

A SHORT GUIDE TO PRE-ENROLMENT AND ADMISSION TO DOCTORAL STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CANTABRIA

ACCESS REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with the stipulations in Article 6 of [RD 99/2011](#) and the [UC regulations](#) one of the following conditions must be met to enroll in a Doctoral Program:

Spanish degrees of Bachelor's, or their equivalent, and a Master's degree, or its equivalent, provided that at least 300 ECTS credits have been completed in the combination of these two educational stages.

Additionally, those who meet any of the following conditions may also access:

1. Possess official Spanish university degrees or equivalent Spanish degrees, provided that at least 300 ECTS credits have been completed in the combination of these educational stages, and they can demonstrate a level 3 on the Spanish Qualifications Framework for Higher Education.
2. Hold a degree obtained in accordance with foreign educational systems that are part of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), without the need for homologation, provided that such a degree certifies a level 7 on the European Qualifications Framework and enables access to doctoral studies in the country where it was issued. This admission does not imply, in any case, the homologation of the applicant's previous degree, nor its recognition for purposes other than access to doctoral studies.
3. Hold a degree obtained in accordance with foreign educational systems outside the EHEA, without the need for homologation, subject to verification by the university that it attests to a level of training equivalent to the official Spanish Master's degree and qualifies for access to doctoral studies in the country of issuance of the degree. This admission does not imply, in any case, the homologation of the applicant's previous degree, nor its recognition for purposes other than access to doctoral studies.
4. Hold another Doctorate degree.
5. Similarly, university graduates who, after obtaining a place in the corresponding entrance examination for specialized healthcare training positions, have successfully completed at least two years of training in a program to obtain the official title in one of the specialties in Health Sciences may also access.

Relevant dates in UC Doctoral studies

Admission and new enrollment 2025/26:

Pre-registration	From September 22 ^{nd.} to October 12 ^{nd.} , 2025
Publication of the admission list	November 19 ^{th.} , 2025
Renewal of Academic Tutelage <i>Students in 2nd and subsequent years</i>	From November 21 ^{st.} to 30 ^{th.} , 2025
Academic Guardianship Registration <i>Incoming students</i>	From November 1 ^{st.} to December 7 ^{th.} , 2025

Academic Doctoral Course 2024/25: from December 1^{st.}, 2025 to November 30^{th.}, 2026

If the documentation is in English, it is not necessary to translate it into Spanish.

Doctoral Programmes at the UC (academic year 2025/26)

<https://web.unican.es/estudios/estudios-de-doctorado>

Arts & Humanities

- PhD in Prehistoric Archaeology (10 places)
 - PhD in Ancient Sciences (8 places)
 - PhD in Geography and History (10 places)
 - PhD in Contemporary History (8 places)
 - PhD in Modern History (10 places)
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Sciences

- PhD in Science and Technology (25 places)
 - PhD in Theoretical Chemistry and Computational Modelling (3 places)
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Health Sciences

- PhD in Molecular Biology and Biomedicine (25 places)
 - PhD in Medicine and Health Sciences (35 places)
-

Social and Legal Sciences

- PhD in Legal and Business Sciences (20 places)
 - PhD in Economics: Instruments of Economic Analysis (10 places)
 - PhD in Equity and Innovation in Education (10 places)
-

Engineering & Architecture

- PhD in Environmental Engineering (10 places)
- PhD in Civil Engineering (20 places)
- PhD in Coastal Engineering, Hydrobiology and Management of Aquatic Systems (12 places)
- PhD in Industrial Engineering: Industrial Design and Production Technologies (10 places)
- PhD in Nautical, Marine and Naval Radioelectronics Engineering (3 places)
- PhD in Chemical, Energy and Process Engineering (10 places)
- PhD in Architectural, Civil and Urban Heritage and Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings (5 places)
- PhD in Mobile Network Information and Communication Technologies (10 places)

PRE-ENROLMENT

1st. PHASE: From September 22nd. to October 12th, 2025 ➤ through the virtual campus

UC STUDENTS	VIRTUAL CAMPUS
<p>FORMER UC STUDENTS (who have not enrolled in the UC during the 2024/25 academic year and without an active account)</p>	<p>Step 1: Online registration</p> <p>Step 2: VIRTUAL CAMPUS</p>
<p>NON-UC STUDENTS</p>	

Pre-registration can be done online or in person at the secretariat of the UC Doctoral School (EDUC).

