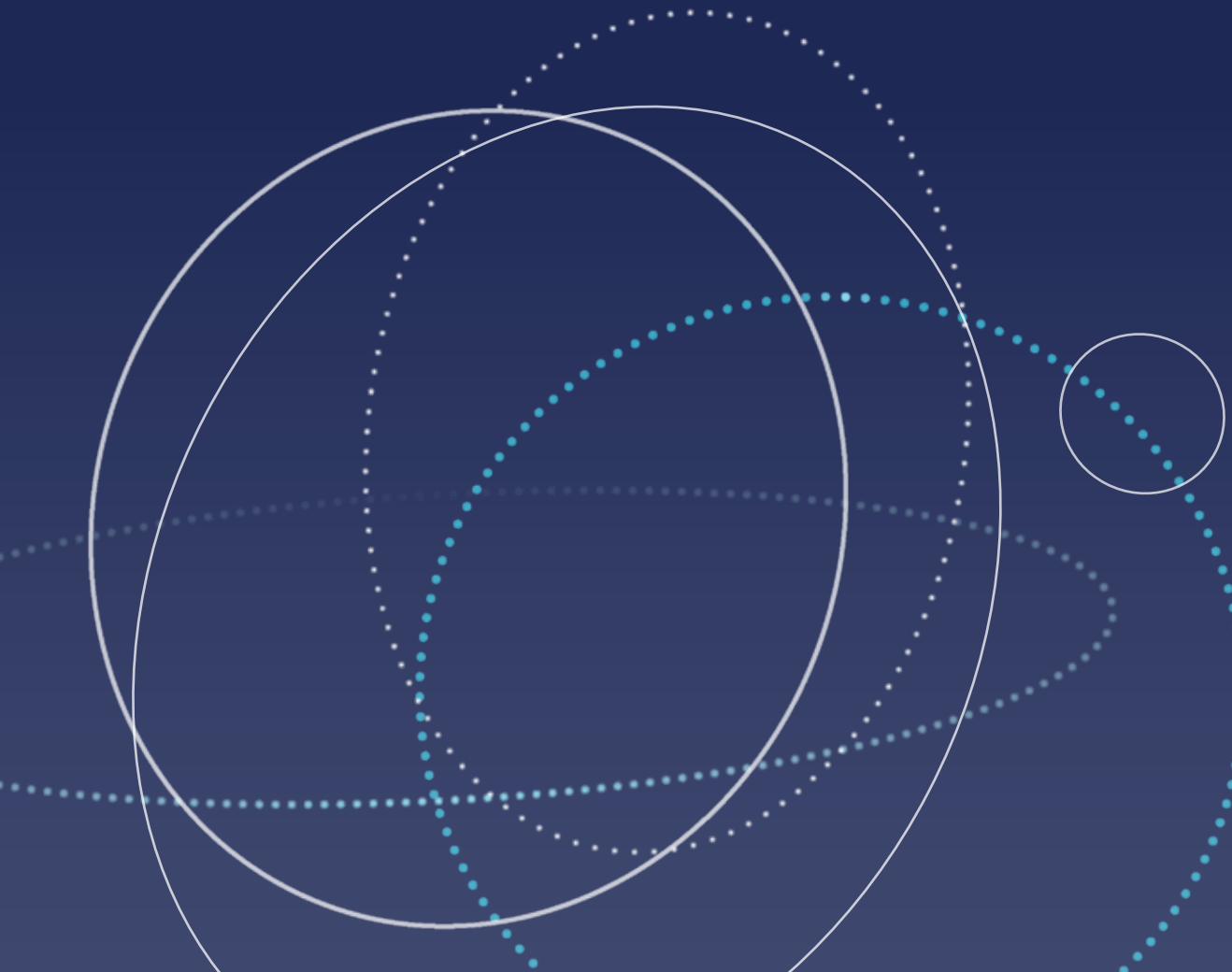
International PHD in CRIMINOLOGY

Cycle XLI

Academic Year 2025-2026

TRANSCRIME
Joint Research Centre on Innovation and Crime

UNIVERSITÀ CATTOLICA del Sacro Cuore



01. WHO WE ARE

WHAT

The **International Ph.D. Programme in Criminology** aims to be the preferred Programme for highly qualified students pursuing an **advanced research degree in criminology**. The Programme views interdisciplinary work and research as the core of its activity. It aims to promote innovative and dynamic thinking by blending theory and practice in the fields of criminology, criminal justice, and crime prevention.

