



UnitelmaSapienza

Università degli Studi di Roma

**Call for Applications for Admission to the PhD Programme in "Law and Business"
Department of Legal and Economic Sciences
(XLII Academic Cycle – A.Y. 2026/2027)**

Unofficial translation, the Italian text alone being authoritative

THE RECTOR

Having regard to

- the Statute of the University of Rome "Unitelma Sapienza", particularly Articles 1(4) and 15(4)(e);
- Article 4 of Law no. 210 of July 3, 1998, as amended by Article 19(1) of Law no. 240 of December 30, 2010;
- Ministerial Decree of December 14, 2021, no. 226, concerning accreditation procedures for doctoral programme sites and criteria for their establishment by accredited institutions;
- the University Regulations for Doctoral Programmes issued by Rector's Decree no. 105 of June 3, 2025;

Considering that

- On April 28, 2026, the Department Council of the DSGE approved the annual Activation Form for the PhD Programme in "Law and business" of the DSGE for the XLII cycle – Academic year 2026-2027;
- On May 18, 2026, the Academic Senate approved the request for the renewal of the PhD Programme in "Law and business";
- With Rector's Decree no. 138 of July 17, 2025, the course was officially established;

Having regard to

- the teaching and organizational regulations of the PhD course in "Law and Business";

DECREES

Art. 1

(XLII Cycle of Doctoral Training)

1. This decree launches a public selection for admission to the PhD programme in "Law and Business" (hereinafter referred to as "the programme") as part of the XLII doctoral cycle, administratively managed by the Department of Legal and Economic Sciences (DSGE) of the University of Rome "Unitelma Sapienza" (hereinafter "UnitelmaSapienza" or "the University").
2. The programme has a duration of three academic years (starting from the academic year 2026/2027, effective from November 1, 2026). Upon successful



completion of the final examination, candidates will be awarded the PhD degree.

3. Below is an overview of the programme's structure:

PhD Programme	Law and Business
Department	Legal and Economic Sciences
Coordinator	Prof. Vincenzo Mongillo
Scholarships	4
Non-scholarship positions	1
Total positions	5

Art. 2

(Educational Objectives and Programme Structure)

1. The PhD programme in "Law and Business" is a three-year programme aimed at providing doctoral students with theoretical knowledge and skills in law and economics that are essential to understanding and managing the dynamics of contemporary business.
Its multidisciplinary approach fosters ongoing and productive interaction across various scientific fields, with the goal of training:
 - on one hand, legal scholars equipped not only with advanced competencies in their own field but also with essential business knowledge;
 - on the other hand, business scholars who are aware of the legal and regulatory implications of their analyses, enabling them to assess the regulatory environment that affects entrepreneurial actions in a globalized and highly regulated context.
2. Core educational activities take place during the first year (single curriculum) and include the following subjects:
 - Research methodologies and multidisciplinary skills for scientific communication;
 - Legal regulation of the economy and business: models and tools between codification, decodification, hard law, and soft law;
 - Economics, accounting, management and organizational studies;
 - Companies and supply chains between sustainability and human rights;
 - Compliance and business ethics;
 - Extraordinary corporate transactions, corporate restructuring and crises;
 - Businesses, digital transition, and artificial intelligence.

In the second year, students are required to complete a mandatory research stay abroad, with an average duration of six months, focusing on topics related to their PhD thesis.

During the third year, students will complete their thesis (in Italian or English), finalizing the research carried out in the previous years while continuing to participate in additional seminars and academic meetings with their supervisor.

3. Attendance at the core activities listed in paragraph 2 (first year) is mandatory for all PhD students. Regarding other activities, the Academic Board will designate



which ones require compulsory attendance. Compliance with the attendance requirement is met by attending at least 80% of the mandatory activities.

Art. 3

(Application for the selection process, Submission Deadlines, and Eligibility Requirements)

1. Applications for the selection process must be submitted from a certified email address (PEC) to the following PEC address: unitelmasapienza@pec.it, no later than 30 days from the day following the publication of this call on the University's official online noticeboard.
2. The application must be prepared on plain paper, scanned, and signed by the candidate. It must be accompanied by a declaration made pursuant to Articles 46, 47, and 76 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, by which the candidate confirms awareness of the applicable criminal provisions in case of false statements. Applicants must also certify the possession of all qualifications, personal statuses, attributes, and facts declared in the application form and the attached documents, as well as the conformity of any submitted publications with their original versions.

