

The training programme based on advanced academic

At the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School, the subjects in the programme based on advanced academic studies related to the PHILOLOGY field are delivered by teachers who are qualified doctoral supervisors/habilitated, professors or associate professors, with proven expertise in the taught subjects.

The doctoral programmes within the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School include a training programme based on advanced university studies and an individual scientific research programme.

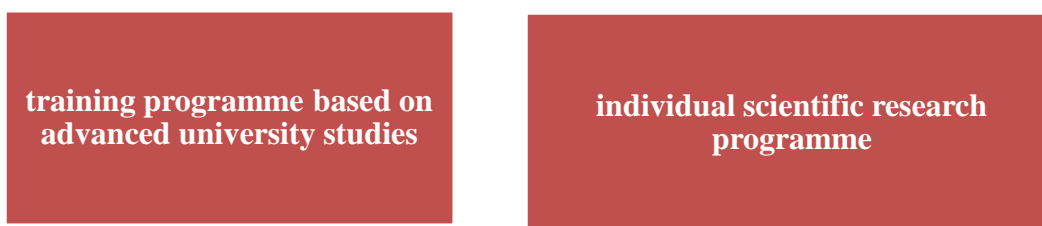


Figure 1 Axes of the doctoral training programme

The “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School provides doctoral students with a programme based on advanced university studies and including activities carried out in institutionalized study groups through courses and seminars.

The advanced training programme is organized in accordance with the legislation in force, and its structure and content are at the discretion of the doctoral school, according to the doctoral school's regulations. The advanced training programme of the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School – or a similar study programme completed through recognition – totals 30 ECTS credit points. The total duration of the advanced university training programme within the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School does not exceed 14 weeks. The evaluation of the activity is quantified by grading and granting ECTS credit points.

During the COVID pandemic, all teaching and advisory activities were carried out *online* (Google Meet, Google Classroom, Zoom).

The advanced training programme consists of activities carried out in institutionalized study groups, which ensure the preparation of the doctoral student through

teaching-research activities (courses, seminars) distributed over 14 weeks and which is implemented in the first year of the doctoral programme.

At the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School, the advanced training programme includes *two compulsory subjects*:

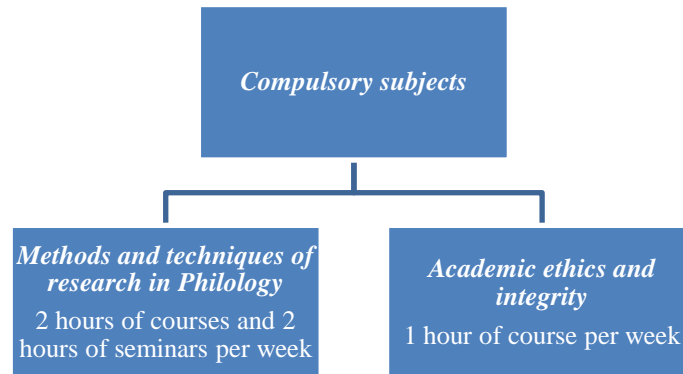


Figure 2 Compulsory subjects

The advanced training programme includes the core course of *Methods and techniques of scientific research in Philology*. This makes students familiar with research methods specific to the field, the rigour of the research, and all the characteristic elements of the research process, followed by the writing of scientific papers, thus, promoting a culture of scientific research.

Methodological rigour is one of the keywords of the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School, which considers the link between research quality and the mastery of research methodology to be indestructible because, as Mathieu Guidère pointed out, “methodology courses should guarantee and then control the quality of the students' research”¹. The *Ethics and Academic Integrity* course is taught in an one-hour course per week.

