



**Università
degli Studi
di Ferrara**

IUSS

Istituto Universitario
di Studi Superiori
IUSS-Ferrara 1391

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**Open Competition
based on academic qualifications and examinations for admission to
Research Doctorate course in
Earth and Marine Sciences (EMAS)**

XXXVII Cycle – Academic Year 2021/2022

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JULY 23rd 2021 – h. 23.59 (ITALIAN TIME)

Art. 1

Purpose and general rules

Pursuant to the Consortium Agreement signed between the University of Ferrara (Italy) and the Universidad de Cadiz (Spain), the public competition based on qualifications and interview is herewith called for the admission to the International Research Doctorate in Earth and Marine Sciences (EMAS).

The course lasts three years starting from November 1st, 2021.

Available positions will be awarded according to a merit list, depending on the places provided by the individual Institutions Partners, as illustrated in article 7 of this announcement.

Available positions, including research subjects, admission requirements, procedures and criteria for selecting and evaluating candidates in order to draw up the rankings, are indicated in the following articles and in the sheet attached, which has to be considered as an integral part of this announcement.

Scholarships, research grants and/or other equivalent financial forms, as well as the available positions of this announcement can increase depending on the funding availability. Funding may also come from other Public research bodies or private research structures, without prejudice to the deadlines for submitting the admission request. Failure to complete agreements with external bodies for the funding of scholarships and/or other equivalent forms of research support, even though written in this call, reduces the number of available positions.

This announcement has to be considered an official notification.

Any changes, updates or integrations to its content **will be exclusively announced** at the website <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/emas>.

Failure to comply with the requirements stated in this announcement will result in the exclusion from the competition.

Any personal communication to candidates concerning this competition will be sent to the e-mail address provided by the candidate during the registration procedure (ref. art. 4).

The Università degli Studi di Ferrara does not assume any responsibility for the loss of any communications due to incorrect candidate addresses, or to missed/late communication of their e-mail address change, or to postal or telecommunication mistakes.

This announcement is drawn up in Italian and English according to the rules of the Consortium Agreement signed by the partner Institutions, and to the respective University PhD Courses Regulations.

The schedule of the admission tests will be available at the following link:

<http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/commissioni>,

Within the deadline of this call the Board of Professors will define the schedule and immediately publish it online.

Art. 2. **Features and organization of the course**

The programme is addressed to highly qualified candidates from all European and non-European Countries. Its main aim is to educate young researcher of high scientific level, who are open to great debates about the issues related to the two proposed curricula, with a pluri- and inter-disciplinary approach towards the main research areas of the course, according to "EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation – Horizon 2020".

The research topics of the two curricula can be found at the website:

<http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/corsi/riforma/earth>.

In order to provide an excellent academic quality of the programme, the Partner Institutions are committed in providing specific expertise, lessons and supervisors for studying and research activities of the course, commensurately to the specific roles of each Institution.

The complementarity of the research lines developed by the parties and the integration of the international path are also guaranteed through mandatory mobility periods for doctoral students, both between the parties and within the research network each Institutions offers.

Regarding mandatory mobility, the Parties agree to establish throughout an internal regulation a minimum period of training and research to carry out at a "Host Institutions", in order to achieve the degree. The academic supervisor must authorize in advance the activities to carry out at the "Host Institution", and they must announced to the Board of Professors.

All Partners and Consortium-Associated Institutions are to be considered "Host Institution", as well as each University and International High Research Institution qualified in the research fields of the course, as long as they are authorised by the Board of Professors.

The Parties agree that by "Host Institution", they mean one of the two Partner Universities or any other consortium associated University and/or international research body of high qualification in the relevant field relevant to the Ph.D. Course.

Winning Candidates will be enrolled in the Ph.D. Course of "Earth and Marine Science" promoted by the University of Ferrara according to D.M. February 8th, 2013 N° 45. In order to fulfil the enrollment to the joint international doctorate, candidates must accept the regulations mutually agreed by the Parties involved, which also contain all requisites for accessing it, together with legal, administrative and procedural provisions mandatory for the issuing of the double degree by signing the relevant agreement.

Winning Candidates that will decide to participate in the international path will be simultaneously enrolled both at Università di Ferrara and Universidad de Cadiz.

At the end of the Course, the University of Ferrara will issue the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in "Earth and Marine Science" to candidates who will have successfully defended their thesis. Moreover, to all Candidates enrolled in the international path, who will have fulfilled all the necessary requirements and positively defended their thesis, the University of Cadiz will issue the degree in "Science and Marine Technologies".

Art. 3. **Admission Requirements**

Applicants, without any limitation of age nor citizenship, must hold one of the following qualifications before this announcement deadline:

- a) An Italian degree known as "Laurea specialistica/magistrale" or a degree awarded prior to the approval of the Italian D.M. n. 509 dated 3 November 1999, updated with D.M. n. 270 of 22 October 2004, n. 270; Master (second level) degree;
- b) An equivalent foreign academic qualification awarded abroad as provided for at paragraph a);
- c) An academic qualification awarded abroad which has to be considered equivalent to the Italian degree in length, level and possibly study area, according to what is provided for at paragraph a).

