



FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BOZEN
LIBERA UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLZANO
FREE UNIVERSITY OF BOZEN · BOLZANO

Public Competition Announcement for PhD courses – 26th cycle

DECREE NO. 15 /2010

THE PRESIDENT OF THE FREE UNIVERSITY OF BOZEN-BOLZANO COUNCIL

- Considering the Statute of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano;
- Considering Law no. 210 of July 3, 1998, and in particular, art. 4, which assigns to universities the institution of PhD courses, the application conditions and the award of the degree based on an appropriate regulation in accordance with the general criteria stipulated by ministerial regulation;
- Considering Ministerial Decree no. 224 of April 30, 1999, regarding the general criteria to be followed by individual universities in the organization of PhD studies;
- Considering the Prime Minister's Decree of April 9, 2001 and subsequent amendments on the general criteria for uniform treatment regarding the right to higher education;
- Considering the Regulation concerning PhD Research Programmes of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, approved by the Executive Committee of the University Council under resolution no. 99 of October 22, 2003 and subsequent amendments;
- Considering reports 2/2010, 3/2010, 4/2010 from the Internal Evaluation Committee dated 2 March 2010, on the requirements for the PhD courses proposed;
- Considering the reports from the Academic Senate no. 669/2010 and no. 663/2010 dated 14 April 2010 on the institution of the Management of Mountain Environments and General Pedagogy, Social Pedagogy and General Education PhD courses proposed;
- Considering the Rector's emergency decree no. 24/2010 dated 2 June 2010 concerning the approval of the PhD programme in Computer Science;
- Considering resolutions no. 06/2010 and no. 07/2010 of the University Council concerning the approval of the Management of Mountain Environment and General Pedagogy, Social Pedagogy and General Education PhD courses proposed;
- Considering the President's emergency decree no. 12/2010 dated 3 June 2010 concerning the approval of the PhD programme in Computer Science;

- Considering resolution no. 240 of 31 October, 2008 of the University Council concerning the exemption from paying enrolment fees for PhD candidates without grants;
- Considering resolution no. 251 of 21 November, 2008 of the University Council concerning the increase in the total amount of grant awarded to PhD students;

DECREES

ART.1 – INSTITUTION

The Free University of Bozen-Bolzano announces a public competition, by examinations and/or qualifications, for admission to the following PhD Research Programmes of the 26th cycle, for the 2010/2011 academic year.

GENERAL PEDAGOGY, SOCIAL PEDAGOGY AND GENERAL EDUCATION

Duration: 3 years

Scientific areas: M-PED/01 General and Social Pedagogy and M-PED/03 General Teaching and Special Pedagogy

Official languages of course: Italian, English and German

A public competition for the allocation of 8 places is announced of which

- 5** places will be covered by grants
- 2 additional places will be available for non-EU candidates who already hold a grant from another institution (even from abroad).

A non-EU candidate refers to a person who is not from the EU and is resident abroad and who does not hold an Italian permit to stay, or who has a permit to stay for study purposes.

MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS

Duration: 3 years

Scientific areas:

AGR/01 – Economics and Rural estimation

AGR/02 – Agronomy and herbaceous cultivation

AGR/03 – General Arboriculture and tree cultivation

AGR/05 – Forestry and Silviculture

AGR/08 – Agricultural Hydrology and Forest Hydrology

AGR/09 – Agricultural Machinery

AGR/11 – Agricultural and Forestry Entomology

AGR/13 – Agricultural Chemistry

AGR/16 – Agricultural Microbiology

BIO/03 – Environmental and applied Botany

CHIM/06 – Organic Chemistry
ING-IND/11 – Technical and environmental Physics

Official language of the course: English

A public competition for the allocation of 12 places is announced of which 10** places will be covered by grants

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Duration: 3 years

Scientific areas: INF/01 Computer science and ING-INF/05 Information Processing Systems

Official language of course: English

A public competition for the allocation of 18 places is announced of which

- 9** will be covered by grants and
- 6 additional places will be reserved for people in receipt for at least three years of a grant for cooperation in research activities concerning subjects compatible with those on this PhD programme.

