

NOTICE OF OPENING N.º 103/SGA/DOFAE

Institute for Interdisciplinary Research

Academic Year 2025/2026

3rd Cycle Course

3rd cycle

PhD degree in Contemporary Studies

1. Number of places:

1st call: 8 places

2nd call: 11 places

3rd call: 1 + remaining places

Supplemental application call: remaining places

2. Minimum number of students for course opening: 5

3. Application deadlines:

1st call: 3rd to 31st March 2025

2nd call: 2nd June to 15th July 2025

3rd call: 1st to 12th September 2025

Supplemental application call: 21st to 28th October 2025

4. Admission requirements:

1 - Applicants for admission to the PhD degree in Contemporary Studies must be:

a) Holders of a master's degree, or legal equivalent;

b) Holders of a bachelor's degree, holders of a particularly relevant academic or scientific curriculum that is recognized as attesting the capacity to complete this cycle of studies by the Academic Board of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research;

c) Holders of a school, scientific or professional curriculum that is recognized as attesting capacity to complete this cycle of studies by the Academic Board of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research of the University of Coimbra. Applicants must obtain a curricular evaluation equal to or higher than 14 points.

2 - The recognition referred to in subparagraphs b) and c) of paragraph 1 only allows access to the cycle of studies leading to a PhD Degree and does not grant its holder the recognition or equivalence to a Bachelor's or Master's Degree.

Regarding the access referred to in sub-paragraph c) of paragraph 1 of the conditions of admission the application evaluator assesses the CV of applicants and rates it on a scale of 0 to 20 following the criteria i) to iv) and their respective weights:

i) School curriculum [25/100 Weighting]

a) Bachelor's degree final average (50%)

b) Master's degree final average (50%)

ii) Professional curriculum, considering the duration and nature of the professional functions performed in the scientific area of the study cycle in question, [20/100 Weighting];

iii) Scientific curriculum, considering the participation in congresses, seminars, research projects, number and scientific quality of publications (monographs, book chapters, articles in periodicals), awards and similar elements, under activities in (s) scientific area (s) of the study cycle in question, [20/100 Weighting];

iv) Motivation letter [30/100 Weighting]

considering the reading and discussion by applicants on:

a) the academic and professional path and experience facing the challenges and opportunities of the doctoral programme;

b) expectations about advanced studies, in general, and about the PhD programme in Contemporary Studies, in particular;

c) the presentation of plans, problems and concrete research perspectives of interest to applicants;

v) Recommendation letters, considering the knowledge demonstrated by the work and path of the applicant, the reasons that attest and frame the intellectual and motivational preparation of the applicant for this doctoral programme, taking into account the experience of the recommendation, [5/100 Weighting].

5. Selection criteria:

Evaluation of admitted applicants includes CV Assessment. Applicants who obtain the minimum score of 14 points in the CV assessment will be called for an interview and it can be done by videoconference or similar methods. Applicants are called for the interview by email.

1) Curriculum analysis, [40/100 Weighting];

1.1) Scholar curriculum (30%)

1.1.1) Bachelor's degree Final average (50%);

1.1.2) Master's degree Final average (50%);

1.2) Professional trajectory (30%)

The duration, nature and relevance of the professional functions performed in the area of the study cycle in question are considered;

1.3) Scientific curriculum (40%)

The applicant's participation in congresses, seminars, research projects, number of published articles, awards and similar elements in the scientific area of the study cycle are considered.

2) Interview, [40/100 Weighting]

2.1) Communication and verbal expression (20%);

2.2) Knowledge of English and/or other languages relevant for work/publication in the PhD (10%);

2.3) Motivation and interest (30%);

2.4) Capacity for analysis, critical sense and articulation of research perspectives (40%).

Jury: Dina Sebastião; Vânia Rodrigues; other teachers appointed by the DEC Coordination

3) Writing sample, [10/100 Weighting];

Must submit two examples of writing, preferably of a scientific nature (it can be a chapter or segment of a master's thesis). Other formats (book chapters, articles, blog entries or equivalent) are also considered. Samples must each not exceed a maximum of 20 pages, and must be dated.

4) Motivation for interdisciplinary research, [10/100 Weighting].

Must provide a brief summary of the themes/problems that interest them/that they intend to develop and how they consider the interdisciplinary perspective. The summary must not exceed 2000 words, including a list of a maximum of 10 bibliographic references.

