctoral School Simion Mehedinți, from Bucharest, Romania. I have decided to start a PhD, because I wanted to study the impact of floods in a specific region, whereas the floods have represented a major problem for our country in the past few years. I think that the results of my study will bring a new perspective to the authorities in order to take measures for preventing any damages.*

*I have chosen the Doctoral School Simion Mehedinți because it has many collaborations with other faculties both in the country and abroad. Another factor for my decision has been the way in which I can develop my activity during my PhD, receiving the support, materials and feedback from my coordinator and all the other teachers.*

*I have discovered that it is important for a young graduate to start a PhD, because he will have a better chance to get integrated in the labor market. Another benefit is the experience gained in the field during these 3 years, which might be reflected in a salary benefit received after graduation. Also, the experience of a PhD is more than just the written paper. It is a way to improve the ability to speak in public due to the participation to multiple conferences, symposiums and as a result one becomes more confident and is up to date with all the news in the field.*

**DIANA MAROLA, PhD Candidate**

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# Doctoral School in Geology

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Promoter team of Doctoral School in Geology has enrolled in the *doctoral supervisor committee*: 20 professors and more than 30 researchers. The PhD students can work in the 8 research centers and the laboratories of the Faculty of Geology and Geophysics. The four departments of the Faculty of Geology and Geophysics support doctoral activities with the professional software available.

DOCTORAL SCHOOL IN GEOLOGY PROVIDES COMPETENT GUIDANCE FOR:

- ◉ SEDIMENTOLOGY, BASIN ANALYSIS, GLOBAL CHANGES: local and regional *sedimentological* studies, evaluation of *mineral* and *energy resources*, impact of human activities on global *climate changes*;
- ◉ BIOSTRATIGRAPHY: *paleontological* studies and methodologies for *stratigraphic* correlations;
- ◉ MINERALOGY AND PETROLOGY: fundamental mineralogical research, solving problems encountered during the *processing of ore*, concentrates, *pollution* of environment
- ◉ ENGINEERING GEOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY, SOIL AND ROCK MECHANICS: slope stability in soils and rocks; hydrotechnical works stabilities; studies for surface transportation ways, *geological hazards* – landslides; hazardous – including nuclear – and non-hazardous *waste disposal*, geotechnical studies; discontinuities in rocks;
- ◉ HYDROGEOLOGY: research for assessing *resources* of mineral, geothermal and drinking water, *mathematical modeling* of groundwater flow and *transport of pollutants*, design of protection area for tapping of groundwater, impact of *waste disposal* on water quality, *remediation* of groundwater quality;
- ◉ APPLIED GEOPHYSICS: design, acquisition, processing and interpretation of geophysical information for natural resources (oil and gas, ore deposits, drinking water), environmental analysis as well as modelling of various structures and anomaly sources.

*SDG is the only place in Romania that combines fundamental research with applied geology. We have tradition of a long period in which we used the results of geological research for identifying mineral resources, designing reservoir exploitation and protection of geological environment.*

*The community of all students from Doctoral School in Geology benefits from the experience of a professional body of over 20 PhD supervisors who worked in dozens of large scale projects.*

Prof. **DANIEL SCRĂDEANU**, PhD  
Director of the Doctoral School



*PhD studies or projects in Geophysics represents a significant part of the Doctoral School in Geology activity since its foundation.*

*Using Geophysics, an open minded researcher in Earth Sciences may penetrate deeper and deeper into the Earth, benefiting of modern instruments, software and unlimited necessity of exploring the Unseen.*

*Besides older or newly requested mineral resources, environmental pollution affecting the soil and fresh groundwater or assessment of seismic hazard in highly populated areas, there may be geophysically investigated or monitored many other fascinating topics of scientific, economic or social value.*

Prof. **DUMITRU IOANE**, Coordinator PhD in Geophysics

*Because of the strong interdisciplinary character of geology, the Doctoral School in Geology offers candidates inclined to both natural (biology, chemistry) and technical (mathematics, engineering) a wide array of PhD topics. The main topics of my PhD thesis – stratigraphy, palaeontology, and palaeoecology – are an example for such interdisciplinarity between life and Earth sciences. The Doctoral School in Geology offered a sound scientific environment in which my research to develop. Its most valuable assets consisted in access to both classical and new publications, experienced advisors, and fast inclusion in research groups. In consequence, I was not only able to finish my PhD thesis in due time, but I was also encouraged and supported to publish my research and to continue my activity at the faculty: exactly four years after obtaining the PhD title I was promoted to lecturer and had already published 12 ISI papers.*

**ȘTEFAN VASILE**, PhD Engineering, Teaching Assistant

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# Doctoral School in History

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The primary goal of the Doctoral School in History is the training of scholars able to contribute to the progress of historical knowledge and awareness in a dynamic global academic environment. Students who receive doctorates in the programme will go on to teach at colleges or universities. Most of them have positions in academic research, archives, museums, university administration, publishing houses, media etc.

## Admission

Admission to the doctoral studies in history is highly selective. About 20 students, admitted from a large pool of applicants, matriculate in the programme each year. The small cohort size allows more individual work with faculty and helps to make funding more available to most students admitted to the PhD programme. All applicants are expected to submit a statement of purpose. Applicants normally are expected to hold a MA degree in history (or related domains) from an accredited college or university. They should demonstrate proficiency in at least one foreign language. Applicants are urged to correspond with a member of the History faculty in the field in which they intend to work.

## Fields of Study

Doctoral School in History has the following major thematic areas for satisfying the PhD:

- Ancient History and Archaeology
- Greek and Roman History, Epigraphy and Archaeology
- Medieval Studies and Archaeology
- Islamic and Ottoman Studies
- South-East European Studies
- Early Modern Mediterranean Studies (16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> c.)
- Economic and social history
- Historical development of human capital
- Cultural history and visual studies
- History of mentalities
- History of popular culture
- Film history
- Memory studies (for post-1945 societies)
- History of the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- History of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century

The Doctoral School in History expects most graduate students to spend no less than three and no more than seven years completing the work for the PhD degree. Individual students' time to degree will vary with the strength of their undergraduate preparation as well as with the particular language and research requirements of their respective major fields.





*Being part of the Doctoral School in History has been the most rewarding experience for me. As I am approaching the conclusion of my doctoral adventure, I am grateful for having such great professors and colleagues. As a student of the Doctoral School in History I had access to all the resources needed for my research, such as libraries, archives, online databases etc. I participated in international conferences in Berlin and London, for which I received financial support. This also allowed me to access further scholarships in order to fund my research abroad. But most important, the advice given by the supervisors at the Doctoral School in History was crucial in the development of my thesis.*

**RADU-ANDREI DIPRATU**, PhD Candidate

*After 5 years of studying at the Faculty of History, University of Bucharest, applying for a PhD programme within the Doctoral School in History was a self-evident decision for the pursuit of my academic goals. My research experience was strengthened by the invaluable support I have received from my direct supervisor and from many other dedicated scholars of our community, both professors and colleagues, as well as from the administrative staff. It was and will always be a great honour to be part of a network that has a long-cherished passion for history and promotes high-quality research.*

**MARINA PENCIU**, PhD Candidate

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# Doctoral School in Law

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The Doctoral School in the Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest, encompasses the highest number of professors in charge to coordinate PhD thesis, which in comparison with all other Doctoral Schools in Law field from Romania, provides the widest variety of research fields.

