

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

PhD scientific program booklet

2024-2025





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b><u>I. WELCOME TO CRIMEDIM:</u></b>	<b><u>3</u></b>
<b><u>II. ABOUT THE PHD PROGRAM:</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>
1. ENROLLMENT:	4
2. PHD PLATFORM ACCESS:	4
3. STUDY PLANS:	5
A. SELF-PACED LEARNING:	6
B. BASIC LEARNING:	6
C. ADVANCED LEARNING:	6
D. SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES:	6
4. MONITORING AND EVALUATION:	7
5. PHD MANAGEMENT:	7
<b><u>III. RULES AND REGULATIONS:</u></b>	<b><u>8</u></b>
1. DENOMINATION AND SCOPE	8
2. DURATION AND MODALITIES	8
3. ACTIVITIES AND COURSES	8
4. REPORTING	9
5. MOBILITY	9
6. PUBLICATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC OUTCOMES	9
7. DOCTORAL THESIS	10
8. FACULTY	11



## **I. Welcome to CRIMEDIM:**

“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 welcome 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.”

Professor Luca Ragazzoni, MD, PhD



## **II. About the PhD program:**

### **1. Enrollment:**

The enrollment will be managed by the Central PhD Office at Università del Piemonte Orientale. Candidates will be contacted before the beginning of the course with all the instructions to complete the registration process.

The winners with a scholarship will be required to fill in a form to provide the bank details necessary for the accreditation of the scholarship. The first scholarship, covering the first three months of activities, is normally paid in January.

The PhD central office will contact the candidates in late October / early November with the information on how and when to pay the annual enrolment fees.

An institutional e-mail address will be automatically assigned to all the candidates after the registration process is completed. The e-mail address must be validated before you can use it to send and receive messages, access the UPO library, the WIFI within UPO premises etc. E-mail accounts remain valid for the whole duration of your studies at UPO.

### **2. PhD platform access:**

To use the Moodle platform for the doctoral program you need to follow these steps :

- Go to CRIMEDIM website (<https://crimedim.uniupo.it>).
- Under 'Education' section go to the 'Doctoral Program' subsection
- Scroll down and click on 'Students Login'
- On the new tab that appears login using your UPO credentials that you received or your google account (but be careful as you need to always login with the same credentials you use at the beginning)



- Insert the following access key (case sensitive): Crimedim.PhD

All the material for the PhD program can equally be found in the PhD collaborative space ([https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1rcV2LuNM5wXmn\\_QEwUTdaNayW5uCft\\_Q](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1rcV2LuNM5wXmn_QEwUTdaNayW5uCft_Q)) a Drive folder you will be granted access to in the following weeks.

### 3. Study plans:

This year, the PhD program will rely on a set of lectures, courses, and events to deliver the necessary knowledge to candidates.

Mainly 4 types of learning methods will be implemented in the program:

- **Self-paced learning:** a set of materials, documents, books, and articles will be available online and will be open to all candidates to consult whenever they want.
- **Basic learning:** a set of courses and meetings will be held to teach the basics of scientific research.
- **Advanced learning:** a set of open courses to the PhD candidates and to UPO students to deliver some advanced research skills (on demand).
- **Scientific activities:** a set of events open to PhD candidates and CRIMEDIM members, these events will consist of scientific webinars (on demand) and scientific debates.

On top of these 4 methods, some optional lectures will be available for the candidates to choose or to suggest if they feel the need for it and will be planned accordingly. Some of these optional subjects are: frameworks and definitions, transdisciplinary and participatory research, use of statistical tools and General IT skills (ppt, world, email...).

In addition, a Scientific English Communications Course will be delivered to all candidates. The course will be held in presence or online, and it lasts around 2 months at a frequency of one session of approximately 2 hours per week (the dates of the course will be communicated shortly).



**a. Self-paced learning:**

References and readings will be available about subjects which include basics of epidemiology, qualitative research (interviews and focus group discussions), research integrity and ethics, survey design, qualitative data analysis tools and ethnography, participant observation.

