

Doctoral Programme in Architecture by the University of Granada, the University of Malaga and the University of Seville

Regulatory Manual for Applicants

Academic year 2026-2027

Table of contents

Order of presentation

BLOCK 01 - ACADEMIC RECORD

BLOCK 02 - CV

02.01 - POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

02.02 - RESEARCH TRACK RECORD

02.03 - PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

02.04 - UNIVERSITY TEACHING ACTIVITY

BLOCK 03 - LANGUAGES AND STAYS

BLOCK 04 - STATEMENT OF MOTIVATION

BLOCK 05 - THESIS PROPOSAL

NORMATIVE INSTRUCTION (valid for ALL sections of the manual)

In each section, the applicant must submit the documentation in two compulsory levels, in THIS order:

- A) Numbered list of merits
- Consecutive numbering: 01, 02, 03, etc. within each merit code.
- Full description of the merit.
- Where applicable, APA format for publications / conference papers.
- Inclusion of quality indicators (indexation, ranking, platform, awarding body, etc.).
- In the case of professional activity, exact breakdown of duration (years/months).
- B) Supporting documentation
- Legible supporting PDF files (not summaries, not self-declarations).
- Certificates, contracts, employment history reports (vida laboral), resolutions, institutional accreditations, etc.
- For languages other than Spanish or English -> sworn translation required.
- They must correspond exactly to the numbered merit in the list.
- Any merit placed in the wrong section, lacking accreditation or lacking documentary traceability ->

rejected.

Breakdown of each Block

01. Academic record

01.01 Bachelor's Degree

The official Bachelor's Degree, or equivalent qualification giving access to the Doctoral Programme, will be assessed. The average mark must correspond to the official document issued by the university of origin, in accordance with the system in force. For foreign qualifications, an official certificate of conversion/scale and a sworn translation must be attached if the document is not in Spanish or English.

Compulsory documentation: official academic transcript; grading scale; sworn translation (where applicable); recognition/equivalence (where applicable).

CORRECT example:

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Bachelor's Degree in Architecture (University X, 2017)
Average mark: 8.24/10 (ECTS scale attached)
Official academic transcript in Spanish
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INCORRECT example:

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"Screenshot from the student portal"
-> Rejected: it is not an official document.
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01.02 Master's Degree

The official University Master's Degree that enables access to doctoral studies or complements research training will be assessed. Completion of the Master's dissertation (TFM) must be evidenced where applicable. Non-official university-specific degrees will not be accepted in this section.

Compulsory documentation: official Master's certificate; proof of completion of the Master's dissertation (where applicable); sworn translation (where applicable); recognition/equivalence (where applicable).

CORRECT example:

University Master's Degree in Architecture and Historical Heritage (2019)
Master's dissertation defended and passed
Official certificate issued by the university

INCORRECT example:

"Master's in Parametric Design (university-specific/non-official degree) "
-> Rejected: university-specific degrees are not valid under 01.02.

02. CV

COMPULSORY INSTRUCTION FOR THE WHOLE OF BLOCK 02 (A/B):

- A) Numbered list of merits: Consecutive numbering (01, 02, 03...) with a full description. For publications, APA format + DOI/URL and quality indicators (indexation, quartile, publisher). For professional experience, breakdown by years and months.
- B) Supporting documentation: legible supporting PDFs (certificates, contracts, employment history reports, resolutions, etc.). A sworn translation is required if documents are not in Spanish or English. Any merit placed in the wrong section or lacking accreditation will be rejected.

02.01 Postgraduate training

02.01.01 Related official university Master's Degree with/without Master's dissertation

Possession of a second related official university Master's Degree will be assessed. It may have been completed with or without a Master's dissertation, depending on the regulations of the degree.

Documentation: official certificate; syllabus/degree programme (if the relationship to the field is not evident); sworn translation (where applicable).

CORRECT example:

University Master's Degree in Urban and Territorial Planning (official)
Master's dissertation not compulsory according to the degree regulations

INCORRECT example:

"Master's in BIM (university-specific/non-official degree) "
-> Rejected: it is not an official university degree.

02.01.02 University-specific Master's Degree

Possession of university-specific, non-official degrees issued by universities will be assessed. They do not replace the qualifying access degree.

Documentation: diploma/certificate; teaching load (ECTS or hours); programme (where applicable).

CORRECT example:

University-specific Master's Degree in Architectural Heritage Management
(University X, 60 ECTS)

INCORRECT example:

Doctoral Programme in Architecture by the University of Granada, the University of Malaga and the University of Seville

"Master's degree from a private non-university academy"
-> Rejected: it was not issued by a university.

02.01.03 University Expert qualification

Completion of university expert courses/specialisation diplomas issued by a university will be assessed. Documentation: university certificate; hours/ECTS.

