



FOOD SCIENCE	
CYCLE	XXXIX
COORDINATOR	Prof.ssa Chiara DALL'ASTA Food and Drug Department email: chiara.dallasta@unipr.it
DURATION	3 years
STARTING DATE OF THE PHD PROGRAM	01/11/2023
TRAINING OBJECTIVES	
The PhD candidates will acquire advanced theoretical and practical expertise to provide innovative approaches and methodologies in the agro-food sector, under a multidisciplinary perspective.	
RESEARCH AREAS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beneficial effects of fermented food: from raw material fermentation to microbiota and related post-digestion bioactive compounds• Nudging targeted population groups towards more sustainable food choices• Designing protein-based foods using sustainable processing and formulation strategies• Evaluation of nutritionally relevant dietary food bioactives using in vitro and in vivo approaches• Microbial ecosystems of foods as a model to study bacterial interactions• Female nutrition - eating habits, nutritional status, and major sex-related risk factors at physiological stages of women's live• A molecular approach to gluten digestibility: implications for celiac disease• Merging untargeted mass spectrometry and advanced bioinformatics for diving into natural compounds chemodiversity and biological role• Investigating the association between phenolic metabolites and cardiometabolic health in response to the chronic intake of (poly)phenols• Predictive models for personalised dietary advice of (poly)phenol-containing foods• Mapping the complexity of diet: circulating metabolites of plant bioactives and the food-microbiome-host interplay• Diversity and innovation along the coffee value chain• Use of integrated omics methodologies for the characterization of toxinogenic fungi, also in view of the climate change	
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS	Regardless of age and citizenship, applicants holding at least one of the following academic qualifications can apply for admission: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Laurea specialistica or Laurea magistrale (second cycle master's degree)– Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento (degree obtained under the previous Italian regulations);– Second cycle Master's degree obtained abroad, equivalent to the above mentioned Italian degrees and recognized as suitable for the admission to doctoral program Undergraduates can also apply for admission to the selection, with the obligation to obtain the degree by 31.10.2023

POSITIONS PUT OUT TO COMPETITION*		13
(Modified by Rector Decree n. 1320 of 19.07.2023)		
With Scholarship		13
Position with Scholarship		
N°	Funding entity	Research Topic, if any
3	Scholarship funded by University of Parma (Ministerial funds)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human Nutrition• Bioorganic chemistry



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Microbiology
1	Scholarship funded by University of Parma (University funds)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Technology
1	Scholarship co-funded by Fondazione Cariparma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Chemistry
Position with Scholarship LINKED TO SPECIFIC TOPICS (art. 11 of the Competition notice) (Modified by Rector Decree n. 1320 of 19.07.2023)		
N°	Funding entity	BOUND RESEARCH TOPIC
1	Scholarship funded by Food and Drug Department (Project ERC PREDICT-CARE (Developing tools for the PREDICTion, at individual level, of the CARDiometabolic REsponse to the consumption of dietary (poly)phenols)	Investigating the association between phenolic metabolites and cardiometabolic health in response to the chronic intake of (poly)phenols
1	Scholarship funded by Food and Drug Department (Project ERC PREDICT-CARE (Developing tools for the PREDICTion, at individual level, of the CARDiometabolic REsponse to the consumption of dietary (poly)phenols)	Predictive models for personalised dietary advice of (poly)phenol-containing foods
1	Scholarship funded by Food and Drug Department (Project FARE CARE-DIET (CARDiometabolic REsponse to plant-based DIETs at individual level: deciphering the complexity of plant bioactives)	Mapping the complexity of diet: circulating metabolites of plant bioactives and the food-microbiome-host interplay
1	Scholarship co-funded by Food and Drug Department and by The Italian National Research Council C.N.R. - ISPA	Use of integrated omics methodologies for the characterization of toxinogenic fungi, also in view of the climate change
1	Scholarship financed with funds under the PNRR–Mission 4 component 1 (Ministerial Decree 118/2023 art. 8 “PNRR Research”) CUP D92J23000220006 	Nudging targeted population groups towards more sustainable food choices
1	Scholarship financed with funds under the PNRR–Mission 4 component 1 (Ministerial Decree 118/2023 art. 8 “PNRR Research”) CUP D92J23000220006 	Merging untargeted mass spectrometry and advanced bioinformatics for diving into natural compounds chemodiversity and biological role
1	Scholarship financed with funds under the PNRR–Mission 4 component 1 (Ministerial Decree 118/2023 art. 8 “PNRR Research”) CUP D92J23000220006 	Beneficial effects of fermented food: from raw material fermentation to microbiota and related post-digestion bioactive compounds
1	Scholarship co-financed with funds under the PNRR - Mission 4 component 2 (Ministerial Decree 117/2023) and co-financed by the Company Luigi Lavazza S.p.A. CUP D92J23000400004 	Phytochemical and genetic mapping of coffee leaves for the identification of nutraceutical compounds