The following documents must be attached in PDF format:

- Proof of academic qualification:
 - a) Candidates with a degree obtained in Italy must attach a certificate/self-declaration showing the degree obtained, list of exams taken with grades, credits, and final grade (for each degree, if more than one).
 - b) Candidates with a degree obtained outside Italy must attach:
 1. certificate/self-declaration including exams, grades, credits, and final mark;
 2. original degree certificate;
 3. original transcript of records;
 4. translation into Italian or English of documents 1-3 (translations are not required if the documents are issued directly in English by the institution);
- Curriculum vitae, listing all qualifications (as specified in Article 6 of this call);
- Copy of valid ID or passport;
- List of publications and full texts, or a self-declaration stating that the candidate has no publications (taking into account the indications of Article 6; candidates may apply even without publications);
- Research project (as detailed in Article 6 of this call).

In the application, candidates must declare that they wish to receive all communications relating to the selection process at the address from which they submitted their application. Any changes must be promptly communicated to the "UnitelmaSapienza" process manager indicated below. The University assumes no responsibility for the recipient's unavailability or for communications being lost due to the candidate's failure to provide the email address indicated in the application, whether late or incorrect.

3. Applications may be submitted by candidates of any nationality who, by the application deadline, hold:



- a Master's Degree (Laurea Magistrale or Laurea Specialistica), or a degree of at least four years awarded under the previous Italian academic regulations (prior to the Italian Ministerial Decree 509/1999);
 - or a suitable foreign qualification.
4. Candidates who will obtain the required qualification by the official enrollment date may also apply. If admitted, failure to obtain the qualification by that date will result in exclusion from the programme.
 5. The foreign academic documents are assessed, before the examination phase, by the selection committee in accordance with applicable Italian law, the legal framework of the awarding country, and any international agreements on recognition of academic qualifications.
 6. The University can verify the truthfulness of the declarations provided and take any necessary measures, including exclusion from the selection process.

Art. 4

(Participation Fee for the Selection Process)

1. To participate in the selection process, applicants must pay a non-refundable fee of €35.00 (thirty-five euros) via bank transfer payable to Università degli Studi di Roma Unitelma Sapienza, Codice IBAN IT54P0538703242000049163675, using the reference:
"Participation fee for the PhD in Law and Business – 42st Cycle."
Only applications submitted with proof of payment attached will be considered valid.
The participation fee is non-refundable under any circumstances.

Art. 5

(Selection Committee)

1. The selection committee for admission to the PhD programmes is designated by the Academic Board, along with a list of alternate committee members, after the call for applications deadline. The committee is appointed by Rectoral Decree within ten days following the call for applications deadline. The committee shall consist of no fewer than three and no more than five members, chosen from university faculties (Italian or foreign) with expertise in scientific areas relevant to the PhD programme.
2. The committee may be supplemented with up to two experts in scientific fields consistent with the educational objectives of the programme, selected from public and private research institutions and organisations, including foreign ones.

Art. 6

(Selection Procedure for Admission to the Programme)

1. The selection procedure for admission to the programme is based on the evaluation of:
 - Academic qualifications, CV, and any publications (up to 20 points out of 100);
 - Research project (up to 40 points out of 100);
 - Final oral exam (up to 40 points out of 100).



2. The selection procedure is structured in three phases:

1) Evaluation of qualifications, CV, and any publications

This includes assessing: Academic degrees (bachelor's, master's, postgraduate, other PhDs, etc.); Research and teaching activities; Any other academic, professional, or international experience; Certified knowledge of English and any other languages. Publications will be evaluated based on: Relevance to the PhD's scientific areas and themes; Scientific value and editorial standing. Only candidates scoring at least 12 points in this phase will proceed to the next.

2) Evaluation of the research project

The research project, to be written in Italian and/or English, will be assessed on:

- Consistency with the programme's legal/economic fields and themes;
- Relevance and originality, including the novelty of the topic, its importance, and whether it explores under-researched areas in current literature using innovative theoretical or methodological approaches;
- Interdisciplinary nature, particularly its connection with other subjects within the programme;
- Structure and coherence, focusing on logic, clarity, and formal accuracy.

Only candidates scoring at least 24 points in this phase will proceed to the final one. Only candidates who passed the first two phases will be invited to the oral exam, held in person at the University's main campus in Rome, Piazza Sassari 4 (ZIP code 00161).

Admitted candidates will be informed of the date and time via the certified email (PEC) address used during application, at least 15 days prior to the exam.

3) Final oral exam

The final oral exam focuses on the research project presented by the candidate and on related topics that, even if not directly addressed in the proposal, are relevant to the scientific fields and the topics of the doctoral programme.

The oral exam is designed to assess the candidate's knowledge in relation to the submitted research project, their aptitude for research, and their analytical skills in relation to the topics addressed.

The exam also aims to assess the candidate's level of English proficiency and will consist of a reading of an excerpt from an English text that the candidate will read and translate.

Candidates whose native language is not Italian must also demonstrate adequate knowledge of the Italian language during the oral exam.

Candidates who achieve at least 24 points will pass the oral exam.

