

## **MATERIAL RESOURCES AND SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR DOCTORAL CANDIDATES**

The proposed PhD Programme in Data Science at Loyola Andalucía University will be delivered at the facilities of Loyola Andalucía University, which ensure the proper development of the proposed training activities. The material resources and services available and planned, described below, are aligned with the programme's training objectives and teaching plan, as they are adapted to the characteristics of the European Higher Education Area and the ECTS methodology. They allow for the delivery of lectures, group work, the organisation of seminars, as well as the provision of the equipment necessary for more practical activities.

### **Location and General Description of the University Campuses**

#### **Córdoba Campus**

As set out in the doctoral programme accreditation report submitted to DEVA, the Córdoba campus consists of four buildings equipped with a total of 37 classrooms for teaching use, as well as infrastructure and services suitable to guarantee the needs of programme delivery. From the perspective of material resources, it is important to highlight that the teaching buildings are integrated into smart buildings equipped with state-of-the-art technological features, which enhances the availability of resources and the comfort of both students and teaching staff. The entire campus is covered by a Wi-Fi network.

All classrooms are equipped with the necessary IT and technological resources for the use of ICT in teaching: computers with internet access, projectors and projection screens, loudspeakers, etc. This allows for extensive use of audiovisual media in teaching. The mobility restrictions caused by COVID-19 have led to a reinforcement of audiovisual resources in classrooms, which have been equipped with robotic cameras enabling high-quality video and audio streaming for online teaching.

#### **Dos Hermanas–Seville Campus**

The Dos Hermanas–Seville Campus is located at Avenida de las Universidades s/n, 41703 Seville, in the Entrenúcleos area of the municipality of Dos Hermanas. The facilities comprise four buildings: the main building, library, chapel, and sports building, as well as changing rooms and sports courts, with a total built area of 38,805 m<sup>2</sup>, including an exterior plaza and green areas.

The main building houses faculty offices, the administration/management and general services area, meeting rooms, group work rooms (as a complement to the Library), 24 classrooms, 27 seminar rooms, 7 computer classrooms, 14 laboratories, an auditorium, TV and radio studios, and the campus cafeteria-restaurant with an outdoor terrace.

All classrooms are equipped with the furniture required for maximum occupancy and with the necessary teaching resources: whiteboards, projection equipment for computer and

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video connection, Wi-Fi and wired internet access, wireless microphones, a computer integrated into the lecturer's desk, an automatic curtain system for classroom darkening, and robotic cameras for streaming teaching.

### **Campus Seville**

On both campuses there are group work rooms, located in the main building of the Dos Hermanas campus and in Building 3 of the Córdoba campus, as well as in the respective libraries. These rooms are freely accessible, allowing students to meet with their work groups at any time and to access the Wi-Fi network.

As mentioned above, both campuses have library services with a documentary collection of more than 60,000 volumes. In addition, through the library website, access is provided to ten full-text databases covering the main fields of knowledge of the University's programmes, such as Economics and Business, Law, and multidisciplinary studies.

All infrastructures are adapted to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities.

### **Distance Learning**

#### **Virtual Classroom**

For sessions delivered in distance mode, Loyola Andalucía University provides a virtual platform through which students can attend planned training sessions in real time. The Virtual Classroom allows the creation of a space where lecturers and students can interact in the same way as they would in a physical classroom. The features of this virtual platform allow the following actions:

- Students can see and hear lecturers in real time.
- Students can intervene at any time via audio and video or through an integrated chat.
- Lecturers can share all types of documents (PowerPoint, Word, Excel, videos, etc.) and use a digital whiteboard.
- Lecturers can assign privileges to participants so that they can share their documents, thus encouraging participation as in a physical classroom.
- This synchronous virtual teaching modality allows for the verification of student identity in assessment processes.

Currently, the University holds licences for the use of the Cisco WebEx virtual platform for all its teaching staff. This platform belongs to Virtual Learning Environments (VLE), a subgroup of Learning Management Systems (LMS). Its main features include:

- High-performance, user-friendly technology that does not require specific technical knowledge, allowing students to focus entirely on learning the subject matter.

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- Operation entirely via the web, so students do not need to learn to use any additional software. Access to the virtual platform is straightforward and does not require the purchase or installation of specific software or hardware.
- A truly mobile platform: students can access it using any internet-connected device (PC, laptop, tablet, mobile phone), with audio equipment (speakers) to listen and a microphone to participate orally, as well as a webcam (optional).
- A multi-platform solution, allowing access from virtually any environment, including Windows, Mac, Linux, and Solaris operating systems.
- A flexible system that can be adapted to all types of training needs.

In addition to training-oriented services and infrastructure, Loyola Andalucía University offers a Career Guidance Service aimed at supporting students and graduates at all levels by providing information, training, and assistance related to employability. The main activities of this service focus on informing about career opportunities and required competencies, training in tools and planning for job searching, and advising on defining professional interests and objectives.

The Career Guidance Service includes an individual support system that offers the possibility of personal interviews with a career advisor to address personal and professional issues related to employability. In addition to individual guidance, the service runs the *Orientate* programme, specifically designed for postgraduate students, whose activities include:

- Guidance and mentoring programme.
- Provision of tools, competencies, and skills for job searching and successful labour market integration.
- Facilitation of reflection, analysis, and motivation spaces for the self-design of an Individual Objectives Plan.
- Provision of knowledge, resources, and labour market information through direct engagement with key actors.
- A meeting point with professionals and human resources experts.
- Personalised support.
- Emotional support throughout the entire process.
- Individual attention through interviews and continuous follow-up.
- Practical methodology through group sessions, small groups, and tutorials.

Furthermore, Loyola Andalucía University has signed specific mobility agreements for research stays with 243 universities worldwide, available to both faculty members and doctoral candidates.

Finally, both the Doctoral School and the University's Internal Training Unit offer courses and seminars on teaching methodology as well as training in skills related to the supervision and direction of doctoral theses.

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