

PHD IN

udp UNIVERSIDAD
DIEGO PORTALES

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 Chilean and Latin American societies, 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 academic staff is recognized both nationally and internationally for their 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 promotes **deep dialogue between disciplines** (particularly, though not exclusively, between sociology and political science), 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 PROFILE OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

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-the-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-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

QUALIFYING (TAUGHT) PHASE					
I SEMESTER	II SEMESTER			III SEMESTER	VI SEMESTER
Social Science Seminar I: Problems, Perspectives and Contemporary Debates (12 Credits)	Social Science Seminar II: Social Processes and Transformations (10 Credits)	DEFENSE OF RESEARCH PROBLEM		Social Science Seminar III: Culture and Knowledge (10 Credits)	Social Science Seminar IV: Democracy and Power (10 Credits)
	Thematic Specialization I (2 Credits)			Thematic Specialization II (2 Credits)	Thematic Specialization III (2 Credits)
Research Workshop I (10 Credits)	Research Workshop II (10 Credits)			Research Workshop III (12 Credits)	Research Workshop IV (12 Credits)
Qualitative Methods (6 Credits)	Quantitative Methods (6 Credits)			Methods Specialization Courses (6 Credits)	
Academic Portfolio I: Writing (2 Credits)	Academic Portfolio II: Scientific Communication (2 Credits)			Academic Portfolio III: Teaching (4 Credits)	
		DEFENSE OF THESIS PROJECT			

FINAL PHASE (THESIS PHASE)

V SEMESTER

VI SEMESTER

VII SEMESTER

VIII SEMESTER

Thesis Seminar I
(5 Credits)

Thesis Seminar II
(5 Credits)

Thesis Seminar III
(5 Credits)

Thesis Seminar IV
(5 Credits)

DEFENSE OF THESIS

Thesis Writing (research visit) (80 Credits)

Products for academic portfolio (20 Credits)

FACULTY

CORE DOCTORAL FACULTY

MARTÍN ARBOLEDA

PhD in political science from the University of Manchester, England. Research interests: Urban studies, natural resource extraction, critical theory, the political economy of global capitalism.

TOMÁS ARIZTÍA

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

JORGE ATRIA

PhD in sociology from the free University of Berlin, Germany. Research interests: Economic sociology, fiscal sociology, inequality, elites and social stratification.

ROSSANA CASTIGLIONI

PhD in political science from the University of Notre Dame, US. Research interests: Comparative politics, political economy, social policy.

RODRIGO CORDERO

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

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.

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.

MONICA 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.

HILLARY HINER

PhD in history, Universidad de Chile. Research interests: History of feminism, gender violence and public policy. on memory, gender and sexuality.

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.

FACULTY

ALDO MADARIAGA

PhD in Economics and Political Science, Universität zu Köln, Germany.
Research interests: Comparative and international political economy, the politics of public policy.

CARLOS MELENDEZ

Doctor in Political Science, University of Notre Dame, United States.
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.

FERNANDO ROSENBLATT

PhD in political science, Pontificia Universidad Católica de 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.

CAROLINA SEGOVIA

PhD in political science, University of Michigan, USA. Research interests: Quantitative methods, citizen's perceptions of democracy, economic inequality and interest groups.

ANA MARÍA STUVEN

PhD in history, Stanford University, USA. Research interests: Religion, democracy, comparative history of Chile and Brazil.

MARTINA YOPO

PhD in Sociology, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.
Research interests: Gender, maternity, reproduction, time and life course.

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATES

RAIMUNDO FREI

PhD in Sociology, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany.

Research interests: Cultural sociology, qualitative methods, memory and generational narratives, moral economy of inequality.

MACARENA ORCHARD

PhD in Sociology, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom.

Research interests: Sociology of inequality, sociology of morality, sociology of respect, multimethods research.

MARGARITA PALACIOS

PhD in Sociology, The New School for Social Research, United States.

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.

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 (if the awarding institution produces this information).
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 full-time 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. 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
12. 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)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

**Postgraduate Unit, Faculty of Social Sciences and
History**

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Academic coordinator: Gabriela Moreno

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ADMISSION 2024

Modality	On-site
Applications	June 1st – September 29th 2023

+ info en postgrados.udp.cl
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 Comisión Nacional de Acreditación CNA-Chile	5 AÑOS	UNIVERSIDAD ACREDITADA EN TODAS LAS ÁREAS
	Gestión Institucional, Docencia de Pregrado, Investigación, Docencia de Postgrado y Vinculación con el Medio Desde octubre de 2018 hasta octubre de 2023.	

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CIENCIAS SOCIALES E HISTORIA