

## Master Thesis Supervision Plan Academic Year 2020-2021 MIA/MPP

Name:	Luciana Cingolani
Professor of	Public Administration

#### **Advisor Information**

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Office Hours	By appointment

#### Research & Advising Profile:

General Academic Field: What is your academic field, and what are your areas of supervision?

I am a political scientist who focuses on public management, comparative public policy and development studies. I have specific expertise in Latin America and EU countries, but I particularly value global and universal approaches. Topic-wise, my focus and special interests lie in the areas of digital governance, public sector innovation, inclusive governance, and institution-building.

Specific Expertise: What is your specific area of expertise, and what topics are you supervising?

I have a specific interest in the following topics: state capacity building, bureaucratic autonomy, agencification, user-centred public service delivery, transparency, co-production and innovation. You will find below a list of topic areas that are currently part of my research agenda.

Methodology: What methodologies and methods are you able to supervise?

I can supervise students interested in both qualitative and quantitative methodologies, but generally have a preference for quantitative (statistical) and/or comparative case analyses.

**Supervision Style:** Please include information on what your advisees can expect from you in terms of supervision format.

My supervision will be composed of a set of meetings where we calibrate the basics of master's research and that should serve all students rather uniformly, and a second part where the meetings are more personalized and adaptive to the needs and progress of each student.

## **Examples of Previously Supervised Thesis Topics**: (if applicable)

- Change management in the public sector in Brazil and Europe;
- Italy's role and progress in the Open Government Partnership;
- Citizen coproduction initiatives in Iceland;
- Open Data and Open Government in Mexican local governments;
- Al ecosystems in the European Union
- Comparative smart-city governance;
- Remote sensing for disaster prevention in fragile contexts

### Recommended General Readings: (if applicable)

The following texts are general readings material relevant for all advisees:

General readings will be recommended based on the research design chosen, and on participants' knowledge gaps.

## **Proposed Projects**: (*if applicable*)

Project Title	Practice Partner (if applicable)
Crowdsourcing for policy in the public sector. Under which conditions does it add public value?	
Which organizational capacity building approaches lead to better results in different contexts?	
How do emerging digital technologies contribute to problem- solving capabilities in the public sector?	
What are the equality / distributional concerns of digital governance?	
How is diversity being integrated in public management rules and practices?	

#### Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is an infringement of § 11 Good Academic Conduct, 2a: "Infringements of the standards of good academic conduct include for instance to use wordings, ideas or other intellectual work of others in an academic work without clearly indicating the author. The obligation to indicate the authorship of others shall apply irrespective of whether or not the sources used are protected by copyright" (See: Exam Rules, § 11 Good Academic Conduct for more information).

It is vital to keep track of your sources and to cite all material properly.

The Library will offer a session available to all students on resource management and proper citation.

## Extra (individual) note on plagiarism

#### Attendance:

Students receive 8 ECTS for the Master's thesis colloquium. Attendance for supervision—whether in the form of a colloquium or an individual meeting—is compulsory. Students are expected to be present, prepared, and engaged in each session, and to adhere to deadlines set for assignments.

In case of an excused absence, students must notify their supervisor. Absence must be compensated with an additional assignment.

Students on an academic exchange programme in the Fall Semester should be given the opportunity of remote supervision.

## Participation & Milestones:

I expect students to achieve a series of milestones through the colloquia:

- -a strong thesis outline where all the elements are well put together (a good match between research question, state of the art, methodology chosen, added value, etc.).
- -an insightful, systematic and updated literature review that is able to reveal gaps;
- -a sound methodological choice that comes as close as possible to valid inference;
- -an eloquent and well-presented set of arguments ahead of the final draft.

## Colloquium & Meeting Information:

	Colloquium Dates	Session Title
Meeting times (tba)	Session 1: November/December 2020	Topics of interest and formulation of research question
	Session 2: November /December 2020	Mapping the state of the art
	Session 3: Early February 2021	Thesis outline
	Session 4: Mid-February/Beginning March 2021	Progress and tailored feedback I
	Session 5: Late March 2021	Progress and tailored feedback II
	Session 6: Beginning/Mid-April 2021	Progress and tailored feedback

# **Colloquium Sessions:**

Session 1: xx.xx.2020 Topics of interest and formulation of research question	
Aim	To introduce the colloquium series and its working dynamics. To brainstorm about topics of interest and learn to formulate a pool of potential research questions. To have clarity on the elements that conform a thesis and start thinking about research strategies.
Assignment (e.g. thesis proposal)	Participants should compile a brief report on potential research questions and their theoretical and methodological options due on session #2.
Readings (if applicable)	-Session #1 guidelines and preparatory material (pdf document uploaded on Moodle).

Session 2: xx.xx.2020  Mapping the state of the art	
Aim	To discuss lessons learned when thinking about research questions and research strategies. To go over a series of considerations in order to conduct an insightful literature review.
Assignment (e.g. literature review)	Participants should produce a first literature review over the winter break on the subject chosen. It should be handed in <b>one week prior to session</b> #3 at the latest.
Readings (if applicable)	-Session #2 guidelines and preparatory material (pdf document uploaded on Moodle). A number of recommended readings are listed in this document, based on the research design chosen.

Session 3: xx.xx.2021 Thesis outline	
Aim	To discuss lessons learned from the literature review, how this review modifies the original goals and how to think about producing a first outline of the thesis.
Assignment (e.g. empirical findings)	Participants should produce a thesis outline due on session #4. It should be between 3-5 pages long and incorporate: a) the research question and why it is relevant, b) which conceptual or theoretical frameworks might help illuminate the question, c) which methodology you choose for your research goal and d) which evidence will be needed.
Readings (if applicable)	

Session 4: xx.xx.2021 Progress and tailored feedback I	
Aim	The last three sessions are meant to be personalized to the needs and progress of each student. We will reserve time for each case, but all participants are expected to contribute to the discussion and help their peers as well.
	We will discuss feasibility, research strategies, methodological soundness and findings, and reflect upon the necessary adjustments.
Assignment (e.g. first chapter)	To report on progress in a detailed manner and discuss alternatives. Students should become ready to present some preliminary findings or conclusions within these last three sessions.
Readings (if applicable)	

Session 5: xx.xx.2021 Progress and tailored feedback II	
Aim	The last three sessions are meant to be personalized to the needs and progress of each student. We will reserve time for each case, but all participants are expected to contribute to the discussion and help their peers as well.  We will discuss feasibility, research strategies, methodological soundness
Assignment	and findings, and reflect upon the necessary adjustments.  To report on progress in a detailed manner and discuss alternatives.  Students should become ready to present some preliminary findings or conclusions within these last three sessions.
Readings (if applicable)	Conclosions within these last times sessions.

Session 6: xx.xx.2021		
Progress and tailored feed	Progress and tailored feedback III	
Aim	The last three sessions are meant to be personalized to the needs and progress of each student. We will reserve time for each case, but all participants are expected to contribute to the discussion and help their peers as well.	
	We will discuss feasibility, research strategies, methodological soundness and findings, and reflect upon the necessary adjustments.	
Assignment	To report on progress in a detailed manner and discuss alternatives. Students should become ready to present some preliminary findings or conclusions within these last three sessions.	
Readings (if applicable)		