

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF MEDIEVAL LATIN
EZIO FRANCESCHINI FOUNDATION O.N.L.U.S

*Postgraduate Advanced Training Course
in Medieval Latin Philology and Literature*

Call for Applications

Academic Year 2026/27

Application deadline: 4 May 2026

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INTRODUCTION

The International Society for the Study of Medieval Latin (hereafter *SISMEL*) and the Ezio Franceschini Foundation (*FEF*), a non-profit organization, drawing on their established training experience and the wealth of scholarly resources offered by their library and research projects, announce the Postgraduate Advanced Training Course in Medieval Latin Philology and Literature (hereafter *the Course*), PhD programme pursuant to Ministerial Decree no. 792 of 27 October 2025, issued by the Ministry of University and Research (42nd Cycle).

The Course is open to students of all nationalities. In accordance with the applicable regulations and with the teaching and scholarly tradition of the Course, the procedures adopted are designed to foster international participation.

The administrative offices of the *Course* are located at SISMEL and FEF, Via Montebello 7 – 50123 Florence. All correspondence should be addressed to the *Course* Secretariat, which is open to the public throughout the duration of the *Course* from Tuesday to Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For organizational matters as well as for academic and teaching information, please contact: mtucci.formazione@sismelfirenze.it, mtucci.formazione@fefonlus.it.

DIRECTOR, ACADEMIC BOARD, AND BOARD OF GUARANTORS

The *Course* is coordinated by prof. Francesco Santi.

The **Academic Board** consists of the Coordinator and the following professors: Paolo Chiesa, Antonella Degl’Innocenti, Roberto Gamberini, Paolo Gatti, Giovanni Paolo Maggioni, Agostino Paravicini Bagliani Stefano Pittaluga, Luigi G. G. Ricci.

The **Board of Guarantors** is composed of the professors: Armando BISANTI (Università di Palermo); Stefano BRUFANI (Università di Perugia); Paola BUSDRAGHI (Università di Genova); Lucia CASTALDI (Università di Udine); Mariarosa CORTESI (Università di Pavia); Giuseppe CREMASCOLI (Università di Bologna); Edoardo D’ANGELO (Università Suor Orsola Benincasa, Napoli); Fulvio DELLE DONNE (Università della Basilicata); Manuel DÍAZ DE BUSTAMANTE (Università di Santiago di Compostela); François DOLBEAU (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes – Paris); Mauro DONNINI (Università di Perugia); Clara FOSSATI (Università di Genova); Giovanna M. GIANOLA (Università di Padova); Rossana GUGLIELMETTI (Università di Milano); Michael LAPIDGE (Università di Cambridge); Enrico MENESTÒ (Università di Perugia); Massimo OLDONI (Università di Roma “La Sapienza”); Ileana PAGANI (Università di Salerno); Emore PAOLI (Università per Stranieri di Perugia); Ambrogio PIAZZONI (Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana); Lucia PINELLI (S.I.S.M.E.L., Firenze); Vito SIVO (Università di Foggia); Pasquale SMIRAGLIA (UAN); Francesco STELLA (Università di Siena); Paolo VITI (Università del Salento).

DEGREE AWARDED

The Course confers the title of **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** upon those candidates who, having duly completed all required formalities and passed the entrance examination:

- a) attend at least 75% of the teaching and training hours scheduled each year over the three-year curriculum;
- b) submit a diploma thesis on a topic approved by the Academic Board, providing an original scholarly contribution.

Three copies of this thesis must be submitted by the end of the three-year period of the *Course*, calculated from its inauguration. Candidates may request an extension of up to one year from the Academic Board, but this period will not be covered by the scholarship. Such a request must be submitted within the three months preceding the end of the third year.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES

Applicants eligible to take the entrance examination are those who have obtained a Master's degree (Laurea magistrale or specialistica (Master of Arts, MA, or Master of Philosophy, MPhil), Laurea under the pre-reform system, or an equivalent qualification). No restrictions apply regarding age or nationality (equivalence of qualifications submitted by foreign applicants will be assessed).

Applications for admission to the Course must be submitted electronically no later than 23:59 noon on 4 May 2026, exclusively in electronic form, to one of the following addresses: mtucci.formazione@sismelfirenze.it – mtucci.formazione@fefonlus.it.

Each application must include:

- a) curriculum vitae;
- b) Master's degree diploma (Laurea quadriennale, magistrale, or specialistica), an equivalent diploma, or official certification of the degree;
- c) degree's thesis abstract (max 20 lines);
- d) any other qualifications deemed relevant, including publications where applicable.

