

*On the border: multiculturalism and multilingualism in  
research*

**Best PhD Theses Award 2025 – Second Edition**

**Art. 1 - Purpose**

The University for Foreigners of Siena offers 3 prizes for a PHD thesis whose focus is on multiculturalism and/or multilingualism. The aim of the contest is to ensure constant monitoring of the most innovative results achieved in the field, according to the University's statutory mission. For this reason, the University for Foreigners of Siena promotes research in the field of Humanities with a special interest in encounters, places, borders and coexistence between different languages and cultures.

**Art. 2 - Addressees**

The participation in the Call is limited to PhD holders aged 36 years or younger who have discussed their doctoral thesis from **1.08.2023 to 30.06.2025** in any University based in Italy or abroad. PhD theses may be written in Italian or in one of the languages taught at the University for Foreigners of Siena.

**Art. 3 - Amount and allocation of the grants**

The total amount of the prize is € 5,000.00, which will be shared as follows:

- € 2,500.00 (euro 2.500/00) for the top ranking candidate;
- € 1,500.00 (euro 1.500/00) for the second ranking candidate
- € 1,000.00 (euro 1.000/00) for the third ranking candidate

The University for Foreigners of Siena will also offer the opportunity to publish the award-winning theses in one of its book series, and will give the winners the opportunity to take part in a public presentation of their works.

**Art. 4 - Application deadlines**

The application (see the following art. 5) must be submitted not later than **3 July 2025**. Application must be addressed to the Rector of the University for Foreigners of Siena, Piazza Carlo Rosselli 27/28 - 53100 Siena. It may be sent by (1) certified e-mail/PEC; or (2) by post with return receipt; or (3) delivered in person.

1. Submitted by certified e-mail: Sent to the following address: unistrasi@pec.it, specifying in the subject "Application for the call for PhD thesis".

Each candidate will send their application for admission to the selection from their PEC address; any other application sent by non certified e-mail will not be considered valid.

The validity of the transmission of the certified e-mail message is certified respectively by the receipt of acceptance and by the receipt of delivery provided by the email operator according to art. 6 of D.P.R. 11.02.2005 n. 68.

The application and the attachments must be sent in pdf format in a single compressed folder (.zip or .rar).

The Administration of the University for Foreigners of Siena has no responsibility in case the files transmitted via certified mail are not readable.

2. Submitted by post with return receipt; addressed to the Rector of Siena University for Foreigners, Piazza Carlo Rosselli 27/28 - 53100 Siena, Italia.
3. Directly delivered to the Siena University for Foreigners, Piazza G. Amendola n. 29 (Siena) - General Secretary (room n. 112) - on the following days and times: Monday to Friday from 9.00 to 13.00; Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 14.30 to 15.30.

The date of receipt of the application is certified by the mailing date, by protocol number and date or by the post office and stamp.

The Administration has no responsibility for missing applications deriving from others' responsibilities or from technical causes.

### **Art. 5 - Request for participation**

In their application candidates shall declare under their own responsibility:

- personal information, date and place of birth, tax code, residence and domicile for the purposes of the competition, telephone number and e-mail address;
- the obtained PHD *qualification* (which must be equivalent to the Italian doctorate), the university location, the date of graduation, with possible final mark or evaluation;
- previous University degrees with possible final mark or evaluation.

The application shall be accompanied by:

- curriculum vitae in pdf format;
- a copy of a valid identity document;
- digital copy of the doctoral thesis in pdf format;
- Italian or English abstracts of the doctoral thesis (maximum 1500 words plus bibliography) in pdf format;

- two letters of presentation by expert scholars in which the strengths of the candidate's PHD thesis are described.

Applications that do not comply with the requirements indicated, that are incomplete or that will be received beyond the deadline and/ or submitted in a manner other than those indicated above will not be accepted.

#### **Art. 6 - Selection committee**

In order to identify the winners, the Selection Committee, after evaluating the documentation submitted by the candidates, draws up a ranking at its sole discretion.

In case of equal evaluation of the candidates the youngest will prevail by age.

The Selection Committee will be composed of members chosen among the professors of the Department of Humanities of Siena University for Foreigners; opinions may be obtained from experts outside the committee, if necessary

Special mentions may be proposed by the Selection Committee.

#### **Art. 7 - Selection results**

The results of the selections will be published on the website of Siena University for Foreigners ([www.unistrasi.it](http://www.unistrasi.it)) **by 16 October 2025**. The winners, including any special mention, will be notified by e-mail.

The award ceremony of the winners will be announced after 16 October 2025. It will take place during the meeting of "Giovani ricercatori" from 26 to 28 november 2025 at Siena University for Foreigners of Siena.

#### **Art. 8 - Processing of personal data**

According to the European Regulation (GDPR) n. 679/2016, personal data provided by candidates will be collected at Siena University for Foreigners and will also be processed according to the current legislation.

#### **Art. 9 - Final provisions**

We inform you that according to art. 71 of DPR 445 of 28/12/2000, the Administration will carry out appropriate checks, including random checks in case serious doubts about the veracity of the declarations arise. For matters and circumstances not covered by this notice of competition, laws and regulations applicable to public competitions and to university study awards will be applied

For information on the call, please contact the Department of Humanities - Università per Stranieri di Siena - Piazza Carlo Rosselli n. 27/28, 53100 Siena, e-mail: [disu@unistrasi.it](mailto:disu@unistrasi.it).

This call is published on the website of the University for Foreigners of Siena: [www.unistrasi.it](http://www.unistrasi.it).

**Form A - APPLICATION**

**On the border: multiculturalism and multilingualism in research.  
3 Prizes for the Best PhD Thesis**

To: The Rector  
University for Foreigners of Siena

Piazza Carlo Rosselli n. 27/28

53100 SIENA, ITALY

(Name and Surname) \_\_\_\_\_

born in (city/town) \_\_\_\_\_ (Province/Country) \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

Resident in (city/town) \_\_\_\_\_ (Province/Country) \_\_\_\_\_

(address: Street, Square...) \_\_\_\_\_ n. \_\_\_\_\_

zip code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ mobile phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Personal ID number/Social Security number/Tax ID \_\_\_\_\_

Separate address for specific communications about the contest:

(city/town) \_\_\_\_\_ (Province/Country) \_\_\_\_\_

(Street, Square...) \_\_\_\_\_ n. \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

The aforementioned person requests:

to participate in the competition for the assignment of n. 3 prizes for PhD thesis entitled:

“On the border: multiculturalism and plurilingualism in research”.

Aware of the penal responsibilities envisaged in the event of falsehood in progress and false declarations (art. 76, Presidential Decree 28 December 2000, no. 445)

declares to possess the following qualifications:

- (University degrees with possible final mark or evaluation)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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- (to have obtained PHD *qualification* equivalent to the Italian doctorate, University location, date of graduation, possible final mark or evaluation)

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Attachments:

- curriculum vitae in pdf format;
- a copy of a valid identity document;
- digital copy of the doctoral thesis in pdf format;
- Italian or English abstracts of the doctoral thesis (maximum 1500 words plus bibliography) in pdf format;
- two letters of presentation by expert scholars in which the strengths of the candidate's PHD thesis are described.

I am aware of the penal responsibilities required by current laws in the event of untruthfulness and false declarations (art. 76 of D.P.R. 28.12.2000, n. 445)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Note

According to the European Regulation (GDPR) n. 679/2016, personal data provided by candidates will be collected by the University for Foreigners of Siena and will also be processed according to current legislation.