

Welcome meeting

Antonio Brogi

Coordinator of the Ph.D. School in Computer Science
at the Universities of Pisa, Florence and Siena

Sala seminari ovest

<https://meet.google.com/nbu-uhmz-gju>



Objective of this meeting:

- Welcome you to our Ph.D. Program
- Provide you with some key information

Our Ph.D. School



Partners

- Department of Computer Science, **University of Pisa**
- Dpt. of Statistics, Computer Science and Applications “G. Parenti”, **University of Florence**
- Department of Information Engineering and Mathematical Science, **University of Siena**

Main supporters

- Institute for Science and Technology of Information “Alessandro Faedo”, **CNR-ISTI** in Pisa
- Institute for Informatics and Telematics, **CNR-IIT** in Pisa

Our School

- Started in 1983 (1st Ph.D. program in Computer Science in Italy)
- Solid expertise
 - 300+ Ph.D.s
 - all occupied (both in academia and in companies)
- Evaluations
 - 100% positive assessment by MUR («yes» in all criteria)
- Strong networking opportunities
 - regional, national and international network

Ph.D. Steering Committee

Members:

- 13 UNIPI
- 1 UNIFI
- 1 UNISI
- 2 CNR-ISTI
- 2 CNR-IIT
- 1 Sant' Anna School
- 3 USA (Stanford, Missouri Univ.)
- 2 France (Ecole Polytechnique Paris)
- 1 Germany (U. Stuttgart)

+ 2 representatives of Ph.D. students (to be elected now)

