Digital Humanities at Dibris, University of Genova, Italy

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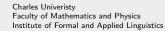
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EUROPEAN UNION
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Operational Programme Research,
Development and Education

LANGTECH

Overview of the studies

- head: prof. Giovanni Adorni (originally computer scientist)
- Master's
  - Digital Humanities – Comunicazione e Nuovi Media
  - ~25 students yearly
- PhD
  - Digital Humanities – Digital Technology, Arts, Language, Culture and Communication
  - since 2005
  - ~8 students yearly
- strong multidisciplinarity, collaboration of multiple institutions
  - organization, courses, supervisors, exams…
  - computer science, linguistics, philology, modern cultures, communication
  - Genova, Savona (1h), Pisa (1.5h), Torino (2h)

Master's studies

- ~40 courses (ÚFAL: ~50 courses)
- default: in Italian only (by law) – some fights over that
- origin of students:
  - ~40% science of communication (sociology)
  - ~20% literature
  - ~20% architecture
  - ~20% computer science
- explicit pursuit of "cross-contamination" of the students

PhD studies I.

- entrance exam
  - CV, list of publications, PhD project description
  - written test
  - oral exam
  - ~50% acceptance rate
- courses and seminars
  - no explicit PhD courses
  - seminars, DiHu Master's courses, other courses at Uni Genova
  - "external" courses and seminars, online courses, summer schools…
- obligations
  - an exam each year
  - teaching
  - internship (only some students)
  - ~~work on research grants~~ (don't care where money comes from)

PhD studies II.

- 3 years
  - can be extended upon request by max 6 months
  - think we crazy with 8-9 years
- sources of students:
  - ~30% from Uni Genova
  - ~30% from other Italian unis
  - ~30% from abroad
- money: EUR ~1,100
  - not great but sufficient for independent life
    - EUR ~500 avg rent (1-room flat)
    - EUR ~150 lunches
    - ...
  - MFF UK
    - CZK 10,500 base money
    - CZK 10,000 **cheap** rent in Prague

Interest of Dibris in future cooperation

- student exchanges
  1. PhD students
  2. Master's students?
- research (grant applications)
- our DiHu summer school?

Lessons learned

- give **enough money** to PhD students – e.g. CZK 20,000?
    - this shouldn't be a secret – we need to lure the students!
    - advertize publicly to prospective students (website, etc.)
- **forbid** PhD studies longer than 4-5 years
- **cooperate** with others more
    - Praha (FF UK, FSV UK, FIT ČVUT, FEL ČVUT…)
    - Plzeň (KIV ZČU)
    - Liberec (ITE TUL)
    - Brno (FF MU, FI MU)
- look for **other** than computer science students
    - philology, communication…

`http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/grants/langtech`