Call for application
JOINT PhD Programme in STEBA - UNIGREEN
AGRI-FOOD SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY
XL cycle, Academic Year 2024/2025

This is an excerpt of the official call to facilitate the consultation. The official call is available here:
https://www.bandi.unimore.it/StuLau-Sdott.html

Administrative headquarter: Department of Life Sciences - Reggio Emilia
APPLICATION OPENING: July 1st, 2024 9:00 a.m. (CET)
APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 26th, 2024 1:00 p.m. (CET)

AVAILABLE PhD POSITIONS: 12
- 8 full scholarships linked on research topics of the PhD Programme;
- 1 full scholarship linked on "Valorization of regional agri-food supply chain by-products for the development of nutraceuticals" topic;
- 1 full scholarship linked on "Microbial fermentation as a tool to develop functional food enriched in bioactive peptides from dairy wastes (MICROHEALTHY)" topic;
- 1 full scholarship linked on "Development and application of a genomic selection pipeline in tomato" topic;
- 1 places without scholarship linked on research topics of the PhD Programme.

AREAS OF THE JOINT PHD PROGRAMME
The PhD program focuses on the production, transformation, quality, and safety of raw materials and food. It is offered by the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia in association with the University of Almeria (Spain), the Agricultural University of Plovdiv (Bulgaria), the Agricultural University of Iceland (Iceland), and the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra (Portugal) within the UNIgreen Alliance.
The administrative headquarters of the program is the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. At the sole discretion of the Academic Board, each PhD candidate will be assigned to a specific location based on the alignment of their profile with the research theme offered by that location. The assigned location will become the primary site for the candidate's study and research activities.
Each PhD candidate must spend a mobility period at a partner institution different from their assigned location for a minimum of 3 months and up to a maximum of 18 months, which may be non-consecutive.
The winner of the scholarship funded by PNRR DM 630/2024 must spend a mobility period at a partner institution different from their assigned location for a minimum of 6 months and up to a maximum of 18 months, which may also be non-consecutive, and a period in a company ranging from a minimum of 6 months to a maximum of 18 months, which may also be non-consecutive.
Upon completion of the program, the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia will award a joint PhD degree with the aforementioned universities in "*Agri-food science, technology and biotechnology*".
Official course language: English.

Further information is available on the website of the PhD course at: http://www.steba.unimore.it

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Italian second cycle master's degree (or Italian degree obtained prior to D.M. 509/99) or equivalent academic foreign qualification (Master's degree) held by **October 31st, 2024**.

Candidates who complete their degree after the deadline for this call must submit a Degree certificate or the form in Annex A2 (in case of degree awarded by a foreign institution) or a self-certification as Annex A1 (in case of degree awarded by an Italian University).

HOW TO APPLY
Applications:
Applications must be submitted by **July 26th 2024, at 1:00 p.m. (CET)** by following the online procedure: from www.esse3.unimore.it proceed to "Registration" to obtain login credentials (username and password) and access the Restricted Area.
Log in with the credentials received following registration or with the SPID (Public Digital Identity System) credentials and access the Registered Area, then select from the menu tab "Admission" – "Admission Exams" – "Ph. D.".

All useful academic qualifications, documents and publications must be attached in .pdf or .rtf file form with a maximum size of 20 MB.

Each application must refer to a single selection procedure and will require a payment of € 25.00, not refundable, to cover administrative costs. Therefore, candidates wishing to apply to more than one selection procedure must submit a separate application and the € 25.00 fee for each selection procedure.
The invoice will only be available at the end of the procedure with the final data saving.

Should the applicant need to reopen the application and correct the data or add extra documents before the deadline of July 26th, 2024, 1.00 pm CET, please send an e-mail to the PhD Office (segr.dottorati@unimore.it) attaching a scanned copy of an identity document.