**the number of grants can be increased in the event that further funding is available from the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano or third parties.

ART. 2 – PHD COURSE PROGRAMMES

GENERAL PEDAGOGY, SOCIAL PEDAGOGY AND GENERAL EDUCATION

This PhD Research Programme lasts three years and the official languages are German and Italian; some courses and/or seminars could also be held in English. Over the three years PhD students will actively attend the teaching and scientific activities as listed in the D.M. of 30 April 1999, no. 224, and the subsequent Ministerial Circulars and reports from the CUN. PhD students will also complete a piece of original research, supervised by a tutor who will be a member of the academic staff and by the PhD Course Committee.

Each candidate will have to dedicate themselves full time to the programme, which aims to develop the scientific subjects and the main research areas of the programme. As from the second year, each candidate is expected to shadow their tutor and/or another member of the academic staff in teaching and research activities together with their own research programme.

There is a wide range of training options; some require compulsory attendance while others are optional.

The teaching includes a cycle of introductory lectures, practical sessions and seminars that aim to develop and illustrate the programme's subjects and research areas and to focus on the most recent findings in the education world.

The subjects for the first year are decided by the PhD Course Committee at the beginning of the cycle of introductory lectures, practical session and seminars. The lectures, practical sessions and seminars for the second and third years are decided by the PhD Course Committee after discussion with the PhD students taking into consideration the Individual Development Plans of the students concerned.

The teaching programme requires students to have been assigned a tutor chosen from the tenured academic staff at the Faculty at least two months before the end of the first year so that they can agree on a personal research topic.

Compulsory attendance of the introductory lectures, practical sessions and seminars is required as well of any internships or educational workshops that the programme includes.

Other activities that require compulsory attendance, apart from those listed in the study programme, are optional internships done in research groups at other universities and/or public or private Research Centres (which have the pre-requisites of having a high cultural, scientific and personnel standing as well as acceptable facilities). Also optional participation at conferences and research at libraries and archives require compulsory attendance. On the basis of a learning agreement, PhD students can attend lectures, practical sessions, seminars and internships at other universities and universities with which the PhD programme can establish an agreement during the three years.

Every three months a series of tests and coaching is also planned.

PhD students are also required to attend training events in Italy and abroad for at least a semester.

Research areas

The General Pedagogy, Social Pedagogy and General Education PhD programme covers the following areas:

- a) the epistemological framework, the areas of research and application areas in the fields of general pedagogy, social pedagogy and teaching;
- b) the survey models and instruments for pedagogical and teaching research;
- c) the development of an Integrated Training System for the construction of democratic life;
- d) statistics for pedagogy and social sciences;
- e) analysis of quantitative and qualitative data (SPSS, Maxqda, Tartak);
- f) Lifelong learning for an intercultural society;
- g) Lifelong learning: teaching and learning throughout a person's life

- h) Lifelong learning: planning, evaluation and validation of educational programmes;
- i) E-learning platforms for teaching and the building of knowledge and technologies for individualising learning;
- j) co-construction of skills through a cooperative approach;
- k) work groups and organised learning;
- l) evaluation: self-assessment, external evaluation, evaluation for learning, national and international analysis surveys (SNV, PISA, IEA pirls, etc).

MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS

This is a full-time course. The final thesis must be completed in English and must have a complete abstract in German and Italian. The PhD programme comprises lectures and research activities that can be completed at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano and at universities abroad. The time spent abroad can be at one of the foreign universities or research centres with which this University has a *cotutelle de thèse* agreement.

The PhD programme is based on the following milestones:

- the student develops and organises his/her research programme in the first six months of the course together with his/her supervisor or co-supervisors. At the latest after six months, the student must defend his/her programme at the PhD Course Committee.
- the student has to prepare, within 12 months of starting the programme, a public seminar in which s/he discusses the state-of-the-art of his/her research topic;
- the student has to take part in at least one international conference where s/he is expected to deliver a paper or present a poster;
- the student must spend at least three months abroad conducting research;
- the student must attend certain courses on a compulsory basis. In order to be admitted to the final exam, the student must have written a scientific text where s/he figures as the main author and have sent it for publication in an international "peer-reviewed" journal.