HOW

The Ph.D. **prepares graduates** to meet traditional and **emerging standards of excellence in criminology**. This is achieved through a training, research, and teaching Programme. Graduates of the Programme will be well-prepared to pursue diverse career paths, including **academia**, **research**, **law enforcement**, **international organisations**, **industry**, and **consulting**.

TRANSCRIME

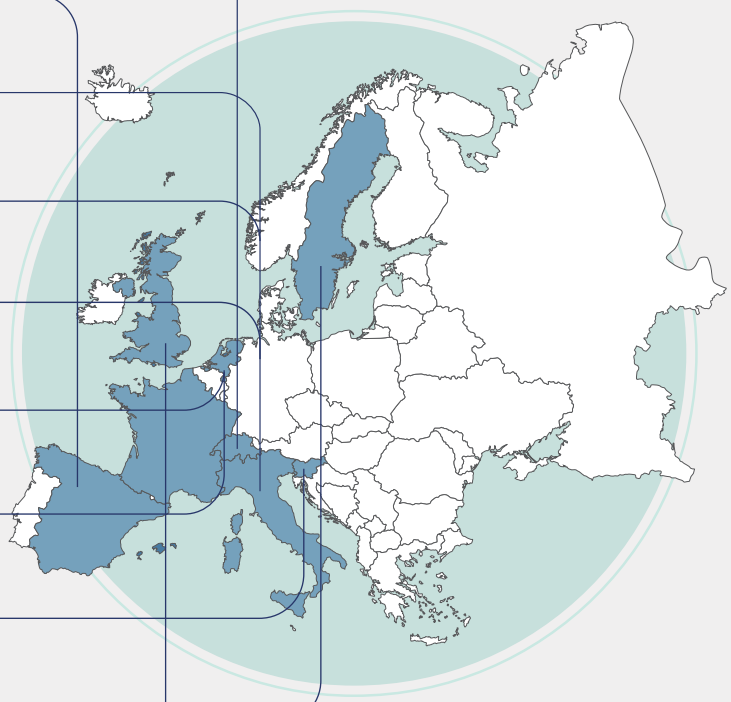
The coordination of the Programme is supported by **Transcrime, the Joint Research Centre on Innovation and Crime** of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Milan (*www.transcrime.it/en*). Today, Transcrime has become a **leading international institution** for scholars exploring crime from a range of perspectives, including criminology, sociology, law, and economics. Its **excellence in research** is proved by the substantial international funding in this area (projects under the 6th and the 7th Framework Programmes, Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe, and DG Home Affairs).

Ph.D. candidates will have the opportunity to carry out their assignments in a **stimulating environment** enriched by the participation of outstanding lecturers, institutions, law enforcement agencies, and the companies renowned at a national and international level.

Through agreements with affiliated universities and members of the Academic Board, the centre provides opportunities for specialised research and promising avenues for pursuing careers that require advanced expertise in this field.

02. PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

- UNIL - Université de Lausanne (CH)
- Universidad Pontificia Comillas (ES)
- Università degli Studi di Firenze (IT)
- Università degli Studi di Palermo (IT)
- Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (IT)
- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (NL)
- Universiteit Utrecht (NL)
- Univerza v Mariboru (SI)
- Stockholms Universitet (SE)
- Cardiff University (UK)
- University of Surrey (UK)
- Northumbria University (UK)
- University of Leeds (UK)