The summary will be evaluated according to the following criteria The applicant:

0-9 - Not able to express a mature and specific scientific interest for the PhD;

10-14 - Is able to express a sufficiently mature scientific interest, with some concrete adaptation to the PhD;

15-17 - Is able to express a mature scientific interest, very suitable for a PhD and demonstrates interest and openness to interdisciplinary research.

18-20 - Is able to express a mature, well-founded scientific interest specifically suited to the PhD and its areas of intervention, demonstrating particular interest and openness to interdisciplinary research.

NOTE: Assessed applications that have a grade lower than 9.5 in one of the evaluation criteria will automatically become non-approved.

6. Required documentation:

- 1 - Certificate of Bachelor's degree with final course classification (diploma). A certificate proving approval in the curricular units carried out must be included, with respective classifications (school transcript). (MANDATORY, except if the primary course is a course taught at the University of Coimbra);
- 2 - Certificate from Master's degree with final course classification (Master degree diploma). A certificate proving approval in the curricular units carried out must be included, with respective classifications (school transcript). (MANDATORY, except if the origin course is a course taught at the University of Coimbra);
- 3 - Official declaration of course outlines and hourly course loads with classification of each course unit of courses previously taken (transcript), in case of equivalence credits request. (MANDATORY, except in degrees awarded by the University of Coimbra under the Bologna Process – after 2007/2008);
- 4 - - Official document certifying qualifications, issued by the institution awarding the highest degree, indicating the weighted average and the grading scale. (MANDATORY only for holders of a degree obtained abroad that does not contain the average)
- 5 - Curriculum Vitae; (MANDATORY);
- 6 - Identity Document (MANDATORY only for foreign applicants);
- 7 - Summary text Motivation for Interdisciplinary Research; (MANDATORY) - Only applicable to: 3rd Cycle Course;
- 8 - Writing sample; (MANDATORY) - Only applicable to: 3rd Cycle Course;
- 9 - Copy of one publication/ academic essay (e.g.: a chapter of a thesis) - Only applicable to: 3rd Cycle - Application based on Subparagraph c);
- 10 - Motivation Letter; (MANDATORY) - Only applicable to: 3rd Cycle - Application based on Subparagraph c);
- 11 - Recommendation letter #1; (MANDATORY) - Only applicable to: 3rd Cycle - Application based on Subparagraph c);
- 12 - Recommendation letter #2 - Only applicable to: 3rd Cycle - Application based on Subparagraph c).

NOTE: If the documents mentioned above are written in a foreign language other than Spanish, French, and English, it is mandatory to present a translation to Portuguese undertaken by a translator recognised by the Portuguese diplomatic representation.

The submission of the authenticated original documents is mandatory to the applicants admitted who enrol and register and must be done as soon as possible in order to complete their personal file. Further information at: <https://www.uc.pt/en/academicos/inscricoes/PIAs>.

7. Tuition fee:

-1,375€ (annual fee).

8. Part-time registration: Allowed

9. Assessment committee:

- Dina Sofia Neves Sebastião;
- Vânia Maria da Silva Rodrigues.

10. Other information:

- Application is subject to the payment of a 50.00 € fee, which is non-refundable, even in case of invalidation of application and of non-placement.
- Applications are submitted online at: <https://inforestudante.uc.pt/nonio/security/candidaturas.do>.
- Applicants who do not have the documents attesting the required qualifications or other documents until the end of the deadline for applications may apply conditionally. If they do not submit the required documents until the new deadline provided, their application will become "Not Admitted". Then, they can move their application onto the following call for applications without any additional charges.
- In applications definitively considered valid, and after the evaluation period has started, it is not possible to add or replace the documents presented. To add new documentation, a new application must be submitted in the next phase, if any.
- After the last phase of applications, and if there are still places available, applicants may submit their application by means of a request, beyond the deadline, which will be duly appraised by the coordination of the Course /Organisational Unit.
- Further information about academic issues, including the academic calendar, is available at: <https://www.uc.pt/en/academicos>.
- Contacts: E-mail: <https://apps.uc.pt/forms/view/sga/en>; Telephone:(00351) 239 247 195; In person assistance: at the Student Hub of the University of Coimbra. Schedules for assistance may be consulted at: <https://www.uc.pt/en/academicos/contactos/presencial>.

University of Coimbra, on 13th February 2025.

Head of Division,