

Programme of the 2025-2026 edition International Economic Policy, Business and Governance

Courses with exams will take place at Urbino University during the first year. They will be structured into teaching modules organised over two-month periods: six weeks of teaching and studying, one week fully devoted to studying, one week of exams (written tests and/or papers).

An additional session of exams will be offered in September 2026. Admission to the second year will depend on the achievement of a satisfactory score at final exams in each teaching module.

Data Labs will provide opportunities for hands-on work on databases leading to the preparation of social science and econometric data analyses.

Seminars (with no exams) will address specific topics in Economics, Business, Political Science, Sociology and Law. They will cover highly debated and cutting edge themes – such as: Social and economic consequences of disruptive events (financial crises, Covid-19, military and trade conflicts), Inequality, digital transformation of firms and public institutions, Born global SMEs, global value chains, international finance, green transition of economy and society, Fiscal and monetary policy, Geography of innovation, socio-economic and legal challenges of artificial intelligence, Welfare and social policies, International diplomacy. Attention will also be given to advanced research methods and research funding strategies.

Introductory and background courses

will be held online in September–October 2025, in order to fill gaps in students' competences in Economics, Business, Political Science, Law, and Quantitative Methods.

The **Director** of the Ph.D. Programme is **Prof. Antonello Zanfei**. Information on the Ph.D. Programme and Faculty is available at the website: www.uniurb.it/global-studies. Contact: phd-global-studies@uniurb.it

First year

First semester

- Introductory and background courses (Math&Statistics; Economics, Business, Politics)
- First Module: Math for Socio-Economic Research, Qualitative Analysis, Economics, Politics and Global Governance, Language Lab
- Second Module: Data Analysis, Applied Statistics, History of Economic Thought, History of Globalisation, International Business, International Trade and Economic Policy
- Weekly Seminars

Second semester

- Third Module: Applied Econometrics, International Production; a choice of topics on the Economics and Management of Globalisation (International corporate governance, Global financial system) or on Socio-politics of globalisation (The changing role of nation states, Democracy and globalisation)
- Fourth Module: A choice of topics on the Economics and management of globalisation (Economics of innovation, Environmental change, Global Value Chains, Digital Economy and Society) or on Socio-politics of globalisation (Territorial policies, Welfare policies, Global demography, Geo-Politics)
- Weekly Seminars

Second year

- Visits and internships at other international academic and research institutions cooperating with the University of Urbino Ph.D. Programme.
- Participation in selected Doctoral courses, Summer and Winter Schools
- Thesis development and presentation of the advancement of PhD students' research
- While in Urbino, attendance of the Weekly Seminars and of one course chosen among the ones offered for the 2026-2027 Edition of the Programme, focused on "Global Society, Cross-border Mobility and Law". Courses offered will include inter alia: International Labour Relations, Comparative Migration Policy, International Trade Law, Legal Techniques and European Integration. Alternatively, other learning activities of equivalent duration can be agreed upon

Third year

- Thesis development and completion
- Participation in advanced courses, summer/winter schools and research visits to international academic institutions
- Presentation of the advancement of PhD students' research
- Attendance of the weekly Seminars while in Urbino
- Presentation of papers at International Workshops and writing of journal articles



1506
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Ph.D. PROGRAMME IN

GLOBAL STUDIES

2025-2026 EDITION:

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY, BUSINESS AND GOVERNANCE

The University of Urbino is launching the ninth Edition of its Ph.D. Programme in Global Studies, at the crossroads of Economics, Business, Sociology, Political Science and Law. The Programme has a high quality faculty, including outstanding guest lecturers from major international universities. The 2025/2026 edition will focus on economic and political aspects of globalization.



The University of Urbino – a 500 years old institution scoring high in Social Sciences and located in a beautiful Renaissance city, part of UNESCO World Heritage – is launching the ninth edition of its **Ph.D. Programme in Global Studies**, at the crossroads of Economics, Business, Sociology, Political Science and Law.