03. ACADEMIC BOARD

Coordinator **Prof. Francesco CALDERONI**	Faculty of Political and Social Sciences, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano (Italy)
Prof. Marcelo AEBI	École des Sciences Criminelles, UNIL-Université de Lausanne (Switzerland)
Prof. Georgios ANTONOPOULOS	Department of Social Sciences, Northumbria University (United Kingdom)
Prof. Alberto AZIANI	Department of Sociology and Social Research; Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (Italy)
Prof. Stefano BECUCCI	Department of Political and Social Sciences, Università degli Studi di Firenze (Italy)
Dr. Giulia BERLUSCONI	Department of Sociology, University of Surrey (United Kingdom)
Prof. Stefano CANEPPELE	École des Sciences Criminelles, UNIL-Université de Lausanne (Switzerland)
Prof. Clotilde CHAMPEYRACHE	Department of Economics, Universite Paris 8 Vincennes-St Denis (France)
Prof. Serena FAVARIN	Faculty of Political and Social Sciences, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano (Italy)
Prof. Joras FERWERDA	Law, Economics and Governance, Universiteit Utrecht (the Netherlands)
Prof. Andrea GIMENEZ-SALINAS	Facultad de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales, Departamento de Sociología y Trabajo Social, Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Spain)
Prof. Luca GIOMMONI	School of Social Sciences, University of Cardiff (United Kingdom)
Prof. Anita HEBER	Department of Criminology, Stockholms Universitet (Sweden)
Prof. Edward KLEEMANS	Faculty of Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (the Netherlands)
Prof. Andrea Mario LAVEZZI	Department of Law, Università degli Studi di Palermo (Italy)
Prof. Marco LOMBARDI	Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano (Italy)
Prof. Gorazd MEŠKO	Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, Univerza v Mariboru (Slovenia)
Prof. Ernesto U. SAVONA	Director of Transcrime, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano (Italy)
Prof. Dina SIEGEL	Willem Pompe Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, Universiteit Utrecht (the Netherlands)
Prof. Henk G. VAN DE BUNT	Erasmus School of Law, Erasmus University Rotterdam (the Netherlands)
Prof. David S. WALL	School of Law, University of Leeds (United Kingdom)

04. STRENGTHS OF THE PH.D.

ACADEMIC BOARD

The members of the Academic Board who lecture and tutor in the Ph.D. Programme are key international professors and researchers in criminology and related disciplines.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FUNDINGS

In addition to the scholarships awarded by universities, the Ph.D. Programme in Criminology has always received fundings from:

- **Private companies**, such as ADT, Crime&tech, Eni Corporate University, Gucci, Pirelli, TIM and Telecom Italia
- **Associated universities**, such as the University of Teramo
- **Public institutions**, such as the High Commission for the Struggle against Counterfeiting, Regione Lombardia, and the autonomous Province of Trento

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Candidates awarded the International Ph.D. in Criminology can access to career **opportunities in the academic world, public and private sector, NGOs and international organisations**. Past graduates are currently working at: University of Cardiff, University of Surrey, UNIL-Université de Lausanne, Università degli Studi Milano-Bicocca, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano, Italian Government, Università degli Studi di Trento, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, European Commission, Eurojust, Louis Vuitton, PWC, SNAM, Small Arms Survey, UNICRI, Save the Children, Chanel, Amazon.

04. STRENGTHS OF THE PH.D.

WORK IN A THRIVING RESEARCH CENTRE

Candidates will collaborate in the management and organisation of the Transcrime's projects and research activities, **along with a staff of more than 30 members**. Over the last decades, Transcrime has carried out **more than 300 research projects**, mostly as coordinator, funded by local, national and international authorities and institutions.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

All the activities of the Ph.D. are in **English**. This includes lectures, seminars, the Ph.D. thesis and the final defence.

As part of our Programme, Ph.D. candidates will have the opportunity to broaden their academic experience by spending **a semester** of studies and research at a foreign university or research institution. Upon successful conclusion of the period abroad in one of the partner universities, Ph.D. candidates may be recognised with the **title of Doctor Europaeus**.

Some of the institutions that hosted our students in recent years are: Carnegie Mellon University, European University Saint Petersburg, the United Nations, World Bank, Interpol, Europol, George Mason University, Organization of American States, New York University, University of California, University of Colorado Boulder, University of Manchester, University of Maryland, University of South Florida, Leiden University, and Vrije Universiteit.

