



EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY		
Cycle	XXXIV	
Coordinator	Prof. Pierluigi VIAROLI Department of Chemistry, Life Science and Environmental Sustainability email: pierluigi.viaroli@unipr.it	
Duration	3 years	
Starting date of the PdD programme	01/11/2018	
Partner Institution	University of Ferrara and University of Firenze	
Research Topics		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plant Biology and biotechnology• Ecology and ethology• Evolution		
Training Objectives		
<p>Evolutionary Biology and Ecology are an integrated area of research which in many prominent scientific institutions belong to the same Department. The graduate program in Evolutionary Biology and Ecology focuses on the study of biological diversity and its evolution, of animal behavior, and of the relationships of all living organisms, including humans, among them and with the environment. By integrating information ranging from the molecular level to the levels of the organism, the population and the community, graduate students are encouraged to develop their research in both basic and applied fields of investigation. Innovative methods are given a central role, both in fieldwork and in the laboratory and numerical analyses, the latter based on state-of-the-art biostatistical and simulation methods. Therefore, the holder of a Ph.D. in Evolutionary Biology and Ecology will be a highly qualified expert in the analysis and interpretation of biological processes and in the management of natural resources, who will be able to independently plan and conduct empirical research, to thoroughly exploit public bioinformatic resources, to develop quantitative models and to in-depth analyse biological data.</p>		
Admission requirements		
<p>Applicants who have one of the following degrees may participate in the selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Laurea specialistica or Laurea magistrale (second cycle degree)- Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento (degree obtained under the previous Italian regulations);- an academic Master's degree obtained abroad, comparable to the above mentioned Italian degrees and recognized as suitable for the admission to doctoral programmes. <p>Undergraduate applicants may also submit applications with the obligation of getting their degree by October 31st 2018.</p>		
POSITIONS PUT OUT TO COMPETITION		
With Scholarship		9
	TOTAL	9
Positions with University Scholarship		
N°	Funding entity	Research Topic



3	Scholarship University funds	For information on the topics in the competition, please refer to the PhD web page https://scvsa.unipr.it/it/node/2948
3	Scholarship funded by University of Ferrara	
3	Scholarship funded by University of Firenze	
ADMISSION PROCEDURES		
Assessment of QUALIFICATIONS: up to 60 points (a minimum score of 36 points shall be required to be admitted to the Oral Exam) ORAL EXAM: up to 60 points Minimum score for ELIGIBILITY: 70/120		
Foreign Language	Language the fluency of which shall be assessed during the Oral Exam: <p style="text-align: center;">ENGLISH.</p> The evaluation of the knowledge of this language will be oral and will consist in translating of a scientific text.	
Possibility of videoconference for candidates residing or temporarily abroad (the relevant request shall be submitted using the form attached to the competitive examination announcement) THE INTERVIEW MAY BE HELD ALSO IN ENGLISH		YES
LIST OF QUALIFICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED AND THEIR ASSESSMENT		
Mandatory documents to be attached to the on-line application		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – ANNEX A (art. 5 of the Call for Applications) – Scanned Copy of a valid identification document with photo – Curriculum Vitae et studiorum (art. 4 of the Call for Applications) – Abstract of the second cycle degree thesis. Undergraduate applicants may submit the draft of the thesis approved by their supervisor (10.000 characters including spaces) – Certificates and academic transcript of records for both the Bachelor' and the Master' degrees containing the following details for each degree held: (art. 4 of the Call for Applications): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ University that granted the degree ○ Type of degree (first cycle/second cycle/single cycle) ○ Name of the degree programme ○ Date of graduation ○ Final mark ○ List of exams and corresponding scores (academic transcript of records) ○ Translation into Italian or English (only for degrees issued in languages other than Italian or English) 		
Further qualifications that may be attached to the application, if in possession of the applicant (only qualifications attested by a document drawn up in Italian or in English)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Research Project: The research project shall consist of a maximum of 4 pages, be written in Italian or in English, be focussed on an original research topic. It shall be structured as follows: introduction of the problem in the scientific context, significance of the problem, expected results, argumentation; <u>it does not represent a constraint with respect to the following choice of the doctoral thesis, that shall be defined together with the supervisor and approved by the Academic Board of the Doctorate programme;</u> – Statement of Research Interest: Short text – maximum 2 pages – in Italian or in English, aimed at explaining the candidate's reasons to attend the PhD and at describing the specific research interests; – Scientific Publications: Articles on national and international journals with peer reviewing, papers presented at conferences or symposia, book chapters, abstracts of papers or posters presented at conventions or meetings; 		



- **Reference Letters:** A maximum of 3 written by professors or researchers at the University of origin of the candidate or from other universities or from experts in the research areas working in public or private research institutions;
- **Academic qualifications:** other Master's and/or specialization degree in subjects consistent with the research topics of this PhD programme
- **Mobility experience abroad** (e.g. Erasmus or similar);
- **Any other document** certifying the applicant's training and abilities (scholarship, grants, university career awards, etc.)

EVALUATION CRITERIA

QUALIFICATION	EVALUTATION CRITERIA	POINTS
Curriculum Vitae et studiorum	Consistency of the Master's Degree or equivalent with the research topics of the PhD course. Further qualifications and academic experiences consistent with the objectives of the PhD program: language skills, any professional experience, study abroad, awards on the training path	Up to 20 points
Graduation mark (for graduates)	Score related to the final mark	Up to 10 points
Average of the exam marks (if the candidate will attain the degree no later than 31 October 2018)	Attribution of a score based on the credit weighted mean mark	Up to 10 points
Graduation thesis	Relevance of the thesis topics with the themes of the doctorate course	Up to 5 points
Research Project	Relevance with the PhD topics, with specific reference to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scientific value and originality of the proposal ○ experimental design and methodologie ○ proposal feasibility 	Up to 10 points
Statement of Research Interest	Relevance with the PhD topics	Up to 5 points
Scientific Publications	publications with peer reviews ISI / SCOPUS indexed, non-indexed journals, conference proceedings and abstracts of conference presentations. The score will be normalized for the duration of the post-graduate scientific career.	Up to 5 points
Reference Letters	Relevance with the doctorate and prestige of the institution or the signer of the letter	Up to 5 points
ORAL EXAMINATION	EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
The ORAL EXAM includes the presentation of the research project and is intend to assess the suitability of the applicant to pursue scientific research as well as the general knowledge of issues connected to the PhD course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ knowledge of foreign languages ○ presentation and discussion of the project ○ general knowledge of issues connected to the PhD course 	Up to 60 points



SCHEDULE OF THE ADMISSION EXAMS	
ORAL EXAM	ORAL EXAM DATE: 18 September 2018 TIME: 09:30am PLACE: Bioscience Building Department of Chemistry, Life Sciences and Environmental Sustainability Parco Area delle Scienze, 11/A – 43124 PARMA - ITALY
OTHER INFORMATION	For foreign candidates, the oral exam may be held in English at the candidate's choice.