

**CURRICULUM
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LODZ
DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF SOCIAL
SCIENCES
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025**

Study programme for the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences

1. Name of doctoral school

University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences

2. A concise description of the doctoral school with a statement of learning objectives

Curriculum of the Doctoral School of Social Sciences (SDNS) is an important element in the array of the University of Lodz's efforts to provide advanced education at the academic level.

The School educates doctoral students in the following **disciplines**:

1. economics and finance,
2. socio-economic geography and spatial management,
3. legal sciences,
4. political science and administration,
5. sociological sciences,
6. management science and quality,
7. pedagogy,
8. psychology.

The curriculum gives doctoral students the opportunity to acquire competencies at an advanced level in terms of both preparation and defense of the doctoral dissertation and development of their academic skills (strengthening research skills and improving skills in teaching) and personal development (soft skills, including active career planning).

The educational goal at SDNS is to broaden and deepen the interdisciplinary knowledge and skills of doctoral students so that they are prepared to independently plan, design, and conduct research as a basis for preparing a doctoral dissertation. Doctoral students who complete their training at the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences are prepared to critically evaluate the results of their research, which form the basis of scientific publications, and to present their findings to the international scientific community. The educational programme enables doctoral students to participate in international exchange (e.g. Erasmus + programme, seminars and scientific conferences) and interuniversity exchange. Graduates of the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences acquire the competencies to engage in individual and collaborative research with national and international research teams. In addition, the aim is to prepare doctoral students for teaching at the university level, where they can combine acquired scientific knowledge with the use of the latest methods of communication. The curriculum takes into account current theoretical concepts in the social sciences and trends in the application of research results in practice, providing doctoral students with opportunities for further academic development.

The education is conducted in Polish or English and includes a group of compulsory subjects, blocks of elective subjects and seminars. This approach allows us to offer doctoral students a flexible and interdisciplinary educational programme implemented in an international environment (international lecturers and doctoral students, international mobility).

The curriculum of a doctoral student ends with the submission of a doctoral dissertation with a positive opinion of the doctoral supervisor(s).

3. Indication of the degree earned by the graduate

Upon completion of the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences and defense the dissertation, the graduate receives the degree of Doctor in the Social Sciences in one of eight disciplines: economics and finance, social and economic geography and spatial management, legal sciences, political and administrative sciences, sociological sciences, management and quality sciences, pedagogy, psychology.

4. Description of the entry requirements, expected competences of the candidate expressed in the language of the learning outcomes;

Expectations towards the candidate:

- summarizes issues in the field of sociology, economics, law, pedagogy, psychology, geography, management and politics at the 7th level of the Polish Qualifications Framework,
- precisely formulates and exhaustively expresses thoughts and judgements about the conducted scientific research, using specialized terminology;
- characterizes and uses basic techniques and tools used in the study of the chosen discipline,
- identifies scientific communities and centers – domestic or foreign – engaged in research in the field of interest of the candidate,
- outlines ways to obtain funding to conduct scientific research,
- analyses the possibilities of applying the output resulting from the planned dissertation in the process of commercialization of the results of scientific activity,
- describes the principles of research ethics, particularly respect for the work of others,
- demonstrates knowledge of a foreign language to study the world literature in the leading scientific discipline and planned personal research,
- is self-motivated, justifies the need to continually expand knowledge and implement new methods in scientific research.

5. Indication of the fields and scientific disciplines to which the learning outcomes refer

Area: Social Sciences

Disciplines: sociological sciences, economics and finance, legal sciences, pedagogy, psychology, socio-economic geography and spatial management, management and quality sciences, political science and administration.

6. Identification of the learning outcomes for the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences corresponding to the second cycle characteristics at level 8 of the Polish Qualification Framework

Own code	Learning outcomes in terms of knowledge – Graduate knows and understands	PRK code
SDNS_W01	in an advanced level, allowing verification of existing paradigms, theoretical aspects and world trends in social sciences and general knowledge related to related fields	P8S_WG
SDNS_W02	the main development trends in the field of social sciences in which the learning takes place	P8S_WG
SDNS_W03	methodology of scientific research in social sciences and the criteria for selecting appropriate research methods for the scope of conducted research	P8S_WG
SDNS_W04	rules for dissemination of results also in open access mode	P8S_WG
SDNS_W05	fundamental dilemmas of contemporary civilization	P8S_WK