Stages of the PhD:

The research activities are spread over five stages that end after 2, 6, 12, 24 and 36 months. At the end of each stage, the student has to meet the PhD Course Committee to present his/her project and results. The PhD Course Committee evaluates the student's work and provides suggestions when necessary.

First stage (first 2 months): the PhD Course Committee meets the student and tells him/her who his/her supervisor is. The student then meets the supervisor to decide on the research topic regarding the areas listed in this advertisement. The student also works on a study plan that is then to be approved by the PhD Course Committee.

Second stage (2nd -6th month): the student, after an exhaustive review of the literature concerning his/her subject area, must prepare his/her reach programme that has to be approved by the PhD Course Committee. The student will follow courses that are relevant to his/her individual study plan.

Third stage (6th -12th month): the student starts his/her research in the field and/or in the lab and can also attend courses and summer schools. The student prepares his/her public seminar that will take place at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano in which s/he discusses the state-of-the-art of his/her research topic. S/he will also present to the PhD Course Committee his/her research programme that s/he wants to conduct abroad.

Fourth stage (12th -24th month): the student continues his/her research and finishes any courses that s/he has been following. At this stage it is foreseen that some of this time is spent abroad. In this stage or in the next the student is also expected to take part in an international conference to present his/her results and s/he will begin to prepare the manuscript(s) that are to be "peer-reviewed".

Fifth stage (24th-36th month): the student finishes his/her research and any experiences abroad; s/he finishes writing the manuscript(s) that are to be published and finishes his/her thesis.

In exceptional circumstances, as long as there are clear reasons, the student can ask for an extension.

RESEARCH AREAS

Research at the Faculty of Science and Technology is characterised by a broad range of interdisciplinary subjects that concern the natural environment (e.g. forests, grassland, rivers and streams, mountain environments) and anthropic environments (e.g. urban areas, vineyards and fruit orchards, fields and meadows and cultivated land) and their relative development and processes. The Faculty of Science and Technology main area of interest is mountain environments, both alpine areas and other mountainous areas (e.g. Central Asia, South America, polar regions). The PhD research areas can be found at this link (<http://www.unibz.it/en/sciencetechnology/welcome/default.html>):

1. *Management of biotic and abiotic resources*: studies aim to develop sustainable management of natural resources, such as biodiversity, water, soil and air. The aim is to provide a scientific understanding of the ecological processes and the dynamics of ecosystems and their functioning.
2. *Energy efficiency, green house gas emissions, renewable energy resources*: research areas include: 1) an efficient use of energy during production processes; 2) the monitoring and reduction of green house gases; 3) the development of methods to produce renewable energy
3. *Life quality*: this sector include environmental planning, natural landscapes, enhancing soil quality, water quality and air quality in rural and urban environments, the improvement of mountain food products and the development of new materials.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

The aim of the PhD programme is to allow students to acquire the ability to undertake research independently in the area of computer science.

In order to conclude the programme successfully, the PhD student has to undertake a piece of research independently and this research must contribute and add significantly to current knowledge in the area of computer science.

- the programme is divided into four stages which end at the 6th, 12th, 24th and 36th month.
- the PhD Course Committee nominates one of its own members as a supervisor for each PhD student. There can also be a co-supervisor nominated for extra support. If the PhD student is enrolled for an international PhD programme with a double qualification, a second supervisor can be named.
- The PhD student writes a Research and Study Plan together with his/her supervisor(s). This defines the objectives of the research and the stages needed to complete it. Periodically the PhD student must update the Research and Study Plan considering the progress made and the developments in the research area.
- Each stage finishes with an evaluation period where the PhD student presents his/her work to the PhD Course Committee, which evaluates the student's progress. Each time this occurs, the PhD Course Committee receives an updated Research and Study Plan.

Stages

Stage 1 is the first six months. During this period the PhD student decides, with the help of his/her supervisor, a research area, a specific topic and one or more methodological approaches to undertake the research. The PhD student starts by developing a solid understanding of the research areas by attending classes and studying the recommended literature. The supervisor inserts the PhD student into the research activities at the Faculty dealing with the topic in question.

