

Public Competition
for the admission to the PhD programmes
41st cycle
Academic year 2025/2026
Faculty of Education
PhD Programme in Linguistics
PhD programme in cooperation
between the Universities of Bozen-Bolzano and Verona

Website: <https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/phd-linguistics/>

Duration: 3 years

Academic year: 2025/2026

Start date: November 1st, 2025

Official languages: English, Italian, German

Art. 1 - POSITIONS

1. A total of 6 positions are available for the PhD programme in Linguistics.
2. General information about the PhD programme and its structure, as well as the research areas listed below, can be found at the following link: <https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/phd-linguistics/>

3. Positions with unibz scholarship: 4

One of these scholarships is reserved for the International Doctoral Track established in cooperation with the University of Marburg: [for details see here](#)

Positions linked to specific research topics: 2

- Regione Autonoma Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol – Autonome Region Trentino-Südtirol: 1

Research topic: **Metalexigraphy of the Ladin language of the Dolomites:** [for details see here](#)

- EURAC-research: 1

Research topic: **AI for Legal Text Quality Evaluation:** [for details see here](#)

4. Research areas for which research proposals can be submitted

- Phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, lexicon;
- sociolinguistics;
- dialogue analysis, conversation analysis, discourse analysis;
- language acquisition;
- language teaching;
- Germanic and Romance Philology and Historical linguistics;
- language contact, Germanic and Romance dialectology, minority languages and multilingualism;
- language policies and language planning.

5. Any preference for one of the two scholarships linked to a specific research topic or for the IDT-scholarship in cooperation with the University of Marburg must be stated in the research proposal. The preference expressed will be indicative of the interests of the applicant and not binding for the selection committee.

Each applicant may submit no more than one research proposal. With this proposal, applicants compete for scholarships linked to specific research topics and for the IDT-scholarship in cooperation with the University of Marburg, as well as for the scholarships of the PhD programme referring to the general research areas.

6. Separate rankings will be compiled for the two positions linked to specific research topics and for the IDT established with the University of Marburg. Applicants to which scholarships related to specific research topics are assigned must carry out research activities relevant to those topics. Topic-specific scholarships will be assigned preferentially to applicants who express interest for them in their application.

7. Pursuant to the general part of the present call for applications, the number of positions may be increased as a result of funding provided by other universities, public research bodies or qualified private companies. Notice of such an increase will be given exclusively on the Unibz web page dedicated to PhD programmes. Applicants wishing to obtain eligibility for any additional subject-related scholarships may make an explicit request to the selection committee during the interview, in order to allow it to assess the specific eligibility.

Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications to the present public competition for the admission to the PhD programme in Linguistics may be presented pursuant to art. 4 of the general part of the present call for application, without limitations regarding gender, age or citizenship, by:

- a) Applicants holding a postgraduate degree as per Ministerial Decree no. 509/1999, a postgraduate degree as per Ministerial Decree no. 270/2004, a degree of the former Italian university system of the following degree classes: **all classes**.
- b) Applicants holding an equivalent degree obtained abroad;
- c) Applicants achieving one of the above-mentioned titles within the enrolment deadline. In this case, applicants will be conditionally admitted to the public competition and are **required to present the qualification by the enrolment deadline, under penalty of forfeiting admission to the programme**.

3. Language requirements: Language skills for English and for either German or Italian are evaluated during the admission interview. The language skills must be adequate for carrying out the research proposal submitted by the applicant.

Art. 3 – APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

1. In addition to the documentation listed in the general part of the present call for applications, the following documents must be uploaded to the application portal:

- a) Updated curriculum vitae in English or in Italian or in German.
- b) MA thesis, if already discussed (PDF file).
- c) Research proposal written in English or in Italian or in German, in PDF format: The proposal must not exceed the length of 9,000 characters (including spaces, excluding the bibliography)

Applicants who apply for the scholarships linked to specific research topics or to the IDT established in cooperation with the University of Marburg must express their interest for these scholarships in the research proposal.

Each applicant may submit no more than one research proposal with which they will compete for the scholarships linked to specific research topics, to the IDT in cooperation with the University of Marburg, as well as for scholarships linked to the general topics of the PhD programme.