Therefore, the Doctoral School in the Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest, comprises 13 professors in their capacity as full-members of the Faculty of Law and 7 professors emeritus as high level specialists. All of them are in charge to coordinate PhD thesis in traditional public law fields as Constitutional Law, Administrative Law, Financial Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedural Law, in traditional private law fields as Civil Law, Labour and Social Security Law, Environmental Law, as well as in the most recent research fields as International Human Rights Law.

During the three years of Doctoral Studies Programme, the first part consists in three months called Training Programme based on University Advanced Studies which succeeds to combine in a perfect manner a vast area covering many subjects, in order to attract all PhD students as they are involved in so many different fields of research. This programme has become a model, which has proved also its necessity; it is conceived by three juridical disciplines and two para-juridical disciplines considered to be the most up to present, and a set of conferences offered by foreign visiting professors. The lectures are presented in two foreign languages – English and French – in order to stimulate international cooperation and Doctoral School's prestige. The PhD thesis may be written in Romanian language and in English or French as well. All PhD students are following also their individual programme on different scientifically bases lead by each of their coordinator, consisting in three up to five research reports to prepare the thesis itself. The PhD coordinators are supported in their activity by a commission called leading commission comprising three members, usually younger scholars from each Department, selected on their expertise or competence basis.

The Doctoral School in the Faculty of Law allows and encourages also that the thesis to be written under two supervisors, due to a number of Conventions between the University of Bucharest and other foreign Universities, mainly from France.

*The PhD programme in Law at the University of Bucharest combines specialised research under the supervision of a PhD coordinator with a cross-disciplinary module meant to support and enhance research and teaching skills. The community of PhD students proves to be challenging and sociable, blending academic curiosity and quite a post-modern ludic approach to life. The experience can only be enriching for both students and professors.*

Prof. **SIMINA-ELENA TĂNĂSESCU**, PhD



*In my capacity as Director of the Doctoral School in the Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest, under the power of my second mandate I lead and coordinate our activity, being animated by the intention to solve the administrative problems, without any interference with regard to usual activity of research developed by coordinators in their duties. During these seven years, since I have been appointed in the position of leading the Doctoral School, I have been nominated to preside over the great majority of the sessions for defending the thesis, and I have been involved as well in two major projects financed by E.U. funds for PhD researchers and post-doctoral fellows. Beside the Doctoral School regular activity, it has been developed a Centre for Advanced University Doctoral Studies coordinated by Professor Simina-Elena Tănăsescu PhD, and a Juridical Francophone Institute for doctoral and post-doctoral studies coordinated by Professor Corneliu-Liviu Popescu PhD, two colleagues with high expertise involved also in the Programme for advances university studies. Our doctoral students have a wide background field of activities, from public sector to private sector as well, and are selected after a thorough selection in order to accomplish the scientific criteria of their doctoral coordinator. Being the Director of the Doctoral School in the Faculty of Law is highly demanding, but interesting at same time, due to a great number of serious challenges – the main reason which provoked me to apply and obtain a new mandate after the elections made by my colleagues.*

Prof. **DANA TOFAN**, PhD  
Director of the Doctoral School

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# The Doctoral School in Letters (Philology)

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The Doctoral School in Letters (Philology), a department of the Faculty of Letters, is one of the two largest within the University of Bucharest, with a total of about 40 professors authorized as doctoral supervisors, and about 200 post-graduate students in various stages of their research projects.

SDL also is one of the most prestigious within the University of Bucharest, and the leading doctoral school in Philology in Romania.

The history of SDL supports its renowned: the first PhD title ever gained in Romania was awarded by the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy in 1905. Since then, a long and glorious tradition of PhD theses and titles followed, sometimes rather winding (i.e. during the communist decades), spectacularly flourishing after 1989, in the new democracy of post-totalitarian Romania.

Along the whole 20<sup>th</sup> century and up to now, the professors of the Faculty of Letters, also doctoral supervisors, have been famous as the country's elite linguists, literary critics and historians, theorists, comparatists, ethnologists, specialists in information sciences, communication and public relations etc.

SDL awards PhD titles in two academic domains: Philology, with two sub-domains, Linguistics and Literature (plus all the other literary and cultural sub-fields of research), and Cultural Studies. SDL is managed by a director, supported by the SDL Council, with 7 members: 3 professors-doctoral supervisors, 2 top specialists non-affiliated to the University of Bucharest, and 2 post-graduate students of the SDL. SDL has its own secretarial assistant.

As all doctoral schools of the University of Bucharest, SDL organizes an admission session every September, when about 35–40 new post-graduate students are accepted to develop their research projects within the SDL. Foreign students are also allowed. Most of the PhD theses are written in Romanian, but they also may be written in English, French and other foreign languages, according to each and every doctoral supervisor's linguistic abilities.





*As a graduate of the University of Bucharest in the early 1980s, Assistant Professor since 1990, when, after the fall of the communist regime, it became possible for young scholars of my generation to teach in universities throughout Romania, after about a decade of deadlock, I passed my PhD thesis in 1999, within a transitory legal framework, between the old system and the Bologna one to come. When I was authorized to supervise doctoral projects myself, in 2010, the Doctoral School of Letters (Philology) had already been established for several years. In 2011 I took over as SDL Director. I therefore am in a position to plead for its extraordinary quality from all “narrative” points of view: the former post-graduate student’s, the professor’s and doctoral supervisor’s, and its Director’s. Both the historical fame and the current effervescence of the SDL should attract young scholars willing to develop research projects at the highest level in Romania, equal to the highest academic standards worldwide.*

**ION BOGDAN LEFTER**, Professor of History of literature at the Faculty of Letters, University of Bucharest, Director of the Doctoral School in Letters/Philology



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# Doctoral School for Languages and Cultural Identities

The Doctoral School for Languages and Cultural Identities offers a programme involving doctoral students that have graduated from an MA programme run by any faculty of humanities and social sciences in Romania, the EU, Switzerland or elsewhere, provided these are recognized institutions/programmes. A 3-year programme is offered, as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> year: lectures taught by doctoral supervisors and focusing on the diachrony and typology, the morpho syntactical and the pragmatic and semantic theory and method (end of the 1st semester exam, 2<sup>nd</sup> semester progress report by doctoral board); 2<sup>nd</sup> year: individual research (2-3 scientific reports and a progress report by doctoral board); 3<sup>rd</sup> year: individual research; dissertation elaboration (in the respective international language) and its presentation by the individual doctoral supervisors. The dissertation defence takes place after the doctoral cycle winds up. This can be interrupted, so extended, on solid grounds, by another 1-2 years, with the University Senate's agreement, financial resources permitting. There is a 2-year period of grace (with no doctoral grants). Students are encouraged to participate in national/international academic events throughout the doctoral cycle and must publish at least 2 scientific articles.



