

PhD IN BIOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL SCIENCES

Campus Where the Program Is Offered: CSM

OBJECTIVES

The doctoral curriculum is designed to equip candidates with the skills necessary to pursue research, innovation and scholarship. The program is structured to facilitate the development of a reflective and analytical approach through the execution of a cohesive research project and engagement with a multidisciplinary scientific environment, particularly within the domains of life and health sciences. The Doctorate is structured to enable doctors to pursue a research career in conjunction with their clinical duties. The thematic scope of the doctoral course encompasses five specialties, namely:

- 1) Physiology and pathophysiology
- 2) Neuroscience
- 4) Genetics and molecular biology
- 5) Oncology
- 6) Biomechanics and medical imaging

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered for admission to the EDSS doctoral program, candidates are required to hold a Master’s degree in addition to having completed a course of study that establishes their aptitude for research. The following criteria must be taken into consideration prior to admission:

- Candidates must hold a Master’s degree from USJ or from another institution that is recognized as equivalent by the USJ Equivalence Commission.
- The candidate’s application must also demonstrate a track record that establishes their aptitude for research. This background will be a prerequisite for consideration by the EDSS Scientific Board.

It is essential that the master’s discipline and the doctoral project be consistent; exceptions to this rule will be examined by the EDSS Administrative Board after consulting the institution in which the PhD candidate is registered. The application file must include the following documents:

- A letter of motivation from the candidate.
- The diplomas submitted at the time of registration, with the exception of those awarded by the Saint Joseph University of Beirut and the Lebanese University, validated by the USJ Equivalence Commission
- A dissertation proposal which must include:
 - The provisional title of the dissertation
 - A statement of the project’s objectives, highlighting its innovative aspects in relation to the state of the art.
 - A work plan and an inventory of the human, material and financial resources to be deployed must also be included.
- The approval of the Dean concerned on the dissertation subject, chosen in agreement with the dissertation director, is a prerequisite for the submission of a dissertation proposal. This proposal must be signed by the Dean of the institution, the Director of EDSS, the dissertation director and the candidate.
- Approval from the USJ Ethics Committee is also required.

The Director of EDSS may, following consultation with the Scientific Board and approval from the Board of Directors, require the candidate to complete additional training as part of their academic background. This requirement must be met before the agreement is signed by the Dean of the institution, the Director of EDSS, the dissertation supervisor, and the candidate.

If enrollment is approved, the Director of the Doctoral School will formally notify the University’s administrative offices in writing.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

A total of 180 credits must be obtained, with 12 credits allocated for cross-disciplinary training and 168 credits designated for dissertation research and public defense.

Upon successful completion of a doctoral program encompassing 180 ECTS credits, an academic degree of doctor is conferred. This program comprises two compulsory components: firstly, doctoral training, which equips candidates with the necessary skills to conduct their dissertation project and facilitates their future professional

integration. This training can amount to a maximum of 12 ECTS credits and enables the development of cross-disciplinary skills (artificial intelligence, ethics, teaching, project management, intellectual property, seminars, national and international conferences, USJ research days, etc.). Secondly, the completion of research work relating to the preparation of a doctoral dissertation (PhD), equivalent to the number of remaining credits of the 180 compulsory ECTS credits.

The duration of dissertation preparation must be a minimum of six semesters from the date of first enrollment, with a maximum limit of six semesters. Re-enrollment after six semesters is considered an exceptional circumstance and is subject to a waiver from the University Rector.

Semester 1

Code	Course	Credits
002DUTDD2	A variety of educational experiences across multiple disciplines, including artificial intelligence, ethics, pedagogy, project management, intellectual property, seminars, national and international conferences, and USJ research days.	2
002DUTDD2	Research work and public dissertation defense	28

Semester 2

Code	Course	Credits
002DUTHD2	A variety of educational experiences across multiple disciplines, including artificial intelligence, ethics, pedagogy, project management, intellectual property, seminars, national and international conferences, and USJ research days.	2
002DUTHD2	Research work and public dissertation defense	28

Semester 3

Code	Course	Credits
002DUTDD3	A variety of educational experiences across multiple disciplines, including artificial intelligence, ethics, pedagogy, project management, intellectual property, seminars, national and international conferences, and USJ research days.	2
002DUTDD3	Research work and public dissertation defense	28

Semester 4

Code	Course	Credits
002DUTRD4	A variety of educational experiences across multiple disciplines, including artificial intelligence, ethics, pedagogy, project management, intellectual property, seminars, national and international conferences, and USJ research days.	2
002DUTRD4	Research work and public dissertation defense	28

Semester 5

Code	Course	Credits
002DUCTD5	A variety of educational experiences across multiple disciplines, including artificial intelligence, ethics, pedagogy, project management, intellectual property, seminars, national and international conferences, and USJ research days.	2
002DUCTD5	Research work and public dissertation defense	28

Semester 6

Code	Course	Credits
002DUCFD6	A variety of educational experiences across multiple disciplines, including artificial intelligence, ethics, pedagogy, project management, intellectual property, seminars, national and international conferences, and USJ research days.	2
002DUCFD6	Research work and public dissertation defense	28