2nd. PHASE: Throughout the academic year 2024/2025 ➤ at the **DOCTORAL SCHOOL (NOT online registration)**

In case there are any vacancies in the programs after the 1st. phase.

- Applications must be submitted at the EDUC, and the required documentation must be provided at that time. The application form can be downloaded by clicking at [EDUC website](#).
- Admission to the vacancies will be made in order of application, provided that the applicant meets the access requirements.

Pre-registrations made through the Internet by non-UC students will be considered provisional until the applicant accredits the fulfillment of the requirements. The accreditation must be completed within a maximum period of 10 days from the date of completion of the pre-registration period. If this were not done, the EDUC will proceed to cancel the pre-registration.

The documentation (*see below*) will be submitted at the EDUC, by delivering it in person or sending it by certified mail* to the following address:

**Escuela de Doctorado de la Universidad de Cantabria
(EDUC)**

Edificio Interfacultativo, planta baja, zona norte
Avda. de los Castros, s/n. 39005 Santander - Cantabria

942 20 20 05

escueladoctorado@unican.es

* [The stamp with the date of the certification must be included in the application form within the established deadline. Likewise, the acceptance of the application will be conditioned to the verification of the documentation; any anomaly in its authenticity may lead to the cancellation of pre-registration]

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE LEGALIZATION AND TRANSLATION OF FOREIGN DOCUMENTS:

<https://web.unican.es/estudios/Documents/DOCTORADO/Instrucciones%20titulos%20extranjeros.pdf>

Documents issued in a foreign country must meet the following requirements:

1. They must be official and issued by the authorities with the right to issue them, in accordance with the legal regulations of the country in question.
2. They must be duly legalized according to the following conditions:
 - Documents issued in countries that have subscribed the Hague Convention of October 5th, 1961. It is sufficient for them to have the unique legalization or issued Apostille by the authorized parties in the country.
 - Documents issued by other countries. They must be legalized diplomatically by the following organizations:
 - Ministry of Education in the country of origin.
 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the country where the documents were issued.
 - Diplomatic or Consular representation of said country in Spain.

This requirement is not needed for documents issued by authorities in member countries of the European Union.

The documents must be translated into Spanish or English languages. Official translation may be:

- By a sworn translator, duly authorized and inscribed in Spain.
- By any diplomatic or consular representation of Spain abroad.
- By the diplomatic or consular representation of the applicant's country in Spain, or of the country of the document, as applies.

- By an official translator abroad, when the signature of this official translator is duly legalized.
- Students with a foreign university degree from countries adhered to the "Andrés Bello" Agreement, once the documents have been authenticated internally in each country and at the Spanish Consulate, will not need the legalization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

DOCUMENTATION:

- Application form duly signed.
- Photocopy of the ID card, or passport in the case of foreign applicants, Study visa in the case of non-EU applicants (the original must be presented for comparison).

Students with a Spanish degree:

- Original and photocopy of the Personal Academic Certificate issued by the University stating the subjects studied with their grades and credits (except for graduates of the University of Cantabria).
- Certified photocopy of the degree (or provide original for comparison), except those students graduated from the University of Cantabria. Through also the Ministry is available the application of [Consultation of Titles](#) so that the interested person or a third party authorized by it can immediately obtain a certificate of validity of the degree.

Students from a foreign university:

- Original or attested photocopy of the Personal Academic Certification issued by the University, duly legalized by diplomatic means and translated into Spanish by an official organization or sworn translator, showing the subjects taken with their marks and credits.
- Attested photocopy of the qualification duly legalized by diplomatic means and translated into Spanish by an official organization or sworn translator.
- It must be accredited that:
 - o the level of training acquired by the qualification is equivalent to the one required to obtain the corresponding official Spanish Master's degree.
 - o The qualification gives access, in the country where it was obtained, to Doctorate studies.
- Together with the qualification, a certificate of the equivalence of average marks should also be presented, obtained at the website of the [Spanish Ministry of](#)

Universities).