Advisory Board

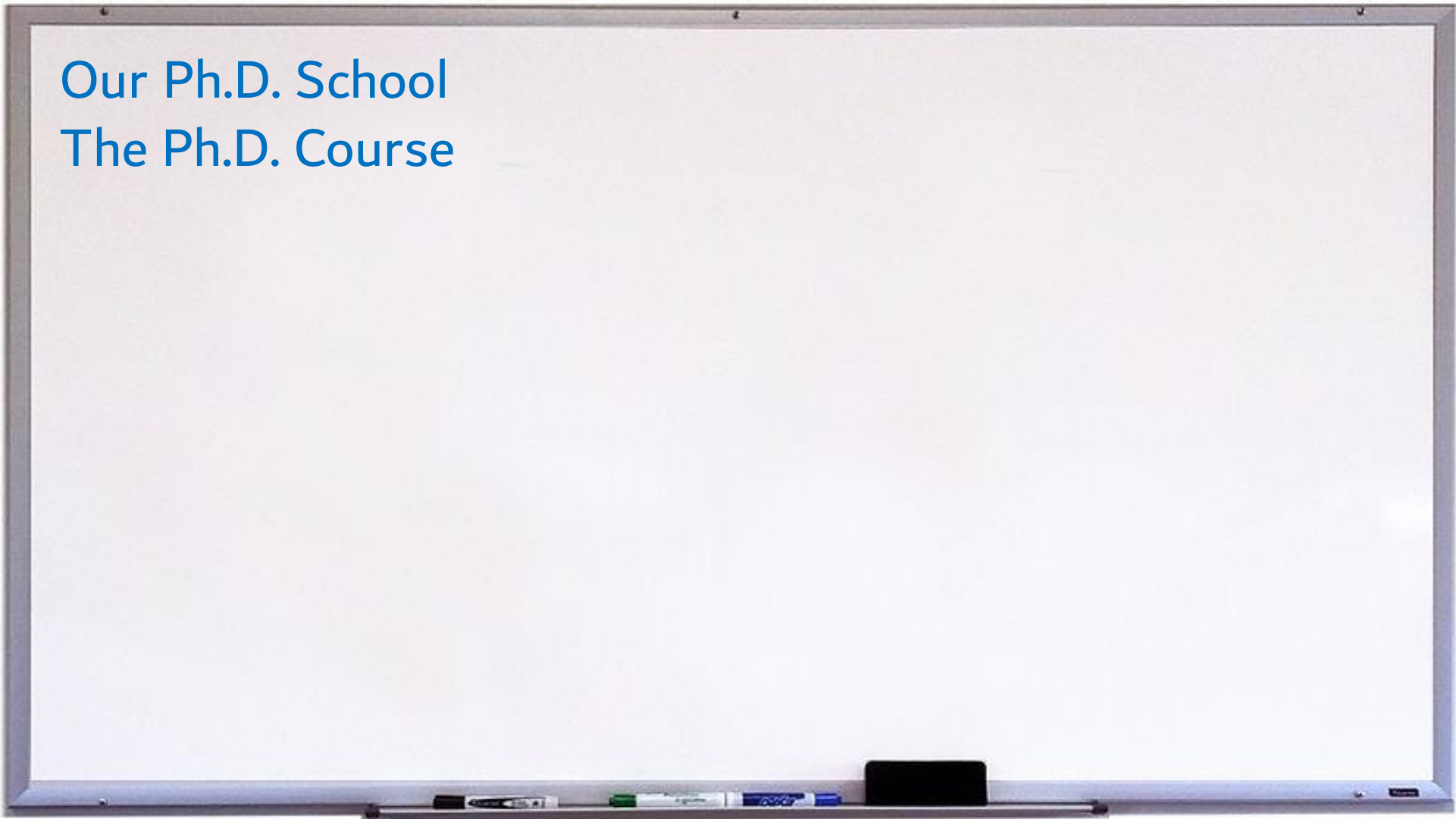


European Commission



Our Ph.D. School

The Ph.D. Course



The Ph.D. Course

- Duration: 3 years
- Your main goal: Learn to do research

Supervisor, co-supervisor, TAB

Each Ph.D. student followed by

- One **supervisor** + one **co-supervisor***
- A **thesis advisory board**
(supervisor + co-supervisor + 2 experts)



* Rules for supervisor and co-supervisor

- At least one must be academic
- At least one must comply with the requirements needed to be part of the Steering Committee

Two co-supervisors may be nominated if needed

Route-to-thesis 1/3

You propose the names of your supervisor and co-supervisor

if you need help, just drop me an email

Your supervisor proposes your Thesis Advisory Board (TAB)

At M12:

You submit your **thesis proposal** and present it to your TAB

~30 page document, 30 min presentation

should identify objectives and explain why they are important and not already covered by the state-of-the-art, draft a workplan for the remaining two years (and mention first results, if any)

Your TAB reports to Ph.D. Steering Committee

Ph.D. Steering Committee admits you to second year



Route-to-thesis 2/3

At M24:

You present your **progress report** to your TAB

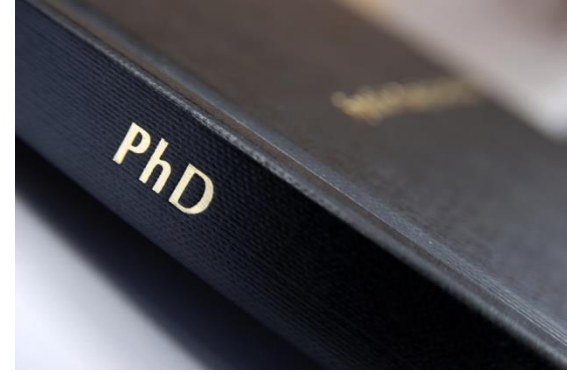
30 min presentation (no document to deliver)

Your TAB reports to Ph.D. Steering Committee

Ph.D. Steering Committee admits you to third year



Route-to-thesis 3/3



Your supervisor proposes 2 possible external evaluators

At M36*:

You submit (first version of) your **Ph.D. thesis**

You present your thesis to your TAB

Your TAB reports to Ph.D. Steering Committee

Ph.D. Steering Committee sends your thesis to the external evaluators



SC may decide to allow you 1-2 more months to complete your thesis

Evaluators return their reports, you submit final version of your thesis



Evaluators may suggest that you need to work 1-6 more months on your thesis

You **defend** your Ph.D. thesis against an external Thesis Examination Committee



* During the third year, students can ask for an extensions (withour scholarship) of at most 12 months.