*As a Director of Languages and Cultural Identities I have to face a challenge: being, in the same time, a teacher and a manager, providing a training programme that blends culture and the humanities with scientific research excellence, in order to attract very high quality scholars and to provide them with linguistic research and teaching skills. This programme must also be able to turn to good account the professors' teaching, coordinating and supervising skills. All our efforts are supposed to be illustrated by the quality of the theses our doctorands elaborate at the end of the doctoral programme.*

**FLORICA BECHET**, Professor of Classical Philology, Foreign Languages and Literatures Faculty, University of Bucharest

*I have been teaching at this doctoral school for over ten years now. Our students are of extremely diverse backgrounds, reflected, among others, in the languages they studied in their BA courses, in the MA programmes they graduated from as well as in the wide range of topics from various domains of linguistics, addressed in their PhD dissertations. On the one hand, engaging such an audience is by no means an easy task, but rather a constant challenge, which has made me reconsider, from different angles, both what I teach and how I teach it. On the other hand, the intellectual inquisitiveness of our PhD students has been the driving force encouraging me to share with them the joys of doing linguistics. Teaching at the Doctoral School in Linguistics has been both a challenging and a rewarding experience.*

**ANDREI AVRAM**, Professor of English, Arabic and Japanese Languages, Foreign Languages and Literatures Faculty, University of Bucharest

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# Doctoral School in Literary and Cultural Studies

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*The Doctoral School in Literary and Cultural Studies (SDSLC)* is an academic entity of high professional, institutional and cultural prestige at national and international level. It comprises twenty-five members, of which twenty-one academics acting as doctoral supervisors, two foreign members and two doctoral student representatives. Based on solid research in the field of Literature (Literary History, Theory of Literature and Comparative Literature) and Culture (Cultural Identity, History of Ideas, Cultural History), it is one of the most distinguished research structure of the University of Bucharest. Besides its current doctoral research, the School offers courses in general doctoral orientation to the first-year students and organizes academic conferences with an increasingly interdisciplinary agenda, as it becomes its own status. Dissertations elaborated under the School's doctoral supervisors' coordination are archived at the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Bucharest, while conference papers given at periodically organized events are selectively published in individual volumes. Founded in 2005, the Doctoral School in Literary and Cultural Studies has consolidated its agenda with yearly contributions added to its initial outline. Its current directions of academic activity include: foreign literatures, the Western literary canon, Western civilization and cultural institutions, critical concepts, the history of literary and cultural institutions, cultural identity, cultural values, rituals and practices etc.

The School started with mainly literatures/cultures of wide linguistic spread (English, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Chinese, Japanese etc.), but has, along the years, diversified its area and now encompasses almost all the representative languages of Western civilization (including Italian, Portuguese, Dutch, Polish, Ukrainian, as well as Greek and Latin).

While its student population is basically Romanian, the School has encouraged international participation and now boasts a constituency of foreign doctoral students from such countries as Brazil, China, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, Poland, Slovenia, etc.

*As Director of the Doctoral School in Literary and Cultural Studies in the interval 2012-2016, I was able to see the profile of both current research and periodical academic events organized diversify and extend along interdisciplinary coordinates. These are definitely the lines which give distinctive identity to the School's ongoing activity. I have added to my own agenda as general adviser and supervisor such sub-fields of interest as the cultural institution of the canon, the national literary canon, deictic topoi of cultural history, imagological topoi.*

**MIHAELA IRIMIA**

Professor of Literary and Cultural Theory  
(SDSLC Director 2012–2016)

*The main purpose of our doctoral school is to train a young generation of researchers capable of using their knowledge in the field of literary and cultural studies to meet the demands of our contemporary society. In doing so, our institution hopes they will further both the rigour and beauty of philology.*

**ILEANA MIHĂILĂ**, Professor of French Literature (SDSLC Director 2016-present)



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# Doctoral School in Mathematics

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The Doctoral School in Mathematics is one of the leading centres for mathematical research in Romania. The main research directions covered are Algebra, Differential Geometry, Algebraic Geometry, Logic, Proof Mining, Statistics, Operational Research, Differential Equations, Computational Mechanics, Applied Mathematics with Applications in Continuum Mechanics. The standard duration of the PhD programme is 3 years. Several graduate courses are offered each year.

*I would say that the best words describing my experience as a PhD student so far are challenging and collaborative. I was very glad to find out that many other colleagues of mine decided as well to continue after the Master degree with the PhD programme at the University. In this way, we exchanged a lot of ideas, we participated in the courses and scientific sessions of mini-talks organized especially for us and I felt that I was part of a small, but very determined and quite eclectic community of future researchers. The Doctoral School in Mathematics was very supportive during these years. It provided me with the opportunity to participate in several international conferences, where I could present my work and also to experience an Erasmus+ exchange programme for three months, which I definitely benefited from. I found the whole environment refreshing and stimulating.*

**ALEXANDRA OTIMAN**

PhD student in Mathematics





*The excellent research team, as well as the highly effective and, at the same time, enjoyable communication I had within the Doctoral School in Mathematics has made my progress efficient and also fun. I had the opportunity to collaborate with prominent researchers at the department and this fact has also facilitated my international exchanges and projects. Furthermore, the Doctoral School organizes sessions of scientific communications, in which the doctoral students can present their progress to the faculty. Of great use and importance were also the conferences, seminars and mini-courses that the Doctoral School organized, enabling us, the students, to get in touch with prominent researchers worldwide.*

**ADRIAN MANEA**

PhD in Mathematics – Algebra, 2016

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# Doctoral School in Orthodox Theology

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Doctoral School of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Bucharest, awarded to Vasile G. Ispir its first Doctorate in Theology on July 11th, 1919. Therefore, the School is enjoying a theological tradition of nearly a hundred years. After thorough examination by the specialized commissions made up usually of five members, between 1919–1948 were proclaimed as Doctors of Theology a number of 69 PhD candidates. Afterwards, between 1948–1989 were awarded 59 titles of Doctor of Theology. In recent years the number of PhD students has increased, so that on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 were enrolled in the Doctoral School a number of 54 PhD students.

The doctoral programme of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology comprises two components: first, teaching programme based on advanced academic studies and, secondly, scientific research programme completed by doctoral thesis. The PhD courses and the scientific coordination of the PhD candidates are carried out by 12 professors and 4 associate professors with extensive experience in research, who enjoy international recognition. The specializations offered by the Doctoral School are Biblical Theology, Historical Theology and Systematic Theology.

Openness, cooperation and international reputation of the Doctoral School of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology were important milestones over the years. In the period 1948–1981 a total of 47 PhD students from abroad have attended courses at the then Theological Institute in Bucharest, six of them obtaining a PhD in Theology. The students of the Doctoral School – Faculty of Orthodox Theology can benefit of research scholarships offered by the Romanian Patriarchate and by other academic and ecclesiastical institutions across Europe.