SDNS_W06	economic, ethical, legal and social determinants of research activities	P8S_WK
SDNS_W07	basic principles of knowledge transfer to the economic and social sphere and commercialization of scientific results and know-how related to these results	P8S_WK
SDNS_W08	modern, innovative methods, concepts and tools for teaching	P8S_WK
Own code	Learning outcomes in terms of skills – The graduate will be able to	PRK code
SDNS_U01	use knowledge from different fields of science or art to creatively identify, formulate and innovatively solve problems and carry out research tasks (in particular, define the purpose and subject of research and formulate a scientific hypothesis; develop research methods, techniques and tools and apply them creatively; make conclusions based on research results)	P8S_UW
SDNS_U02	critically analyse and evaluate the results of scientific research, expert activities and other works of a creative nature and their contribution to the advancement of knowledge	P8S_UW
SDNS_U03	transfer the results of scientific activities to the economic and social sphere	P8S_UW
SDNS_U04	communicate on specialized topics to the extent necessary to actively participate in the international scientific community	P8S_UK
SDNS_U05	disseminate the results of their scientific activity, popularize their scientific knowledge by disseminating the results of their own research, initiate debate, participate in scientific discourse	P8S_UK
SDNS_U06	use a foreign language to the extent necessary to participate in the international scientific and professional environment	P8S_UK
SDNS_U07	plan and implement individual and team research projects in social sciences, also in international environment	P8S_UO
SDNS_U08	independently plan and act for their own development and inspire and organize the development of others	P8S_UU
SDNS_U09	plan and implement classes or activity groups using modern methods and tools	P8S_UU
Own code	Learning outcomes in terms of social competences – The graduate is prepared to	PRK code
SDNS_K01	objectively and critically evaluate the achievements within the discipline	P8S_KK
SDNS_K02	objectively and critically evaluate their own contributions to the discipline and the achievements and accomplishments of others	P8S_KK
SDNS_K03	recognize the importance of knowledge in solving cognitive and practical problems	P8S_KK
SDNS_K04	fulfil the social obligations of researchers and creators	P8S_KO
SDNS_K05	be open to new trends of thought and commitment to the public interest, contributing to the development of a society based on knowledge and the search for truth	P8S_KO
SDNS_K06	think and act in an entrepreneurial way both in the field of science and business practice	P8S_KO
SDNS_K07	comply with the rules of professional ethics and the law in scientific, research and teaching work.	P8S_KR
SDNS_K08	uphold the ethos of the research community, conduct scientific activity in an independent manner, respect the principles of public ownership of the results of scientific activity, taking into account the principles of intellectual property protection.	P8S_KR

7. Curriculum map (information about classes in each semester, their hours and their forms)		
Annex 1		
8. Description of individual courses or modules of the learning process		
<p>The curriculum includes the following groups of subjects:</p> <p>1) obligatory classes – 156 hours (including common classes for all doctoral schools at the University of Lodz)</p> <p>2) elective classes – 84 hours.</p> <p>4) student-master seminar – 130 hours.</p> <p>Total: 370 hrs.</p> <p>5) teaching practice – min. 10-max. 60 hrs. annually (sem. 3-8).</p> <p>Descriptions of individual courses in the course cards, in accordance with the requirements binding in this respect at the University of Lodz, will be available in the USOS system.</p>		
9. Specifying the relationship between the learning outcomes referred to in point f and the learning outcomes defined for particular subjects or modules of the educational process		
Annex 2: Learning outcomes matrix		
10. Description of how the learning outcomes of the programme are verified with reference to specific subjects or modules of the learning process		
<p>Learning outcomes at the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences are achieved through the completion of compulsory subject courses, optional classes, seminars, teaching practice and academic activities of doctoral students. Each course has assigned learning outcomes in terms of knowledge, skills and social competences, indicated programme content and credit requirements. The learning outcomes of individual courses are correlated with the learning outcomes for the entire course of study in the doctoral school.</p> <p>Verification of learning outcomes is accomplished by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – oral and written examinations, written assignments, speeches and presentations, debates, evaluation tests, discussions summarizing the content of the classes. Detailed information on the form of course credit and obtaining the subject learning outcomes and programme content is available in the USOS system; – analysis of information about the progress in scientific and research work, including the implementation of the Individual Research Plan, involvement in teaching and acquisition of social competences, provided by the doctoral student in the form of written documentation, which is verified and evaluated by the doctoral supervisor (Doctoral Student Assessment Sheet and Individual Mobility Plan); – mid-term evaluation and participation in interdisciplinary doctoral seminars. <p>The lecturer decides on the choice of one of the above forms of course credit.</p> <p>The form of credit for each course is known to doctoral students prior to the course cycle and is written in the syllabus. Classes in doctoral school are billed on an annual basis. In order to complete a year, a student must obtain credit for all courses prescribed in the educational plan for a given year, according to the choice made by the doctoral student.</p>		

11. Possible timetable for visiting lecturers

Visiting lecturers teach classes, but scheduling is not available.

