

Evaluation criteria for the admission to the PhD in Environmental and Evolutionary Biology (40° cycle)

Evaluation grid for qualifications, project and oral examination.

1. Qualifications (maximum 20 scores)

1.1 Graduation mark (Master degree, Italian grading system – max 14 scores)

Graduation mark	Score
110 - 110 cum laude	14
109 - 105	12
104 - 100	8
< 100	1

The grid 1.1 is replaced by the following for students from Italian universities who will discuss their thesis after the PhD admission deadline but before October 31, 2024. Students from non-Italian Universities will be evaluated using the same grid, with current conversion rates for grading systems applied.

Average grade of examinations	Score
28,5 - 30	12
27,5 - 28,5	10
26,5 - 27,5	8
25,5 - 26,5	6
24,5 - 25,5	4
< 24,5	0

1.2 Publications (max 3 scores)

Description	Score
ISI paper (first author)	3
ISI paper (co-author)	2
Congress proceedings	0.5

1.3 Research experience (max 3 scores)

Description	Score
Research experience abroad (at least two months, including Erasmus exchanges), Research, Postgraduate training courses (scholarships, research grants, etc.)	3

2. Project (max 40 scores)

The evaluation of qualifications and research project will start on **July 2024, 1st** at the Department of Environmental Biology (Botany Building, CU022, Room C); address: Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Rome.

This meeting is for the Commission alone (candidates must not be present).

The outcome of the evaluations, which includes the evaluation of the qualifications and the project, will be published in the Department's public bulletin board as well as on the website: https://web.uniroma1.it/dip_dba302/, within the **2024, July, 5th**

Candidates will be admitted to the oral exam if they scored at least 45/60 in the overall evaluation of their qualifications and project.

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Research projects must be submitted at the same time as the application form and must be written in Italian or English, mandatory with the following format (in PDF):

- a) Project title (max 300 characters)
- b) Indication of preferred curriculum
- c) National and international state of the art of the proposed research (max 5000 characters)
- d) Description of the general and specific objectives of the project and methodological approach (max 10000 characters)
- e) Innovation of the research, and the potential to achieve an advancement of knowledge with respect to the state of the art (max 5000 characters)
- f) Description of the research activities within a three-year program of annual activities (max 5000 characters)
- g) Estimated cost budget (e.g., consumables, equipment necessary for carrying out the research, stages abroad, participation in congresses, publications, etc.)
- h) List of bibliographic references

The Commission will especially consider:

- i) clarity and completeness in the definition and description of research objectives, strategy used to achieve them and timetable of the three-year program.
- ii) relevance of the project to the educational objectives of the doctorate, especially with respect to the research topics defined in the curricula.
- iii) innovativeness of research and potential to achieve an advancement of knowledge with respect to the state of the art in the scientific sector.
- iv) logistic and financial feasibility and sustainability of the project.

The proposal must be framed in one of the research themes defined for each of the 4 Curricula (see website of the Environmental Biology Department https://phd.uniroma1.it/web/BIOLOGIA-ENVIRONMENTAL-AND-EVOLUTIONARY_ND3488.aspx), in which the members of the Academic Board have active research lines.

It should be noted that, in case of admission, the final doctoral research project will be subsequently defined and approved by the Academic Board, also on the basis of a feasibility criterion, before the start of doctoral activities.

3. Oral examination (maximum 60 scores)

The interview will be based on:

- i. Oral presentation (without using PPT) and defense of the project in front of the Commission, which will especially evaluate:
 - a) the validity of the methodological framework and the candidate's ability to respond to eventual criticisms;
 - b) the sustainability, also logistical and financial, of the project;
 - c) the innovation of the research and the potential to achieve an advancement of knowledge with respect to the state of the art in the scientific sector (**max 30 scores**).
- ii. Verification of the candidate's knowledge relating to the chosen curriculum; this verification will start from the specific theme of the project presented and then extend to broader issues relating to the curriculum (**max 30 scores**).

The oral exam is passed with a minimum score of 45/60.

The minimum overall score for admission to the research doctorate is 90/120.

The oral exam will take place on **2024, July 18th and 19th**, (9:30 a.m.) at the Department of Environmental Biology (Botany Building, CU022, Room C); address: Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Rome.

Publication of the results in the in the Department's public bulletin board and on the website: https://web.uniroma1.it/dip_dba302/

Date of publication of the result: **2024, July, 23th**

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