



UNIVERSITÀ DEL PIEMONTE ORIENTALE

CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND TRAINING
IN DISASTER MEDICINE, HUMANITARIAN AID
AND GLOBAL HEALTH

CRIMEDIM



The International Doctoral Program
in Global Health, Humanitarian Aid
and Disaster Medicine

The Booklet



Foreword

We are living in an era of complex global health crises; climate-related disasters, conflicts and humanitarian emergencies, migrant and refugee surges, and outbreaks of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases are resulting in challenges we are not yet able to face. The health consequences are often not considered and managed with a scientific approach. Studying emergencies, disasters, and humanitarian crises with a strong focus on health will be of paramount importance during the next years. However, the number of research scientists with specific competencies in achieving this goal is currently very limited at global level.

The International PhD in Global Health, Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Medicine aims to develop a new generation of research scientists with advanced competencies for performing disaster and humanitarian health crisis-related research and development. The program is designed to equip the PhD candidates with a solid background in global health, humanitarian aid and disaster medicine, deepening their knowledge on scientific research. During the program, the students will develop competencies to conduct independent research in disasters and humanitarian settings.

This PhD program has a flexible learning environment which creates an innovative approach to research education. Our international Faculty and well-established links with United Nations agencies, governmental and non-governmental organizations, scientific societies, universities, and research institutes, create an effective bridge between the academic world and the actual field work, enhancing future career opportunities in the disaster and humanitarian landscapes.

On behalf of the whole Faculty, we look forward to welcoming you at CRIMEDIM, a place where you join a global network of professionals who share principles, concepts and visions, a place where you attain a wider and more comprehensive view of disaster medicine and humanitarian aid as a global health science.

Prof. Luca Ragazzoni
Scientific Coordinator
CRIMEDIM



1. The PhD at a Glance

The PhD is the highest form of qualification in the Italian academic system. It has a duration of 3 years, and it is based on a specialised research project, supported by advanced teaching courses, individual study, and cultural exchange of knowledge with other countries. At the end of the 3-year program, the title of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is conferred upon submitting the doctoral dissertation and defending the findings in front of an expert panel.

2. International Doctoral Program in Global Health, Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Medicine

2.1. General Information

The International Doctoral Program in Global Health, Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Medicine is an interdisciplinary PhD program designed and offered by the Università del Piemonte Orientale (UPO) through the Center for Research and Training in Disaster Medicine, Humanitarian Aid and Global Health (CRIMEDIM).

Professors from all UPO departments, together with experts and faculty members from all over the world will guide candidates in acquiring knowledge, skills, interest, and methodologies to carry out innovative research in the fields of global health, humanitarian aid or disaster medicine.

PhD candidates will perform their research activities in CRIMEDIM headquarters in Novara (Italy) or within other UPO departments or laboratories, under the supervision of professors or researchers of a relevant department and in strong cooperation with a young and motivated team of junior and senior researchers and PhD fellows.

The PhD starts on the 1st of November of each academic year. Candidates' commitment to education within the doctoral program is full-time and activities outside the scope of the program are authorised by the faculty board when these do not hamper successful completion of the PhD.

2.2. Management Board

Throughout the PhD program, candidates will be closely monitored and followed by our team:

Surname	Name	Role at CRIMEDIM	Email
Della Corte	Francesco	Director	francesco.dellacorte@med.uniupo.it
Ragazzoni	Luca	Scientific coordinator	luca.ragazzoni@med.uniupo.it
Barone Adesi	Francesco	Faculty member	francesco.baroneadesi@uniupo.it
Lamine	Hamdi	Postdoc researcher	hamdi.lamine@uniupo.it
Valente	Martina	Postdoc researcher	martina.valente@uniupo.it
Linty	Monica	Admin manager	monica.linty@uniupo.it
Origine	Stefania	Admin manager	stefania.origine@uniupo.it
Rossi	Lorenzo	IT specialist	lorenzo.rossi@uniupo.it

2.3. Faculty

A national and international pool of experts constitute the faculty of the PhD program.

National faculty:

	Surname	Name	University	Department	Role	Qualification	Sector	Area	SSD
1	Barone Adesi	Francesco	UPO	Translational Medicine	Member	Associate professor	06/MI	06	MED/42
2	Bisio	Chiara	UPO	Science and Technological Innovation	Member	Associate professor	03/A2	03	CHIM/02
3	Bottrighi	Alessio	UPO	Science and Technological Innovation	Member	Associate professor	01/B1	01	INF/01
4	Cammarota	Gianmaria	UPO	Translational Medicine	Member	Professor	06/L1	06	MED/41
5	Della Corte	Francesco	UPO	Translational Medicine	Coordinator	Professor	06/L1	06	MED/41



6	Franceschinis	Giuliana Annamaria	UPO	Science and Technological Innovation	Member	Professor	01/B1	01	INF/01
7	Gino	Sarah	UPO	Health Sciences	Member	Researcher	06/M2	06	MED/43
8	Guzzardi	Giuseppe	UPO	Translational Medicine	Member	Researcher	06/11	06	MED/36
9	Leigheb	Massimiliano	UPO	Health Sciences	Member	Associate professor	06/F4	06	MED/33
10	Ragazzoni	Luca	UPO	Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition	Member	Associate professor	06/L1	06	MED/41
11	Raviglione	Mario Carlo Battista	UNIMI	Medical-Surgical and Transplant Pathophysiology	Member	Professor	06/M1	06	MED/42

International faculty:

	Surname	Name	University	Country	Qualification	Sector	Area	SSD
1	Bodas	Moran	Tel Aviv University	Israel	Professor		06	MED/42
2	Hubloue	Ives	Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)	Belgium	Professor	06/B1	06	MED/09
3	Murray	Virginia Gauvain	Suzette Public Health England	UK	Professor	06/M1	06	MED/42
4	O'Mathuna	Donal	The Ohio State University	USA	Professor	05/G1	05	BIO/14
5	Von Schreeb	Johan	Karolinska Institutet	Sweden	Professor	06/C1	06	MED/18

3. Training Plan, Courses and Activities

Candidates have the right to participate in all the activities foreseen by the educational objectives and the study program. They must attend courses and continuously carry out study and research activities. It is expected that candidates attend all lectures and seminars in the PhD program.