Candidates who will achieve the necessary requirements to access the doctorate course within **October 31st 2021** are accepted with reserve. In this case, applicants must send a self-declaration with the specifics of the degree and the grade achieved to dottorato@unife.it by **November 2nd, 2021**.

The attached sheet, which is an integral part of the present call for application, specifies the type of degrees that are required for the participation to the call, as well as any additional requirements.

All candidates are admitted to the selection subject to verification of self-certified declarations, pursuant to the Italian Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions. The University may carry out

checks on the truthfulness of the declarations and request the submission of original documents at any time during the proceedings, even after the beginning of the doctoral courses.

The University may exclude from the selection process those candidates who do not meet the admission requirements. The University can do so at any time by motivated order of the Rector.

Those already enrolled on the same doctoral Course cannot apply for admission.

Art. 4 Selection Application Form

The application form for admission to the selection procedure, including all mandatory documentation, must be drawn up and sent, under penalty of exclusion, **by July 23, 2021 – at 11:59 pm (Italian time)** using only the appropriate **online procedure**, available at the following link: <https://pica.cineca.it/unife/dottorati37-emas>.

You can find all information for registration and access to the procedure at the links:

<https://pica.cineca.it/unife/dottorati37-emas>

<http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/emas> - Istruzioni di compilazione "Help_37.pdf"

Candidates can access the procedure for submitting the admission application also using SPID (Public Digital Identity System). This procedure is available only for candidates already living in Italy). Candidates can do so by choosing the University of Ferrara from the page of the available federations.

The application is completed by entering the requested information and enclosing the documents indicated in the form regarding the course each candidate is interested in.

Files must be in pdf-Adobe format only: maximum size 30 Mb for each attachment.

Files must be named with the candidate's number, surname, name, file name. For example: 1_surname_name_curriculum.pdf. Should there be files with more pages, add a number at the end, i.e.: 1_surname_name_curriculum_2.pdf

The application must contain the candidate's personal data, the residence, phone number, e-mail address, and the citizenship.

For all legal purposes, all the data contained in the application and in all the enclosed documents are considered as a self-certification, pursuant to articles no. 46 and 47 of the Italian Presidential Decree 445/2000 and subsequent amendments.

In the application form **it is mandatory to choose the "Home Institution"**.

Only one "Home Institution" can be chosen.

- **University of Cadiz** = Universidad de Cadiz (España)
- **Dipartimento di Fisica e Scienze della Terra** = Università degli Studi di Ferrara (Italy)

The expressed choice will be binding and it will determine the allocation of available positions, pursuant to art. 6 of this announcement. Positions will be assigned according to the order of the relative rankings, until all available positions at each University run out.

Candidates who intend to apply for the specific positions listed below **must select the type of position and/or the type of fellowship for specific research topics** in their application:

- Positions reserved for company employees, who are engaged in highly qualified activities (industrial doctorates);
- Positions with high-apprenticeship contracts;
- Positions reserved for Public bodies employees, who are engaged in highly qualified activities and who will keep their salary;
- Scholarships for a specific research topic. These topics are duly explained in the attached forms, which are an integral part of this announcement.

Candidates who request to compete for scholarships for a specific research topic are NOT precluded from applying to the ordinary scholarship positions.

Once the application has been completed and submitted, candidates will receive an email to confirm that the submission process is completed and they will receive an identification code, which is essential for any communication with CINECA and the IUSS Office.

It is the candidates' responsibility to verify the correct procedure conclusion. Complaints will not be accepted for any malfunctions of the computer system due to overloads near the deadline.

Applications that **at 11:59 pm (Italian hour) on July 23, 2021** are incomplete in the compilation and/or in the mandatory attachments will be excluded.

In no case additions to the documentation will be accepted after the deadline for the call.

Candidates wishing to participate in the competition for more than one doctoral course must submit an application for each course and attach the required documentation for each application.

Candidates are invited to complete the application for participating in the competition well in advance of the deadline.

Art. 5

Support for candidates with disabilities or with specific learning difficulties (SpLD)

According to law n. 104/1992 and subsequent modifications, candidates with disabilities can outline their particular needs, which will be taken into account when organising the test. Candidates are requested to complete the "Assistance/Extra Time" section, indicating the aids required for carrying out the test and attaching either the certificate of disability or a valid certification pursuant to the Italian Law no. 104 of 1992, which has to be issued by the local competent medical commission in .pdf format.

Pursuant to the Italian law no. 170/2010 and the Ministerial Decree no. 5669, dated July 12 2011, candidates with a diagnosis of Specific Learning Disorder (SpLD) can report their needs by filling-in the appropriate section "Aids/Additional time". They have to declare the aids required or carrying out the tests and attaching either the certificate of disability or a valid certification pursuant to the Italian Law no. 104 of 1992, which has to be issued by the local competent medical commission in .pdf format.

