

DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN HEALTH SCIENCES (2014-)

Article 1 - GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1.1 Promote a high quality offer in advanced research and education in both universities and countries;

- to attract and encourage highly qualified graduates and scholars specially from all over the portuguese speaking world, to participate in this program;
- to promote cooperation between both universities and eventually with other institutions within European Union and also from third countries (particularly from Latin America);
- to contribute to improve the accessibility and visibility of higher education in the European Union.

1.2 The present program includes 4 scientific areas:

- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Translational Medicine
- Clinical Medicine
- Nursing, Physiotherapy and other Health Technologies

However, these do not hinder the possibility to develop other related activities (R&D) within other areas / doctoral programs from UAH even if not covered by this protocol.

Article 2 – TIMELINE, DETAILED STRUCTURE AND CONDITIONS

2.1 Duration will be defined according with the student's statute as follows:

- **Full time**, for students exclusively dedicated, the program will be completed in 3 years (maximum). In special conditions a 1 year prorogation may be conceded. Other special situations will be remitted and analysed accordingly with UAH regulations.

- **Partial time**, for students not-exclusively dedicated, the program will be completed in 5 years (maximum). In special conditions a 2 year prorogation may be conceded. Other special situations will be remitted and analysed accordingly with UAH regulations.

2.2 Structure

2.2.1 This doctoral program involves 60 ECTS and only concerns candidates who, applying to Universidade Lusófona, already hold a Master degree (90 – 120 ECTS);

2.2.2. Students from Lusófona will develop this program at Lisbon (CBIOS - Lusófona's research centre for biosciences & health technologies) facilities. However, regarding the research praxis, some experimental components might be developed in both universities, if applicable.

2.2.3. For those students from Lusófona the *curriculum* is as follows (Table 1):

Table 1- UAH-Lusófona PhD Program *curriculum* structure (check 2.2.4)

Advanced training course	12 ECTS	Electives (when applicable) within the PhD domains or Publication of abstracts in international peer-reviewed meetings (minimum of 3) Publication of full-papers in international peer-reviewed journals (minimum of 4)	(Up to 10 ECTS) (max. up to 5 ECTS) (max. up to 10 ECTS)
Seminar Research Methodology I	8 ECTS	Presentation and public discussion of the thesis project	-
Seminar Research Methodology II	10 ECTS	Conference	-
Research Praxis (thesis)	30 ECTS	Experimental	-
TOTAL	60 ECTS		-

2.2.4 Exceptions

- Masters from any 2nd cycle of studies in human health domains, graded with 16 in 20 or higher. This condition allows the student to skip the advanced training course.
- Masters from any 2nd cycle of studies in human health domains, graded with less than 16/20, must complete 12 ECTS corresponding to the advanced training course.
- Masters from other domains non-related to human health must always complete 12 ECTS from the advanced training course whatever the final grade obtained.

2.2.5 Annual Assessment and Monitoring

The institution will annually monitor the program fulfilment. This evaluation is mandatory (see ahead article 5)

2.3.6 Other

Other informations concerning the *curriculum* structure may be found at the school's website (<http://ects.uLusofona.pt/cursos/3-ciclo.html>)

Article 3 - COORDINATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

3.1 Coordinating Institution

3.1.1 This partnership is coordinated by UAH which has the legal responsibility of the programme. The Academic Commission will include a Lusófona representative, the ECTS Director, to participate whenever necessary.

3.1.2 Lusófona and in particular the ECTS school Direction will be responsible to provide the administrative, pedagogical and scientific information on all the cases regarding Lusófona's students enrolled in the program (see ahead).

3.1.3. For academic purposes the Scientific Council of ECTS (CC ECTS) will be the formal administrative body to provide all the relevant information required by the program coordination (UAH).

Article 4 – DECISION AND PROCESSING

4.1 The CC ECTS will confirm the procedural conformity of the students to be included in the program. Any doubts shall be previously clarified with UAH.

4.2 In their applications students must provide a CV, a motivation letter, certified copies of previous degrees, copy of passport or ID card and a passport-size photo.

4.3 Once confirmed, students will have to design the research project to be developed (Praxis) with a Lusófona's tutor (PhD). This project is previously presented, evaluated and approved by the CC ECTS upon proposal signed by the student and the tutor. These projects shall be developed as part of the CBIOS domains and development strategy.

4.4 A UAH tutor must also be assigned. If not immediately identified, the Academic Commission will indicate it upon request by the Lusófona's tutor.

Article 5 - PUBLICITY, APPLICATION, SELECTION, ADMISSION & ENROLMENT, ASSESSMENT, INSURANCE, & LANGUAGE

5.1 Application

Considering the specific conditions previously defined (Article 4) for the Portuguese students the formal application procedure will take place at Lusófona by the usual means.

5.2 Selection, Admission and Assessment

5.2.1 As previously stated, the CC ECTS will confirm the eligibility of the applications. Arrangements, if necessary, will be taken to comply with non-discrimination objectives by ensuring gender equality, integration of the disabled, enhancement of social and economic cohesion and the combat of xenophobia.

5.2.2. The progress of each student/program track will be evaluated every year. This process is mandatory and is accomplished online through the UAH platform.

5.3. Insurance

Students will have to follow the rules in force at the hosting institution, which includes general insurance for day-by-day work.

5.4. Language Courses

Both Iberian languages are admissible as official languages, respecting all forms of communication and work produced (reports, examination and final documents including the PhD Thesis). Whenever applicable the English might also be used as an official language for course development purposes.

Article 6 - FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

6.1 Tutition fees

6.1.1 UAH defines each year the fees corresponding to the program. These fees are applicable to UAH effective students, no matter the regime (full or partial time) chosen.

6.1.2. Regardless of the specifications the tuition fees allow students to fully access common use facilities in both universities such as (e.g. library, equipment, insurance, lab material and available technology assessment) as long as part of the approved program.

Article 7 - THESIS PRESENTATION

The final document – the doctoral thesis, shall be presented according to the UAH rules and orientations. The Lusófona logo shall be admitted in the final document together with the UAH logo.

Article 8 – MONITORING, QUALITY ASSURANCE & FINAL

8.1 Quality Assurance

A separate Quality Assurance Board made up of at least one member from each university and at least one external member will be nominated. It will be responsible to perform annual reviews to the academic standards and administrative practices of the course and make recommendations to ensure that the high quality of standards is maintained.

8.2 Each institution is expected to act at all times in good faith and in a manner that reflects the good name, goodwill and reputation of the other party and in accordance with good scientific and academic practice and ethics.

8.3 Each partner commits itself to participate in a cooperative manner to ensure success to the present program.

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