CORRECT example:

University Expert Diploma in Architectural Restoration (250 h)

INCORRECT example:

"Course from a professional association without university status"
-> Rejected: it is not a university qualification.

02.01.04 Related second Bachelor's Degree

A second official university Bachelor's Degree related to architecture/urbanism/heritage/landscape will be assessed. Documentation: certificate of the degree; syllabus (if the relationship to the field is not evident).

CORRECT example:

Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts (specialism in conservation)

INCORRECT example:

"Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration"
-> Rejected due to lack of disciplinary relevance.

02.01.05 Doctoral programme with/without DEA

Prior participation in an official doctoral programme, with or without DEA, will be assessed, provided that completion of milestones is evidenced.

Documentation: certificate of enrolment/completion; DEA certificate (if any); ECTS recognition (where applicable).

CORRECT example:

Doctoral Programme in Architecture and Urbanism (2018-2020)
DEA completed

INCORRECT example:

"I started a doctorate but have no documents"
-> Rejected: official accreditation is missing.

02.02 Research track record

02.02.01 Articles, books or book chapters

Scientific publications with verifiable quality indicators will be assessed: published; with ISBN/ISSN; and, where applicable, indexation (JCR, SJR/Scopus, SPI for publishers). The reference must be presented in APA format with a DOI or verifiable URL. Any publication without DOI/ISBN/ISSN will be rejected.

Documentation: full APA reference; active DOI/official URL; proof of indexation; publishing details (chapters: pages/work; articles: quartile/index).

CORRECT example:

Doctoral Programme in Architecture by the University of Granada, the University of Malaga and the University of Seville

Pérez, L., & Torres, A. (2023). Urban regeneration... Journal of Urban Design, 28(4), 515-534. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13574809.2023.1234567> – Indexation: Q2
If it has no DOI, provide the article URL and a direct link to its indexation (Scimago, Clarivate, Avery, etc.).

CORRECT example (Book):

García, M. (2021). Architecture and cultural landscape. Madrid: Cátedra. ISBN: 978-84-376-5678-1 – SPI (Q1)

INCORRECT example:

"Article in conference proceedings with ISBN"
-> Rejected: proceedings are not the same as an indexed scientific article.

Another INCORRECT example:

"Article submitted / under review"
-> Rejected: not published, not assessable.

Another INCORRECT example:

"Chapter without ISBN"
-> Rejected: it lacks a valid publishing reference.

02.02.02 Participation in European projects

Participation in competitive European projects (Horizon Europe/H2020, ERC, MSCA, Creative Europe, Interreg, LIFE, Erasmus+ KA2, etc.) will be assessed. A formal link to the project, with role and period, must be accredited.

Documentation: institutional certificate; project code; role; period; entity. **CORRECT example:**

HORIZON-CL2-2023-HERITAGE-01 – Researcher (University X)
Period: 10/2022-03/2024 – Number of months – Institutional certification attached

INCORRECT example:

"I collaborated in preparing the proposal"
-> Rejected: this is not participation in a funded project.

02.02.03 Participation in national projects

Participation in competitive national calls will be assessed. Official certification, code, role and dates are required.

CORRECT example:

PID2021-XXXX-ABC – Ministry of Science and Innovation
Role: collaborating researcher – 2021-2023
Institutional certification attached

INCORRECT example:

"Internal departmental project"
-> Rejected: it is not a national competitive call.

02.02.04 Participation in regional projects

Participation in competitive projects at regional level with official accreditation will be assessed.

CORRECT example:

Project P20_00123 – Regional Government of Andalusia – Role: Researcher – 2020-2022

INCORRECT example:

"Agreement with a Regional Ministry"
-> Rejected: it is not a competitive project.

02.02.05 Participation in local/university projects

Projects evaluated and funded competitively by local bodies or universities will be assessed. Direct assignments and professional commissions will not be assessed.

INCORRECT example:

"Paid commission from a City Council"
-> Rejected: this is professional contracting, not a competitive project.

02.02.06 Conference paper

The effective presentation (oral/poster) at a scientific conference with a committee and peer review will be assessed. Mere publication in proceedings does not prove presentation.

Documentation: named certificate; programme listing the applicant; proceedings (where applicable) with ISBN/ISSN; APA reference if published.

CORRECT example:

Oral paper: "Heritage and urban resilience" – EURAU 2022
Named certificate + proceedings with ISBN

INCORRECT example:

"Published in proceedings" (without presentation certificate)
-> Rejected: personal presentation is not evidenced.

02.02.07 Attendance at conferences and seminars

Accredited attendance at scientific events will be assessed. Webinars without certification and non-academic activities will not be accepted.