- Other certificates of training or merits (other university studies, training in languages, "technical English", work placement scholarships, professional or research experience).
- Documentation specific to each Programme (in Spanish):

ENLACES

- Doctorado en Arqueología Prehistórica
- Doctorado en Biología Molecular y Biomedicina
- Doctorado en Ciencias Jurídicas y Empresariales
- Doctorado en Ciencias de la Antigüedad
- Doctorado en Ciencia y Tecnología
- Doctorado en Economía
- Doctorado en Equidad e Innovación en Educación
- Doctorado en Geografía e Historia
- Doctorado en Historia Contemporánea
- Doctorado en Historia Moderna
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Ambiental
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Civil
- Doctorado en Ingeniería de Costas, Hidrobiología y Gestión de Sistemas Acuáticos (IH2O)
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Industrial
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Náutica, Marítima y Radioeléctrica Naval
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Química, Energía y de Procesos
- Doctorado en Medicina y Ciencias de la Salud
- Doctorado en Patrimonio Arquitectónico
- Doctorado en Química Teórica y Modelización Computacional

ADMISSION

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION:

The admission process for each Doctorate Program taught in the Doctorate School will be decided by the Academic Committee of the Doctorate Program, following the conditions established in the approved Verification Report. Criteria for admission can be consulted at: <https://web.unican.es/admision/Paginas/Admision-Doctorado.aspx>

ENLACES

Los criterios de admisión son los siguientes:

- Doctorado en Arqueología Prehistórica
- Doctorado en Biología Molecular y Biomedicina
- Doctorado en Ciencia y Tecnología
- Doctorado en Ciencias de la Antigüedad
- Doctorado en Ciencias Jurídicas y Empresariales
- Doctorado en Economía: Instrumentos del Análisis Económico
- Doctorado en Equidad e Innovación en Educación
- Doctorado en Geografía e Historia
- Doctorado en Historia Contemporánea
- Doctorado en Historia Moderna
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Ambiental
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Civil
- Doctorado en Ingeniería de Costas, Hidrobiología y Gestión de Sistemas Acuáticos
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Industrial: Tecnologías de Diseño y Producción Industrial
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Náutica, Marina y Radioelectrónica Naval
- Doctorado en Ingeniería Química, de la Energía y de Procesos
- Doctorado en Medicina y Ciencias de la Salud
- Doctorado en Patrimonio Arquitectónico, Civil, Urbanístico y Rehabilitación de construcciones Existentes
- Doctorado en Química Teórica y Modelización Computacional
- Doctorado en Tecnologías de la Información y Comunicaciones en Redes Móviles

Admission to the Doctoral Programs may require the completion of specific training complements.

PUBLICATION OF THE ADMITTED CANDIDATES' LIST:

1st. PHASE: **November 19th, 2025**, at [VIRTUAL CAMPUS](#) and EDUC's web.

2nd. PHASE: The EDUC will personally communicate the admission to the applicants that are admitted.

ENROLMENT

1st. PHASE: **From December 1st. to 7th, 2025** ➤ **at the VIRTUAL CAMPUS**

UC STUDENTS	VIRTUAL CAMPUS
FORMER UC STUDENTS (who have not enrolled in the UC during the 2024/25 academic year and without an active account)	
NON-UC STUDENTS	

Registration can be done online or in person at the EDUC secretariat.

2nd. PHASE: **Throughout the academic year 2025/2026** ➤ **at the EDUC secretariat (NO online).**

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION:

To formalize the registration, the applicant must afford all the documents required in the pre-registration phase that had not been submitted then, plus [the following ones](#):

- Proof of having paid the registration fees.
- If applicable, justified exemptions or reductions of the enrolment fee payment (large family, disability, etc. ...).
- Form of compliance with the EDUC Code of Good Practices.
- Document of Supervision Commitment: A commitment assumed by the doctoral student, his/her tutor and supervisor/s, as well as the coordinator of the doctoral program in the UC, by which the supervision is regulated.

These documents can be found [here](#).

The documentation will be submitted at the EDUC, by delivering it in person or sending it by certified mail* to the following address:

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The registration fee for the 2025/26 academic year is **206.60 euros**.

Failure to pay tuition fees within the established deadlines will result in the cancellation of the registration, without the right to any refund.

PAYMENT OF TUITION FEES

A tuition fee must be paid every year, according the scheduled advertised on the EDUC website. This fee is paid thorough the [Virtual Campus](#).