*The PhD programme in Theology at the Faculty of Orthodox Theology (University of Bucharest) offered me the opportunity to study documents relating to Church History under the supervision of some of the most reputed professors in Romania. Their experience in historical-critical method was helpful in developing my ability to interpret archival documents, essential in the study of Ecclesiastical Diplomacy which was my concern. During the years of study, I was encouraged to attend national and international academic conferences, where I had the opportunity to meet fellow students with similar academic interests. Also, I was advised about the importance of publishing articles in prestigious academic journals, in order to enhance my writing and argumentation.*

**ALEXANDRU BRICIU**, Editorial office secretary at „Lumina” Newspaper, Romanian Patriarchate; completed PhD in Theology in 2016

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# Doctoral School in Philosophy

The PhD in Philosophy is an advanced research programme that aims at improving students' critical and autonomous thinking, by acquiring methods and skills for performing researches in the following philosophical areas: **Theoretical Philosophy**: Ontology, Logic, Epistemology, Metaphysics, Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Languages, Philosophy of Mind, **Philosophy of Culture and History of Philosophy**: Philosophy of Culture and Value, Philosophy of History, Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art, Philosophy of Religion, Antique, Medieval, Modern, and Contemporary Philosophy, Romanian Philosophy, **Moral and Political Philosophy**: Social and Political Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Applied Ethics, Ethics of International Relations, Philosophy of Cultural Diplomacy, Philosophical and Cultural Anthropology.


The curriculum of the Doctoral School contains a number of elective courses enabling PhD students to develop a better focus on their specific research areas and to become familiar with the standards of academic research.

Doctoral supervisors are distinguished professors and academics with high-ranked publications. Over the course of the studies, PhD students elaborate and defend research reports, and they are encouraged to be actively involved in the academic life of the faculty and university, by participating in conferences and other activities organized by the research departments. Our graduates have reached notable performances after obtaining a doctoral degree, which reinforces the idea that Doctoral School in Philosophy is a major training institution for research and also a valuable cultural institution.

The admission exam consists in a presentation of the draft research project and in a survey of the bibliography already studied. PhD admissions take place every September. Extraordinary admission examinations may be organized. The supervisor will establish the plan of doctoral studies in the first year. The teaching system will be that of an individualized tutorial type. There are also programmes for learning the Romanian language before starting the doctoral programme.

*In an academic community, the scientific performances are, somehow, a normal fact. But the collaboration between doctoral supervisors, regarding research themes and methods is something more, is a fact of collegial atmosphere and a challenging support in all activities. Our doctoral school offers exactly such conditions for a collegial academic life and partnership. And such a state of affairs is transferred to the relations between us, the supervisors, and our PhD students. The scientific outcomes maintain a good working atmosphere in this academic space of our doctoral school. For me, such a fact represents a motivational support not only in order to improve the socializing actions in all meetings with the colleagues, professors and students, but rather in my orientation in the field of research, regarding the topics and also the techniques suitable for my academic activity. To find such conditions for my work and, finally, for certain philosophical challenges here is a real pleasure for me.*

Prof. **VIORIEL CERNICA**, PhD  
Director of the Doctoral School



*As a PhD Candidate, I find that our academic community is constantly visited by impressive researchers that came either as invited - professors or as guests at different conferences and symposiums, interacting with our graduate students and involving them in significant projects, creating real opportunities for their careers. I think that the most important aspect, when you decide to follow a PhD, is that you must understand that borders, geographically and culturally are just conventional milestones in conceiving and promoting your research. All these people that authentically care about your education, as professors, advisors or institutional partners prove that our institution is an important point of encounter for all those who develop their ideas on the most original paths of philosophy and never keep them only within our borders. This kind of exposure, shaped by specific educational values that our doctoral school shares with its candidates, is what encouraged me to be part of this academic community. Being a good PhD candidate is not only about becoming a good researcher. It is mainly about understanding the multiple senses of professional commitment at a certain level of excellence.*

**OANA ȘERBAN**, PhD Candidate

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# Doctoral School in Physics

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The Doctoral School in Physics, with 80 PhD supervisors and extensive research facilities in the Faculty of Physics and several research institutes on the Măgurele platform, is organized in 7 research directions:

- 1) Atomic and Nuclear Physics, Elementary Particles, Astrophysics and Applications
- 2) Solid State Physics
- 3) Physics of Atmosphere and Earth – Renewable Energy Sources
- 4) Optics, Spectroscopy, Plasma, Lasers
- 5) Biophysics and Medical Physics
- 6) Theoretical Physics
- 7) Educational Physics

For interdisciplinary theses, the PhD student can be supervised by two professors. Joint PhD programmes with foreign universities are welcome.

Our PhD programme offers the opportunity to widen the education and to engage into challenging research projects, benefiting from the infrastructure and high-quality human resources of Romania's top research facility cluster.

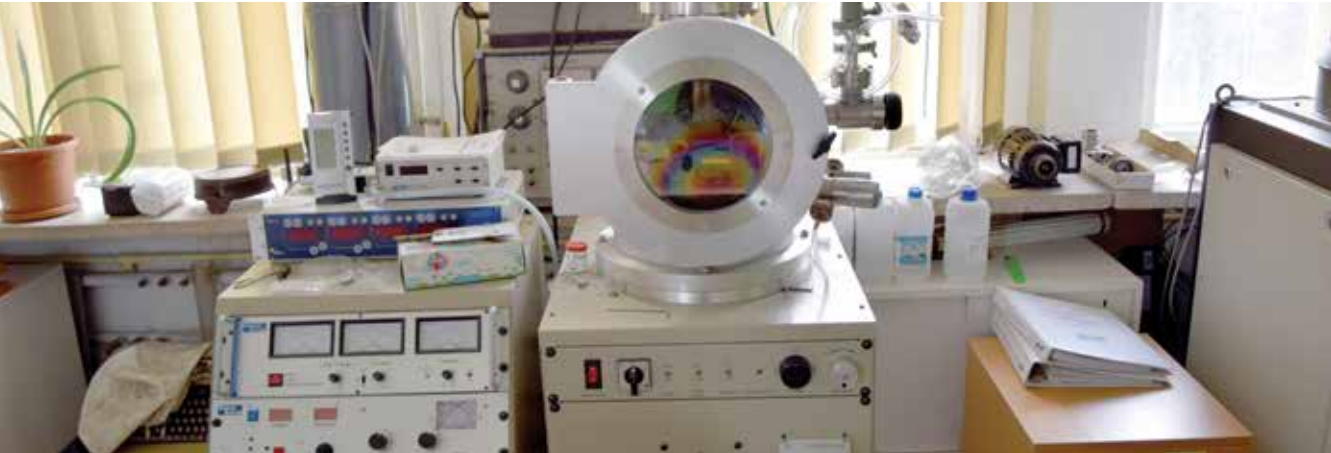
In the first year, the PhD student is expected to follow an Advanced training programme, offering a wide range of courses according to a distinct curriculum for each direction of research. An individual Scientific research programme, established jointly with the PhD supervisor, monitors the progress of the research activity of the PhD student in the following two years, until the public defense of the PhD Thesis.