**b. Basic learning:**

The **'ABC of scientific research for doctoral students'** is a 3 day intensive course that will encompass the most important concepts and precepts concerning research methodology.

- Introduction to research
- Systematic literature review
- Qualitative data collection and analysis
- Delphi methodology
- Survey design
- Research in humanitarian contexts
- Basics of epidemiology and secondary data analysis
- Ethics
- How to publish a scientific article
- System thinking
- Peer review process
- Working in teams and soft skills

**c. Advanced learning:**

On demand.

**d. Scientific activities:**

On demand.

#### 4. Monitoring and evaluation:

The PhD program is mainly self-planned, meaning the candidates will have several opportunities to attend courses, lectures, and webinars, upon agreement with their supervisor(s). To make the journey easier to track, candidates are encouraged to structure their personalized training plan choosing from the activities proposed in the following table.

Sources	Mandatory	Optional (suggested)
ABC of scientific research for doctoral students' course	X	
Scientific English Communications course	X	
Other PhD courses (self-paced and advanced learning and scientific activities)	X	
Involvement in CRIMEDIM activities (lecturer in education and training courses...)	X	
Participation in congresses / seminars (national/international)		X
Minimum 2 peer-reviewed, indexed publications on Q1-Q2 journals as first author	X	
Other publications not related to PhD topic (commentary, case study...)		X
Master students tutoring and thesis co-supervision	X	
Organization of workshops / meetings / seminars		X
Application for a grant		X
Participation to the EMDM residential phase	X	

#### 5. PhD management:

Throughout this PhD program you will be closely followed, supported, and monitored by our team:

Name and E-mail	Position in CRIMEDIM	Role in the PhD program
<b>Luca RAGAZZONI</b> luca.ragazzoni@med.uniupo.it	Director	Director and Supervisor
<b>Francesco BARONE ADESI</b> francesco.baroneadesi@uniupo.it	Faculty member	Supervisor
<b>Martina VALENTE</b> martina.valente@uniupo.it	Postdoctoral research fellow	Coordinator of program activities
<b>Elena RUBINI</b> elena.rubini@uniupo.it	Postdoctoral research fellow	Coordinator of program activities
<b>Monica LINTY</b> monica.linty@uniupo.it	Administrative coordinator	Secretariat
<b>Stefania ORIGINE</b> stefania.origine@uniupo.it	Administrative coordinator	Secretariat
<b>Stefano BORSATTO</b> stefano.borsatto@uniupo.it	IT specialist	IT specialist

### **III. Rules and regulations:**

#### **1. Denomination and scope**

A PhD, Philosophiae Doctor, represents the highest form of qualification in the Italian academic system. The goal of this program is to equip future researchers with the necessary skills to perform high-level research in universities, research centers, or in public and private organizations.

#### **2. Duration and modalities**

The doctoral program has a three-year duration, starting 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 authorized by the faculty board when these do not hamper successful completion of the PhD. Overall, it is expected that candidates perform their research activities in CRIMEDIM headquarters in Novara (Via Lanino 1, Novara, Italy).

#### **3. Activities and courses**

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 offered within the PhD program, whether in person or online via videoconferencing tools. About the intensive phase of the program (i.e., 4 days within the first year), all candidates are expected to participate to the lectures in person at CRIMEDIM's headquarters. 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).

#### **4. Reporting**

Candidates must periodically update the supervisor(s) and the scientific coordinator regarding important evolutions of their PhD and scientific outcomes; every article and scientific outcome should 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 the year by September 30th of each year. Upon acceptance from the faculty board, candidates must enroll in the following year by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **5. Mobility**

Upon consultation of the supervisor(s), candidates are highly encouraged to consider spending a period of up to 12 months abroad. Those who have a scholarship will have a 50% additional funding.