12. Scope, rules and forms of practice

Doctoral students are required to complete a teaching internship (independently teaching and/or participating in the teaching of another faculty member for 10-60 hours per year beginning in the second year of study). Detailed rules of organizing professional practice for doctoral students are specified in Annex 3.

**Curriculum plan for the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences
Academic Year 2024/2025**

Type of classes	Form of classes	Language of instruction ¹	Number of hours per semester						Number of hours	
			Sem. 1-2	Sem 3	Sem 4	Sem 5	Sem 6	Sem 7		Sem 8
COMPULSORY ACTIVITIES – 156 hours.										
Integration activities	workshop	Polish or English	4							4
Ethical and legal aspects of scientific research 1 ²	lecture – 12 hrs.	Polish and English	12							12
Ethical and legal aspects of scientific research 2	tutorial – 8 hours	Polish or English	8							8
Science funding and knowledge transfer 1 ²	lecture – 8 hrs.	Polish and English	8							8
Science funding and knowledge transfer 2	workshops – 12 hours.	Polish or English	12							12
Higher education didactics 1 ²	lecture – 8 hrs.	Polish and English	8							8
Higher education didactics 2	workshop – 12 hours	Polish or English	12							12
Research design in the Social Sciences	tutorial	Polish and English	16							16
Literature review in research	tutorial	Polish or English	8							8
Preparation of scientific texts	tutorial	Polish or English	26							26
Tools for organizing scientific work	workshops	Polish or English	14							14
Interdisciplinary seminar of doctoral students (progress in the implementation of the doctorate)	seminar	Polish and English	14				14			28
Total:			142				14			156

ELECTIVE COURSES – 84 hours,

The doctoral student is required to: 1) complete 84 hours of elective courses, 2) take at least one course from each block.

You can participate in more than one class. The doctoral student selects courses and takes them in semesters III-VII according to the course offerings for the year.

Courses are carried out in Polish or English. The course is launched if there is a minimum enrollment of 5 people.

Block 1 - Specialist knowledge (sem. 3-7)	Form of classes	Language of instruction	Sem.1-2	The doctoral student selects courses and takes them in semesters III-VII according to the course offerings for the year	Sem.8	Number of hours
Contemporary research problems in a scientific discipline (eight disciplines – advanced discipline lecture)	tutorial	Polish or English		14		14
Lectures indicated in a given year (visiting professors/classes suggested by lecturers of UL/ŁTN ⁴)	lecture	Polish or English		14		14
Doctoral students to doctoral students (interdisciplinary seminar)	lecture	Polish or English		14		8
Block 2 – Researcher’s Workshop (Sem. 3-7)						
Qualitative research methods in social research ³	tutorial – 20 hours.	Polish and English		20		20
Advanced qualitative research methods in a selected discipline	tutorial – 8 hours.	Polish or English		8		8
Quantitative research methods in social research ³	tutorial – 20 hours.	Polish and English		20		20
Advanced quantitative research methods in a selected discipline	tutorial – 8 hours.	Polish or English		8		8
Methodology of the social sciences – a philosophical approach	tutorial	Polish or English		14		14
Doctoral dissertation – requirements and evaluation (example analysis)	tutorial	Polish or English		14		14

Spatial and social modeling methods		tutorial	Polish or English			14					14	
Block 3 – Soft competences												
Public speaking in an academic setting (sem. 3-7)		tutorial	Polish or English			14					14	
Academic English (sem. 3-6)		English language course	angielski			28					28	
Academic Career Coaching (sem. 3-4)		workshop	Polish or English			14						14
Stress in academic work (sem. 3-7)		tutorial	Polish or English			14					14	
Functioning of a multicultural research team (sem. 3-7)		tutorial	Polish or English			14					14	
STUDENT-MASTER SEMINAR⁵	Doctoral with a supervisor	Seminar with a doctoral supervisor	Polish or English	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	80
	Tutorial with the master	Seminar with the master	Polish or English			50					50	
Teaching practice⁶		independent conduct/participation	Polish and English			60	60	60	60	60	60	180
Classes/teaching practice												370/180

¹ Polish or English – the language of instruction depends on the composition of the group (participation of doctoral students from abroad); Polish and English – classes may be conducted both in Polish and English.

