

Fellowships Title: Diachronic Analysis of Residential Segregation in Metropolitan Areas: Intersections Between Social and Spatial Factors

Academic Discipline (SSD): GSPS-05/A – General Sociology

PhD Curriculum: Economic-Social

Short Description of the Doctoral Fellowships

These fellowships are part of the research project DIAMETROIT – Diachronic Analysis of Social Structure in Italian Metropolitan Areas: a Comparative-Historical Research and Open Access Database for Urban Studies ([project website](#)), funded by the Italian Science Fund and coordinated by Dr. Niccolò Morelli (University of Genoa).

The main aim of the project is to investigate the diachronic evolution of social structures in Italian metropolitan areas, with a specific focus on Functional Urban Areas (FUAs), through a comparative, transdisciplinary approach bridging general sociology and urban sociology.

The fellowships are intended for candidates interested in developing research projects aligned with the objectives of DIAMETROIT, with particular attention to:

1. The use (not exclusively) of quantitative analytical tools;
2. The inclusion (not exclusively) of Italian urban contexts, preferably among those already covered by the DIAMETROIT project;
3. The analysis of the multidimensional nature of social structures, with a specific focus on residential segregation;
4. The study of the social consequences of segregation, with emphasis on mechanisms that reinforce or mitigate spatial inequalities.

Research and Training Objectives

The doctoral project aims to:

1. Describe, understand, and explain the forms and dynamics of residential segregation in Italian metropolitan areas, considering its multidimensional nature (socioeconomic, ethnic, cultural, etc.);
2. Analyze the social consequences of urban segregation in terms of access to resources, educational inequality, social mobility, territorial cohesion and access to health;
3. Explore the interconnection between social and spatial dimensions, contributing to the development of a solid theoretical and empirical framework for understanding contemporary urban transformations.

Expected Outcomes

1. Acquisition of a comprehensive understanding of the national and international literature on residential segregation and urban inequalities;
2. Production of scientific publications presenting original empirical findings, potentially co-authored with members of the DIAMETROIT research team;

3. Dissemination of results and data through participation in international conferences and scientific outreach activities, with a particular focus on open access sharing of collected data and developed databases.

Additional Notes

A research stay abroad of at least 6 months is required, which may be extended up to a maximum of 18 months (also non-continuously), at institutions or research groups internationally recognized in related fields.