3.1. Teaching Format

The PhD program relies on a set of lectures, courses, and events to deliver the necessary knowledge to candidates. The PhD program's educational activity encompasses different types of learning methods:

- **Self-paced learning:** a set of materials, documents, books, and articles that is available online and that is open to all candidates to consult whenever they want.

The self-paced learning encompasses the following:

- i. Basic of epidemiology
 - ii. Ethnography and observations
 - iii. Qualitative research
 - iv. Qualitative data analysis
 - v. Survey design
 - vi. Research integrity and ethics
- **Basic learning:** a set of introductory lectures on the basics of research methodology that must be followed in presence at CRIMEDIM headquarters in Novara.
 - a. A 3-day intensive course called “*ABC of Scientific Research for Doctoral Students*” is offered to students at the beginning of their PhD. The intensive course deals with:
 - i. Introduction to the course and to protocol writing
 - ii. Research principles and methodologies (quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods)
 - iii. Reading a scientific paper
 - iv. Writing a scientific paper
 - v. Scientific communication
 - vi. Research integrity and ethics

- b. Newly enrolled PhD candidates are given the opportunity to meet the PhD candidates of previous years during an event where candidates present their projects and can ask questions
- **Advanced learning:** some lectures on advanced research methodologies are offered to PhD candidates and these are also open to candidates enrolled in other PhD programs at UPO and any other UPO researcher/student. These lectures/seminars are carried out twice per year on different topics. Candidates must register to attend the lecture/seminar and can attend either in presence or online.
 - **Scientific activities:** these include webinars and scientific debates.
 - a. Webinars: online webinars on scientific topics that are of interest to the PhD candidates at CRIMEDIM.
 - b. Scientific debates: round-table debates on scientific issues and themes that stimulate critical thinking and reflexivity.
 - **Optional lectures:** on top of these courses, some optional lectures are available for candidates.
 - **Scientific English Communication Course:** candidates will attend an English course that will last around 2 months at a frequency of one session per week of approximately 2 hours.

Candidates are encouraged to participate in other activities besides their doctoral project (e.g., participate in other projects' activities, teaching, tutoring, participating in scientific dissemination events, etc.).

3.2 Mandatory and Optional Activities

The PhD should be a fruitful experience for candidates. Besides the mandatory attendance to the courses, there is a plenty of other scientific activities that candidates can do to enrich their profile as researchers. To facilitate tracking of activities and the supervisor's monitoring of the candidate's journey, a portfolio has been developed that indicates mandatory and optional activities for candidates enrolled in the PhD:

Activities	Mandatory	Optional
ABC of Scientific Research for Doctoral Students (course)	x	
Scientific English Communication (course)	x	
Other PhD courses (self-paced + advanced learning + scientific activities)	x	
Involvement in CRIMEDIM activities (other projects, training courses...)	x	
Participation in congresses / seminars (Poster presentation, oral presentation)		x
A minimum of 2 peer-reviewed publications on Q1-Q2 journals as first author	x	
Other publications related or non-related to the PhD project		x
Supervision of student(s) for the master thesis	x	
Application for a grant		x
EMDM residential course attendance	x	

4. Reporting

Candidates must periodically update their supervisor(s) regarding important evolutions of their PhD project and scientific milestones. Every article/presentation/poster/deliverable must receive approval from the supervisor and scientific coordinator before being published or disseminated.

Candidates are required to submit a report on the activities carried out over each year by September 30th. Upon acceptance from the faculty board, candidates must enroll in the following year by October 31st.

5. Mobility

Upon consultation of the supervisor(s), candidates are encouraged to consider spending a period of up to 12 months abroad for their research project (e.g., field work, visiting researchers). Those who have a scholarship will have a 50% additional funding.



6. PhD platform navigation

Candidates can access the online platform dedicated to the PhD program: crimedim.dir. On the platform candidates will be able to find:

1. PhD-related documentation (e.g., PhD booklet, protocol template)
2. Slides of the lectures
3. Material for the self-paced learning
4. Updated calendar with all lectures and meetings

A list of suggested books and readings is available on the platform to support candidates in their career progression and self-development path.

7. Contact details

- UPO contact person for the PhD
Dott. Mario Repole - mario.repole@uniupo.it - tel: 0161261522- fax: 0161211369
- PhD program's director (CRIMEDIM)
Prof. Francesco Della Corte - francesco.dellacorte@med.uniupo.it
- Scientific coordinator of CRIMEDIM
Prof. Luca Ragazzoni - luca.ragazzoni@med.uniupo.it
- PhD program's coordinators (CRIMEDIM)
dr. Martina Valente - martina.valente@uniupo.it
dr. Hamdi Lamine - hamdi.lamine@uniupo.it

8. Links and resources

- [CRIMEDIM website](#)
- [UPO website](#)