

NOTICE OF OPENING N.º 309/SGA/DOFAE

Faculty of Sciences and Technology

Academic Year 2026/2027

3rd Cycle Course

3rd cycle

PhD in Informatics Engineering

1. Number of places:

1st call: 15 places

2nd call: 20 places

3rd call: 5 + remaining places

2. Minimum number of students for course opening: Not applicable

3. Application deadlines:

1st call: 2nd to 31st March 2026

2nd call: 1st June to 15th July 2026

3rd call: 1st to 11th September 2026

4. Admission requirements:

1 - Applicants to the PhD in Informatics Engineering are required to:

- a) Hold a bachelor's and master's degrees, integrated master's degree or legal equivalent in Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Systems and Computer Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering or bachelor's and master's degrees that the assessment jury considers to provide adequate background in computer engineering and computer science;
- b) Hold a bachelor's degree awarded by a Portuguese university in the areas referred to in subparagraph a), obtained under the legislation prior to Law no. 49/2005, of August 30, as well as equivalent qualifications obtained abroad, which are acknowledged as attesting to the capacity to carry out this cycle of studies by the Scientific Committee of the Faculty of Science and Technology of the University of Coimbra;

c) In very exceptional and duly justified cases, hold a highly relevant academic, scientific or professional curriculum acknowledged by the Scientific Committee of FCTUC as highly relevant for attending this study cycle.

2 - Acknowledgment referred to in subparagraphs b) and c) of paragraph 1 merely provides access to the cycle of studies leading to the doctoral degree and does not confer on its holder equivalence of a bachelor's or master's degree, or accreditation of such degrees.

5. Selection criteria:

3rd Cycle Course:

1- CV assessment, (Weighting 9/10);

The jury assesses applicants CV scoring it on a scale of 0 to 5 (the same used by the Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia to assess applications for doctoral grants) based on the criteria i) to iv).

i) Score of academic CV, considering the final classification of the course(s) held, according to the following tables:

Table 1 – Applicants admitted under subparagraphs a) and b) of paragraph 1 and holders of a bachelor's and master's degree (pre or post Bologna) or integrated master's degree, considering the weighted average M of the final classifications of the bachelor's degree and master's degree:

$M \geq 17$ Score = 4.5

$M = 16$ Score = 4.0

$M = 15$ Score = 3.5

$M = 14$ Score = 2.5

$M < 14$ Score = 1.5

Table 2 – Applicants admitted under subparagraph c) of paragraph 1 and holders of a bachelor's degree (post Bologna) but without a master's degree

$M \geq 17$ Score = 3.0

$M = 16$ Score = 2.5

$M = 15$ Score = 2.0

$M = 14$ Score = 1.5

$M < 14$ Score = 1.0

ii) Score of the scientific CV, considering the number and scientific quality of publications, participation in research projects and other elements, as long as these are activities in the scientific area of the study cycle in question, in the range of 0 to 1.5 points.

iii) Score of the professional CV, considering the duration and nature of the professional functions held in the scientific area of the study cycle in question, in the range of 0 to 0.5 points.

iv) Score of the motivation letter signed by the applicant, along with a declaration on oath of being

the sole author of the document, in the range of 0 to 1.0 points, considering:

- motivation to apply for the course;
- contribution of the course to individual career development;
- alignment of individual research interests with the course's areas of specialization.

Final score of CV assessment is the sum of the points awarded in criteria i) to iv). If this score is higher than 5, a maximum score of 5 points will be considered.

2 - Interview, (Weighting 1/10).

All applicants are interviewed during the selection process, and the interview can be done by videoconference. Applicants are called for by email. Whenever necessary, other means of contact (telephone) will be used. The interview must be conducted in English, and the assessment of applicants' proficiency in the English language is an integral part of the interview assessment. The minimum level of proficiency in English expected is C1, according to the Common European Framework of References for Languages (CEFR). The jury may decide that the applicant has to take a written test in English to assess minimum knowledge of the English language. In this case, the interview will be suspended and the date for the English test will be agreed upon with the applicant, which will conclude the assessment of the interview. The results of the English language test are an integral part of the assessment carried out in the interview, and the final assessment of the interview is scored on a scale of 0 to 5.