Stage 2 is the second half of the first year. The PhD student continues to study the research area in question and begins his/her own research.

Stage 3 is the second year. The PhD student begins a solid analysis of the research area.

Stage 4 is the third year. The PhD student completes his/her research and writes his/her thesis.

RESEARCH AREAS

Research at the Faculty of Computer Science covers three different research areas, whose study areas and topics will be developed by research groups on a long term basis.

The research areas, together with a selection of research topics, are:

1. Databases and information systems:
 - Management and analysis of large databases
 - Temporal data models and databases
 - Data evolution and data integration
 - Approximation techniques for large databases

- Information search and advisory systems
- 2. Knowledge representation and databases:
 - Logics for knowledge representation
 - Intelligent access to databases
 - Controlled Natural Language
 - Temporal aspects in data and knowledge
 - Advanced database technologies
- 3. Software Engineering:
 - Agile methods, lean management, and open source
 - Measurement and study of software quality, reliability, evolution, and reuse
 - Distributed architecture for computation, web services, and mobile systems
 - IT business alignment
 - Component-based development and re-use of software
 - Cooperative systems and interoperability

These areas are the fulcrum of research in international PhDs with double qualifications. With respect to bi and multilateral agreements, these programmes can also extend to the areas and specialisations that other universities have.

PhD work involves the investigation of research questions that arise during the work undertaken by the three different research groups.

A list of possible PhD theses of the current PhD cycle:

- Analysis of the trust factors in the Open Source Development process
- Analysis of the introduction and usage of Open Source software in the Public Administration
- Data collection and analysis for IT business alignment
- Integration and interoperability of mobile and location-based web services
- Visualization techniques for the evolution of software metrics
- Analysis of source code evolution in industrial and Open Source environments
- Integration and optimization of cooperative systems
- Medical data mining
- Medical data analysis
- Multi-dimensional temporal OLAP in temporal databases
- Querying spatial network databases
- Similarity search in databases
- Time varying geographic information systems
- Database cleansing

- Lossless database evolution
- Querying semi-structured databases
- Context-aware computing
- Adaptive recommender systems
- Ontology-Based Data Management: from Theory to Practice
- Query Processing in Expressive Description Logics
- Query Answering under Access Limitations
- Natural Language Access to Ontologies
- Integration and Composition of Web Services
- Multilingual Access to Library Catalogues
- Multilingual Interactive Question Answering
- Analysis of Web 2.0 and 3.0 technologies to support online learning communities
- Analysis of the adoption of virtual reality to support learning activities

In addition, PhD students, in accordance with their PhD supervisor, may propose their own research ideas as long as they are connected with the research conducted within the three main areas.

ART. 3 – ADMISSION

Admission to the public competition of the aforementioned PhD Research Programmes (see previous article) is open to all, regardless of sex, age and citizenship, who possess a Master's degree (Laurea specialistica) (according to Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 3.11.1999), an Italian undergraduate degree from the old system or a foreign degree equivalent to the degrees mentioned above.

Applicants who have a foreign degree which has not already been officially recognised as being equivalent to an Italian degree must request recognition in their application for the present competition. In such cases the necessary documents should be enclosed with the application in order to enable the PhD Course Committee to write a declaration of value of such degree, valid only for the purpose of admission to the public competition the candidate wishes to apply for. In particular, the following documents have to be attached to the application:

- the degree certificate (EU citizens can attach a self-certification according to Presidential Decree no. 445 of December 28, 2000)
- a translation in English, Italian or German of the degree certificate with exams and scores obtained, signed under their own responsibility so as to allow the PhD Course Committee to assess its appropriateness.

Successful applicants who have a foreign degree have to present their degree certificate (original or authenticated copy) with the examinations passed and the scores obtained, translated into Italian and authenticated by an Italian consulate, embassy or diplomatic representative in the country of the university that issued the degree together with the respective declaration of value ("Dichiarazione di valore") **not later than the deadline for enrolment** for the PhD Research Programme. The declaration of value is issued by the Italian consulate or embassy abroad and confirms that the qualification obtained by the candidate would grant him/her entry to a similar university course in the country in which the qualifications were achieved. The declaration must be applied for as soon as possible since it can often require long processing times. A translation is not necessary if the qualifications were obtained in a German-speaking country. If a candidate has a university degree recognised in Italy, candidates only have to present the recognition decree.

