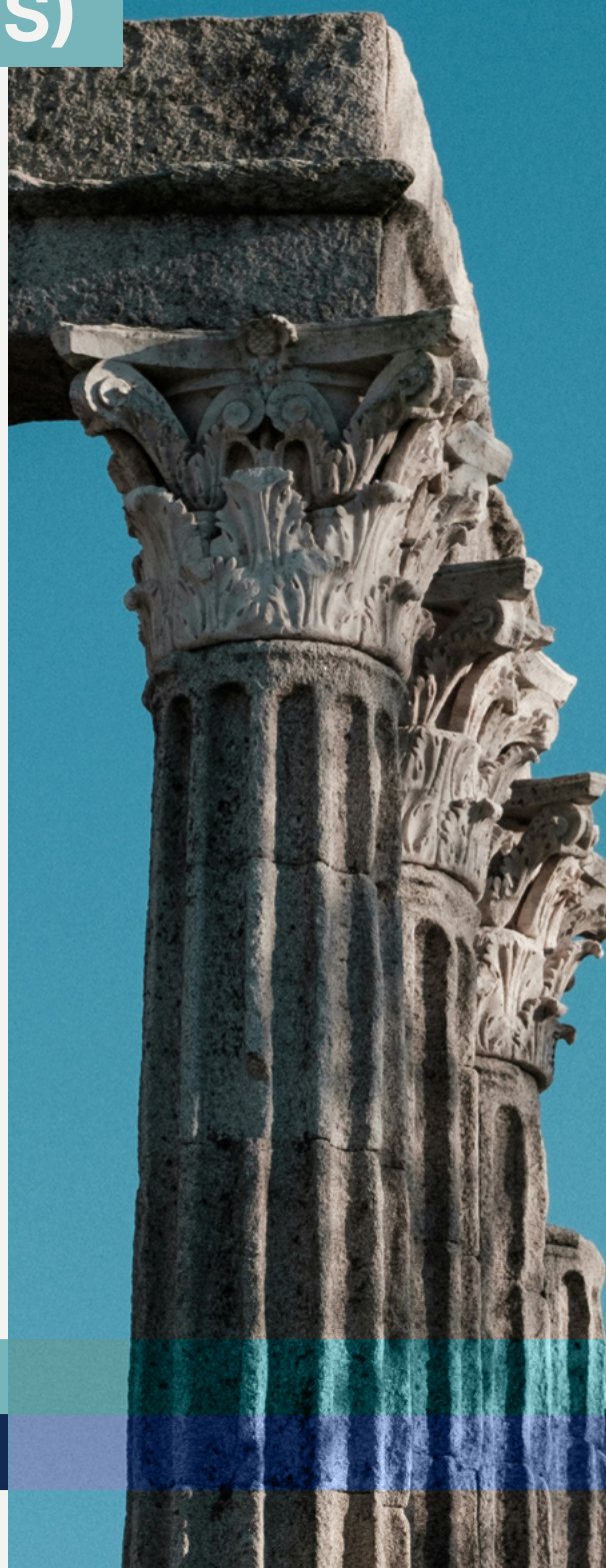


# PhD Program in Cultural System (CS)

## IMT SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES LUCCA

**Cultural Systems (CS)** is an **international Ph.D. program** offered by the **IMT School**, one of the seven Schools of Excellence in Italy, which provides rigorous training and close supervision in **humanities, sciences, and technological disciplines**, welcoming multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches at their boundaries.

The IMT School is a truly **international environment** welcoming students and scholars from all around the world. The School has a record of placing students in top research universities, policy-making institutions, and companies. IMT School is a member of the EFC - Educating Future Citizens network: students and scholars have the opportunity to participate in joint activities and are encouraged to engage with partner institutions to foster academic and research collaborations. English is the official language of the School.



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The Ph.D. Program Cultural Systems constitutes a unique multidisciplinary environment. It trains students to undertake cutting-edge research in the many scientific fields related to **cultural systems** and to operate as high-level, innovative **cultural heritage professionals**. It offers the track **Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies (CHMS)**. Both research- and practice-oriented courses are in the program, which aims at opening career paths in **Academia, museums, cultural institutions, creative industries, and private companies**. Attendance of on-campus classes is mandatory in the first year. Students are then encouraged to spend part of their following training abroad within the **Erasmus+** framework and ad hoc mobility agreements.