INCORRECT example:

"I attended by streaming" (without certificate)
-> Rejected: there is no verifiable accreditation.

02.02.08 Participation in exhibitions

Participation in academic/scientific exhibitions with accredited authorship or co-authorship will be assessed. Documentation: catalogue/poster; certificate of participation; organiser; place and dates.

02.02.09 Curatorship of exhibitions

Being listed as curator/co-curator, with intellectual and organisational responsibility, will be assessed.

INCORRECT example:

"Logistical assistance with installation"
-> Rejected: this does not constitute curatorship.

02.02.010 Research contracts

Contracts linked to research, with accredited contractual or statutory relationship, will be assessed. Documentation: contract/certification; period (month/year-month/year); reference to project/group.

CORRECT example:

Predoctoral contract (University X) – 10/2021-09/2023
Linked to PID2021-XXXX – Certificate and contract attached

INCORRECT example:

"One-off unpaid collaboration"
-> Rejected: it is not a contractual relationship.

02.02.011 National architecture awards

Awards/mentions in official national calls with an accredited jury will be assessed. Documentation: certificate or resolution; justification of national scope.

02.02.012 International architecture awards

International awards granted by official entities/recognised biennials will be assessed. CORRECT example:

BIAU – Built Work Award 2023 – Official certificate attached

INCORRECT example:

"Certificate of participation in a competition"
-> Rejected: participation is not the same as an award.

02.02.013 Other merits

This subsection is strictly residual and complementary.

Only those merits that do not have a specific place in any of the previous headings of Block 02.02 — Research track record, or in other blocks of the assessment criteria (training, professional experience, teaching, languages, etc.), may be assessed here.

The Teaching Committee may award up to a maximum of 2 points, with reasons given, for singular curricular merits that:

- Are not covered, either directly or indirectly, by other sections of the assessment criteria.
- Present a clear, reasoned and verifiable relationship with:
 - the applicant's research track record, and/or
 - the thematic, methodological or epistemological scope of the proposed thesis project.
- Provide qualitative added value that cannot be reduced to other items already assessed.

This section may not be used to duplicate, reinterpret or reinforce merits for which there is a specific assessment section.

Admissible merits (restrictive criterion).

Note: by its nature, this heading admits diverse cases; the following list is indicative and not exhaustive, and in no case authorises the assessment of merits that can already be assessed under other sections.

By way of example, the following may be assessed:

- Architectural, artistic or cultural production with a research dimension, when:

- it does not derive from research contracts;
- it has not already been assessed as an exhibition, curatorship or award;
- and it has an explicit link to research processes (for example, experimental practices, design-led research, artistic research).
- Editorial activity not equivalent to a scientific publication:
 - intellectual direction or coordination of journals, collections or editorial platforms;
 - accredited participation in editorial or scientific committees;
 - provided that it is not authorship of articles, books or chapters already assessable under 02.02.01.
- Development of methodologies, tools or devices for applied research:
 - critical cartographies;
 - experimental prototypes;
 - spatial, visual or material analysis systems;
 - when they are not linked to competitive projects or research contracts.
- Singular contributions to architectural and urban culture:
 - qualified participation in international networks;
 - non-contractual academic or scientific advisory activities;
 - cultural knowledge-transfer activities with accredited impact.

Compulsory documentation

Each declared merit must be accredited by verifiable documentation, such as:

- institutional certificates;
- official accreditations;
- sufficiently verifiable tacit evidence (e.g. catalogues, official programmes, institutional references);
- links to recognised editorial or cultural platforms;
- contextualised graphic material (catalogues, images, official programmes);
- or other verifiable documentary evidence.

Self-declarations, narrative CVs or documents lacking institutional traceability will not be accepted.

CORRECT example:

Member of an international scientific committee (2023) – Official certification attached

INCORRECT example:

"Participation in academic social networks"
-> Rejected: it is not a research merit.

02.03 Professional experience

02.03.01 Years of professional practice

Experience in architecture/related fields will be assessed; a breakdown by years and months is compulsory; it must be accredited with employment history reports/contracts.

Documentation: employment history report (vida laboral); contracts or official certificates; exact dates.

CORRECT example:

ABC Architects Studio (Seville) – 03/2019–11/2022 (3 years, 8 months)
Employment history report + contract attached

INCORRECT example:

"I worked for five years" (without documents)
-> Rejected: documentary evidence is missing.

02.03.02 Delivery of professional courses

Professional teaching in professional associations/accredited institutions will be assessed; one-off talks are excluded.

Documentation: official certificate; teaching hours/credits; teaching role. **CORRECT example:**

Professional Association of Architects – Course "Pathologies and Conservation"
(20 h) – Teaching certificate attached

INCORRECT example:

"Talk at a local event"
-> Rejected: it is not a structured/certified course.