Should the applicant occur of any technical and/or operating difficulties, please write to the following e-mail address: webhelp@unimore.it

Required documents:
1) (Applicants with an Italian degree) a self-certification to prove to meet the requirements (using the form in Annex A1);
2) (Applicants with a foreign degree) Degree Certificate and Transcript of Records. If not yet available, applicants have to attach the description of the degree with a list of exams taken together with a statement of truth of the certificates attached using Annex A2;
3) Copy of a valid ID document;
4) Curriculum of research and teaching activities indicating clearly and concisely what candidate has studied, skills acquired (languages, knowledge of computers, use of complex instrumentation, etc.) including any official certifications applicant may have. It must be written in English language using the template reported in annex B2 and

must include the exact name and nature of degrees possessed, publications, if applicable, and contributions to conferences/congresses;

5) Summary of Master thesis in Italian or English, or equivalent – with length between 3000 and 5000 characters (including spaces) – organised under the following headings: statement of purpose, research methodology used, obtained results;

6) Statement of Research Interest, written in English language using the template reported in annex C2 and referring to the instructions contained therein, which illustrates the reasons why the candidate wishes to attend the PhD Programme, and describes her/his specific research interests, in relation to the Research Topics of the XL cycle of the PhD Programme (available from the PhD Programme website at: http://www.steba.unimore.it/ under "Research topics").

7) Documents considered useful for the evaluation with corresponding list;

8) Letters of presentation/reference/r (maximum 3); in the online application, candidates must enter all the personal data of the professor/researcher/expert who will send the recommendation letter. Once the application will be submitted, the computer system will send an automatic e-mail to the referent to request to insert the recommendation letter. The deadline to upload the letters is July 26th, 2024, at 11:59 pm (CET); the applicants can check on the summary page of the application, if the presentation/reference/recommendation letter has been sent by the referent. Within the abovementioned deadline, the candidates can send to the referent who has not yet completed a reminder by selecting the item "reminder" from the summary page of the application.

9) Academic publications with corresponding list.

Certificates issued in a language other than Italian, English, French, German or Spanish, must be translated and authenticated by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular authorities.

EVALUATION METHODS
The selections are intended to verify the candidate's preparation and aptitude to carry out research activities related to the topics of the PhD Course.

1) Main selection procedure (for positions with scholarship on research topics of the PhD Course and for place without scholarship): based on academic and research record
The Selection Committee has the capacity to assign scores up to a total of 60 points in the evaluation of candidate qualifications, as follows:
- Curriculum: from 0 to 30 points,
- Master thesis: from 0 to 15 points,
- Publications: from 0 to 5 points,
- Other qualifications: from 0 to 10 points.
Once the qualifications have been assessed, the Committee will compile a merit-based ranking of candidates based on the scores awarded.
Candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 will be considered eligible.

2) Selection procedure for a position with scholarship with topic "Valorization of regional agri-food supply chain by-products for the development of nutraceuticals": based on academic and research record
The Selection Committee has the capacity to assign scores up to a total of 60 points in the evaluation of candidate qualifications, as follows:
- Curriculum: from 0 to 30 points,
- Master thesis: from 0 to 15 points,

- Publications: from 0 to 5 points,
- Other qualifications: from 0 to 10 points.
Once the qualifications have been assessed, the Committee will compile a merit-based ranking of candidates based on the scores awarded.
Candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 will be considered eligible.

3) Selection procedure for a position with scholarship with topic "Microbial fermentation as a tool to develop functional food enriched in bioactive peptides from dairy wastes (MICROHEALTHY)": based on academic and research record
The Selection Committee has the capacity to assign scores up to a total of 60 points in the evaluation of candidate qualifications, as follows:
- Curriculum: from 0 to 30 points,
- Master thesis: from 0 to 15 points,
- Publications: from 0 to 5 points,
- Other qualifications: from 0 to 10 points.
Once the qualifications have been assessed, the Committee will compile a merit-based ranking of candidates based on the scores awarded.
Candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 will be considered eligible.

4) Selection procedure for a position with scholarship with topic "Development and application of a genomic selection pipeline in tomato": based on academic and research record
The Selection Committee has the capacity to assign scores up to a total of 60 points in the evaluation of candidate qualifications, as follows:
- Curriculum: from 0 to 30 points,
- Master thesis: from 0 to 15 points,
- Publications: from 0 to 5 points,
- Other qualifications: from 0 to 10 points.
Once the qualifications have been assessed, the Committee will compile a merit-based ranking of candidates based on the scores awarded.
Candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 will be considered eligible.