Admission at the Doctoral School in Physics takes place usually in September. The PhD candidate must pass an oral examination, in which he/she must defend the proposed research theme, justify its importance and elaborate on the appropriate investigation methods. The proposed PhD theme is established according to the research areas of the PhD supervisor, who must endorse it.

The interview is completed by questions on specific topics for each research direction, made public (together with bibliographical references) at least two months prior to the examination date on the website of the doctoral school.

*Following the Bologna Declaration, starting with 2005 the Physics Doctoral Studies programme at University of Bucharest is organized in the framework of the Physics Doctoral School. With 80 PhD supervisors and more than 40 PhD students enrolled each year, the Physics Doctoral School is one of the biggest in the University of Bucharest, offering a high quality human expertise and research infrastructure for each of the seven directions of studies in which it is organized. A specific feature of our doctoral school is the "Educational Physics" direction, where research in both fields, Physics and Education Science is pursued. The group target for this direction are our colleagues, high-school and secondary-school Physics teachers. In the last ten years, few of them finished successfully their PhD thesis, obtaining the title of PhD in Physics. We are very proud that this strategy, considered as "an example of good practice" at European level, leads to a stronger and fruitful collaboration between the colleagues from higher education and secondary and high schools, in the benefit of Physics education at national and international level.*

**ȘTEFAN ANTOHE**, Professor (Dean of Faculty of Physics, University of Bucharest, former Director of the Doctoral School in Physics)

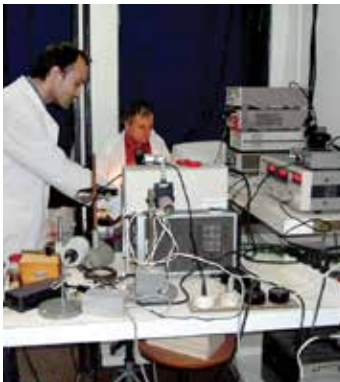


*In our Doctoral School, there is a real partnership between doctoral supervisors and PhD students, the supervisors sharing with PhD students not only their experience, but also their expertise. Thus, the student can start working in the research field of his/her choice shortly after being admitted as PhD student. The supervisors assist the students to become independent scholars, and finally good researchers, by guiding and facilitating their research and publishing careers and by motivating them to participate at national and international conferences and seminars, where they can disseminate the original results related to their PhD thesis. In the Doctoral School in Physics, every PhD student is encouraged to publish as many as possible scientific papers in peer-review journals prior to defending the thesis, since such publications are a proof of a valuable and scientifically correct research activity. The main goal of PhD supervisors is to form researchers who can use methodological and operational tools in their chosen research field.*

**SABINA ȘTEFAN**  
Professor

*In my opinion, the scientific knowledge provided by the Doctoral School in Physics meets the highest demands of any international PhD programme. The PhD Studies conducted in the Faculty of Physics, University of Bucharest, gave me the opportunity to practice also my didactic skills during the Electronics Laboratory. Also, the attended Summer Schools had a significant contribution to my thesis theme.*

**BOGDAN IONUȚ BITA**  
Junior Researcher  
(PhD Student since October 2014)



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# Doctoral School in Political Sciences

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The Doctoral School in Political Sciences of the University of Bucharest was established in 2005 by taking over the PhD programme of political sciences within the University of Bucharest started in 1999. The Doctoral School Council was elected in December 2016. The Council members are: Professor Radu Carp, PhD, Director; Philippe Claret – Professor, Université de Bordeaux; Sorina Soare – Professor, Università di Firenze; Florin Țurcanu – University of Bucharest; Ioana Murgă – PhD student.

The doctoral studies have a three years cycle. In the first semester two courses are taught (Professor Gheorghe Stoica, PhD – two courses; Professor Stelian Tănase, PhD – two courses), and during the following five semesters the emphasis is on the research for writing the PhD thesis. In the first semester of the first year and in the first semester of the second year there is also a methodology research course.

Each year the Faculty of Political Science organizes a conference for the PhD students.

The PhD students publish their research results in the scientific publications managed by the Faculty of Political Science:

- ⦿ Annals of the University of Bucharest, Political Science – indexed with CEEOL, EBSCO, DIAJ, GESIS – SSOAR, Index Copernicus, Scopus, Ulrichsweb;
- ⦿ Studia Politica, Romanian Political Science Review – indexed with CEEOL, EBSCO, ProQUEST, SCOPUS

PhD students of the Faculty of Political Science benefit from mobility grants provided by:

- ⦿ CEEPUS – project Ethics and politics in the European context – from one month to six month with partner universities
- ⦿ CEREFREA – mobilities in French universities, based on joint supervision.

The Doctoral School in Political Sciences is part of the project of Bucharest University in cooperation with the Institute of Cultural Diplomacy from Berlin. A significant number of students enrolled in the institution from across the world are also enrolled in the Doctoral School.

Within the Doctoral School in Political Sciences there are other foreign students, doing their studies on their expenses, based on joint supervision (PhD students from France), or as result of the bilateral programmes.

PhD students of the Faculty of Political Science benefited from scholarship programmes developed within the Sectorial Operational Programme of Human Resources Development funded by the EU, as the Faculty of Political Science was part of this programme.

A significant number of the graduates of the Doctoral School work in research or high education, in Romania and abroad, or are competing post-doctoral studies.

Some examples of former students who graduated during the last years:

Ionuț Apahideanu – author of a ISI article (Journal for the Study of Religions and Ideologies)

Marius Stan – research fellow, Woodrow Wilson Center, Washington

Eliza Gheorghe – post doctoral fellow Harvard Kennedy School, University of Harvard.

*The Doctoral School in Political Sciences of The University of Bucharest, together with the similar institutions developed by the Babeş – Bolyai University of Cluj and SNSPA of Bucharest, are the only high-level institutions from Romania where people wishing to study the areas of political science in the most professional way are offered this opportunity. Started as a courageous project in 1995, by transforming the humanistic sciences offered by the University of Bucharest into a faculty of political science, this scientific area grown constantly as being nowadays organized at all levels – BA, MA, PhD, post-doctoral studies. The Doctoral School in Political Sciences started as an excellence project of putting together the high competences of the teaching staff of the faculty. Now it has 8 PhD supervisors and a high number of PhD students from Romania and from other countries. Many PhD students are working under joint supervision of the Doctoral School supervisors and of professors from foreign high – ranking universities from abroad. Scientific events like annual conferences of the PhD students are constantly organized and the results of the PhD students research are published in journals or collective volumes, in Romania or abroad. A lot of research and inter-university exchange fellowship are offered for the PhD students enrolled at the Doctoral of Political Sciences. The researches under way at the Doctoral School in Political Sciences and the fields of interest of the PhD supervisors are covering a very large area. Any necessary information about the Doctoral School in Political Sciences is available online, in spirit of the highest standards of transparency. Everyone interested of being enrolled in a doctoral studies cycle and fulfilling the scientific requirements is more than welcomed in our community.*

Prof. **RADU CARP**, PhD  
Director of the Doctoral School in Political Sciences

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# Doctoral School in Psychology and Education Sciences

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The Doctoral School of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences is an educational structure of the University of Bucharest.

