

## **Educational and Scientific Regulations of the PhD Program in Design, Manufacturing and Operations Engineering**

These Regulations govern the organizational, educational, and scientific aspects of the PhD Program in Engineering for Industrial Design and Production (IPRI).

For all matters not explicitly addressed in these Regulations, reference is made to the current "Regulations for PhD Programs" of the University of Rome Tor Vergata.

### **Educational Activities**

The PhD program in Design, Manufacturing and Operations Engineering requires each student to attend, over the three-year period, at least 90 hours of structured courses included in the PhD Program's academic plan. Approximately thirty-five structured courses are available, comprising more than 110 hours, covering multidisciplinary topics specifically related to the PhD program. Every December, a survey is conducted with the student representative regarding the performance of the courses during the first two years.

It is the responsibility of the supervisor to verify and certify the actual participation in the educational and training activities.

Participation in schools, training courses, workshops, and conferences related to the PhD student's educational path is also foreseen, subject to prior agreement with the supervisor.

To be admitted to the final examination, the student must have completed at least 90 official hours of structured courses provided by the PhD Program. However, participation in workshops or thematic schools for PhD students, previously approved by the supervisor, may contribute to fulfilling this requirement, up to a maximum of 15 hours. In such cases, the number of recognised hours will be determined by the Program Coordinator during the annual evaluation, and only within the first two years of the PhD program.

### **Scientific Output**

In agreement with their supervisor, it is the PhD student's responsibility to disseminate the research results conducted during the PhD. This is done through publications in national and international scientific journals, as well as presentations at conferences and seminars, both nationally and internationally. The following are the minimum requirements:

- To be admitted to the final examination: at least one article published or accepted in a journal indexed in Scopus and/or WoS, on topics related to the thesis work;
- To be eligible for the "excellent" grade: three articles published or accepted in journals indexed in Scopus and/or WoS, by the thesis defense date, on topics related to the thesis work;

- To be eligible for honors (cum laude): three articles published or accepted in journals indexed in Scopus and/or WoS, by the thesis defense date, on topics related to the thesis work, with at least one article published in a journal ranked in Q1.

### **Monitoring PhD Student Activities**

Each PhD student is assigned a supervisor chosen from among the members of the Academic Board and one or more co-supervisors appointed either by the Academic Board or selected from external institutions.

In cases where the PhD student carries out their activities primarily at institutions outside the University of Tor Vergata, an additional supervisor or co-supervisor affiliated with that institution may be appointed.

It is the responsibility of the supervisor to define the educational and research program with the student and to monitor both their academic and research activities continuously.

Each year, in the month of October, all information regarding the scientific and educational activities carried out by the PhD students is collected through the completion of a summary activity report, for which a template is available on the PhD Program website. This report must be signed by the supervisor, who certifies its contents.

At the end of each academic year, between October and November, PhD students must undergo a hearing before the Advisory Committee, appointed by the Coordinator. Based on the activity report and the outcome of the hearing, the Committee issues an evaluation and recommends to the Academic Board whether or not the student should be admitted to the following year.

A mid-year assessment is also scheduled for all PhD students, consisting of a hearing, the format of which (including the possibility of a poster session) is determined each year by the Coordinator.

For third-year students, the Committee will evaluate the entire body of work completed during the PhD and will propose to the Academic Board whether the student should be admitted to the final examination (with an indication of potential eligibility for the "excellent" grade or honors) or not.

### **Final PhD Examination**

The final version of the PhD thesis must be submitted to the Coordinator by December 31 following the conclusion of the third year of the program, unless the Coordinator grants extensions or suspensions are decided by the Academic Board.

The Coordinator will submit the thesis for evaluation by at least two reviewers, proposed by the supervisor, who are external to the Academic Board and the University of Tor Vergata and possess a high level of qualification, of whom at least one must be a university professor.

The criteria for obtaining the European Ph.D. Label (a designation of "European Doctorate," developed by the Confederation of European University Rectors' Conferences and appearing on the PhD diploma) are outlined in the "Regulations for PhD Programs" of the University of Rome Tor Vergata.

These regulations enter into force starting with the 40th cycle of the PhD Program.