### SCHOLARSHIPS AND FUNDING

All students enrolled in the PhD program receive a **scholarship** of about €1,350/month, which includes pension contributions and results in a net salary of about **€1,200/month for 3 years**. As an exclusive additional benefit, students are offered **free on-campus serviced housing and full board at the IMT canteen**, worth an equivalent of about €800/month. Furthermore, they are given a research budget of about €4,000 to attend international academic conferences, summer and winter schools, and other similar events. During visiting periods abroad, the scholarship is increased by 50%, possibly receiving further mobility funds, mainly from the Erasmus+ program.



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### CAMPUS LIFE

At the IMT School, a PhD isn't just about research - it's about **becoming part of a vibrant, international community in the heart of Tuscany**. Located within the stunning historical walls of Lucca, the IMT campus offers a unique blend of **academic excellence, personal growth, and everyday comfort**. One of the standout features of the IMT experience is the **dynamic campus life**. While PhD paths are often solitary, IMT transforms the journey into a **collaborative, enriching experience**. Workspaces and recreational areas are seamlessly integrated, encouraging students to connect, share ideas, and build lasting friendships.

All IMT students are guaranteed a **desk and have unrestricted access to the fully accessible campus**, thoughtfully designed to support both academic success and personal well-being. Modern amenities include cozy relaxation zones, coffee corners, kitchenettes equipped with cookers, microwaves, and dishwashers, as well as laundry rooms. When it's time to unwind, students can enjoy a dedicated Turkish bath, a fitness area, and a leisure room with ping pong, foosball, PlayStation consoles, and board games.

Student accommodations, located in the beautifully restored **San Francesco Complex** and the nearby **Brunero Paoli residence**, feature hotel-like shared double



rooms with private bathrooms. A campus **canteen** serves lunch and dinner daily, and **all students benefit from free housing and meals**.

The IMT School also offers outstanding academic facilities. With six spacious study rooms and 65 individual workstations reserved for students, students always have the space they need to work. The **IMT Library**, housed in the historic former **San Ponziano Church**, offers 32 exclusive study spots for IMT students, 86 additional seats for public use, and 24 private offices—four of which are bookable by students for deep, focused work.

**At IMT School, students won't just study—they'll thrive in an environment designed to bring out their best, both professionally and personally.**

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### INPUT AND OUTPUT PROFILES

CHMS track aims to provide specific know-how to prospective researchers and professionals operating in the fields of **cultural heritage, museums, and organization /policy-making/ management of culture.**

Prospective students should preferably have a background in the **Humanities, Social Sciences, or ICT related to Cultural Heritage and Culture.** CHMS will enable graduates to access both Academic and professional careers in Academia, public institutions, and private companies operating in the fields of Cultural Heritage and Culture (research and educational careers, curatorial careers, managerial careers, administrative careers, policy making in the Cultural sector, promotion of Culture and Tourism, organization of cultural events, communication, diffusion and teaching of culture).



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#### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The **Cultural Heritage and Museum Studies (CHMS)** track of the PhD in Cultural Systems combines **research and practical training** to prepare professionals and scholars in the fields of cultural heritage, museums, and creative industries.

Courses cover a broad range of subjects, including:

- Archaeology, Art History, Visual Studies, History, and Philosophy
- Museology, curatorship, museum management, provenance studies, and cataloguing
- Cultural heritage legislation (European and international)
- Management of cultural heritage and creative industries
- ICT and technologies for heritage enhancement, public engagement

The program emphasizes **applied research** through case studies, fieldwork, and close collaboration with professionals, curators, and institutions, especially via the **Lynx Research Unit**.

Students gain firsthand experience through:

- Archaeological excavations and museum-based activities
- Joint research projects and international double degrees
- Study abroad (Erasmus+ and other programs)
- Seminars and workshops with leading global experts

The track equips students with the **critical thinking and practical skills** needed for both academic and professional careers. It welcomes candidates with backgrounds in the Humanities, Social Sciences, ICT for cultural heritage, law, or management.

**Career paths** include:

- Academic roles in cultural heritage-related disciplines
- Positions in public or private institutions for heritage management, cultural promotion, tourism, event organization, and education

Overall, **CHMS offers a dynamic, interdisciplinary environment for those aiming to lead in the analysis, management, and preservation of culture and heritage.**