# Dottorato di Ricerca in Fisica



Title: Ultrafast Laser Physics

Lecturers: Giulia Fulvia Mancini

Duration: 20 hours of frontal lectures

CFU: 4

Period: March - May even years, every other year (2022, 2024, ...)

Content: Learning pre-requisites:

A basic (M.Sc.) knowledge of Photonics and Diffraction are recommended

# **Learning Objectives:**

The course will cover fundamental concepts and recent developments in the field of ultrafast laser physics, and it will introduce the basic theory to understand ultrafast ( $10^{-15}$ - $10^{-9}$ s) phenomena in chemistry, biology and condensed matter physics. It has the goal to give also to the non-expert an efficient starting position to enter the field of ultrafast laser physics providing all the detailed derivations. The course will cover fundamental technological and theoretical aspects of: (*i*) Linear pulse propagation and dispersion compensation, (*ii*) Nonlinear pulse propagation and nonlinear optics with ultrashort pulses, (*iii*) Pulse generation, pulse duration measurements

### **Program and contents:**

#### <u>Principles of femtosecond laser systems</u>

- Overview of laser oscillators and pulse amplification
- Pulse measurement/characterization

# Time-resolved methods

- Transient absorption (pump-probe) spectroscopy
- Time-resolved core-level spectroscopies (X-ray absorption, emission, RIXS) using synchrotron and XFEL radiation
- Time-resolved Coherent Diffractive Imaging methods with XFEL and table-top High Harmonic Generation (HHG) sources & Fundamentals of Fourier Optics
- Electron-based methods (scattering, crystallography, microscopy, spectroscopy)

#### <u>Theory</u>

Linear & Non-linear optics

#### **Expected results:**

The student shall be capable of formulating original questions upon reading an article in ultrafast science

# **Teaching Methods:**

- Interactive lectures
- Group activities in the classroom
- Homework

# **Reference textbooks:**

- U. Keller, Ultrafast Lasers A Comprehensive Introduction to Fundamental Principles with Practical Applications, Springer International Publishing, eBook ISBN 978-3-030-82532-4, 2021
- O. Svelto, Principles of Lasers, Springer, New York, ISBN 978-1-4419-1301-2

# **Learning verification methods:**

Oral presentation on a selected topic & discussion on the overall program

Notes This course may be of interest to PhD students in the Schools of Engineering and Physical Chemistry