Admission is also open to those who will finish their degree by the day before the date established for the first test or the evaluation procedure of their degree. In such cases admission will be "conditional" and the candidate will have to present the relative degree certificate or self-certification **one day before or the day of the test or the evaluation procedure**, otherwise the candidate will not be admitted.

Only for admission to the PhD course in **COMPUTER SCIENCE**, students who are about to graduate can also apply, as long as they graduate by the enrolment date. In this situation, candidates will receive a conditional place and will be required to present their **degree by the enrolment deadline, otherwise the candidate will not be admitted.**

For admission to the PhD course in **GENERAL PEDAGOGY, SOCIAL PEDAGOGY AND GENERAL EDUCATION**, good knowledge of Italian, German and English is required. This will be assessed during the oral part of the entrance exam.

The degrees required to be admitted are those that belong to the areas of Education, Pedagogy, Teaching and Communication:

- Anthropology of education
- Community education
- Development of Human resources
- Pedagogy
- Management of educational services
- Education
- Adult education and lifelong learning
- Education and training
- Communication science
- Primary education
- Pedagogical science
- Cooperation in Development
- Developmental Psychology

- Social work and social policy
- Communication theory
- Theory and methods of instruction and evaluation of school programmes
- Theory and methods of e-learning and media education

To apply for the PhD programme in **MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS** candidates must have knowledge of English. This knowledge will be evaluated by a selection committee during an admission interview.

All degrees from the old Italian system and all postgraduate degrees from the new system allow candidates to access the PhD programme as long as the candidates have the pre-requisites. for candidates who have done their studies abroad, they must have had a t least five years of university education and be in possession of the pre-requisites.

The pre-requisites to be admitted to the PhD programmes are connected to having acquired an adequate learning and/or cultural and/or working background in the area of agricultural science, biology, environmental science, or life sciences or earth science.

All Master degrees related to the subjects studied on the PhD programme from national or international universities are accepted.

To apply for the PhD programme in **COMPUTER SCIENCE** candidates must have knowledge of English and a good knowledge of the fundamental techniques and methods used in science and technology, which can be attested by a master's degree (or an Italian degree from the old system) in Computer Science, Information or Electronic engineering or similar. This can also be attested by a master's degree (or an Italian degree from the old system) in other subjects with experience working in the sector, or with a foreign qualification that has been deemed equivalent by the PhD Course Committee for the sole purposes of applying for this PhD programme.

ART. 4 – APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC COMPETITION

Applications should be made on paper following the template that can be downloaded from the following website: <http://www.unibz.it/en/public/research/phd/prospectivePhdstudents.html>. All

Applications must be submitted

for the PhD course in **GENERAL PEDAGOGY, SOCIAL PEDAGOGY AND GENERAL EDUCATION**: to the secretariat of the Faculty of Education of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano

- by hand from Monday to Friday, 9.00 to 12.00 office 3.32, Viale Ratisbona 16, 39042 Bressanone (BZ)
- by post to the following address: Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Faculty of Education, Viale Ratisbona 16, 39042 Brixen-Bressanone (BZ); attn: Ms Paola Bassanello.

Deadline for applications is: **October 18, 2010.**

for the PhD course in **MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS**: to the secretariat of the Faculty of Science and Technology of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano

- by hand from Monday to Friday, 9.00 to 12.00 and 14.00 to 16.00, Piazza Università 5, 39100 Bolzano
- by post to the following address: Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Faculty of Science and Technology, Piazza Università 5, 39100 Bolzano; attn Ms Stefania Falconi,

Deadline for applications is: **October 18, 2010.**

for the PhD course in **COMPUTER SCIENCE**: to the secretariat of the Faculty of Computer Science of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano

- by hand from 9.00 to 12.00 and 14.30 to 16.30, Piazza Domenicani 3, 39100 Bolzano
- by post to the following address: Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Faculty of Computer Science, Piazza Domenicani 3, 39100 Bolzano; attn Ms Viviana Foscarin

Deadline for applications is: **October 18, 2010.**

The receipt date will be the "arrived by" date stamp used by the Faculty Secretariat. The date of the postmark will not be considered.

