

Social Sciences



DESCRIPTION

The PhD in Social Sciences trains researchers with intellectual autonomy and scientific rigour, capable of carrying out research that contributes to the production of interdisciplinary knowledge about the contemporary reality and its sociopolitical, economic, and cultural underpinnings in a context of global transformations and problems.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING OF EXCELLENCE

The program encourages a plural approach to academic research, open to a range of conceptual and methodological approaches, and reflexive about the relational, multiscale, and historical nature of sociopolitical processes. The program also trains students to work in demanding academic environments and cutting-edge research agendas, and promotes among students a reflexive attitude towards the knowledge they produce and disseminate.

The Faculty of Social Sciences and History, offers to PhD researchers the benefits of an intellectually diverse and stimulating academic community, together with the essential conditions for a high standard research training.

Our faculty is recognized both nationally and internationally for contributions to the understanding of some of the most pressing challenges facing contemporary societies. The high quality and diverse research produced through a number of centers and programs ensures a thriving intellectual environment for students to develop new knowledge.

In this context, the PhD in Social Sciences offers a unique space of training that promotes intellectual exchange, critical thinking, and interdisciplinary research to a high standard of excellence. To this end, the program promo-

tes deep dialogue between different social science disciplines (anthropology, communications, history, political science, sociology), and an understanding of Latin American sociopolitical realities from a global and historical perspective.

The program promotes participation of candidates in the Faculty's existing research groups and centers, in order to expand the possibilities for intellectual exchange, methodological innovation, and mastery of the practice of academic enquiry. The program also promotes learning and development of fundamental competencies for academic life and work in highly competitive global environments.



OBJECTIVES AND GRADUATION PROFILE

The program's main objectives are:

- To train researchers with intellectual autonomy and scientific rigour, a solid theoretical and methodological knowledge base, and an up-to-date vision of the social sciences.
- To prepare graduates for incorporation into demanding academic communities, where they will be able to produce original research and disseminate knowledge in the field of the social sciences.
- To contribute to understanding of real-world socio-political problems, in Chile and Latin America more generally, associated with the program's research themes.

Graduates from our PhD in Social Sciences will:

- Possess up-to-date knowledge about the major theoretical orientations and current debates in the field of social sciences, and be able to integrate a range of disciplinary approaches for the study and understanding of current complex social problems.
- Be able to draw on solid quantitative and qualitative methodological training, and demonstrate advanced abilities for the development of rigorous, informed and independent empirical investigation, which contributes to the development of theory and concepts necessary for the study of contemporary socio-political problems.
- Have skills to successfully perform in all major areas of academic work and develop a career path as researchers and teachers. They will possess the skill set necessary to contribute, from their respective areas of expertise, to contemporary debates in the social sciences by way of original research, and to disseminate the knowledge produced to relevant audiences.

RESEARCH THEMES

The UDP's doctorate in social sciences offers training in research with emphasis in three major areas or themes which bring together the research interests of the academic faculty engaged in the program.

It is a requirement that the subject chosen for the doctoral dissertation should be linked to at least one of the three areas of specialization of the program.

Social processes and transformations. This area addresses, both theoretically and empirically, the understanding of social change in capitalist modernity, with a special focus on the main technological, political, sociocultural, demographic and ecological transformations of recent decades. To this end, it explores the variety of forms that social change can take, problematics associated with it, the effects that it produces, and the ways in which it is experienced and signified. These concerns crystallize in the following dimensions:

- The conceptualization of and change, in terms of its conditions of possibility, and the actors and practices that drive it, legitimate it, and/or limit it in different ways.
- The exploration of multiscale forms of observation of socio-political processes at levels such as the domestic sphere, the city, the inter-state system, and transnational networks; and in relation to the various forms of inequality that these processes generate and reproduce (class, gender, race, territories).
- The study of processes of social change in terms of the long-term dynamics within which institutions and forms of social life are inscribed, organized and transformed, with attention to the problems, conflicts and crises associated with these processes.