The proposal should include: name and surname, the title of the research project to be carried out, together with an outline of the project. The outline should include a discussion of the state of the art; aims and objectives of the planned research; a discussion of the research methodology. The research proposal does not necessarily represent the research to be carried during the PhD; in the event of admission, the PhD research project that will be carried out will subsequently be defined and approved by the PhD board of professors, after the start of the PhD activities as provided for in the Unibz Regulation on PhDs.

Art. 4 – SELECTION PROCEDURE

1. The selection procedure consists of three phases:

a) applications will be examined ex officio for completeness and fulfilment of the formal requirements; applicants excluded due to incomplete applications or lack of requirements will be notified on the dedicated unibz web page. The publication will have the nature of a notification to all effects. No individual communications will be made.

b) The selection committee will assess the applications in accordance with Article 5, considering the qualifications and attached documentation referred to in Article 3. Applicants who reach the minimum score referred to in Article 5 will be admitted to the interview. Admission to the interview, as well as the relevant dates and times, will be communicated on the dedicated unibz web page. Individual communications will be sent in due time to the e-mail address indicated in the application form to applicants admitted to the interview.

c) Interviews may be held in person or by videoconference, at the applicant's request to the selection Committee (**email to:** PhD_Education@unibz.it) and will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set out in article 5. Applicants must ensure the use of a webcam to enable them to identify themselves to the selection committee by showing a valid identity document or passport, under penalty of exclusion from the public competition.

2. Absence from the interview, non-connection, unavailability of the applicant on the appointed day and/or time or non-exhibition of a valid identity document or passport are a cause for exclusion from the public competition.

3. If technical problems occur during the interviews by videoconference, if the problem concerns one or more members of the selection committee, the interview is deferred to another date ex

officio; if the problem concerns the applicant, the committee may, subject to the principles of non-discrimination and equal treatment of applicants, postpone the interview to another date for justified reasons.

4. Once the evaluation of the qualifications and the interviews have been completed, the selection committee draws up rankings on the basis of the scores obtained by the applicants.

Art. 5 – EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. The selection committee carries out a comparative assessment of the applicants. For applicants who have expressed a preference for positions linked to specific research topics or to the IDT established with the University of Marburg, the committee also ascertains their suitability for the specific research topic.

2. The following scores will be awarded during the evaluation of the documents submitted with the application under Article 3:

a) Curriculum vitae – up to a maximum of 5 points

b) MA thesis - up to a maximum of 10 points;

c) Research proposal written in English, German or Italian, with a description of the PhD project that the applicant wants to pursue. The proposal must not exceed the length of 9,000 characters (including spaces, excluding the bibliography) - up to a maximum of 25 points;

3. Applicants who reach the threshold of 25/40 points will be admitted to the interview. Admission to the interview and the relevant dates and times will be communicated on the dedicated unibz web page. Individual communications will be sent in due time to the e-mail address indicated in the application form to applicants admitted to the interview.

4. The following elements will be assessed during the interview: the submitted research proposal is discussed and language skills in English and in German or Italian are evaluated; the scientific background of the applicant in relation to the proposed project; the knowledge of the research methods required to carry out the project; the ability to assess the feasibility of the project; clarity of presentation; language proficiency in English and, at the applicant's choice, German or Italian. A maximum of 60 points will be awarded. The interview is considered passed if at least 40/60 points are obtained.

5. The final score is made up of the sum of the scores obtained in the evaluation of the qualifications and the interview. Applicants who have obtained at least 65/100 points will be eligible.

Art. 6 – RANKING

1. Applicants are admitted to the programme in the order of their ranking until the number of positions available is reached. In the event of equal merit, the applicant who is younger in age shall prevail. In the event of successful placement in more than one ranking list, the winner must exercise the option for only one position. Separate rankings will be drawn up for each position linked to specific research topics and to the IDT in cooperation with the University of Marburg.

2. The final rankings will be published on the unibz website on the page dedicated to PhDs. Such publication has the value of an official communication. No individual communications will be made.