05. EDUCATION - TRAINING

MASTER COURSES

1st year candidates will attend Master's courses aimed at completing and strengthening their background. The required coursework is **determined upon admission to the Programme** and tailored to each candidate's curriculum. Master's courses culminate in a final examination. Additionally, Ph.D. candidates will prepare a paper (in English) on a topic agreed upon with the Professor of the course(s). Graduate courses may include:

- *Statistics and advanced statistics*
- *Criminal law and procedure (Italian and comparative)*
- *Methodology of criminological research*
- *Criminology and applied criminology*

RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGICAL TRAINING

Ph.D. candidates will attend specific training activities (1st and 2nd year candidates). Transcrime holds short and long seminars, which are also attended by Ph.D. candidates.

PH.D. COURSES

Ph.D. candidates will attend courses specifically organised for the Ph.D. Programme, aimed to provide in-depth knowledge of specific topics (1st and 2nd year candidates). They may also attend courses organised in collaboration with other universities.

DOCTORAL TRAINING

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore provides a number of training activities for Ph.D. candidates from all Programmes. They include training on methodology, bibliographic, writing, presentation, public speaking and English for academic purposes.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In their first year, Ph.D. candidates will work under the guidance of senior researchers to complete a literature review (or reviews) on a specific topic related to the candidate's research interests.

05. EDUCATION - TRAINING

LECTURES

Ph.D. candidates will attend intensive lectures on innovative issues in criminology and criminal justice, given by visiting professors from leading national and international universities. Below are some examples of past lectures in recent Ph.D. cycles:

- **AI in academia: a practical toolkit for researchers**
  Prof. Linda Lombi, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano
- **Economics of organized crime**
  Prof. Paolo Buonanno, Università degli Studi di Bergamo
- **Emergence of Swedish Gangs**
  Prof. Manne Gerell, Malmö University
- **Firearms and firearms-control policies**
  Prof. Philip Cook, Stanford School of Public Policy
- **Green criminology**
  Prof. Toine Spapens, Tilburg University
- **Innovative sources of data in criminology**
  Dr. Reka Solymosi, University of Manchester
- **Life course criminology**
  Prof. Arijan Blokland, NSCR
- **Mafias abroad / Human Smuggling**
  Dr. Paolo Campana, University of Cambridge
- **Money-laundering, Drug policy and Organized Crime**
  Prof. Peter Reuter, University of Maryland
- **'Ndrangheta outside Italy**
  Prof. Anna Sergi, University of Essex
- **Network adaptation**
  Dr. Giulia Berlusconi, University of Surrey
- **Organised crime and qualitative metodologies**
  Prof. Dina Siegel, Utrecht University
- **Problem Oriented Policing: origins, development, evidence**
  Prof. Aiden Sidebottom, UCL Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science
- **Risk Terrain Modeling**
  Prof. Leslie Kennedy, Rutgers University - Newark
- **The datafication revolution in criminal justice**
  Prof. Anita Lavorgna, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna
- **Wildlife crime, wildlife law enforcement, and wildlife crime/harm prevention**
  Prof. William Moreto, University of Central Florida

05.

EDUCATION - RESEARCH

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

Ph.D. candidates will contribute to **Transcrime's ongoing research projects** on a day-to-day basis, gradually taking on increasing project responsibilities. By the 3rd year of the Programme, candidates will be expected to coordinate a research project (under the supervision of Professor Savona and other senior researchers).
A comprehensive list of projects which have engaged Ph.D. candidates with contributory or pivotal roles is available here.

ARTICLE FOR A SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL

Ph.D. candidates will write **a paper on a topic related to their research interests** under the supervision of the coordinator and their tutor (2nd and 3rd year candidates). Candidates are expected to submit at least one paper to an international peer reviewed journal by the end of the 2nd year.

PH.D. THESIS

Ph.D. candidates will write a doctoral thesis to complete the Programme. The thesis is expected to reach the standard of a publishable book, i.e. the standard used when acting as a referee for a refereed **journal article or a book proposed to an international publisher**.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

TUTORING

Ph.D. candidates may **tutor students from the BSc and the MSc programmes** of the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Milan. This will include assisting course professors with class management, assignments, exams and marking.
Ph.D. candidates may also **tutor students** in **writing their final dissertations**. This includes coaching students and revising documents in collaboration with course professors.