3 - Final score

Final score is calculated considering the following weighting:

- Applicant CV – weighting of 9/10
- Interview - weighting of 1/10

The result is converted onto a scale of 0 to 20 points for the final selection of applicants. At each stage of application, applicants with a final assessment higher than or equal to 14 will be accepted, filling the places open in each application phase in descending order of classification.

NOTE: Assessed applications with a score lower than 14 points in one of the ranking criteria will be automatically excluded.

6. Required documentation:

- 1- Motivation Letter [MANDATORY];
- 2- 1st Letter of Recommendation [MANDATORY];
- 3- 2nd Letter of Recommendation [MANDATORY];
- 4- Certificate of Bachelor's degree with final course classification (diploma). A certificate proving approval in the curricular units carried out must be included, with respective classifications (school

transcript) [MANDATORY, except if the primary course is a course taught at the University of Coimbra];

5- Certificate from Master's degree with final course classification (Master degree diploma). A certificate proving approval in the curricular units carried out must be included, with respective classifications (school transcript) [MANDATORY, except if the origin course is a course taught at the University of Coimbra];

6- Official declaration of course outlines and hourly course loads of courses previously taken (transcript), in case of equivalence credits request [MANDATORY, except in degrees awarded by the University of Coimbra under the Bologna Process – after 2007/2008)];

7- Curriculum vitae [MANDATORY];

8- Identity Document [MANDATORY only for foreign applicants];

9- Official document certifying qualifications, issued by the institution awarding the highest degree, indicating the weighted average and the grading scale [MANDATORY only for holders of a degree obtained abroad that does not contain the average].

NOTE: If the documents mentioned above are written in a foreign language other than Spanish, French, and English, it is mandatory to present a translation to Portuguese undertaken by a translator recognised by the Portuguese diplomatic representation.

The submission of the authenticated original documents is mandatory to the applicants admitted who enrol and register and must be done as soon as possible in order to complete their personal file. Further information at: <https://www.uc.pt/en/academic-services/submit-docs/>.

7. Tuition fee:

- 2,750€ (annual fee).

8. Part-time registration: Allowed

9. Assessment committee:

- Catarina Helena Branco Simões da Silva;
- Graça Isabel da Fonseca Pereira Thomas;
- Luís Filipe dos Santos Coelho Paquete;
- Paula Alexandra Gomes da Silva.

10. Other information:

- Application is subject to the payment of a 50.00 € fee, which is non-refundable, even in case of invalidation of application and of non-placement.
- Applications are submitted online at: <https://inforestudante.uc.pt/nonio/security/candidaturas.do>.

ADMINISTRATION

- Applicants who do not have the documents attesting the required qualifications or other documents until the end of the deadline for applications may apply conditionally. If they do not submit the required documents until the new deadline provided, their application will become "Not Admitted". Then, they can move their application onto the following call for applications without any additional charges.
- In applications definitively considered valid, and after the evaluation period has started, it is not possible to add or replace the documents presented. To add new documentation, a new application must be submitted in the next phase, if any.
- After the last phase of applications, and if there are still places available, applicants may submit their application by means of a request, beyond the deadline, which will be duly appraised by the coordination of the Course /Organisational Unit.
- Further information about academic issues, including the academic calendar, is available at:<https://www.uc.pt/en/academic-services/>
- Contacts:
E-mail: <https://apps.uc.pt/forms/view/sga/en>
Telephone:(00351) 239 247 195
In person assistance at the Student Hub. Schedules at:<https://www.uc.pt/en/academic-services/location-contacts/>

University of Coimbra, on 9th February 2026.

Head of Division,