



**PHD COURSES SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR STUDENTS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
SCHOLARSHIP FINANCED BY THE CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL
32th CYCLE
DEADLINE: 15 January 2016**

Art. 1 - PURPOSE

The University of Padova, given the agreement with the China Scholarship Council (CSC), announces a Selection for Admission to the PhD Courses for the academic year 2016/17. The selection for Admission is based on academic positions reserved solely for citizens of the People's Republic of China.

The list of PhD courses for which applications are open is available at <http://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students>

The duration of the course is 3 years, starting no earlier than October 1, 2016.

The candidates selected by the University of Padova will receive a letter of acceptance. In order to obtain the scholarship, such candidates must submit an application to the China Scholarship Council, in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the CSC itself. Only candidates who have obtained the scholarship by the CSC will be allowed to enrol at the University of Padova through this call.

The University of Padova exempts candidates from the payment of tuition fees, while the amounts due for stamp duty, insurance and regional contribution to the right to education must be paid.

Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants with the qualifications hereunder, can apply:

- Citizenship of the P. R. C.;
- Master level degree (the Master degree must be awarded no later than 30th September 2016);
- Excellent knowledge of English verified by the Selection Committee through a Skype interview (see art. 4).

All applicants are admitted to the procedure with reserve.

The University of Padova may exclude applicants at any time on the grounds of non-eligibility by reasoned order. Applicants will be informed of their exclusion via email.

Art. 3 - APPLICATION

Each applicant may apply to one single doctoral course only. In case of PhD courses articulated in more curricula, the candidate must choose one curriculum.

We inform applicants that for the academic year 2016/2017, the list of the Doctoral Courses is provisional and that their activation depends on the conclusion of the Ministry examination process on their requisites (DM 45/2013). Application forms will be selected only for those Doctoral Courses that will be confirmed by the Ministry.

Applications for the competition will be available **from 30th November 2015**. **Applications must be exclusively completed and submitted online** at the web address: <http://unipd.cineca.it/chinaphd/> by 1.00 p.m. (Italian local time) of the deadline date (**15th January 2016**).

Only submitted applications will be taken into consideration.

An Identity Document must be attached to the application form.

The University of Padova cannot be held responsible for any telematic errors not caused by the Administration itself.

In order to fill in the online form, applicants must first obtain a username and a password. They will then be able to proceed with the application form by clicking on 'Enter' (see the guidelines for the completion of the application form).

Candidates **must** state the following information and any other relevant information on the application form and do so under their own liability:

- personal data, date and place of birth, place of residence;
- citizenship;
- academic degrees, with an indication of when and from which university they were/will be awarded;
- the Doctoral Course and the chosen curriculum they are applying for.

Moreover candidates **must**:

- specify a Skype ID where they can be contacted by the Selection Committee for the interview;
- write a research project in English with reference to a teacher or a research group of the University of Padova;
- specify the names and email addresses of two professors or experts who will write the letters of reference. These letters must be written by professors or experts who have supervised candidates in their studies and research. The requests to fill in the reference letters are sent by the candidate through the online procedure and the reference letters are filled in electronically by the professors/experts. Reference letters can be filled in and sent online by the professor/expert by 22nd January 2016.
- attach the scanned copies of the certificates of the academic qualification with the list of the examinations and the marks or if the qualification has not been awarded yet attach the exam transcripts. If these certificates are written in a language different from Italian or English, a certified English translation must also be attached;
- attach a copy of a valid Identity Document.

Finally candidates **can**:

- specify their education, research and work experiences;

- attach or write an abstract of their master thesis/project;
- specify any additional information complementary to the data provided in the application form that may be relevant to the selection process;
- attach any other qualification that should be taken into account (e.g. research papers and publications, language knowledge certificates etc.).

The application must be completed in English.

All documents written in a language other than Italian or English must be submitted together with a CERTIFIED translation in English.