Culture and knowledge. This line of research focuses on the study of cultural practices and processes of symbolic production of social life, and explores the generation and circulation of different forms of knowledge, observation and organization of sociopolitical reality. This translates into the following research emphases:

- Processes of formation of identities and subjectivities, specially in relation to practices of cultural consumption and new information and communication technologies.
- The relationships between the state, cultural policy, and the actors and institutions which produce cultural goods and knowledge.
- The relationships between ethnic groups and conflicts over demands for territory and recognition.
- Processes of production and transformation of a range of entities which contribute to giving form to sociopolitical realities (institutional and normative arrangements, social groups and categories, coordination mechanisms, concepts and theories, sociotechnical dispositifs, etc.)

Democracy and power. This line of research deals with contemporary tensions in democratic regimes in a historical perspective, which are reflected in the decline of electoral participation, the irruption of new political forces and forms of citizenship, increasing lack of legitimacy of traditional political actors, and the appearance of various types of radicalism. These issues are addressed from diverse and complementary perspectives, including:

- The study that the impact, stability and change of institutional and constitutional designs have on democratic regimes.
- The formation of various types of radical political forces which call into question the pillars of liberal democracy.
- The analysis of political party organisations and other mechanisms which explain levels of citizen political participation.
- Processes of reproduction and replacement of elites and power structures; the impact of these processes on the legitimacy of the democratic system.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

I SEMESTER	II SEMESTER			III SEMESTER	IV SEMESTER	
Social Science Seminar I Problems, Perspectives and Contemporary Debates	Social Science Seminar II Social Processes and Transformations	DEFENSE OF RESEARCH PROBLEM		Social Science Seminar III Culture and Knowledge	Social Science Seminar IV Democracy and Power	DEFENSE OF DISSERTATION PROJECT
Research Workshop I	Research Workshop II			Research Workshop III	Research Workshop VI	
Quantitative Methods	Qualitative Methods					
Academic Portfolio I: Writing	Academic Portfolio II: Scientific Communication			Academic Portfolio III: Course Design and Evaluation		
Elective Courses						

V SEMESTER

Dissertation
Seminar I

VI SEMESTER

Dissertation
Seminar II

VII SEMESTER

Dissertation
Seminar III

VIII SEMESTER

Dissertation
Seminar VI

Development of Dissertation Research and Writing
(Research Stay)

Products from Academic Portfolio

DISSERTATION DEFENSE

CORE DOCTORAL FACULTY

MARTÍN ARBOLEDA

PhD in Political Science from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. Research interests: Urban studies, natural resource extraction, critical theory, the political economy of global capitalism.

TOMÁS ARIZTÍA

PhD in Sociology, London School of Economics, United Kingdom. Research interests: Sociology of knowledge, the social life of methods, economic sociology, environmental sociology, critical transitions to sustainability, social studies of energy.

ROSSANA CASTIGLIONI

PhD in Political Science, University of Notre Dame, USA. Research interests: Comparative politics, political economy, social policy.

CAROL CHAN

PhD in Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, USA. Research interests: Migration, mobility, race, gender, forced labor.

RODRIGO CORDERO

PhD in Sociology, University of Warwick, United Kingdom. Research interests: Critical theory and social philosophy, the historical sociology of concepts, relationships between law, power and social change.

TERESA CORREA

PhD in Communication, University of Texas-Austin, USA. Research interests: Access and use of new technologies; digital inequalities; sociology of media, gender and minorities; communication and health.

MAITE DE CEA

PhD in Political Science, Institute of Political Studies, Grenoble, France. Research interests: Cultural policy and rights recognition of indigenous peoples in Chile.

RAIMUNDO FREI

PhD in Sociology, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany. Research interests: Cultural sociology, qualitative methods, memory and generational narratives, moral economy of inequality.