ART. 5 – SELECTION PROCEDURE

GENERAL PEDAGOGY, SOCIAL PEDAGOGY AND GENERAL EDUCATION

Admission to the course is based on a comparative assessment by examination, consisting of a written and an oral exam aimed at assessing the preparation and aptitude of the candidate for scientific research and assessing his/her knowledge of Italian, German and one or more other languages.

Those candidates who have successfully passed the written exam, which will ask them to outline a research project in one of the thematic areas of the PhD programme, will be admitted to the oral exam. A pass in the written test will be a mark of not less than 40/60. Candidates can choose to sit the written test in either Italian or German.

The oral exam consists of the following:

- a. a discussion of the written exam and research methodology;

- b. an oral test in order to assess knowledge of the Italian language (for German native speakers) and the German language (for Italian native speakers);
- c. an oral exam to test knowledge of a third language.

Those who obtain 40/60 or more in the oral exam will be deemed successful.

When the entrance examinations are over, the Evaluation Committee will draw up a rank list including the comparative assessment.

The Evaluation Committee will select candidates until all available places have been filled. If a successful candidate withdraws, the next candidate on the rank list will be offered the place.

Grants will be awarded after the comparative assessment of merit and following the rank lists; if candidates are ranked equally, the financial situation of the candidates will be evaluated as per DPCM 30/04/97. Grants cannot be awarded if candidates are already in receipt of a grant unless awarded by national or foreign institutions for exchanges abroad. How the grants will be awarded will be decided by the University Council.

The exams will take place on the following days:

- **Written exam – October 28, 2010**
- **Oral exam – October 29, 2010**

The time and venue of the entrance exams will be posted on the website:
<http://www.unibz.it/en/public/research/phd/prospectivePhdstudents.html>

MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS

The PhD programme is open to Italian, EU and non-EU citizens. Candidates must comply with the pre-requisites in article 3.

Admission to the programme is based on the assessment of candidates through: their CV and academic qualifications, their motivation letter and an interview.

Applications for admission have to include:

- the official application form for the PhD programme filled in and signed;
- a motivation letter written in English (max. 1 page);
- the candidate's CV (in English following the European format);
- Master's degree certificate, or Italian degree certificate (old system) or equivalent degree obtained abroad, with the final grade;
- at least one reference letter, written in Italian, German or English from a university lecturer or a researcher from a research centre;
- signed self-certification that declares that all the documents and information are true;
- photocopy of a valid ID card.

The candidate must also include the following that will be evaluated as **qualifications**:

- a list of the candidate's publications (published, to be published, or presented for publication);
- a list of the conferences/meetings/training courses that the candidate has participated in;
- certificates attesting that the candidate has worked or has received research grants;
- any other certificates that attest that the candidate has carried out activities in Italy or abroad that correspond to the research areas for this PhD programme;
- any language certificates;
- copy (paper or electronic) of all the candidate's publications (published, to be published, or presented for publication).

Candidates who have all the pre-requisites will have their CV, their letter and their qualifications evaluated by the Committee and a list of candidates will be compiled that will allow them to go onto to the next stage of the selection procedure. This consists in an interview in which the candidate's English will be assessed. This interview can also be conducted as a video-conference, or on the telephone. The Committee will then select the candidates to be admitted based on a comparative assessment. The minimum number of points necessary to be ranked is 50/100.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

There is no entrance exam.

The selection procedure consists of:

- Evaluation of the applicant's qualifications
- Knowledge of the English language

The Evaluation committee will evaluate the candidates admitted to international study programmes if necessary in a special session but according to the general admission criteria of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano. Students selected in this way do not have to take part in the local selection of students.