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Ph.D. candidates may hold **workshops and seminars for students on the BSc and the MSc programmes** of the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Milan (2nd and 3rd year candidates).
These activities cover research and writing skills, along with specific seminars on a topic related to the candidate's research interests.

06. STUDY COURSE

1st YEAR

RESEARCH PROJECT FORMULATION

By the end of the first year, Ph.D. candidates will deliver: **an activity report, the research project for their Ph.D. thesis, and the first draft chapter of the thesis**.
In particular, they will be required to select a research topic and conduct a detailed literature review, identify knowledge gaps and one or more research issues on which to focus.

Ph.D. candidates will be required to defend their research project and topic formulation before the Academic Board, for admission to the second year of the Programme.

2nd YEAR

RESEARCH PROJECT AND SCIENTIFIC PAPER

Ph.D. candidates will further advance their research through reports, which will be discussed individually or in a seminar format every two months. By the end of the second year, Ph.D. candidates will have carried out: **an activity report, a research project, a draft of the first two chapters of the thesis, and a paper approved by an international peer reviewed journal**. The paper should ideally address the topic of the candidate's thesis.

Ph.D. candidates will be required to defend their research project and paper before the Academic Board for admission to the third year of the Programme.

3rd YEAR

COMPLETION OF THE PH.D. THESIS

Ph.D. candidates will carry out their research and complete their Ph.D. thesis. The candidate's progress will be evaluated through periodic meetings. By the end of their third year, **candidates must submit an activity report and a draft of their final thesis**. **The admission to the final examination will follow a procedure designed to ensure the high quality of the thesis and research**. The draft thesis will be evaluated by the candidate's advisor and two external referees with expertise in the thesis topic. The thesis must meet the standard of a publishable paper or book. Based on the evaluations of the advisor and external referees, the Academic Board will decide whether to recommend that the candidate submits the thesis to the Examination Commission for the final defence.

06. STUDY COURSE
RESEARCH PROPOSAL

The purpose of the research proposal is to demonstrate your **knowledge of the field**, **identify research gaps**, and **propose suitable methods to address those gaps**. Preparing a doctoral research proposal for the International Ph.D. in Criminology requires careful consideration of various elements. Here are some suggestions to help you create a comprehensive and well-structured research proposal:

REVIEW THE STATE OF THE ART:

- Start by conducting a thorough **literature review** of the current scientific research in the field of criminology, specifically focusing on your area of interest.
- Identify key theories, concepts, and empirical studies that have contributed to the **understanding of the topic**.
- **Highlight** relevant **research gaps** or **unanswered questions** that you have identified during the literature review.

DEFINE THE RESEARCH PROBLEM AND QUESTIONS:

- Clearly **state the research problem** or issue you intend to address in your study.
- **Formulate research questions** that are specific, focused, and aligned with the research problem.
- Your **research questions** should be designed **to fill the identified research gaps** and contribute to the existing knowledge in the field.

SET OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY:

- Outline the **objectives of your research**, explaining what you aim to achieve with your study.
- Describe the **methodology** you intend to use to address your research questions and achieve your objectives.
- Clearly specify the **research design**, **data collection methods**, and **analysis techniques** you plan to employ.
- Justify the appropriateness of your **chosen methods** in relation to the research problem and questions.

06. STUDY COURSE
RESEARCH PROPOSAL

DISCUSS EXPECTED RESULTS AND POSSIBLE LIMITATIONS:

- Provide an **overview** of the expected outcomes of your research.
- Explain how your study will contribute to the field of criminology and address the identified research gaps.
- Acknowledge and discuss **potential limitations** or **challenges** that you may encounter during the research process.
- Demonstrate awareness of any constraints or ethical considerations relevant to your proposed research.

INCLUDE A REFERENCE LIST:

- Compile a comprehensive reference list of all the sources cited in your research proposal.
- Follow the appropriate referencing style such as APA, ASA, or Chicago.

