

Individual Training Plan

Requirements for the Individual Training Plan	<p>During the three years PhD Program, each Student is required to attend the following training activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. at least 96 hrs of advanced courses or modules (roughly corresponding to 12 ECTS) with final exam. A course has a typical duration of 24 hrs (3 ECTS), whereas a module has in general a minimum duration of 8 hrs (1 ECTS). Preferably, the Student should complete the teaching activity within the first two years.2. at least 24 hrs of professional training modules (normally organized by the University of Padova) aiming at improving the soft- or transferable-skills. Preferably these modules should be taken during the second and third year.3. at least 10 hrs of specialized seminars and/or cycles of seminars on topics of interest of the SIMN Course. Their attendance is self-certified by the Student.4. participation in National/International Advanced Schools. <p>The SIMN Course will provide for each Doctoral Cycle a set of advanced course or modules. Students are allowed to attend also external training courses or schools (they can be recognized as a training activity only if they have: (i) a minimum duration of 24 hrs, (ii) a final exam and (iii) if they are pre-approved by the SIMN Teaching Committee)</p>
Objectives of the Individual Training Plan	<p>The SIMN Individual Training Plan has two main objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Research-based training: the PhD students will be assigned a research project on one of the most advanced topics. This is the most important activity and will produce a final written original PhD thesis, which will be evaluated by two Experts in the field. The PhD student will defend it in front of a Panel of Experts to obtain the PhD Degree.2. Lecture-based training: to enhance the scientific/technical knowledge on the most advanced and specialized research topics and to improve the soft and transferable skills of the PhD student. This is obtained through course or modules given mainly by the Members of the Academic Board and/or by other national or international leading experts. <p>At the end of the Individual Training Plan the SIMN PhD student will master an advanced research field and the educational training will be beneficial to the research activity by improving his/her knowledge of the most advanced experimental and/or numerical techniques for designing, producing and characterizing the innovative materials under investigation. Also, the acquired soft-skills will improve his/her ability to manage and plan research activities and to communicate more effectively the research outcomes.</p>
Training Plan	<p>The types of activities that each student can carry out to fulfill the requirements of their individual training plan are listed below.</p>

1) Definition of course	A course is defined as a class, normally given in English, with a number of teaching/laboratory hours typically greater than or equal to 8 (1 CFU or 1 ECTS), at the end of which the Student must pass an exam. Only the successful completion of this final exam implies the acquisition of the training credits. Attending courses or schools or other educational activities without final exam is not eligible for credits.
2) Definition of seminar	A seminar is defined as a presentation with a limited duration (typically one hour), after which no formal exam is given. The seminar is given by experts on topics of high relevance for the PhD Program and on the most advanced research fields.
Training Plan Activities	
a) Mandatory Courses	There are no mandatory courses
b) Specialized Courses	The list of Advanced Courses proposed by the SIMN PhD Program for each Academic Year is reported in the PhD Course webpage
c) Soft-skills Courses	Students are requested to attend soft-skills courses normally organized by the University of Padova (e.g., the one involved in the “PhD Educational week on transferable skills, strategic competences for young researchers”).
d) Seminars	Students are requested to attend at least 10 hrs of seminars on advanced topics relevant to their research activity.
e) Group Activities	No mandatory group activities are requested
f) Schools	The attendance of National/International Advanced Schools is highly recommended, although it is not eligible for obtaining credits.
g) Other Courses	Students are allowed to follow Courses organized by other PhD Programs.
h) Conferences	Students are strongly encouraged in participating to National/International Conference for presenting their research activities and for improving their communication skills.