ART 4 - SELECTION COMMITTEES AND ELIGIBILITY OF QUALIFICATION

A Selection Committee for the admission procedure shall be nominated for each PhD Course. Preliminarily the Selection Committee shall decide for each candidate the eligibility of the foreign qualification for the sole admission to the chosen PhD course.

The selection is based on the evaluation of qualifications. Afterwards the Selection Committee will verify the excellent knowledge of English through a Skype interview.

Only candidates awarded a score of at least 7/10 in the evaluation of the qualifications will be contacted for the Skype interview to verify their knowledge of English.

Candidates must be available at the previously communicated Skype address at the day and time previously agreed with the Selection Committee.

For identification purposes, and under penalty of exclusion to the selection procedure, every candidate must show the original identification document of the copy submitted with the application form before starting the interview.

Failure to connect online, show a valid identification document, or being unavailable on the day and time set for the interview constitute grounds for exclusion from the selection procedure.

The University of Padova accepts no liability for missed interviews due to technical faults.

Art. 5 – RANKINGS FOR ADMISSION TO THE COURSE

The Rector approves the records of the competition and proclaims the list of candidates admitted. Such ranking will be made public by March 2016 by:

- the University's official board;
- publication on the website:

<http://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students>

Successful candidates will receive a letter of acceptance to be presented to the China Scholarship Council. Only candidates who have obtained the scholarship will enrol at the University of Padova in the manner that will be communicated to them.

On their arrival in Italy, successful candidates who have confirmed their intention to enrol must complete the enrolment procedure by presenting the following documents to the *Università degli Studi di Padova – Servizio formazione alla ricerca*, located in via del Risorgimento 9, Padova:

- the enrolment application form for the Doctoral Course;
- a photocopy of the passport and of the Study Visa;
- legalization and Italian translation of the academic degrees (Bachelor and Master);
- a “*dichiarazione di valore in loco*” (statement of value) of the academic degrees (Bachelor and Master);
- one passport-size photo
- receipt of the payment as stated in art. 1.

Art. 6 – DUTIES OF PHD STUDENTS

Admission to the PhD programme requires an exclusive and full time commitment. Students are required to diligently carry out the activities related to the approved research project and to submit to the PhD course, at the end of each year, a report on the activities and research performed and, at the end of the course, the doctoral thesis with original contributions. Following the evaluation of the activity performed by the student, the competent authority of the PhD course will decide on the admission of the doctoral student to the following year. Given a valid reason, the Doctoral Course also has the authority to exclude candidates from progressing to the following academic year.

Art. 7 - AWARDING OF THE DEGREE

The PhD is awarded once the doctoral candidate had passed the final exam. The examination consists of an oral exam during which the student will defend his/her thesis. The examination board is appointed in accordance with the Rules for PhD Courses.

Art. 8 - REFERENCE LEGISLATION

For anything not envisaged within this Selection Announcement, the University shall refer to the following Italian legislation:

- Art. 4 of Law no. 210 dated 3 July 1998;
- M.D. no. 45 dated 8 February 2013;
- University Regulations for PhD Courses.

Art. 9 - PERSONAL DATA PROCESSING

The University will handle personal data in printed or electronic format for the purpose for which they were requested in accordance with the Italian Legislative Decree DLgs no. 196 dated 30 June 2003.

Art. 10 - FINAL PROVISIONS

In accordance with Art. 5 of Law no. 241 dated 7 August 1990 and subsequent amendments and integrations, the person responsible for the selection procedure administration is Dr. Maria Zanato Head of the Servizio Formazione alla Ricerca (PhD Office) - University of Padova.

This announcement is available on the WEBPAGE of the University of Padova:

<http://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students>

Any changes or additions to the contents of this announcement will be made by:

- the University's official board;
- publication on the website:

<http://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students>

Further information and details can be requested directly to:

china.phd@unipd.it

The Rector
Prof. Rosario Rizzuto