

PHD DEGREE IN TOURISM

Registered in DGES (Portugal) with the number: R/B-Cr 204/2007
Coordinator: Professor Dr. João Albino Silva, < jsilva@ualg.pt >

The PhD Programme in Tourism is a three-year degree with 180 ECTS. The curriculum includes an organized set of curricular units corresponding to 90 ECTS plus a doctoral thesis corresponding to 90 ECTS.

Objectives

The main goal of this doctoral programme is to provide PhD students with scientific and professional skills that enable them to contribute to the development of the tourism industry. The broader objectives of this PhD Program in Tourism are as follows:

- a) To conceptualize, implement and manage scientific research;
- b) To interact with interdisciplinary research teams to identify and formulate relevant scientific problems;
- c) To reflect on current best practices in the areas of management and tourism development;
- d) To stimulate innovation and development of new tourism products;
- e) To integrate into a rigorous and demanding study degree, research findings and community service, providing tourism-related businesses and organizations the necessary understanding for internationalization and the building of new business communities;
- f) To widen training in advance methods and techniques of analysis and applied research to tourism;

In addition to the natural integration of the future doctors in the international scientific community, it is expected the hold by future doctors of top positions in the Tourism Sector.

Organization

1st Year - The first year of the program is structured into four trimesters.

The **first trimester** comprehends five compulsory course units: one on *Advanced Topics in Research Methodologies I* (Quantitative Methods) and four course units, each designated as a thematic seminar. Three seminars, common to all students, will cover the scientific area of tourism. A fourth seminar will cover two optional areas: Economics or Management. Students will have three optional areas available to them: Tourism, Economics or Management. Opting for any of these areas presupposes the choice of the fourth seminar in one of the other two areas. These doctoral seminars are offered by distinguished professors from networking universities.

In the **second trimester** two compulsory course units will be given. The first is compulsory, *Advanced Data Analysis I* (Quantitative Methods) and the second will be chosen among the three optional areas available: *Travelling, Spaces and Cultures* (Tourism); *Economics of Leisure and Tourism* (Economics); *Hospitality Management* (Management).

During the **third trimester** one compulsory course unit (*Advanced Data Analysis II*) and four thematic seminars will be lectured. The seminars will cover the three option areas available - tourism, economics or management – choosed during the first trimester by the students.

The **fourth trimester** will comprehend two compulsory course units: *Advanced Topics in Research Methodologies II* (Qualitative Methods) and the Thesis Project.

2nd and 3rd year - The second and third years are assigned to the PhD thesis development

(course unit which runs between the fifth and the twelfth trimester). During this period, there will be three more course units related to developing PhD work: at the end of the sixth, eighth and tenth trimesters, PhD students will need to present the following seminars: Seminar 1 (*Work in Progress*); Seminar 2 (*Consolidated Work and Methodology*); Seminar 3 (*Presentation of Results*).

Methodologically, teaching will rely on the exposure of students to case studies, thereby familiarising them with the research experience of the lecturers. Case studies will be used in financial, environmental, energy, technological and tourism related disciplines. Such practical experience will help students to choose a topic for their dissertation.

Plan of studies

<i>First year</i>	Trimester	ECTS	field
Advanced Topics in Research Methodologies I *	1	7	QM
3 Seminars (Tourism	1	6	T
1 Seminar (optional)	1	2	M / E
Advanced Data Analysis I	2	7	QM
Travelling, Spaces and Cultures or Economics of Leisure and Tourism or Hospitality Management (optional)			
Advanced Data Analysis II	2	8	
4 Seminars (optional)	3	7	QM
Advanced Topics in Research Methodologies II *	3	8	M / E / T
Research Proposal	4	7	QM
Optional	4	8	Eco
Sub-total ECTS		60	
<i>Second year</i>	Semester	ECTS	field
PhD Thesis	1 e 2	45	T
Seminar on Working on Progress	1	5	T
Seminar on Consolidating Methodological Work	2	8	T
Written of Scientific Papers	2	2	T
Sub-total ECTS		60	
<i>Third year</i>	Semester	ECTS	field
PhD Thesis	1 e 2	47	T
Seminar on Presentation of Results	2	13	T
Sub-total ECTS		60	
Total, ECTS credits		180	

QM – Quantitative Methods; M –Management; T- Tourism; E-Economics

* These curricular units will help students to work on their PhD Thesis.

Career Opportunities

The PhD Programme draws the foundations of the degree-level study in Tourism. It approaches theoretical and methodological issues on tourism system, at the regional, national and transnational level. Under an interdisciplinary viewpoint, it accomplishes the study and analysis of essential and complex economic relations in contexts of growing integration and global competitiveness. Besides, it emphasizes the importance of innovative approaches to the improvement of management efficiency of tourist sector, at both, companies and government organizations level:

- Consultant in public and private tourist organizations;
- Consultant in entrepreneurial organizations;
- Consultant in Local Development Associations.
- Higher institutions lecturers;

- Research Centres' Fellows;
- Research projects managers;
- Planning field expert;
- Market research expert;

Access conditions

Applicants to the PhD Programme in Tourism must fulfill the following conditions:

- a) To hold a master degree, or legal equivalent, from a recognized higher education institution;
- b) To hold a bachelor degree in an appropriate subject - from a recognized higher education institution - with an academic or scientific relevant curriculum, able to assure a further satisfactory progression in the PhD programme.
- c) Detain an academic, scientific or professional curriculum, able to assure a further satisfactory progression in the PhD programme.

Note: The three conditions mentioned above must be recognized as such by the Faculty's Scientific Committee. This recognition is valid only for PhD admission. It does not confer to its owner any right of equivalence to a graduation or master degrees, or to other legal effects of diplomas' recognition. *Obs: The master degree's recognition is not applicable to Portuguese higher education institution diplomas.*

Additional Information

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