Our fundamental aspiration – as explorers in two of the most complex realities of the world – is to elucidate, at least in part, the mysteries of psychological and educational phenomena to help improve the human condition.

The specific mission of the Doctoral School in Psychology and Education Sciences is to train excellent research professionals who are broadly employable, both in and outside the academic sector.

**Years of study:** 3.

**The PhD studies consist of:** 1<sup>st</sup> year: Preparatory programme in advanced university studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> year: Preparation of the scientific research projects, 3<sup>rd</sup> year: Scientific research programme and thesis writing.

The Doctoral School provides doctoral training in two major fields: *Psychology* and *Educational Sciences*.

## **During a PhD in *Psychology*, candidates will:**

- ⦿ acquire in-depth knowledge in the most important fields of psychology, psychological theories and researches;
- ⦿ learn transferable skills for psychological analysis;
- ⦿ receive scientific psychological techniques and methods;
- ⦿ use scientific methods in psychotherapy or in other fields/areas of psychological practice;
- ⦿ develop interdisciplinary competencies and abilities in psychological researches.

## **During a PhD in *Educational Sciences*, candidates will:**

- ⦿ acquire in-depth knowledge in their field of expertise;
- ⦿ receive training of scientific methods;
- ⦿ improve their scientific writing;
- ⦿ debate ethical issues in science;
- ⦿ develop interdisciplinary competences;
- ⦿ learn transferable skills, such as project management and presentation techniques.

The study plan for the 1<sup>st</sup> year comprises the following objects of study:

### ***Psychology***

- ⦿ Quantitative research methods in psychology
- ⦿ Qualitative research methods in psychology
- ⦿ Advanced statistical methods
- ⦿ Modern research in work and organizational psychology
- ⦿ Modern research in clinical psychology and mental health
- ⦿ Modern research in educational psychology

### ***Education Sciences***

- ⦿ Research methodology in educational sciences
  - ⦿ Paradigms and directions in contemporary pedagogy
  - ⦿ Inclusive and integrative practices in education
  - ⦿ Intervention policies and strategies in educational fields
  - ⦿ Education for diversity: directions and strategies
  - ⦿ New directions in didactics
-

*The Doctoral School in Psychology and Educational Sciences is an alchemical Athanor: those who attend these mysteries discover the philosopher's stone; after graduation, the doctoral students become doctors; that means they can often transform ordinary metals into pure gold! I want to say that this is a high aspiration: but many of my colleagues can attain this outstanding performance. This learning experience, experienced in the Doctoral School in the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, may be considered one of the best in the world!*

Prof. **ION NEGREȚ**, PhD  
Former Director of Doctoral School

*I teach to my doctoral students to be different than they are: not ordinary people, but unusual men and women; that means to be creative, ingenious, imaginative. This forces me to be a creative person. It is very difficult. But is very necessary! I like to think that in the Doctoral School, I created some geniuses ...*

Prof. **MIHAELA ROCO**, PhD, psychologist

*Usually, we choose between the best students and master graduates. Many other candidates, who graduated from other faculties than the Faculty of Psychology, are often present at the admission examination for the Doctoral School. Some candidates come from very different parts of the world: Europe, Africa, Asia, Canada, United States. It is a joy to meet them in classrooms, laboratories, school applications. Our adventure at the Doctoral School is national, but it is increasingly becoming international!... I'm happy that we progress in this way!*

Prof. **IOAN NEACȘU**, PhD, educationalist

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# Doctoral School in Sociology

The Doctoral School in Sociology is part of a close community of sociologic research and teaching, in the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bucharest. Doctoral students take part in graduate courses, join teaching teams for BA students, and are part of research events organized by the Research Institute of the University of Bucharest, our Faculty and the vibrant academic community of the University of Bucharest. Graduates are trained to take part as professionals in a variety of fields, including academic and applied research, social work, human resources, and other evidence-based fields. We invite a diversity of research themes and methodologies, and students have the chance of meeting mentors and peers in the broader academic ecosystem who share their passions and interests, through the School's network of events and projects. We invite doctoral students who aim to sharpen their scientific approach through empirical research and theoretical relevance, and professionals who want to make a difference through evidence-based policies and scientifically grounded argumentation.

Admission to the Doctoral School in Sociology is organized in September, including a written exam on sociological theories and methods. Students go on to pursue courses in the first two years of study, including workshops on academic writing and invited lecturers from a variety of fields. Each student is guided by her or his doctoral supervisor and a mentorship committee, who will give feedback on research results each semester. The final thesis is first defended in front of the mentorship committee, and, after this initial feedback, it is publicly defended in front of an examination commission. Students are warmly invited to take part in the academic life of the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, to publish and extend their reach in the international academic community. The Faculty of Sociology and Social Work edits four scientific journals, stimulating a lively scientific environment:

- ⊙ International Review of Social Research: <https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/irsr>
- ⊙ Journal of Comparative Research in Anthropology and Sociology: <http://compaso.eu>
- ⊙ Social Work Review: <http://www.swreview.ro>
- ⊙ European Journal of Probation: <http://journals.sagepub.com/home/ejp>

*The Doctoral School in Sociology of University of Bucharest is a prestigious and warm meeting place of professionals and students on many life courses. It's a convergence point for careers and growth trajectories. One of my highest satisfactions in my recent activity in the Doctoral School is the recent publication of the "Risk and Society" volume, written together with my doctoral graduates: Adrian Sârbu, Oana Pirneci, Rebeca Popescu, Daniela Gaba și Anca Mihaî. It's a rich collection of scientific research, and I am happy and proud to be part of this joint work and the community of the Doctoral School.*

**DORU BUZDUCEA**  
PhD Coordinator



*It's exciting to be part of the Doctoral School, as it gives me the chance to meet extraordinary persons both as doctoral students, invited lecturers and, of course, doctoral supervisors and mentors. We encourage each student on her or his chosen topic and approach, stimulating sociological reflexivity as a lens to examine issues from a variety of fields and disciplines. The years of doctoral research are a transformative experience, and the Doctoral School in Sociology offers a community of shared interests and passion for empirical research, rigorous methodology, critical perspectives and sociological insights. We are looking forward to welcome the next generation of researchers!*

**COSIMA RUGHINIȘ**  
PhD Coordinator

*The Doctoral School in Sociology is a vivid learning environment which promotes a culture of collaboration and active participation in academic life. It brings together a supporting team of professionals who share a real passion and curiosity for acquiring meaningful insights on the social world. During my PhD studies, I had the opportunity to work on developing captivating research projects under excellent supervision and mentorship. Also, I had the chance to validate my ideas in challenging discussions with an enthusiastic community of researchers. Studying at the Doctoral School in Sociology was an engaging experience of sociological discovery that strengthened my knowledge and understanding of socially relevant issues. I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to become a protagonist in a story of self-development and professional growth.*

**ȘTEFANIA MATEI**, Doctoral School Graduate,  
Research Fellow at the Research Institute of  
The University of Bucharest



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# “Space, Image, Text, Territory” Doctoral School

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The “Space, Image, Text, Territory” Doctoral School (SITT DS) is organized by the Center of Excellence in the Study of Image (CESI) at the Faculty of Letters and is accredited by the Ministry of Education.