The selection is based on the evaluation of each applicant's profile as specified in their CV stating: (a) exams passed and other exams taken, (b) any publications, (c) work experience and any research carried out, (d) knowledge of the English language. As far as English language knowledge is concerned, the applicant may certify (i) courses followed at high school, university or private institutes with relative marks, (ii) periods spent abroad in English-speaking countries with details of activities carried out there, (iii) further proof of knowledge, such as having attended secondary school in English.

Admission is also open to those who will finish their degree by the enrolment deadline for the PhD programme. In such cases admission will be "conditional" and the candidate will have to present the relative degree certificate, otherwise the candidate will not be admitted.

Candidates will also receive a conditional place if the documents issued by the Italian authorities abroad are not received by the deadline stated in this advertisement.

Up to three letters of reference may be enclosed with the application form from work or research supervisors detailing work carried out and the quality of the same.

The Evaluation Committee will choose applicants for the PhD Research Programme according to a comparative assessment of:

- the level of the applicant's knowledge of the English language and subsequently
- awarding specific marks to each of the documents enclosed by the candidate to support his/her application. A maximum of 50 points will be awarded for the class and/or average marks of a Master's degrees (Laurea specialistica), an Italian degree of the old system or equivalent qualification, up to a maximum of 10 points for each publication, up to a maximum of 5 points for each work or research experience, up to a maximum of 30 points for the general evaluation of the applicant's CV.

Points awarded will then be totalled. The final mark of each applicant will be equal to the totalled marks or, if this exceeds 100 points, equal to 100.

Those candidates considered suitable after assessment will have been awarded a minimum mark of 60/100.

The rank list of the successful candidates for admission with or without a grant, and for the candidates on the waiting list who will be able to enrol if a successful candidate gives up his/her place, will be drawn up following the total marks obtained in the assessment. If two or more candidates have the same score, the older candidate will have priority. Should candidates be the same age, a lot will be drawn to decide on the allocation of places.

ART. 6 – EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The President of the University Council, upon the advice of the PhD Course Committee and the Academic Senate, appoints the Evaluation Committee.

Each committee consists of three members chosen from tenured professors and university researchers who are experts in the scientific areas of the PhD Research Programme. The Committee may also include two experts from public and private national and international corporations or research institutes.

The President of the Evaluation Committee will be the most senior Full Professor; in the event of equal ranking, the oldest professor. In the absence of Full Professors, the President will be the most senior Associate Professor; in the event of equal ranking, the oldest professor. For every member of the Evaluation Committee, the PhD Course Committee will appoint a reserve member.

After the evaluation of the entrance exams, the Evaluation Committee will draw up a rank list, based on the number of points the candidates obtain from the assessment of their qualifications and the written and oral exams.

The exact times and the location of the admission tests/evaluation and the final ranking of candidates will be posted on the official notice board of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano and on the website: <http://www.unibz.it/en/public/research/phd/prospectivePhdstudents.html>

ART. 7 – ADMISSION TO THE PHD PROGRAMME

Applicants will be admitted to the PhD Research Programme according to their order on the rank list until all available places have been filled.

If a successful applicant withdraws before the beginning of the course, the next applicant on the rank list will be offered the place.

If a successful applicant withdraws or is excluded during the first quarter of the first year of the course, the PhD Course Committee may decide to fill the vacant place with the next candidate on the rank list.

ART. 8 – ENROLMENT PROCEDURE

Candidates admitted through the rank lists must submit their enrolment form, which can be downloaded from <http://www.unibz.it/en/public/research/phd/prospectivePhdstudents.html>, with all the necessary documents by **Friday December 17, 2010**.

If enrolment has not been completed by this date, the candidate loses his/her study place and his/her right to enrol. Applications can be submitted as follows:

by post (the date of the postmark will not be considered):

- for the PhD course in **GENERAL PEDAGOGY, SOCIAL PEDAGOGY AND GENERAL EDUCATION**: to the Student Secretariat of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Bressanone campus, Viale Ratisbona, 16, 39042 Brixen-Bressanone.
- for the PhD course in **MANAGEMENT OF MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENTS** to the Student Secretariat of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Bolzano campus, Piazza Università 1, 39100 Bolzano
- for the PhD course in **COMPUTER SCIENCE**: to the Student Secretariat of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Bolzano campus, Piazza Università, 1, 39100 Bozen-Bolzano.

by hand during opening hours, which can be found by consulting: <http://www.unibz.it/en/students/welcome/default.html>

Candidates who intend to withdraw from the course and not enrol, or waive their right to a grant are requested to inform the University (by email or fax) as soon as possible and in any case before the enrolment deadline.