GENERAL TIPS:

- Ensure that your research proposal is **well-organised**, **coherent**, and easy to follow.
- Use clear and **concise language** to convey your ideas.
- Seek **feedback** from your advisor or colleagues to improve the clarity and quality of your proposal.
- Pay attention to **formatting** and **presentation**, including headings, subheadings, and consistent citation style.

Tailor your proposal to align with the specific requirements and expectations of the International Ph.D. in Criminology Programme. You can get an idea of possible topics of interest from the publications and webpages of the members of the Academic Board, from previously completed Ph.D. dissertations available in the Docta Archive of the Università Cattolica and from the research projects conducted at Transcrime.

06. STUDY COURSE

FINAL DEFENSE

The final defence will be held before a commission composed of at least three professors from Italian and foreign universities, two of whom are not members of the Academic Board. The defence, public and entirely in English, will include the presentation of the candidate's research and results followed by questions of the commissioners. The commission will award the title of Ph.D. in Criminology to candidates authoring innovative and high-quality studies at an international level.

MEMBERS OF PREVIOUS COMMISSIONS

- **Prof. Marcelo Aebi**
  UNIL-Université de Lausanne
- **Prof. Ian Brunton-Smith**
  University of Surrey
- **Prof. Elizabeth David-Barrett**
  University of Sussex
- **Prof. Aleksandras Dobryninas**
  Vilnius University
- **Prof. Henk Elffers**
  Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- **Prof. Corinna Elsenbroich**
  University of Surrey
- **Prof. Joras Ferwerda**
  University of Utrecht
- **Prof. Anita Lavorgna**
  Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna
- **Prof. Michael Levi**
  University of Cardiff
- **Prof. Nicholas Lord**
  University of Manchester
- **Prof. Letizia Paoli**
  University of Leuven
- **Prof. Dina Siegel**
  Universiteit Utrecht
- **Prof. Toine Spapens**
  Tilburg University
- **Prof. Paul Stretesky**
  Northumbria University
- **Prof. Tom Vander Beken**
  Ghent University

07. RESEARCH PERIOD ABROAD

Staying abroad is a crucial opportunity to enrich Ph.D. candidates' academic and scientific journey.

The period of research and study abroad is optional, except for different provisions due, for example, to the type of scholarship.

The period abroad lasts **from 3 to 6 months**, although shorter or longer periods may be considered for specific needs.

Candidates considering spending a period of study abroad should follow these **guidelines**.

DESTINATION SELECTION

The destination for the period abroad is identified by Ph.D. candidates in agreement with their supervisor and the course coordinator. Subsequently, **the destination is approved by the entire Academic Board**.

The choice of destination should be based on the research topic of the doctoral thesis. Candidates, therefore, select a hosting institution where professors or researchers conduct **research related to the doctoral student's area of interest**.

Candidates are encouraged to consider periods abroad during the **2nd and 3rd years of the Ph.D.**, or in any case after the doctoral research is sufficiently defined.

RESEARCH AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Research and training activities should be agreed upon with the professor or supervisor of the receiving institution and may include, for example, participation in research projects, seminars, conferences, lectures, presentations of the doctoral thesis to students and colleagues, work on publications, and development of the doctoral thesis.

Other training activities, not strictly related to academic purposes, provide an opportunity to establish relationships and **networks** with professors, doctoral students, and researchers from the hosting institution.

07. RESEARCH PERIOD ABROAD

REQUEST AND APPROVAL

The request for a stay abroad is formulated in advance in agreement with the supervisor and the coordinator of the doctoral Programme. The request must be formalized by sending an email to the supervisor and the coordinator, containing a proposal for one or two possible destinations. This will allow the request to be included in the agenda of the Academic Board meeting.

The approval of the Academic Board is required to proceed with the planning of the stay and the formalisation of bureaucratic issues.

TIMING AND BUREAUCRATIC ASPECTS

Planning ahead is important, especially for destinations that require visas or involve complex bureaucratic procedures.

Ph.D. candidates are responsible for ensuring that all necessary information and documents for the stay abroad are provided in accordance with the local laws and regulations of the hosting institution.

08. CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

ACADEMIA

- **Alberto Aziani**
  Associate Professor, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (Italy)
- **Giulia Berlusconi**
  Lecturer in Criminology, University of Surrey (United Kingdom)
- **Francesco Calderoni**
  Full Professor, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano (Italy)
- **Stefano Caneppele**
  Full Professor, UNIL-Université de Lausanne (Switzerland)
- **Stefania Crocitti**
  Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna (Italy)
- **Serena Favarin**
  Associate Professor, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano (Italy)
- **Valeria Ferraris**
  Associate Professor, Università degli Studi di Torino (Italy)
- **Luca Giommoni**
  Reader, Cardiff University (United Kingdom)
- **Thomas Joyce**
  Assistant Professor, Tilburg Law School - Tilburg University (the Netherlands)
- **Ester Massa**
  Senior Lecturer, University of Winchester (United Kingdom)
- **Cecilia Meneghini**
  Lecturer in Quantitative Criminology, University of Exeter (United Kingdom)
- **Fiamma Terenghi**
  Lecturer, University of Manchester (United Kingdom)

PUBLIC SECTOR

- **Eva Lo Iacono**
  Executive officer, Sicily Region (Italy)
- **Daniela Andreatta**
  Security Specialist, Provincia Autonoma di Trento (Italy)

08. CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

RESEARCH

- **Serena Bressan**
  Senior Project Manager and Proposal Writer , Fondazione Bruno Kessler - FBK (Italy)
- **Gian Maria Campedelli**
  Research Scientist, Fondazione Bruno Kessler - FBK (Italy)
- **Carlotta Carbone**
  Researcher, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Italy)
- **Marina Mancuso**
  Researcher, Transcrime - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Italy)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- **Federica Curtol**
  Head of Operations, Eurojust (the Netherlands)
- **Nicole Maric**
  Crime Prevention Expert, UNODC – United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Austria)
- **Irene Pavesi**
  Senior Officer of Human Rights Research & Policy, Artistic Freedom Initiative (United States)
- **Fabrizio Sarrica**
  Research Officer, UNODC – United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Austria)

PRIVATE SECTOR

- **Tommaso Comunale**
  Security & Loss Prevention Manager, Amazon (Italy)
- **Maria Karayotova**
  Senior Consultant, PMG Analytics (Bulgaria)
- **Sara Martocchia**
  Director, PWC (Italy)
- **Cristina Soriani**
  Cyber Security Senior Manager, KPMG UK (United Kingdom)
- **Priscilla Standridge**
  Director, Omni-Channel CX Research, Comcast (United States)

09.

WHAT OUR PH.D.s SAY

THOMAS JOYCE

Assistant Professor,
Tilburg Law School -
Tilburg University
(the Netherlands)

"My Ph.D. experience was an especially fruitful one, from developing an original research thesis on darknet drug dealing, to managing European level project proposals on range of topics, I was lucky enough to be exposed to a variety of activities for expanding my capacities as a criminologist."

GIAN MARIA CAMPEDELLI

Research Scientist,
Fondazione Bruno Kessler -
FBK (Italy)

"The Ph.D. in Criminology allowed me to foster my scientific curiosity, and it helped me significantly in my professional growth. The collaboration in international projects, the participation in teaching activities and the continuous exchange of ideas with peers and senior researchers, all testify to the many opportunities that this experience offered me."

MARTINA MARCHESI

Associate Publisher -
Springer Nature Group
(Italy)

"The International Ph.D. in Criminology gave me the opportunity to learn an effective working method and to develop my organizational and management skills thanks to the involvement in several national and international projects."

10. ADMISSION

INFORMAL PRE-APPLICATION

It is possible to participate in an **informal pre-application procedure at any moment of the year** by sending an email to the Coordinator of the Ph.D. (Prof. Francesco Calderoni, *francesco.calderoni@unicatt.it*) and attaching an English CV. Afterwards, the candidate **may be invited to submit a research proposal in English** and to participate in a **phone or Microsoft Teams interview** to discuss the proposal.

