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Only the Italian version approved shall prevail and be binding

Seasonal School for PhD Students

“Motives and Methods: Comparative Approaches and Ethics in Scientific Progress”

A.A. 2025/2026

Art.1

The Seasonal School

Within the framework of the MERITA project, whose objectives include ‘the development of innovative and interdisciplinary doctoral training [...] at one of the network's centers, in line with MERITA's research themes and characterized by strong integration and synergies for transversal competences’, **the Collegio Superiore of the Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna** is organizing a seasonal school for PhD Students called **‘Motives and Methods: Comparative Approaches and Ethics in Scientific Progress’**.

The school will be held in presence from 17 to 19 November 2025 in Bologna, for a total of 18 hours.

The official language of the school is English.

The Seasonal School envisages participation of a maximum number of 40 students.

Art.2

Educational objectives

The main educational objectives of the Seasonal School are to address topics that cut across the research and experiences of PhD students, with particular focus on methodology, especially comparative—and ethical issues. The goals also include reinforcing comparative and global approaches, promoting critical thinking about the ethical dimensions of science, encouraging responsible research and publishing practices, and exploring interdisciplinary approaches to fairness and depolarization in Artificial Intelligence.

Art. 3

Target group and admission requirements

The recipients of the seasonal school are PhD students in the natural, social, and human sciences from Italian universities who meet the following requirements:

- To be enrolled in a PhD program (certificate or self-certificate).

- Have a (self-certified) knowledge of English at least at level B2.

It is necessary to be in possession of the above requirements on the date of application.

Applications from candidates who meet the admission criteria will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

If the number of applications exceeds the number of available places, a waiting list will be created and used in the event of withdrawals.

Art. 4

Course Organization

The program includes two six-hour days and one eight-hour day, with a two-hour lunch break.

The training course combines lectures, thematic workshops, and collective discussion sessions.

Details of the lessons and timetables are available on the school's webpage (here the [link](#)).

Art. 5

Application for participating

Those wishing to apply for participating in the seasonal school must submit the application exclusively in online mode **no later than November 2, 2025**, by filling out the form at this [link](#).

The following documents must be attached to the application, under penalty of ineligibility for the course:

- Valid identity document.
- Self-certification of enrolment PhD program (see article 3).
- Self-certification of knowledge of English language at least at B2 level.

PhD students are also required to provide a brief statement explaining their interest in and availability to participate in the research presentation session (**Project Pitches integrated with Comparative Methods, Ethics and Fair AI, session on November 19**; see the program available on the [dedicated page](#) on the Collegio Superiore website). Further information will be communicated to participants in due course.

Applications received late or in a manner different from those indicated in this article, for whatever reason, will not be taken into consideration. Forgeries in deeds and mendacious declarations are punishable under the Penal Code and the special laws on the subject, Articles 75 and 76 of Presidential Decree 445/2000. The Collegio Superiore may at any time during the proceedings, even after the start of the Course, carry out checks on the truthfulness of the declarations made and of the documents produced, and request the production of the original

documents. In the event of false declarations, the Collegio Superiore may, by decree of the Director, order the exclusion of candidates, without prejudice to the resulting criminal liability.

Art. 6

Coverage of registration fees

Registration fees for participating in the Seasonal School are covered by the Collegio Superiore.

Art. 7

Title awarded

At the end of the school, to those who have attended at least 80% of the lectures, the Collegio Superiore will issue a certificate of attendance with value within the limits allowed by law, indicating the actual hours completed will be issued for possible recognition by the respective Universities and PhD Programs.

Art. 8

Person in charge of the competition procedure and processing of personal data

The information notice on the processing of personal data, pursuant to Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 - General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), is available on the University Portal at <http://www.unibo.it/PrivacyBandiCds>.

The person responsible for the administrative procedure is the Administrative Manager of the Collegio Superiore, Dr. Michela Dalla Vite (michela.dallavite@unibo.it).