Email: phd@unibz.it or fax: 0039 0471 012609

ART. 9. TUITION FEES

For the PhD courses – 26th cycle the following tuition fees should be paid at the time of enrolment and amount to € 145,12, which includes:

- provincial tax for the right to study in higher education, which for the 2010/2011 academic year amounts to **€ 130.50**
- duty stamp of **€ 14.62**

A refund of the fees paid cannot be claimed in case of suspension or withdrawal from studies.

ART. 10 GRANTS

Grants are assigned following the rank list drawn up by the Evaluation Committee. If the candidates have equal merit, the student's financial situation will be evaluated according to current laws. If a candidate decides to forego a grant, the next enrolled candidate on the rank list will be offered the grant.

The total study grant amounts to **€ 51,000** for the three years of the course.

The study grant is also subject to national insurance contributions (INPS) according to current laws.

The grant is paid in monthly instalments, according to the conditions chosen by the PhD student when completing the enrolment form.

The study grant is awarded for the entire duration of the PhD Research Programme except in case of suspension or withdrawal from studies. Grants will be reconfirmed from one year to the next, unless the PhD Course Committee decides otherwise.

In the event of withdrawal from the course or suspension of a PhD student place with a grant, the remaining grant will be redistributed, according to the order of the rank list (see above, paragraph 1), to the first non-grant-maintained and enrolled PhD student.

Grant holders are not allowed to hold employment at the University.

The amount of the grant may be increased for periods spent abroad. Normally this increase is paid at the end of the time spent abroad. The grant will be increased by 50% in proportion to the period spent abroad and will be applied to any period spent continuously abroad for no less than 15 days and no more than 18 months.

ART. 11 – RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF PHD STUDENTS

PhD students are obliged to attend the PhD courses and to carry out research activities according to the schedules and the regulations laid down by the PhD Course Committee.

Grants financed by external bodies where specific research is required limit the grant holder to carry out only that specific work.

ART. 12 – AWARD OF THE PHD DEGREE

The PhD degree will be awarded to students who pass the final examination, which takes place before an Examination Committee appointed by a Decree of the President of the University Council, upon the advice of the Academic Senate and the PhD Course Committee of the course in which the student is enrolled.

The Examination Committee consists of three members chosen from tenured professors and university researchers who are experts in the scientific areas of the PhD Research Programme. At least two members, who are not members of the PhD Course Committee, must be from other Italian or foreign universities which are not involved in the PhD Research Programme.

A further two experts from public or private national or international research institutes may be called to sit on the committee. The President of the committee will be appointed according to the criteria laid out in article 7.

ART. 13 – DATA PROTECTION ACT

The Administration of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, in accordance with law no. 196/2003 and subsequent amendments, will use the applicants' personal data only for the selection procedure and for institutional purposes.

In observance of the above mentioned law, participation in the selection requires the applicant to consent tacitly to the publication of his/her personal data and the data concerning the results of the selection procedure on the website of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano.

ART. 14 – REFERRAL RULE

For matters not explicitly mentioned in the present competition announcement, art. 4 of law no. 210 of July 3, 1998, the Ministerial Decree no. 224 of April 30, 1999 and the Regulation for PhD Research Programmes of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano shall apply.

ART. 15 – ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PROCEDURE

According to law no 241 of August 7, 1990 and subsequent amendments, the administrator responsible for this procedure is dott. Karin Felderer, Spitalgasse/Via Ospedale 8, I-39100 Bozen-Bolzano – Tel. +39 0471 011012, fax +39 0471 011009, e-mail: phd@unibz.it.

Bozen-Bolzano, 11 June 2010



The President

Prof. Konrad Bergmeister

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Konrad Bergmeister', is written over a horizontal line that extends from the right side of the seal.

