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European Network of Centres of Excellence for Research and Education in Digital Culture

Work Package 4 – Deliverable 9

European Doctorate in Digital Culture

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Project of a European Doctorate in Digital Culture

The doctorate in Digital Culture planned in the context of E-Culture Net relates to the framework of international doctorates in which the partner universities elaborate and accept a single line of approach with respect to the following general pre-requisites:

- common modalities of selection;
- constitution of an international college of instructors;
- monitoring of didactic and research activities;
- modalities of preparation and discussion of doctoral theses;
- modalities of conferring of titles;
- duration of period that each student needs to spend abroad;
- students who have already obtained a Masters degree at one of the participating universities, given the consent of the college of instructors, can be admitted into the second or third year of the doctorate.
- The doctoral thesis must be carried out under the supervision of an instructor of the home university and by an instructor from one of the partner universities.
- Every country participating in the project can participate with a university or with a consortium of universities.

Considering the wide range of cultural areas to which a doctorate in digital culture can be directed, the present formative project does not intend to furnish professional abilities to be used immediately in the work market but aims, rather, at formation with respect to methodologies of scientific research in the various sectors in which the project is articulated. The topics of research which have been proposed represent the most advanced frontier in Europe at this time.

Duration of the Doctorate. 3 Years

Year I: Basic formation. Every partner university (or consortium of universities) provides students with a basic formation in the following sectors, personalising the teaching in accordance with the specific interests of the doctoral candidate:

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1. sector of contents: methodologies of historical research; methodologies of the history of art; principles and methods for cultural tourism; systems of information and digital documentation, museology, methods and techniques of other languages (cinema, television etc).
2. sector of technologies for communication of cultural heritage: principles of computer graphics and treatment of images; techniques of three-dimensional modelling and digital rendering, off-line and on-line systems of multimedia editing; technologies for sharing data in networks.

The basic course can already be furnished by the following Masters and Research Doctorates which are now active:

Universidad SEK de Segovia (Spain): Doctorate “Culture and Communication for the Information Society” (“Cultura y Comunicación para la Sociedad de la Información”):

<http://www.usek.es/Master/CCSociedad/CCSociedad.htm>

Università di Bologna (Italy): Doctorate: History and Informatics

<http://www.storiaeinformatica.it/dottorato/italiano/ncontenuti.html>

Scuola Norma Superiore, Pisa (Masters in Conservation, Treatment and Communication of Cultural Heritage; Course in GIS; Systems of relief mapping and digital reconstruction of historical, artistic and archaeological complexes in an ambient context (Il "Palazzone" Cortona)

http://www.sns.it/~Master_Beni_Culturali/

Year II: Specialised formation. Every student will go to one of the partner countries other than their country of origin for at least six months at a university which offers courses that are most suited to their own formation. It is also necessary that a means be found (even if this entails going to a number of locations) of delineating convergences between technologies and new languages of communication which add value to cultural heritage and to research concerning specific methods of individual disciplines which are present in the project.

In Italy

Methods and criteria for the virtual reconstruction of historic cities; multimedia applications on-line for cultural heritage; languages and presentation techniques for multimedia presentation and development of textual and visual contexts. Creation of informative, interactive architectures and

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their access interfaces. virtual libraries; databanks specialised in the treatment of visual and textual information; markup and indexing systems; application and developemnt of the TreSy system of markup and online access to the texts which have been indexed; systems of representation, control and mangement of territory for adding value to a distributed heritage. Methodologies of perception and commnication of the arts for digital publishing; adding value and management of museum and exhibition stuctures.

In the network of Northern European Universities:

Social history and cartography, structures of complex databases for the handling of information the the pre-statistical era.

In Spain:

Methods and criteria for art-historical analyses with digital documentation, and treatment of images.

[a questo punto si possono inserire altre esperienze presenti in E-Culture Net]

Year III: Doctoral Thesis

Every student will have two advisors as indicated in the general rules; will carry out their activities in a Department or in an insitute of one of the partner universities; will spend a period of apprennticeship or guided experiences at universities or private companies with whom they will achieve specific conventions.