02.03.03 Years of other related professional experience

Related experience (urbanism, heritage, cultural management, environmental consultancy, etc.) with a demonstrable connection and contractual accreditation will be assessed.

Documentation: same as 02.03.01 (employment history report/contracts/official certification). **CORRECT example:**

Territorial planning consultancy – Territorio XXI SL – 02/2018–05/2020
Employment history report attached

INCORRECT example:

"Unaccredited experience in a construction company"
-> Rejected: no official evidence.

02.04 University teaching activity

02.04.01 Undergraduate teaching

Teaching in official undergraduate degrees will be assessed; certification from the centre, subjects and teaching load are required.

CORRECT example:

University X – Bachelor's Degree in Architecture – Design Studio 3 – 2021/22 – 6
ECTS
Official teaching certificate attached

INCORRECT example:

"I collaborated occasionally in crits"
-> Rejected: it is not accredited teaching.

02.04.02 Master's teaching

Teaching in official university Master's degrees will be assessed; the applicant must appear as a lecturer in official certification.

CORRECT example:

MURA – Heritage Intervention (3 ECTS) – Academic year 2022/23 – Certificate attached

INCORRECT example:

"Guest session without teaching contract"
-> Rejected: a lecture is not the same as teaching.

02.04.03 Teaching in university-specific degrees

Teaching in university-specific programmes (expert, diploma, non-official Master's) will be assessed.

CORRECT example:

Specialisation Diploma in Urbanism – University X – 20 h – Certification attached

INCORRECT example:

"Training delivered in a private academy"
-> Rejected: it is not a university-specific degree.

02.04.04 Teaching in non-university postgraduate education

Teaching in accredited higher education institutions outside the university system, with official recognition, will be assessed.

INCORRECT example:

"Informal workshop without accreditation"
-> Rejected: no academic recognition.

03. Languages and stays

03.1 Languages

Only official accreditation of language competence issued by recognised examining bodies (Cambridge, IELTS, TOEFL, Trinity, EOI, DELF/DALF, CILS/CELI, Goethe, CAPLE, etc.) will be assessed. Diplomas from academies without an official examination, or attendance certificates, will not be accepted. The declared level must match the accredited level; where certificates have an expiry date, they must be valid.

Documentation: named official certificate; date of issue; CEFR level; sworn translation where applicable.

CORRECT example:

IELTS Academic – 7.0 (C1) – British Council – 2023

INCORRECT example:

"I took subjects in English"

-> Rejected: taking subjects is not the same as language certification.

03.2 International stays

Academic or research stays at recognised universities or centres, with temporary affiliation and training/research content, will be assessed. Personal trips or unaccredited visits will not be assessed.

Documentation: official certificate (institution, duration, purpose); period (month/year-month/year); modality; host institution.

CORRECT example:

Research stay – University of Lisbon (CIAUD) – 02/2022-05/2022
Official signed and stamped certificate

INCORRECT example:

"Technical visits during a trip"

-> Rejected: there is no institutional affiliation.

04. Statement of motivation

A personal and purposive document setting out academic motivation and suitability for the programme. It does not replace the Thesis Proposal, nor does it include bibliography, objectives or timetable.

Formal requirements: 1-2 pages; Spanish or English; expository style; signed PDF; identification with name and DNI/Passport.

Compulsory structure: Presentation; Academic motivation; Suitability of profile; Fit with the Programme; Commitment in terms of dedication.

CORRECT example (outline):

"I am applying to the Doctoral Programme in Architecture by the Universities of Granada, Malaga and Seville motivated by [...].
My previous training and participation in projects enable me to join the line [...].
I consider it viable to develop the work under a [...] dedication regime over the coming years."

INCORRECT example:

"I am going to research X with methodology Y and will be supervised by Z..."
-> Rejected: this is an outline of the research plan, not a statement of motivation.

05. Thesis Proposal (see the document Criteria for drafting the Research Plan)

Compulsory academic document in the admissions process. Its purpose is to assess the applicant's ability to formulate a viable doctoral research proposal, consistent with the lines of the Programme and with an appropriate methodological orientation.

The Thesis Proposal is not equivalent to the final Research Plan, which will be developed once the doctoral candidate has been admitted.

Formal requirements: 5-10 pages; Spanish or English; single signed PDF; identification with name and DNI/Passport.

Compulsory structure: Provisional thesis title; Introduction; Justification; Objectives; Methodology; Stage Plan; Previous experience; Signed endorsement; Suitability of the Research Line; Dedication regime; Intended stays and distinctions/mentions (International and/or Industrial, where applicable).