With two PhD tracks in Cultural Studies and Literary Studies, the graduate programme at CESI provides opportunities to study culture and arts beyond national and disciplinary boundaries.

The educational objective of both the PhD tracks is to train graduates students to conduct research that engages an interdisciplinary and critical approach to culture.

The PhD programme is singular among the programmes offered at the University of Bucharest for its opening toward visual and cultural studies, philosophical and methodological investigations. The graduate studies at CESI provide a vibrant intellectual center for interdisciplinary cultural critique and analysis. The strengths of our graduate programme lie in the combination of theoretical pursuits with applied studies. Philosophical and theoretical training intersects with studies in a variety of areas pertaining to global, visual, and cultural studies and in-depth study of local Romanian culture and art history.

The academics and scholars of the “Space, Image, Text, Territory” Doctoral School come from a wide range of departments and fields of studies: philosophy, art history, British and American studies, Romanian cultural theory, anthropology and ethnic studies, gender studies, intellectual history, communist and post-communist studies, memory studies.

The academic make up of the programme is further extended by the participation of distinguished guest lecturers from major European and American universities.

A highlight of our programme is the critical engagement with methodology in both literary and cultural/visual studies.

## AREAS OF SCHOLARSHIP AND COURSES CURRENTLY OFFERED

**Visual Cultures:** film studies, performance, photography, art history, visual arts, architecture, image studies, word-and-image studies

**Local and Global Interactions:** local, national, and global media, ethnic studies, anthropology, Romanian cultural studies

**Gender and Culture:** gender philosophy, identity, body in arts, body and technology, contemporary approaches to art, the self in literature and arts

**From Print to Digital:** production, consumption, and distribution of texts, textual studies, hypertextuality, remediation, transmediation, digital art, authorship and censorship, textual embodiments and technology

**City Studies:** urban studies, space studies, place and identity, narratives of space

**Theories of Culture:** theory and criticism, revisiting modernist philosophical and methodological schools, intellectual history

Through its 3-year PhD programme, course offerings, seminars and colloquia, professional workshops, annual conferences, and dissertation writing group, CESI fosters interdisciplinary explorations of cultural productions, encourages research collaborations between our faculty and graduate students, and strives to provide its academic community with tools to examine and understand visual media in relation to the aesthetic, intellectual, and historical facets of cultural phenomena.

Fellowships and joint supervision at prominent European universities ensure graduate students’ opportunities to conduct research and defend their dissertations with flying colors.

Our alumnae/i draw on their interdisciplinary experience at CESI to make arts and culture more impactful and to share their fresh, yet solid, understanding of culture and arts in academia, museums and galleries, IT companies, cultural institutions, NGO-s, etc.



*Once I began my PhD at SD SITT-CESI, in 2008, my career blossomed. My work habits improved due to the rigor of the research methods I soon acquired; control of a complex theoretical spectrum proved its utility in various cultural and visual projects I developed outside the academic sphere as well. The teaching staff’s receptiveness to the up-to-the-minute theoretical approaches provided a stimulating environment. Their zest to integrate new and diversified approaches in order to efficiently tackle the vivid contemporary culture was pivotal for the experimental spirit that a young scholar needs. Now, as part of the research team, I and my colleagues welcome the newcomers in the same fashion, trying to be alert and responsive in the unique spirit of the place. SD SITT-CESI is a one-of-a-kind research center in Bucharest, merging a scholarly, erudite foundation with a challenging raw energy. There is no other place I would more gladly be affiliated with.*

### **RALUCA BIBIRI**

Lecturer in Gender and Media Studies  
(completed PhD in 2011)



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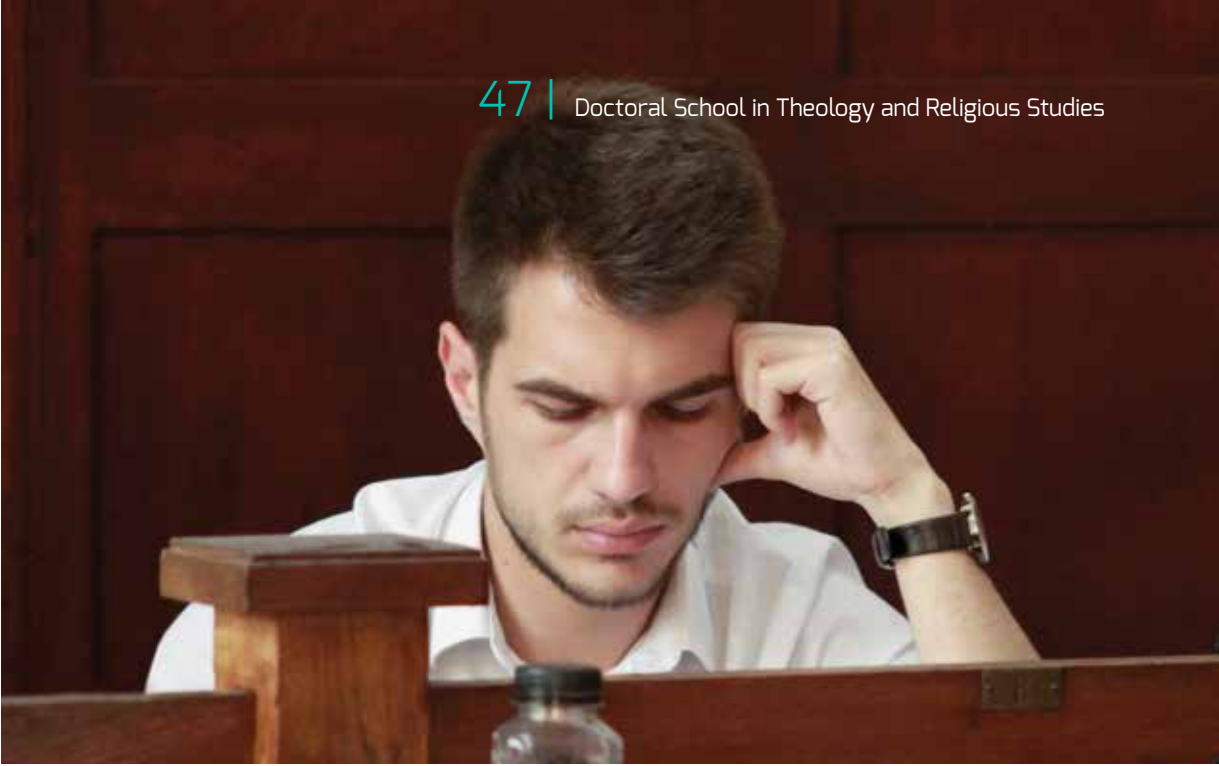
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# Doctoral School in Theology and Religious Studies