CLAUDIO FUENTES

PhD in Political Science, University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill), USA. Research interests: Political processes in Chile and Latin America, dynamics of institutional change.

MODESTO GAYO

PhD in Political Science and Administration, University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Research interests: Cultural capital, social stratification, middle classes and politics, theories of nationalism.

MÓNICA GERBER

PhD in Social Research Methods, London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom.

Research interests: Social and political psychology, social justice, inequalities, violence and attitudes towards punishment, research methods.

FLORENCIA HERRERA

PhD in Social Anthropology, University of Barcelona, Spain. Research interests: Family diversity, parenthood, adoption, reproduction, disability, qualitative methodologies.

MÓNICA HUMERES

PhD in Sociology, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Chile. Research interests: Social Studies of Science and Technology, Public Policy, Cultural studies of communication; Feminism and gender studies.

ALFREDO JOIGNANT

PhD in Political Science, University of Paris, France. Research interests: Governmental elites in Chile, sociology of the political field, historical sociology of the state.

ALDO MADARIAGA

PhD in Economics and Political Science, Universität zu Köln, Germany. Research interests: Comparative and international political economy, environmental politics and development models.

CARLOS MELÉNDEZ

Doctor in Political Science, University of Notre Dame, USA. Research interests: Political identities and political ties in systems with low institutionalization, populist attractions in comparative perspective, contentious politics.

PATRICIO NAVIA

PhD in Political Science, New York University, USA. Research interests: Electoral studies, party systems, legislative studies, political, public opinion, political economy.

MIGUEL PÉREZ

PhD in Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley, USA. Research interests: Political anthropology, Urban Anthropology, Citizenship; Housing and right to the city; Ethics, dignity and everyday life; Migration.

LISA ZANOTTI

PhD In Political Science, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile, and in Humanities, Leiden University , Netherlands. Research interests: Comparative politics; Political parties; Radicalization.

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATES

JORGE ATRIA

PhD in Sociology, Free University of Berlin, Germany. Research interests: Economic sociology, fiscal sociology, inequality, elites and social stratification.

MARGARITA PALACIOS

PhD in Sociology, The New School for Social Research, USA. Research interests: Social and political theory, psychoanalysis, violence, memory studies, aesthetics and new materialisms.

DARÍO RODRÍGUEZ

PhD in Sociology, University of Bielefeld, Germany. Research interests: Social systems theory, organizational analysis and management.

FERNANDO ROSENBLATT

PhD in political science, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile. Research interests: Comparative politics, party politics organizations, mixed methods.

CRISTOBAL ROVIRA

PhD in political science, University of Humboldt, Berlin, Germany. Research interests: Comparative politics, democracy and populism in Latin America and Europe.

BERTA TEITELBOIM

Master in Biostatistics, Universidad de Chile. Research interests: Poverty, social policy, social survey and social impact measurement.

MANUEL VICUÑA

PhD in History, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. Research interests: Intellectual and cultural history.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicants for admission to the doctoral program in social sciences must have obtained a Masters degree in a social science or humanities discipline. Candidates with a background in other disciplines may exceptionally be considered, if they have previously worked in one of the research areas in which the doctoral program specializes.

Applicants must supply the following:

- 1.** Completed application form.
- 2.** CV, containing details of professional and academic trajectory, and experience in activities related to social research.
- 3.** Copy of applicant's Chilean national identity card or passport in the case foreign applicants.
- 4.** Copies of undergraduate and postgraduate degree certificates.
- 5.** Grades transcripts from undergraduate and postgraduate studies.
- 6.** Certification of academic ranking at undergraduate and postgraduate level or certificate from competent authority (university, Ministry of Education) that the institution does not provide certifications of academic ranking.
- 7.** A letter of application (maximum two standard pages in length).
- 8.** A research proposal, which must contain: identification of the research problem, justification, goals, and conceptual/ methodological approach to be employed (maximum 2,000 words).
- 9.** Signed sworn statement (non-notarized) certifying availability for fulltime study in the doctoral program.
- 10.** Two confidential letters of recommendation (references), from academics and/or professionals able to evaluate the applicant's capacity for doctoral study. Letters of reference must be sent directly by referees to the following email address: postgradossociales@mail.udp.cl

- 11.** Certification of reading skills in English (required: medium level). For non-native speakers of English this certification must take the form of examination certificates, evidence of having passed a course in TOEFL, or equivalent.