The candidate will receive an evaluation from the Coordinator with **two possible results**:

a) **positive assessment**, exempting the candidate from submitting a research proposal and participating in the interview after the publication of the call for applications. The candidate will formalise his/her application, after the publication of the call, by sending the requested documentation at the following link: *https://dottorati.unicatt.it/criminologia.*

b) **negative assessment**, allowing to submit a formal application after having substantially revised the research proposal during the formal application period.

The informal pre-application procedure is available throughout the year, except during the period immediately before the publication of the official call for applications and until the deadline for applications is expired.

FORMAL APPLICATION

Undergraduate students who are due to graduate by 31 October 2025 are eligible to apply. The **official call for applications** (in English and Italian) is usually published in June-July on the webpage of the Ph.D. Office (*https://progetti.unicatt.it/progetti-ateneo-bandi-e-concorsi-milano-piacenza-brescia#content*).

The deadline for applications will be published soon. The selection is usually completed by the end of September. Candidates must fill in the application form available (after the publication of the call for applications) at: *https://progetti.unicatt.it/progetti-ateneo-bandi-e-concorsi-milano-piacenza-brescia#content*.
All the documents specified in the call for applications must be uploaded afterwards in the personal restricted area.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Each candidate must submit a **research proposal in English** for their Ph.D. thesis. The proposal should be divided into the following sections:

- review of the state-of-the-art
- research problem and questions
- objectives and methodology
- expected results and possible limitations
- reference list

The research proposal must not exceed 20,000 characters (bibliography included).

10. ADMISSION

THE EVALUATION

The **evaluation for admission to the Ph.D.** is based on the following criteria (also for candidates with a positive assessment in the pre-application procedure):
a) **curriculum vitae and other titles**
b) **research proposal**
c) **phone or video (e.g. via Microsoft Teams) interview**

The assessment is based on a 0 to **70-point scale** according to the following criteria:

- Points **a)** and **b)** can be scored between **0 and 20 points each**. Only candidates with a total score of at least 30 points will be admitted interview.
  The results of the assessment of points a) and b) will be communicated to the candidate by email (or here) along with the possible interview invitation within 20 days from the expiry of the call for applications.
- Point **c)** can be scored between **0 and 30 points**. The interview will be conducted in English and will aim at discussing the candidate's motivation and research proposal, as well as answering to any questions the candidate may have. Only candidates receiving **at least 20 points** may be admitted to the Ph.D.

The final ranking is determined by the sum of the scores achieved in points a), b), and c). Candidates will be admitted according to the ranking, up to the number of available positions.

ALL YEAR LONG ▶	Informal pre-application
JULY ▶	The application deadline is usually between late July and early August (check the call for applications in the university website)
SEPTEMBER ▶	Result of CV and research evaluation, online interviews, and official ranking

10. ADMISSION

SCOLARSHIPS

According to the Italian Ministry of Education, the base-level scholarship amount is €16,243.00 gross per year. Ph.D. scholarships are tax-exempt but require the payment of social security contributions.

In recognition of the candidate's cooperation with Transcrime's activities, **1st year candidates may receive an additional annual scholarship of up to about €5,000 gross**. Second and third-year candidates may receive an additional yearly scholarship of about €6,500 gross. The additional scholarship will be awarded for each month of collaboration with Transcrime. This additional fee will be recalculated if the base-level scholarship, established in accordance with the law, is updated.
The base-level scholarship is increased by 50% for stays abroad. From the second year onwards, candidates will have a research expenses budget amounting to 10% of the annual base-level scholarship.

To promote the **international scope of the Ph.D.**, the admitted candidates with a Master's Degree from a foreign university and residing abroad may be reimbursed up to € 5,000 for documented travel and lodging expenses incurred during the 1st year of the Ph.D. due to their moving to Milan.

ADMISSION FEES

Every year, the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore sets the annual amount of the tuition **fees**.
For the XLI cycle of the International Ph.D. in Criminology, Ph.D. candidates will be required to pay a tuition fee amounting to about € 836 per year, to be paid in three instalments.

11. CONTACTS

TRANSCRIME - Milan
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