

Call for the *Sexuality and Sexual Health in the 21st Century* Doctoral Course

Dates: May 26-30, 2025

Location: Interuniversity Centre (IUC), Dubrovnik, Croatia (<https://iuc.hr>)

Application deadline: December 20, 2024

About the Course (<https://iuc.hr/programme/1974>)

Our course aims to assist doctoral students in the multidisciplinary field of sexuality research and sexual health in finalizing their dissertation work/research and preparing them for future research/academic careers. Course directors and affiliated scholars with different expertise in the field will work with participants in formal sessions, informal group discussions and individual consultations. The course welcomes clinical and nonclinical research, qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches, and a wide range of topics in human sexuality—ranging from forensic sexology and psychophysiological laboratory assessments to large-scale surveys of sexual behaviors and ethnographic explorations of social constructions of sexuality. To young scholars in the field of research on human sexuality, the course will offer practical advice and assistance in a supportive and creative spirit.

Course directors/supervisors:

Tanja Vučković Juroš (University of Zagreb, Croatia); Joana Carvalho (University of Aveiro, Portugal), Peer Briken (University Medical Centre Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany), Charlotta Holmström (Malmö University, Sweden), and Aleksandar Štulhofer (University of Zagreb, Croatia).

What do we offer?

1. Tailored feedback to your study plan and research design;
2. Enhanced knowledge, research skills, and more comprehensive understanding of the field;
3. Discussions about challenges of being a doctoral student and how to balance life and work in academia;
4. Opportunity to connect with other young researchers (our aim is to build a European network of junior researchers in the field of human sexuality)

Course accreditation: 4 ECTS

Who can apply?

Ph.D. students working on a sexuality-related topic at a European university.

How to apply?

Applications should be submitted via <https://limesurvey.srce.hr/721385>, no later than December 20, 2024.

Applications should consist of three PDF files:

- 1) a brief one-page curriculum vitae,
- 2) a structured abstract (up to 550 words) of your research project (sections: Problem, Aims, Method and main outcome measures, Results, Implications);
- 3) a one-page cover letter detailing strengths of your proposal (why is my proposal important; how does it contribute to the field; what makes it new; what is its clinical/social relevance..., etc.)

If you have questions, please contact T. Vučković Juroš (tvuckovi@ffzg.unizg.hr).

What next?

Selected applicants will be notified no later than January 15, 2025; they will receive all necessary information and instructions for participation in the IUC doctoral course in a couple of online get-togethers (to be announced following the completion of the selection process).

Practical details:

The course starts on May 26 at 9:30 AM and ends on May 30 at 4 PM. Please arrange your trip accordingly. The program consists of participants' presentations, discussions, informal sessions (focused on improving your academic skills), and individual consultations. We will have a dinner together on May 26 and a field trip (to the island of Lopud) on May 28 or 29.

Participation fee and funding opportunities:

IUC participation fee is 55 EUR per person. Based on the first come, first served principle, the organizers will reserve accommodation for participants in a very reasonably priced brand new student dormitory (located 20 minutes walking distance from the IUC center).

For financial support, apart from your doctoral grant and your University research support schemes, you should also look into the EU-funded ERASMUS program at your school (contact your International Office for more information). Depending on nationality, some participants may qualify for IUC funding (see <https://iuc.hr/scholarships>).