A candidate shall be deemed eligible if they obtain a minimum overall score of 60 out of 100, provided that the minimum required score is achieved in each of the three evaluation phases

3. After the completion of all three evaluation phases, the selection committee (appointed under Article 9 of the University Regulations for Doctoral Programmes) shall determine the final ranking in accordance with Articles 8(5)



and 10 of the same Regulations. Only candidates who have achieved the minimum eligibility score may be admitted to the programme. The final ranking will be published on the University's online noticeboard.

Art. 7 (Scholarships)

1. Scholarships for attending the PhD programme have a total duration of at least three years and are renewed annually, subject to a positive evaluation of the activities carried out during the previous year, according to the procedures established in the teaching and organizational regulations of the programme.
2. The amount of the scholarship, disbursed in monthly installments, is set in accordance with Ministerial Decree no. 40 of January 25, 2018, and subsequent amendments and additions.
3. The amount of the scholarship may be increased by 50% for periods of research conducted abroad, upon approval of the Academic Board, for a total duration not exceeding 6 months. This additional amount will be paid after the foreign research stay, upon submission of a declaration from the host institution specifying the exact dates of the stay. For uninterrupted research periods abroad exceeding two months, upon the PhD student's request and submission of a declaration from the host institution, the additional amount may be paid monthly during the stay.
4. If the PhD student does not receive a positive evaluation for the renewal of the scholarship, or if they renounce it, the unused amount shall revert to the University for the same purposes, or, upon formal request, be returned to the external body that provided the funding.
5. Scholarships are subject to INPS social security contributions under the separate management scheme, as set out in Article 2(26) of Law no. 335 of August 8, 1995, and subsequent amendments. Two-thirds of the contributions are covered by the University, and one-third by the scholarship holder.
6. Scholarships cannot be combined with any other type of scholarship, except for those granted by national or international institutions aimed at supporting research or study stays abroad.
7. Anyone who has already received (even partially) a scholarship for a PhD course at an Italian university is not eligible to receive another PhD scholarship.

Art. 8 (Admission Procedure)

1. Admission to the PhD programme is based on a merit ranking, as defined by the programme's teaching and organizational regulations.
2. After the selection process, the University will collect the documents needed to finalize the enrollment of all admitted candidates, who will be enrolled according to the ranking order.
3. If a successful candidate withdraws or fails to enroll before the course begins, the next eligible candidate in the ranking will be admitted.
4. In the event of a tie in the ranking for a scholarship position, the candidate in the most economically disadvantaged situation will have priority, as determined by Article 5 of the Prime Ministerial Decree (D.P.C.M.) of April 9, 2001, and its amendments. If a tie persists, the criteria in the following paragraph will be applied.



5. In the event of a tie for a non-scholarship position, preference will be given to the candidate who:
 - a) has obtained the highest degree grade;
 - b) if equal, has the highest average exam grade (weighted average if under D.M. 509/99 or 270/2004);
 - c) if still equal, is the youngest in age.

Art. 9

(Documents Required for Enrollment)

1. Candidates who are declared winners based on the final ranking will be admitted to the programme after completing the enrollment process, according to the instructions provided by the University's Research Office.
PhD students, whether with or without a scholarship, are exempt from paying university tuition fees but must pay the regional fee and stamp duty for each academic year of enrollment.
If a candidate fails to complete enrollment properly, incompletely, or late, the next eligible candidate in the ranking will be admitted in their place.
2. Candidates holding a foreign academic qualification who are admitted must submit a "Declaration of Value" for the degree. If this document is not submitted by the deadline set by the relevant office, enrollment cannot be finalized.

Art. 10

(Enrollment in the Programme)

1. Pursuant to Article 12, paragraph 1 of Ministerial Decree 226/2021, enrollment in a doctoral programme requires full-time and exclusive commitment.

Art. 11

(Conditions of Effectiveness)

1. This call for applications is issued pending the accreditation of the PhD Programmes pursuant to Ministerial Decree no. 226/2021. Should the Programme not be accredited, it will not be activated for the 42nd cycle – Academic Year 2026/2027.

Art. 12

(Responsible Officer)

1. In accordance with Law no. 241 of August 7, 1990, the Responsible Officer for the administrative procedure is dott. Davide Bartoli.

Art. 13

(Privacy Notice pursuant to Legislative Decree 196/2003)

1. The privacy policy on the processing of personal data, drafted by UnitelmaSapienza in accordance with Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 as amended by Legislative Decree no. 101 of August 10, 2018 ("Privacy Code"), and Article 13 of EU Regulation 2016/679 ("GDPR 2016/679"), is published on the website: www.unitelmasapienza.it

Art. 14

(Final Provisions)



1. For all matters not expressly covered in this call, the following provisions shall apply:
 - Law no. 210 of July 3, 1998;
 - Law no. 240 of December 30, 2010;
 - Ministerial Decree of December 14, 2021, no. 226;
 - The University's PhD Program Regulations;
 - The teaching and organizational regulations of the PhD program.