Study plans

By the end of your 3rd year, you must get the credits of 6 Ph.D. courses and 3 seminar series

You can take

- both internal courses

- and external courses

 - at most three

 - e.g. from other Ph.D. schools (including summer schools) – provided there is a final exam

You must get your **study plan** approved by Ph.D. Steering Committee **BEFORE** attending courses and seminar series

Recall that **study plans must include courses on different subjects**

Deadline to submit your study plan: **November 30th**

Study plans (cont.)

Academic year 2025/2026

Courses organised by our School (“internal” courses)

<https://dottorato.di.unipi.it/ph-d-courses-a-y-2025-2026/>

- A basic and concise introduction to Topological Data Analysis
- Distributed Ledger Technology data: management and analysis
- Pathways to Green ICT
- Programming Tools and Techniques in the Pervasive Parallelism Era
- Responsible AI Engineering
- Specification and analysis of communication protocols

- Bertinoro International Ph.D. School
Co-organised by our Ph.D. Program
In Bertinoro, May 35-29, 2026
(Credits for two courses)

“External” courses

Courses from other Ph.D. Programs

- [AI for society](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- [Physics](#)
- ...

Other summer schools

- Lipari (TBA)
- ...

Seminar series organised by our School

<https://dottorato.di.unipi.it/seminar-series-a-y-2025-2026/>

- Mauriana Pesaresi seminar series (**mandatory**)
- Challenges and Perspectives of Formal Methods for Trustworthy Software

Seminar series organised by UNIFI

- English for Research Publication and Presentation Purposes (**mandatory**)
- Cross-curricular educational activities for Ph.D. students

Opportunities

- Learn to do research
- Interact, cooperate
- Travel to conferences and summer schools
- Spend periods abroad (50% increase of grant)
- Do some teaching



«10 %» funds assigned
to each of you

Duties

All the administrative actions required at <https://dottorato.unipi.it/en/>

All the activities required by our School

«Being a Ph.D. student requires an exclusive and full-time commitment»

→ You **need** an explicit approval from the Ph.D. Steering Committee:

- To do any remunerated activity
- To do teaching activities
- To go abroad (both for business travels and for research stays)
- To do a stay in a company or research institution
- To modify your study plan



seriously

Contacts

Enrollment, tuition fees, administrative duties	→	http://sportellovirtuale.unipi.it/ https://dottorato.unipi.it/en/
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Dr. Simone Farinella

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050 221 2726

Our Ph.D. School
The Ph.D. Course
Cycle 41

Please briefly introduce yourself

Our Ph.D. School

The Ph.D. Course

Cycle 40

Organizers of the Mauriana Pesaresi seminar series

Call for organizers

The **Mauriana Pesaresi seminar series** is the seminar series organised and attended by our Ph.D. students. It consists of a series of meetings where one Ph.D. student presents an open research problem and all participants contribute to discussing it. The presenter spends at most half an hour introducing the problem to have at least half an hour for the discussion. To get the credits for this seminar series, each student must attend 80% of the seminars and be the presenter of one of them.

Task of organizers

- Fix the schedule of the meetings (including presenters)
- Distribute announcements
- Contribute to animate discussion
- Count presence

Della Bartola
Stoppani



P.S.

Enjoy your Ph.D. years!





P.S.

A yellow rectangular sticky note is pinned to a white background with a green pushpin at the top center. The text "P.S." is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font in the center of the note.

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“Ph.D. discussion” meetings



Message from our Ph.D. students to you

we exchange ideas about research as well as about scholarships, exams, seminars, our thoughts and feelings, how to improve the department, etc.

(more info will follow via email)

Next meeting ...

Questions?