SELECTION COMMITTEE
Each committee responsible for the evaluation of candidates will be appointed by a Rector's decree and composed of three permanent members and one or more substitute members. They will be selected from the University's tenured professors and researchers.

RANKING
At the end of the selection process, each committee will publish a final merit-based list ranking the candidates.
The final merit list will be approved by a Rector's Decree, once all documentation has been declared valid.
Candidates will be admitted to Programmes according to their positioning on the merit list until all available places have been allocated for each PhD Programme. In case of a tie, preference is given to the younger candidate.

The final rankings of candidates will be announced publicly exclusively by:

- publication on the University website at https://www.bandi.unimore.it/StuLau-GradSdott.html
- publication on the online University notice board (https://wss.unimore.it/public/albo/).

ENROLLMENT

Within the mandatory five-day time limit, starting from the day after the publication of the final rankings on the online University notice board. those candidates qualifying for a place on the merit list must enrol in the first year of the PhD Programme, connecting to the University website https://www.esse3.unimore.it and paying the instalment of enrolment fee.

Annex A1 (for candidates holding degrees awarded in Italy only)

Self-certification as substitute for attested declarations under articles 46 and 47, Presidential decree 445/2000

WARNING

The following self-certification complies with the dispositions of Presidential decree 445 of the 28th December 2000: "LEGISLATIVE DISPOSITIONS AND RULES FOR ADMINISTRATIVE FORMS". In particular:

- Details provided by candidates have to be considered as substitute for attested declaration under articles 46-47; following article 76 candidates who provide mendacious information can incur in administrative and criminal penalties.

- Following article 39 the self-certification does not require official stamps.

- Under articles 71 and 72 the relevant University office will verify the information provided.

- The information requested in this self-certification follow article 16 is strictly necessary for the selection procedures and will be kept confidential following the Legislative decree 196 of the 30th June 2003 on personal data protection.

DEGREE DESCRIPTION
Italian second level degree "laurea magistrale" (under D.M. 270/04)
or Italian second level degree "laurea specialistica" (under D.M. 509/1999)
or Italian degree (prior to D.M. 509/1999)

Aware of the provisions on criminal consequences for false declarations, under art. 76 of Presidential decree 445/2000 the undersigned

Family name_____

Given name_____

Place of birth _____

Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

Citizenship _____

E-mail for correspondence _____

DECLARES TO HOLD THE FOLLOWING DEGREE CERTIFICATE

(Tick only one of the three options)

□ Italian second level degree "Laurea magistrale" (under D.M. 270/04) in

_____

Degree class of _____

□ Italian second level degree "Laurea specialistica" (under D.M. 509/1999) in

_____

Degree class of _____

□ Italian degree (prior to D.M. 509/1999) in

_____

Degree awarded by the University of _____

on the (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

Final mark _____

AND DECLARES

that, in accordance with articles 46 and 47 of Presidential decree 445/2000, the information included in all the copies attached to the admission form is correct.

_____
Date and place

_____
Signature (legible and in full)

Annex A2 (for candidates holding foreign degrees only)

Self-certification as substitute for attested declarations under articles 46 and 47, Presidential decree 445/2000

DESCRIPTION OF THE QUALIFICATION
(Degree, Master of Science or equivalent)

INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE HOLDER OF THE QUALIFICATION

Family name _____

Given name _____

Place of birth _____

Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

Citizenship _____

E-mail for correspondence _____

INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFICATION

Level of Qualification (Degree, Master of Science or other) _____

Qualification in _____

Qualification awarded at the University of _____

Qualification awarded on (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

Final degree mark /grade _____

Main Field(s) of Study for the Qualification _____

Language(s) of Instruction/Examination _____

Official Length of Programme (years) _____

Access Requirement(s) to Programme _____

INFORMATION ON THE EXAMINATIONS AND RESULTS GAINED FOR THE QUALIFICATION
(Examination and individual grades/marks/credits obtained)