² Ethical and legal aspects of scientific research / Financing of science and transfer of knowledge / University didactics – lectures are conducted for all Doctoral Schools of the University of Lodz. The seminar and workshop are classes only for the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences.

³ Qualitative Methods in Social Research/Quantitative Methods in Social Research – tutorial 20 hours is a class common to all SDNS doctoral students (all disciplines). Advanced Quantitative Research Methods in a Selected Discipline – 8 hrs- classes for disciplines.

⁴ Lectures indicated in a given academic year (visiting professors/classes proposed by lecturers of the UL/ŁTN) – Doctoral Student may participate in classes conducted at other Doctoral Schools of the UL. The choice of classes is made in consultation with the doctoral supervisor. These classes must serve to expand knowledge or develop competencies necessary for the doctoral student's academic work.

⁵ The Student-Master Seminar includes: 20 hrs/year with doctoral supervisor + 20 hrs/year with tutor. The tutoring meetings agreed with the doctoral supervisor may be initiated by the doctoral student on his/her own (individual meetings) or carried out during organized lectures, guest seminars, webinars etc. The aim of the adopted solution is the academic activation of doctoral students, searching for events, establishing national and international relations and cooperation. All meetings must be documented on a course sheet, a sample of which is provided to the doctoral student. If it is not possible to receive confirmation from the tutor, the student-master's participation in the seminar is confirmed by the doctoral supervisor.

⁶ A doctoral student may carry out teaching practice in the form of individual teaching or participation in the teaching of classes from the 2nd year of studies, min. 10 – max. 60 hours per year.

Organization of teaching practice for doctoral students at the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences

1. The teaching practice of a doctoral student at the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences, consisting of teaching or participating in teaching, should take place in institutes/departments compliant with the chosen discipline.
2. Teaching practice for students at the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences, consisting in conducting classes at individual faculties, is planned by the institute/department where the doctoral student's doctoral supervisor is employed.
3. A doctoral student may pursue a teaching internship beginning in the second year of study.
4. In the event that a doctoral student is not able to teach independently in an academic year, the doctoral student shall receive teaching practice in the form of participation in the teaching of classes, and the following rules shall apply:
 - a) at least one month before the beginning of the semester, the doctoral student shall agree with the doctoral supervisor on the type of classes in which the doctoral student will participate;
 - b) a doctoral student may participate in classes conducted by a doctoral supervisor or another employee of the University of Lodz if both the employee and the doctoral supervisor agree to the participation of the doctoral student in the classes and if the classes are thematically consistent with the discipline chosen by the doctoral student;
 - (c) Participation in teaching consists of the active participation of the doctoral student in:
 - preparation of materials for classes (e.g. presentation, case study, set of examples and tasks, etc.),
 - teaching classes on topics indicated by the doctoral supervisor or other academic teacher,
 - preparing, conducting, and reviewing student course work.
5. At the request of the doctoral student, with the approval of the SDNS director, it is possible to carry out teaching practice (independent teaching) outside the University of Lodz, unless the doctoral supervisor's department or another unit of the University of Lodz requests the teaching.
6. If in a given academic year there are no classes scheduled for a doctoral student, and it will not be possible, for justified reasons, for him/her to participate in the teaching of classes, he/she should apply to the Director at the University of Lodz Doctoral School of Social Sciences to transfer the teaching of classes to the next academic year. The aforementioned application must be submitted no later than March 31 of the academic year in question.
7. The requests referred to in para. 6, may not be submitted by students in their final year of training at the doctoral school.
8. A doctoral student who will take part in a teaching practice in the form of attending classes shall submit, no later than two weeks before the beginning of a given semester, to the director of SDNS UL, information about the type of classes, the expected number of hours, and the name of the academic teacher in whose classes they will participate.
9. Teaching practice is credited by the doctoral supervisor on the basis of a printout from KIOD (independent teaching) or a statement of teaching practice (participation in teaching). The doctoral supervisor enters the appropriate pass/fail notation in the USOS record.