The above-mentioned qualifications will be assessed during the oral examination. The degree referred to in point b) must be obtained and formally communicated by the beginning of the *Course*. Candidates awaiting the award of their degree who are provisionally admitted will be required to present official certification of the qualification to the Course Secretariat in order to confirm their enrolment.

Applicants must also indicate in their application the proposed title of the research they intend to pursue if admitted to the Course, accompanied by a brief project statement. Admission to the examination is conditional upon compliance with the formal requirements of the application and the positive evaluation of the proposed project.

Applications may be submitted in either Italian or English.

For the three-year cycle 2026/2028, no more than two students will be admitted.

ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Admission to the *Course* is subject to the successful completion of a competitive examination based on qualifications and tests. The examination includes the following:

- a) two written tests: an essay on a topic related to Medieval Latin Philology and Literature; a translation with commentary of a passage taken from a medieval Latin work;
- b) an oral examination on topics related to Medieval Latin Philology, Textual Criticism, and Literature;
- c) an oral examination to assess proficiency in two foreign languages chosen from French, English, Spanish, and German (for foreign candidates, Italian may be taken as an alternative to the language of their country of origin).

Admission to the tests listed under points a), b), and c) is conditional upon the prior evaluation of the candidate's curriculum vitae and research project, as submitted with the application. The outcome of this evaluation will be communicated to candidates at least 20 days before the date of the examination.

The examination committee, responsible for the assessment of qualifications and tests, is composed of three members in the disciplinary field L-FIL-LET/08 (formerly L07B), or of foreign professors in equivalent fields, or members of the Board of Guarantors, or of professors of recognized distinction. The committee is appointed by the Presidents of S.I.S.M.E.L. and F.E.F. on the recommendation of the Academic Board.

At the end of the examination process, the committee will draw up a ranking list. The top two candidates will be admitted to the *Course*, while the other candidates will be deemed eligible. In the event of withdrawal, either explicit or implicit, by one of the admitted candidates before the start of the *Course*, the next eligible candidate in the ranking will be notified of admission.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES

An annual scholarship of €21,660 gross will be awarded to each of the two students ranked highest in the admission list. Doctoral candidates will also receive an annual budget for research and teaching activities amounting to 10% of the scholarship. In the case of research activities carried out abroad, outside the country of residence, agreed with the tutor and approved by the Academic Board (for a minimum duration of one month), the scholarship will be increased by 50% for documented months of stay.

STUDY PLAN

The *Course* offers a study plan structured around two tracks: Medieval Latin Philology and Medieval Latin Literature. The teaching programmes may be requested from the *Course* Secretariat and are published on the websites of SISMEL and FEF. Over the three years, teaching activities will include not only lectures but also guided exercises, tutoring, and training activities.

Students enrolled in the *Course* must pass intermediate assessments, which are required to progress in the programme. The Academic Board will establish the assessment methods and will notify students at least one month in advance.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND VENUE

The official start of the *Course* is scheduled for 1 November 2026. Each year includes three teaching sessions amounting to approximately 90 hours in total, 80 hours of training activities, and one internship in libraries and research centres in Italy or abroad. Teaching and

training activities will take place primarily in Florence, within the editorial offices of SISMEL and FEF research projects. Students may also be offered opportunities for study and research in some of the European branches of the *Medioevo Latino* editorial offices. In such cases, travel and accommodation expenses abroad will be covered by the Course.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

Each student will have access to the *Biblioteca di Cultura Medievale* at the SISMEL/FEF headquarters, under the same conditions established by the library regulations for collaborators of the two sponsoring institutions. Each student will also be entitled to manage a personal web page on the FEF/SISMEL website, which may remain online for one year after the conclusion of the *Course*.

Training will be provided in the use of electronic tools for data processing. Students will be involved in learning procedures useful for the management of databases concerning manuscripts, texts, and scholarly bibliography. At the beginning of the Course, a dedicated discussion forum may be opened to address topics related to the programme, primarily aimed at establishing and maintaining contacts with all participating institutions.

EDITORIAL OFFICES FOR TRAINING ACTIVITIES

1. *Medioevo Latino. Bollettino bibliografico della cultura europea secc. VI–XVI*
2. *CALMA. Compendium auctorum latinorum Medii Aevi*
3. *BISLAM. Bibliotheca Scriptorum Latinorum Medii Recentiorisque Aevi*
4. *CODEX. Census of Medieval Manuscripts of the Region of Tuscany*
5. *OPA. Lost and Anonymous Works in Medieval Latin*

This call forms part of the official Regulations of the *Course*; for further details, please refer to the full Regulations.

Florence, 18 March 2026