The advanced training programme also includes three *optional courses*, the student being able to choose one of the three proposed courses, according to the specificity of his/her doctoral topic:

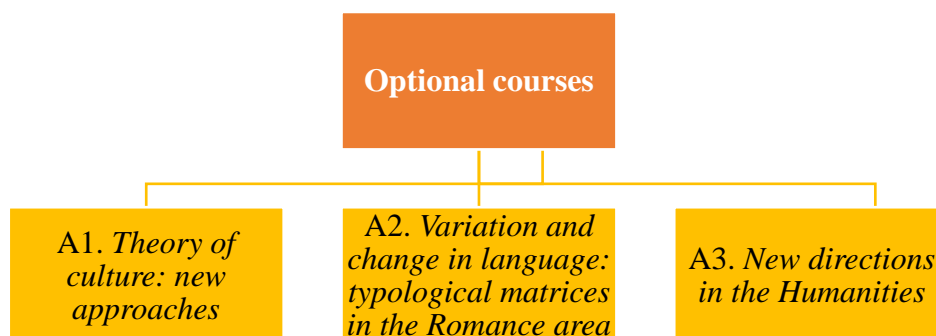


Figure 3 Optional courses

¹Mathieu Guidère, 2010, « Epistémologie de la recherche : méditations méthodologiques », in Mihaela St. Radulescu, Bernard Darbord, Angela Solcan (coord.), 2010, *La méthodologie de la recherche scientifique – composante essentielle de la formation universitaire*, București, Ars Docendi, p. 30 (our translation).

Each of the three subjects is provided with 2-hour courses and 2-hour seminar per week.

The topics of the courses proposed for the advanced training programme are discussed and approved in the meeting of the Doctoral School Council, taking into account:

- the need to train and inform doctoral students,
- the research area (linguistics, literature, anthropology and cultural studies) chosen for the doctoral course;
- the urgent need to clarify scientific research methodology and all issues related to ethics and academic integrity.

As mentioned in the course descriptions, learning is student-centered, and the student becomes the active partner of the teacher, by

- active participation in courses and seminars;
- individual study;
- pursuit of other lifelong courses;
- participation in scientific events.

The pedagogical objective of this first period of training is focused on the quality of learning outcomes by acquiring fundamental knowledge in the field of study, to support doctoral students in their subsequent research approach.

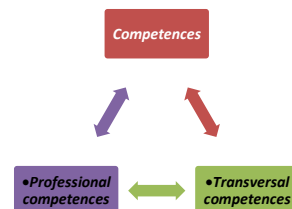
Competences developed through the doctoral study programme

The doctoral study programme ensures the development of *professional competences* (content, cognitive and research) in the *specialized field of PHILOLOGY*, as well as transversal competences, as it results from the course descriptions.

The entire advanced training programme aims to develop:

✓ ***Professional competences:***

- advanced knowledge in the field of Philology;
- the ability to identify, formulate and solve research problems;
- mastery of advanced research methods and techniques;
- knowledge of research project management;
- mastery of new procedures and solutions in research;
- information mining skills, academic writing skills and capitalisation of scientific knowledge;
- foreign language skills at advanced level in languages of international circulation necessary for the documentation and writing of scientific papers;
- understanding, assimilation and use of the principles and values of scientific research ethics and academic integrity in Philology.



✓ ***Transversal competences:***

- written and oral communication skills in the academic environment;
- intercultural communication skills;
- use of information and communication technology;
- interpersonal skills and teamwork skills;
- knowledge and use of intellectual property rights.

The 2018-2019 curriculum includes the subject *Ethics and Academic Integrity*, according to the MEN Order 3131 / 30.01.2018.

We consider this subject as beneficial for the intellectual development of young doctoral students, as the ethics of scientific research and academic integrity are the pillars on which a solid and coherent academic path can be built. The role of *Ethics and Academic Integrity* in the training of doctoral students is to provide them with information on the laws, methodologies and regulations that apply to this level of academic training, and with concrete examples that illustrate the consequences of violating the rules of ethics.

The support, counselling and guidance of doctoral students by the supervisor and by the members of the advisory committee are a constant of the academic behaviour at the “Alexandru Piru” Doctoral School.

The support, counselling and guidance of students is done by:

- weekly meetings with the doctoral supervisor, according to the timetable (1st year, 1st semester) and the semester calendars for the 2nd and 3rd years;
- monthly meetings with the members of the advisory committee, according to the timetable;
- permanent contact via telephone;
- permanent e-mail exchange;
- Skype discussions when the student does not live in Craiova, is away on an ERASMUS+ mobility or is a foreign student;
- for students enrolled to joint programmes, three-party online discussions (the two doctoral supervisors and the student, on WhatsApp, Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, etc.).

The regular counselling and constant support provided for students are directly reflected in their performance (compliance with the individual training programme requirements, participation in scientific events, publications).