ADMISSION PROCEDURES		
Assessment of QUALIFICATIONS: up to 50 points (a minimum score of 30 points shall be required to be admitted to the Oral Exam) ORAL EXAM: up to 70 points Minimum score for ELIGIBILITY: 70/120		
Foreign Language	Language the fluency of which shall be assessed during the Oral Exam The evaluation of the knowledge of this language will be oral and will consist in reading and translating of a scientific test. For foreign candidates, basic knowledge of ITALIAN LANGUAGE will also be assessed.	ENGLISH
ORAL EXAMINATION INDICATION THE ORAL EXAM TAKES IN THE PRESENCE and with the possibility of carrying out the interview REMOTELY for candidates residing abroad or temporarily abroad for study / work reasons or in isolation / quarantine for COVID-19 virus infection. To this end, candidates must submit a motivated REQUEST as per the model attached to the competition announcement)		
THE INTERVIEW MAY BE HELD ALSO IN ENGLISH		
LIST OF QUALIFICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED AND THEIR ASSESSMENT		
MANDATORY DOCUMENTS TO BE ATTACHED TO THE ON-LINE APPLICATION		
ANNEX A	(art. 5 of the Competition notice)	
Identification Document	Scanned Copy of a valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)	
Curriculum Vitae et studiorum	No specific CV format is required (see art. 4 of the Competition notice)	
Abstract of degree thesis	Abstract of the second cycle master's degree thesis. Undergraduate applicants must submit the draft of the thesis approved by their supervisor (abstract/draft of the thesis: 10.000 characters including spaces)	
Academic Qualifications	Certificates and academic transcript of records for both Bachelor' and Master' degrees containing the following details for each degree held: (art. 4 of the Competition notice): University that granted the degree - Type of degree (first cycle/second cycle/single cycle) Name of the degree program - 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).	
Research Project	The research project shall consist of a maximum of 2 pages, be written in English, according to the format attached to the competition notice. It will have to focus on an original research topic (unpublished, developed personally by the candidate, PENALTY NOT EVALUATION. It should be noted that the Examination Board can use of IT tools useful for verifying the originality of the submitted Project), concerning one of the specific topic indicated in this notice and 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</u> , which will be assigned by the Academic Board	
Statement of Research Interest	Short text – maximum 1 page – in Italian or in English, aimed at explaining the candidate's reasons to attend the PhD program and at describing her/his specific research interests	
LIST OF EVALUABLE QUALIFICATIONS		
(only qualifications attested by a document drawn up in Italian or in English)		



Curriculum Vitae et studiorum	<p>Including academic career and postgraduate experience, accompanied by a statutory declaration in lieu of the certification of the exams passed with the relevant marks, as well as the final graduation mark.</p> <p>The marks of the exams and the graduation mark and the consistency of the Master's Degree thesis with the doctoral program research topics will be the most relevant element of the evaluation.</p>	Up to 20 points
Research Project	<p>Points relating to the research project shall be allocated on the basis of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Scientific value and or originality of the proposal: max 10 points ○ description and structure of the proposal: max 5 points ○ proposal feasibility: max 5 points 	Up to 20 points
Statement of Research Interest	<p>Short text – maximum 1 page – in Italian or in English, aimed at explaining the candidate's reasons to attend the PhD program and at describing her/his specific research interests</p>	Up to 2 points
Scientific Publications	<p>Articles and/or reviews in scientific journals with peer reviewing, scientific book chapters with national or international circulation.</p> <p>The explicit indication of the candidate's contribution to the works presented for evaluation is a necessary requirement.</p> <p>International peer-reviewed papers: up to 2 points National peer-reviewed papers: up to 1 point</p>	Up to 3 points
Other Academic qualifications	<p>First or second level Master's degree obtained in Italy and/or specialization degree in subjects consistent with the research topics of this PhD program</p>	Up to 2 points
Other experiences (training, work, research, teaching, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Language proficiency certificates – Periods of study abroad, outside the country of origin (e.g. Erasmus programme or other similar mobility programmes) – Other qualifications attesting the suitability of the applicants (scholarships, awards, etc.) 	Up to 3 points
ORAL EXAM		
Interview Program	Evaluation CRITERIA	POINTS
<p>The ORAL EXAM includes the presentation of the research project and is intended to assess the suitability of the applicant to pursue scientific research as well as the general knowledge of issues connected to the PhD course</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ English reading and speaking and for foreign candidates also Italian language: up to 10 points ○ research project presentation: max 40 points ○ general knowledge of issues connected to the PhD course: max 20 points 	Up to 70 points

SCHEDULE OF THE ADMISSION EXAMS

It is the candidate's responsibility to verify the outcome of the evaluation of qualifications, which can be consulted in their reserved area by connecting to the page <http://unipr.esse3.cineca.it/Home.do> in the days preceding the date of the Oral Exam.

ORAL EXAM	DATE	5 September 2023 (with possible extension in the following days)
	TIME	10:00 AM (Italian Time)



	PLACE	ROOM A Plexus "Aule delle Scienze" Campus Universitario 43124 PARMA - ITALY
ALTRE INDICAZIONI		<p>The choice of the Research Topic to be expressed in Annex A is not binding on the assignment of the research project, and it is intended to assess candidates skills during the admission exam. <u>The PhD research topic will be assigned by the Academic Board.</u></p> <p>For foreign candidates it is possible to carry out the admission examination exclusively in English, after checking the basic knowledge of ITALIAN LANGUAGE. For Italian candidates it will be possible to take the admission examination in Italian or in English at the candidate's choice.</p> <p>For foreign candidates it is possible to carry out the admission examination exclusively in English. For Italian candidates it will be possible to take the admission examination in Italian or in English at the candidate's choice</p> <p>For foreign candidates, the Oral Exam may be held in English at the candidate's choice.</p>