

## PHD IN MATHEMATICS IN PISA

**Disclaimer.** *The aim of this note is to give some general idea about the PhD program in Pisa and is meant for students willing to continue their studies with a PhD thesis in Analysis (for instance Analysis of PDEs, Calculus of Variations, Geometric Analysis) or other fields in Pure Mathematics. This note is NOT an official document and all the specific information (links, duration, application dates, organization of the calls, duties of the students, etc) might be inexact and out of date, so if you plan to apply, please check the sites of the University of Pisa and Scuola Normale Superiore.*

**In Pisa there are two distinct PhD programs in Mathematics: at Scuola Normale Superiore and at the University of Pisa.** As a consequence, there are two different calls, each one for around 6-7 positions, with two different application procedures and two different selection committees, but there are numerous similarities between the two PhD programs:

- In both cases the applicants are evaluated by a committee composed of mathematicians from different areas, and the applicants from all the areas are evaluated together.
- In both PhD programs the students are free to choose their PhD advisor and the topic of their thesis. For instance, during the first year, the students are free to contact several different potential PhD advisors and then pick the topic they prefer.
- Both PhD programs are open to international collaborations, for instance, you can choose one PhD advisor in Pisa and another one in a different country. You will be encouraged to travel, participate to conferences, summer schools, and to interact with mathematicians from other Universities in Italy and abroad.
- Both Scuola Normale and the Department of Mathematics offer different activities as PhD courses and thematic seminars for PhD students (these are usually organized by the PhD students themselves). In both places there are numerous visitors and research seminars every year. As a PhD student in Pisa, you can benefit from the activities of both institutions.

**There are also several differences between the two programs, here are some of them:**

**PhD in Mathematics at Scuola Normale Superiore (SNS).**

- The call is divided into two “sessions”; I would say that normally the first one is around February-March, and the second around July-August;
- if you have missed the first session you can still apply on the second one;
- you can check the exact dates on the site:  
<https://www.sns.it/en/phd-admission-competition>
- As a PhD student of SNS you can also choose an advisor from the University of Pisa.
- The duration of the PhD program at SNS is 4 years.

**PhD in Mathematics at the Department of Mathematics, University of Pisa.**

- The call usually opens in June and closes in July.
- There is only one call, which is published directly on the site of the University;
- for the 2021/2022's call you can check:  
<https://dottorato.unipi.it/index.php/en/application-process-for-the-academic-year-2021-2022/>
- The duration of the PhD program at the Department of Mathematics is 3 years.

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