During the last decades Europe, but also the United States at a different rate, have already exhausted the experience of modernity, characterised by a dramatic separation between religion on one hand and the world of politics, science and society on the other hand, so as to pass on to a post-secular age. Religious belief in its individual and institutionalized forms has not only began to participate in the public conversation but even to become an unavoidable reference for political processes, for developing social life forms, for the individual conscience as well as for scientific elaborations. The changing of this paradigm was promptly echoed both within the realm of social sciences and in the domain of theology and philosophy. New disciplines such as the sociology of the religious act have strengthened their own status, while theology itself has initiated a fruitful dialogue with the critical theory of post-modernity, fathering for instance within the Catholic world the new political theology, or within the Protestant milieu a radical type of orthodoxy. Thus in the field of knowledge, in the academic world but also within the public space, theology began to acquire a position more significant and more intellectually fecund than that which it held during most of the 20th century. The Doctoral School in Theology and Religious Studies takes the opportunity to make use in Romanian context and within the University of Bucharest of this new strategic position of theology, presently engaged in a fertile dialogue with philosophy, with the critical theory, with the social sciences and with those concerning life. Thus, it understands to follow and draw inspiration from the western tradition of theological thinking, inseparable from the birth and evolution of modern philosophy, of the natural, social and human sciences. The study and research directions of the Doctoral School are: Fundamental Theology, Biblical Sciences, Dogmatic Theology, Patristic Theology, Moral Theology and Canon Law. The Christian religious fact is investigated from a inter-disciplinarian point of view by employing the means of theology, philosophy, anthropology and social sciences. Both in defining its mission and objectives, as well as in its organization it observes the requirements of the Code for University Doctoral Studies approved through the Government Decision 681/2011.





*The Doctoral School in Theology and Religious Studies within the Faculty of Roman-Catholic Theology, the University of Bucharest, offers its students the opportunity of entering the academic world of research, taking as its starting point the theological discourse and the inter-disciplinarian sciences: philosophy, social sciences, critical theory and the dialogue with life. Within this programme we propose seminars, national and international conferences and round tables, publishing scientific articles.*

*The main purpose of the Doctoral School is that of promoting theological research at international standards and to assist our PhD students to build their own theological dialogue in contact with the experience of faith and the Christian values received through revelation, especially in the person of Jesus Christ, known in the Church as Emmanuel, God-with-us. The fact that our Doctoral School in Theology and Religious Studies is interconfessional, as we welcome students both from the Catholic denomination and from the Greek-Orthodox and Protestant Churches, ensures a special character to the university experience and studies of our students with the purpose of promoting the unity of Christians. The quality of our advanced studies and that of our research activities is ensured by prestigious and experienced specialists from the University of Bucharest as well as by associate professors from abroad.*

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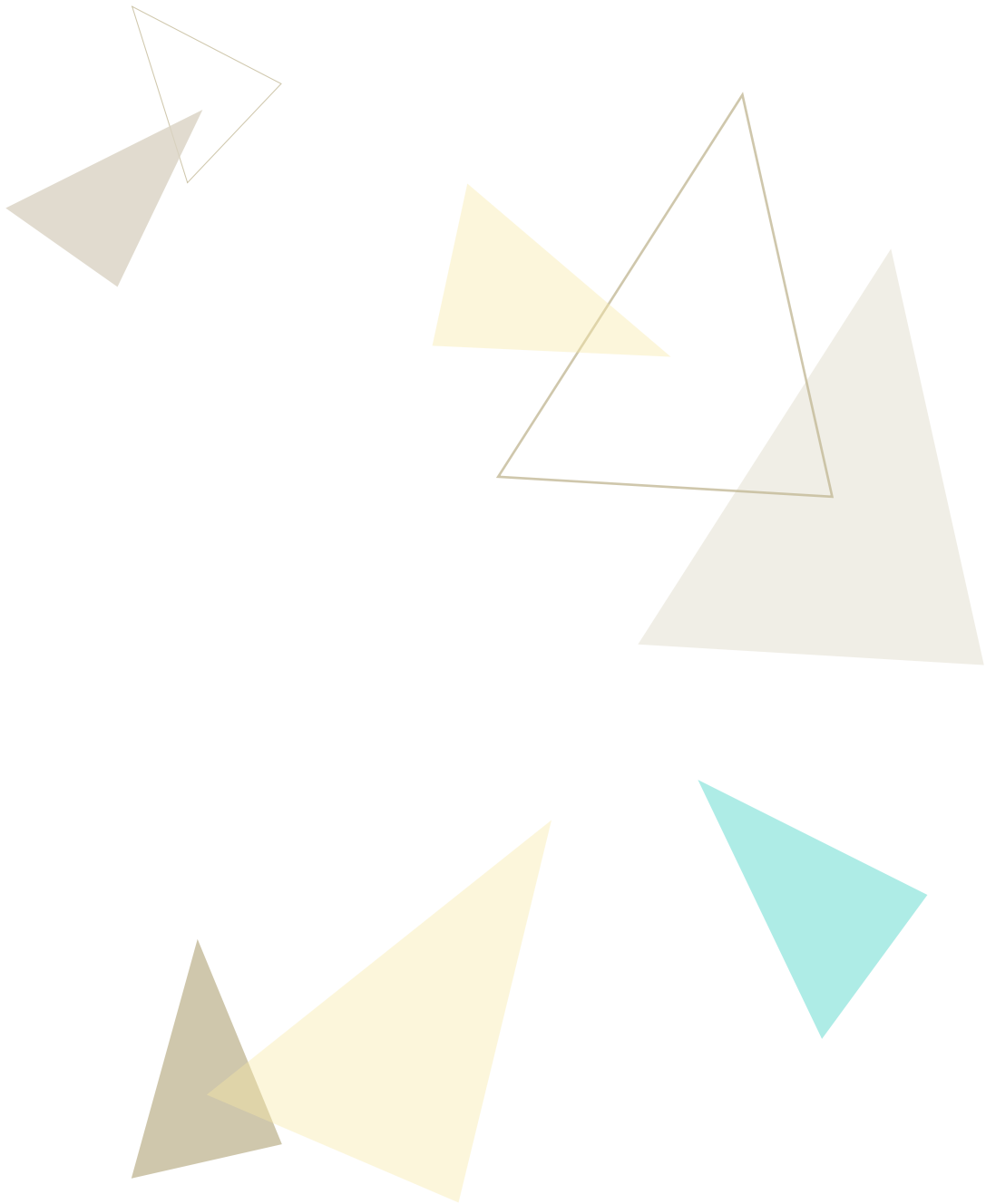
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