Coursework Requirements

The following requirements are valid for Ph.D. Students starting in November 2024 (40° cycle). In summary, Students shall **take courses for a minimum of 16 credits** (usually corresponding to 80 hours of lectures) and shall **attend the seminars proposed by the Ph.D. Program**, following the rules detailed below.

Definitions

A **course** is a series of lectures given by an instructor (professor or university researcher), possibly accompanied by laboratory sessions, that includes an assessment of the student knowledge (final exam, graded homeworks or project, etc.). Among courses, some are organized as a Seminar Series, constituted by several lectures on a specific topic. **A course gives credits**.

A **seminar**, in the context of the Ph.D. Program, is typically a talk, or a series of talks, given by an academic researcher or an eminent professional, that does not include an assessment. **A seminar does not give credits**.

Course requirements

- Take Ph.D. courses for **a minimum of 16 credits** by the end of the second year.

Specific constraints to earn the minimum of 16 credits of courses:

C.1 **Transversal Skills Area (TSK)**: at least 4 credits should come from courses belonging to the Transversal Skills area (labeled **TSK** in the course Summary) and to the Mathematical and Statistical Methods area (labeled **IE_MSM**).

C.2 **Information Engineering Area (IE_*)**: students shall earn at least 8 credits by taking courses belonging to the Information Engineering Area (labeled **IE_*** in the course Summary, with * being **MSM**, **BIO**, **ELE**, **TLC**, **AUT**, **CSC**, **OPT**); some Seminar Series, listed on the PhD webpage (phd.dei.unipd.it), can be taken as courses in this area.

C.3 **External Courses**: up to a maximum of 4 credits may be earned by taking external courses (i.e. courses not included in this catalogue) falling in the following categories:

- Courses appearing in the list of external courses approved by the Executive Board. The list of credited external courses is available on the Ph.D. Program main website.
- Additional external courses might be included into the list after submission of a written request signed by the Student and his/her Supervisor. **Only courses including an exam with grading/evaluation are considered.**
- Courses from other Ph.D. School catalogues (provided they include a final exam with grading).
- In order to get credit recognition for external courses, students shall obtain a certificate stating that the student attended the course and successfully passed the exam. Alternatively, the student may fill a Certification of Attendance with the course data and have it signed by the course instructor.

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Seminar requirements

- Attend the **seminars** promoted by the Ph.D. Program and advertised on the website during the three-year Ph.D. course. Students are expected to **attend a minimum of three seminars during their three-year Ph.D. course**, although it is strongly recommended that they attend more than the minimum number required.
- Attend all the lectures of the **Distinguished Lecturer Series** program offered by the Department during the three-year Ph.D. course.
- Attend at least two seminars of the **PhD Training Week during their three-year Ph.D. course**. The PhD Training Week is organized by the University of Padova and is typically offered every year. It consists of a series of seminars on transversal topics.

Note: due to some unforeseen circumstance (e.g., occupancy restrictions on other activities), it may happen that a student may not be able to satisfy all requirements, in particular on seminars. In such exceptional cases, it is possible to complete the Ph.D. program without satisfying all constraints, after obtaining the approval of the Coordinator of the Ph.D. Program.

Study plan

Each first-year student **enrolled in the Ph.D. Program in Information Engineering** must fill a tentative study and research plan form and upload it using the following link:

https://phd.dei.unipd.it/study-and-research-plan

within December 3rd *(NOTE: PhD Students starting their program later than November 1st shall submit their program of study form within 30 days from their start date)*. The study plan may be subsequently modified by submitting a new form no later than six months before the end of the third year. Seminars, Distinguished Lectures and PhD Training Week modules should not be included in the program of study. Please, use the Seminar Certificate of Attendance to collect the signature of the speaker or of a member of the Executive Board attending the event.

Temporal scheduling of PhD activities

The table in the following page gives a potential allocation, in the 3 years of the Ph.D. Program, of the credits for the various activities, including courses, in terms of minimum and maximum number of credits. We remark that such an allocation is only a suggestion, and each student has the flexibility to allocate the various activities in the order that best fits him/her.

	Courses at UniPD (credits min)	Courses at UniPD (credits max)	Other activities (credits min)	Other activities (credits max)	Research (credits)
Year 1	4	16	1	6	38-55
Year 2	0	16	1	6	38-59
Year 3	0	0	0	6	54-60

	Courses at UniPD (credits min)	Courses at UniPD (credits max)	Other activities (credits min)	Other activities (credits max)	Research (credits)
Year 1					
Year 2					