Two thematic areas are addressed in alternate years:

- in the edition starting in 2025-2026: **International Economic Policy, Business and Governance**.

- in the edition starting in 2026-2027: **Global Society,**

Cross-border Mobility and Law

The Ph.D. Programme is developed over three years:

- a first year of face-to-face courses and exams in Urbino;
- a second year of international research and training, mainly spent in international academic institutions associated to the Programme;
- a third year of research activity at Urbino and at other international institutions for completing the Ph.D. thesis.

English will be the working language of the Ph.D. Programme.

Ten positions are offered in the 2025-2026 Ph.D. Programme, including **nine positions with scholarships** covering fees and an annual tax-free stipend at standard Italian rates (EUR 16,243 per year subject to National Social Insurance in compliance with current regulations; the amount is increased by 50% for training periods outside Italy).

The Faculty of the Ph.D. Programme draws from the staff of the University of Urbino and from a number of outstanding international institutions. A partial list of external scholars involved in 2025-26 includes: J. Cantwell (Rutgers University), D. Castellani (University of Reading), J. Doh (Villanova University), R. Strange (Sussex University), G. Dosi (Sant'Anna, Pisa), Y.A.K. Kazepov (Wien University), J. Dumay, (Macquarie University, Sydney), M. Landesmann (WIIW Vienna), M. Lazar (Sciences Po, Paris), R. Narula (University of Reading) E. Zankina (Temple University).

See the PhD website for details:

www.uniurb.it/global-studies

Themes. The Urbino Ph.D. Programme offers an opportunity to carry out in-depth studies on the economic, political, social and institutional factors underlying globalisation and de-globalisation processes.

The thematic area launched in the 2025-26 edition,

International Economic Policy, Business and Governance,

focuses on economic, political and social aspects of globalization. A specific attention will be given to:

- economic growth and recovery in times of major crises, financial, political and trade instabilities, technological change, artificial intelligence, and environmental challenges;
- the strategies of multinational companies and SMEs in a context of international fragmentation of production and of growing economic, financial and political instability;
- political processes and policies carried out by European and international institutions, countries and regions for the governance of globalisation.

The other thematic area, Global Society, Cross-border Mobility and Law, focusing on transnational movements of capital, knowledge, labour and people, mainly from institutional, legal and sociological perspectives, will be launched again in 2026-2027. A specific attention will be given to:

- Rights, institutions, public administrations, and the evolution of national and supra-national legal systems;
- Migrations, welfare and labour policies;
- Challenges and perspectives in public administration in a global context.



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Entry requirements and selection of candidates.

The Selection Committee will evaluate applicants to the **2025-2026 edition** of this Ph.D. Programme on the basis of their previous academic performance, on their knowledge of English, and on the preliminary research project they will present. Candidates will have to certify a university degree of at least 4 years, preferably in Economics, Business and Political Science, that has to be obtained by end of October 2025. A 1500 abstract of the Master thesis is required. Knowledge of English at least at the B2 level is required. A preliminary research project of up to 2500 words, written in English, will have to be presented, illustrating the research interests and aims, how the topic relates to the thematic areas covered in the 2025/26 edition of the Ph.D Programme, and how the study could be carried out.

Applications will have to be submitted online, following the instructions provided in the Ph.D. Programme website www.uniurb.it/global-studies. The deadline for submitting applications is **June 10th 2025 at 1 pm CEST**. Candidates admitted to the selection process will be invited for an online interview to be held **on July 1st 2025**.

Services. Accommodation opportunities are available in the city center and surroundings. University facilities for students include meal services, computer services, libraries, city-wide wifi connection, cultural opportunities, events for exploring the rich heritage of this beautiful Renaissance city. Non Italian students will be encouraged to learn the Italian language using the Language Center available at the University of Urbino. A fully equipped open space office is available to our PhD students during their presence at the Urbino premises.