

PHD COURSE IN ASTROPARTICLE PHYSICS

IMPLEMENTATION RULES of the PhD ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Admission to the Second Year

First-year students are expected to attend all courses and, in order to be admitted to the second year, they should pass a number of exams among the full set offered, in order to collect a minimum number of credits.

For the academic year 2020-2021, the total number of credits is 60.5, therefore every first-year student should collect at least 28 credits to be admitted to the second year.

Furthermore, in order to be admitted to the second year, every student must pass at least one exam for each of the following topics:

- Particle Physics

At least one exam among:

- Electroweak and Strong Interactions
- Quantum Field Theory
- Beyond the Standard Model

- Cosmology

At least one exam among:

- Cosmology
- Large Scale Structure
- CMB and Cosmological Perturbations

- Gravitation Theory

At least one exam between:

- General Relativity
- Advanced General Relativity

The students admitted through a “preselection” procedure must also pass a qualifying exam by the end of the first academic year. The students have the option to define an individual study programme including courses given within other PhD programmes of SISSA. Such individual study programs need to be approved by the Scientific Board, which will deliberate on the number of credits to assign to courses external to the PhD in Astroparticle Physics.

Admission to the Third and Fourth Years

Second-year students are expected to be admitted to the second year after a **progress report** (usually held in the late Spring of the academic year) in which they present their research in front of the APP faculty, students and post-docs. The progress is discussed by the APP faculty members and admission to the following year is granted if the progress is satisfactory. The same rules apply for those students that wish to be admitted to the fourth year.

Exams and Exam Sessions

Exams on each course consist either of “homework” assignments (exercises, essays, etc.) given during the course or of an oral exam at the end of the course or a combination of the two. An exam is considered passed if the grade is at least 24 out of 30. The average score at the end of the first year must be of at least 27 out of 30.

At the beginning of each academic year, the Scientific Board decides the dates of the ordinary and extraordinary exam sessions. The students should give exams during the ordinary sessions. In case an exam is not passed, it can be repeated **only once** during the extraordinary session. If the exam is not passed the second time, that course will not be credited to the student.

The exam sessions for the academic year 2020-2021 are:

First session: 7-22 December, 7-10 January

Second session: 5-17 April

Third session: 1 – 12 June

Extraordinary session: 1 – 19 July