#### **6. Publications and scientific outcomes**

Candidates are requested to discuss with their supervisor(s), tutor, and the scientific coordinator about the scientific outcomes expected from their PhD; they must do their best to reach pre-established goals and milestones. After receiving approval from the supervisor(s), tutor, and scientific coordinator, candidates are encouraged to disseminate their scientific outcomes in the context of national and/or international conferences or congresses.

All articles and scientific outcomes developed within the doctoral program should explicitly mention in the acknowledgements that 'This manuscript is the result of a study



conducted in the framework of the International PhD in Global Health, Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Medicine, organized by Università del Piemonte Orientale (UPO)'.

The candidates should put CRIMEDIM as first affiliation and then the department of their supervisor as a second affiliation. After consultation with the supervisor the candidate shall use the affiliations as written in the list below:

- CRIMEDIM-Center for Research and Training in Disaster Medicine, Humanitarian Aid and Global Health, Università del Piemonte Orientale, 28100 Novara, Italy.
- Department for Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition, Università del Piemonte Orientale, 13100 Vercelli, Italy.
- Department of Translational Medicine, Università del Piemonte Orientale, 28100 Novara, Italy.

## **7. Doctoral thesis**

At the end of the three-year program, the title of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is conferred following the submission and positive evaluation of a doctoral dissertation and a defense in front of the PhD panel. The research thesis must contribute to the advancement of knowledge or methodologies within the chosen research field and must be submitted to the faculty board in the month of December, right after the end of the third year. The thesis defense takes place in the month of March.

The PhD funds/budget remains at disposal until the final examination.



## 8. Faculty

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

### National faculty

<b>Surname and name</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>SSD</b>
BARONE ADESI Francesco	UPO	Translational Medicine	Member	Associate Professor	06/M1	06	MED/42
BISIO Chiara	UPO	Science, Technology and Innovation	Member	Associate Professor	03/A2	03	CHIM/02
BOTTRIGHI Alessio	UPO	Science, Technology and Innovation	Member	Associate Professor	01/B1	01	INF/01
CAMMAROTA Gianmaria	UPO	Translational Medicine	Member	Associate Professor	06/L1	06	MED/41
CODA MOSCAROLA Flavia	UPO	Law, Political, Economical, and Social Sciences	Member	Researcher	13/A3	13	SECS-P/03
DELLACORTE Francesco	UPO	Translational Medicine	Member	Professor	06/L1	06	MED/41
FRANCESCHINIS Giuliana Annamaria	UPO	Science, Technology and Innovation	Member	Professor	01/B1	01	INF/01
GELMINI Lorenzo	UPO	Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition	Member	Associate Professor	13/B1	13	SECS-P/07
GINO Sarah	UPO	Health Sciences	Member	Associate Professor	06/M2	06	MED/43



IPPOLITI Roberto	UPO	Law, Political, Economical, and Social Sciences	Member	Researcher	13/A4	13	SECS-P/06
LOMBARDI Roberta	UPO	Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition	Member	Professor	12/D1	12	IUS/10
MIGLIARIO Mario	UPO	Translational Medicine	Member	Associate Professor	06/F1	06	MED/28
POY Samuele	UPO	Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition	Member	Researcher	13/A2	13	SECS-P/02
RAGAZZONI Luca	UPO	Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition	Coordinator	Associate Professor	06/L1	06	MED/41
RAVIGLIONE Mario Carlo Battista	UNIMI	Pathophysiology and Transplantation	Member	Professor	06/M1	06	MED/42
SAVARINO Luca	UPO	Translational Medicine	Member	Professor	11/C3	11	M-FIL/03



International faculty

<b>Surname and name</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>SSD</b>
HUBLOUE Ives	VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL (VUB)	Belgium	Professor	06/B1	06	MED/09
MURRAY Virginia Suzette Gauvain	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND	UK	Professor	06/M1	06	MED/42
O'MATHÚNA Dónal	THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY	USA	Professor	05/G1	05	BIO/14
VON SCHREEB Johan	KAROLINKA INSTITUTET	Sweden	Professor	06/C1	06	MED/18