All official documentation (degree certificates, transcripts, etc.) must be either originals, or notarised copies. All international applicants must have their qualifications validated by the nearest Chilean consulate or (if resident in Chile) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before applying, and must present these qualifications with the requisite notarized validation (original seal and watermark).

SCHOLARSHIPS

The PhD in Social Sciences at UDP selects **three students each year**. Acceptance includes a scholarship that covers the fee and living costs during the four years of duration of the program. It is mandatory to have full time dedication to the program, with the possibility of disposing up to 12 hours a week to other academic activities (teaching, research assistance, etc.).

Students that enter the program must apply to the PhD scholarship offered by Chile's Agencia Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo (ANID). We support selected students in the preparation for their applications. In case of not obtaining the ANID scholarship, students continue with the UDP scholarship.

Once the doctoral project is approved (4th semester), UDP gives students the affiliation of Adjunct Researcher, which allows access to all the benefits accrued to that category of researchers inside the university like receiving publication bonuses, participating in calls for travel funds, among other.

INTERNATIONALIZATION

The internationalization policy of the PhD in Social Sciences includes actions aimed at promoting doctoral research through: i) the development of training spaces with an international seal, ii) the promotion of stays abroad and iii) the formalization of institutional cooperation agreements.

Training spaces: Since its inception, the PhD program has introduced the international dimension as a central component in the training processes. This has happened through the incorporation of outstanding foreign academics in various training spaces (courses, seminars, workshops, thesis committees, etc.).

International stays: to enrich students' research work (updating of knowledge, research, extension and publication) the PhD program seeks to promote their insertion in research teams and academic communities outside of UDP. Students can apply for an research stay abroad from the fifth semester onward, that is, once they have passed the candidacy exam and begin the thesis period. Our students have made stays at the Universidad del Rosario (Colombia), Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (Germany), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece), among others.

Institutional cooperation: In addition to specific exchange agreements, the Program and the Faculty members have strong cooperative ties with international academic institutions, which facilitate co-supervisors and academic mobility. Among the institutions are: National University of San Martin (Argentina), La Trobe University (Australia), University of Brasília (Brazil), Universidad del Rosario (Colombia), University of Paris X-Nanterre (France), Free University of Berlin (Germany), GIGA-German Institute for Global and Area Studies (Germany), Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (Germany), University of Hildesheim (Germany), among others.

INFORMATION AND CONTACT

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ADMISSION 2025

MODALITY ON-SITE

APPLICATIONS MAY 15TH - SEPTEMBER 15TH

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CIENCIAS SOCIALES E HISTORIA

	3 años	Doctorado en Ciencias Sociales ACREDITADO
<small>Desde 2 de diciembre de 2020 hasta 2 de diciembre de 2023 Organismo Acreditador: Comisión Nacional de Acreditación - CNA Universidad Diego Portales. Institución acreditada por 6 años.</small>		

PREGRADO
POSGRADO
INVESTIGACIÓN
INNOVACIÓN

6 AÑOS	<small>UNIVERSIDAD DIEGO PORTALES ACREDITADA EN NIVEL DE EXCELENCIA EN TODAS LAS ÁREAS</small>	
<small>Unidad Institucional: Escuela de Ingeniería, Investigación, Desarrollo de Proyectos y Evaluación con el Medio DESDE NOVIEMBRE DE 2013 HASTA NOVIEMBRE 2020</small>		

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