DATE	EXAMINATION	GRADE	MARK	CREDITS OBTAINED

Useful additional information about examinations and results _____

_____

_____

_____

INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTION OF THE QUALIFICATION IN THE COUNTRY WHERE THE QUALIFICATION WAS AWARDED

Does the title described above, in the country where it has been awarded, enable application to

University PhD programmes? (Tick only one of the two options)

□ Yes □ No

ADDITIONAL DECLARATION

In accordance with articles 46 and 47 of Presidential decree 445/2000, the information included in all the copies attached to the admission form is correct.
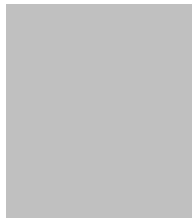
_____
Date and place

_____
Signature (legible and in full)

Annex B2

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATION   Replace with First name(s) Surname(s)

[All CV headings are optional. Remove any empty headings.]

📍 Replace with house number, street name, city, postcode, country

📞 Replace with telephone number   📠 Replace with mobile number

✉ State e-mail address

🕘 State personal website(s)

Date of birth: dd/mm/yyyy | Nationality: Enter nationality/-ies

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Replace with dates (from dd/mm/yy– to dd/mm/yy)   [Add separate entries for each course. Start from the most recent.]

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Replace with dates (from dd/mm/yy– to dd/mm/yy)

[Remove any headings left empty.]

[Add separate entries for each experience. Start from the most recent]
Replace with occupation or position held (e.g., research grant, research scholarship……)
Replace with University or Research Centre name and locality (if relevant, full address and website):
- Replace with main activities (max 200 characters)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Replace with dates (from dd/mm/yy– to dd/mm/yy)

[Remove any headings left empty.]
[Add separate entries for each experience. Start from the most recent]
e.g mentorship, teaching, seminars (specifying place, institution)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Replace with dates (from dd/mm/yy– to dd/mm/yy)

[Remove any headings left empty.]
[FILL WITH OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE (IF ANY)]
[Add separate entries for each experience. Start from the most recent]
Replace with occupation or position held
Replace with employer's name and locality (if relevant, full address and website)
- Replace with main activities and responsibilities (max 200 characters)

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s)   Replace with mother tongue(s)

Other language(s)

UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level
Replace with name of language certificate (if any). Enter level if known.				
Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level

Replace with language

Replace with language

Replace with name of language certificate (if any). Enter level if known.

Levels: A1/A2: Basic user - B1/B2: Independent user - C1/C2 Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication skills	Replace with your communication skills. Specify in what context they were acquired. Example: • good communication skills gained through my experience as sales manager

Organisational / managerial skills	Replace with your organisational / managerial skills. Specify in what context they were acquired. Example: • leadership (currently responsible for a team of 10 people)

Digital skills

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Word processors	Spreadsheet	Presentation software	Statistical software (specify)	Image editing	Programming languages (specify)
Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level	Enter level

Levels: Basic user - Independent user - Proficient user
Digital competences - Self-assessment grid
Indicate below ICT-certificates (if any)
Replace with your other computer skills. Specify in what context they were acquired.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

[List relevant publications, presentations, conferences/seminars, honours and awards, memberships, other certifications (if any). Remove headings not relevant in the left column. Please, indicate for each publications the DOI code or any relevant information to find them on web. In absence of this information, the candidate can add the relevant files as annexes.]

Publications
Oral presentations
Poster presentations
Participation to Conferences/seminars
Honours and awards
Memberships
Other certifications

Annex C2

STATEMENT OF RESEARCH INTEREST

Candidate: *name/surname*

In case of multiple research topics, please duplicate the table below

Title of the Research Topic	*Please, report here the exact title of the topic for the XL cycle, available from the PhD Programme website at:* *http://www.steba.unimore.it/site/home/research-topics.html*
Description of the specific research interest	**(max 3000 characters including spaces)** *Please illustrate the reasons why you wish to attend the PhD Programme and describe your specific research interests related to the Research Topic.* *Previous studies and experiences on the specific topic may be indicated.*