Once the application is completed, please send a ticket to SOS (sos.unife.it) – "Sezione Servizio Disabilità e DSA" with the number assigned during the procedure. The ticket must be sent before the call deadline.

Candidates with specific learning difficulties (SpLD) residing abroad

Candidates with disabilities (SpLD), who are resident in foreign countries and intend to use the aids or the compensatory measures, must submit – according to the above described procedure – a certificate of their disability of SpLD status. Certificates must be issued in the country where they are resident, and they Candidates must add a certificate legal translation in Italian or English.

Requests evaluation and supporting measures for Candidates with Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)

All candidates' requests will be accepted with reserve and will be evaluated by the Deputy Rector Delegate for disabilities; by the Examination Commission President; by the Inclusion Policies Coordination – Disability and SLD Service, after possibly having received the opinion of experts in the field of disability and SLD.

It will be up to the Disabilities Service Office to communicate, before the test, to the requesting candidates the kind of granted supporting measures.

The University of Ferrara reserves the right to not grant such support measures in case of lack of information, expired documents or documents given after the application deadline.

Art. 6

Available Positions

The overall available positions are as follows:

Home Institution	University of Ferrara	University of Cadiz
Positions with Scholarship	6	1
Positions without Scholarship	1	--
Reserved positions for candidates holding a foreign government scholarship or a scholarship funded by international mobility programmes	2	--

The available positions provided for in this article may increase following further funding obtained either from other Public Research Bodies or highly qualified private Research Institutions without prejudice to the deadlines for submitting the application forms.

The annual gross amount of the University of Ferrara scholarship is € 15.343,28 and is subject to National Social Security contributions. Fiscal matters regarding scholarships are regulated by art. 4 Law 13th August 1984, n. 476. The amount of the scholarship is increased by 50% for any period spent abroad, for a maximum period of 18 months.

The scholarship cannot be combined with research grants and other scholarships awarded for any reason, except with those awarded by national or foreign institutions for integrating the research activity of the PhD Student when she/he is abroad. Anyone who already benefited from a PhD program scholarship, even if only partially, cannot apply for a second time.

For all positions made available by the Università di Ferrara, an annual budget of at least 10% of the scholarship (€ 1.534,32 per person) is guaranteed to support the research activities of students. It can be used in accordance with the Board of Professors rules.

The annual gross amount of the scholarships, granted by the Universidad de Cadiz is € 16,422.00 and it is subject to the Spanish national tax system.

Further financial support is set to cover research and mobility costs.

The payment of scholarships is monthly and deferred.

Scholarships and research contracts are annual and renewed if the student has passed the annual verifications scheduled for the course.

Art. 7 **Admission procedure and assignment mode**

The Commission will evaluate candidates' qualifications and interviews. **During the interview the knowledge of the English language will be verified.**

The selection procedures are listed in the sheet attached, which is an integral part of the present call, and it is published at the webpage: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/emas>

The evaluation of qualification and the oral test will take place in September.

The test schedule will be published before the expiration date of this call at the webpage: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/commissioni>.

The publication of the tests calendar must be considered the official convocation.

Candidates are not requested to be present during the qualifications evaluation process.

The outcome of the assessment of qualifications and the consequent verification of admission to the next selective exam will be available at the following link <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/emas>.

Candidates will be admitted to the interview whether they reach a score of at least 30 out of 40.

Positively evaluated candidates will hold the interview via web conference call (e.g.: GoToMeeting or Skype). For this reason, in the application candidates must provide a contact to ensure the use of a webcam to allow their identification to the Board.

For identification purposes and under penalty of exclusion from the selection procedure, each candidate is required to show the same identity document already sent as an attachment to the application before the interview begins.

Oral tests are public.

Each judging committee will provide the oral tests calendar, which will be published at the following link: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/emas>

Failing to communicate the personal address, the failure to connect, the candidate's unavailability on the established date and hour, or the failure to produce a valid identification document pursuant to the previous paragraph, are causes of exclusion from the selective procedure.

The University of Ferrara declines any responsibility for the eventuality that technical reasons prevent the regular conduct of the oral test.

The purpose of the interview is the exposure of the research project and the verification of the applicant's aptitude to carry out research.

The Commission will assign up to 40 points for the qualifications evaluation and up to 40 more points for the interview of each candidate.

Candidates will be admitted to the interview if the score assigned to the qualifications presented is at least 30 out of 40.

The selection is passed if the candidate gets a score of at least 60 out of 80.

After preparing a single merit ranking, the commission will assign the positions with financial support according to the "Home Institution" choice that candidates mandatorily indicated in their applications.

Candidates who intend to compete for reserved places must comply with the instructions they find below, through the online procedure available at the web page <https://pica.cineca.it/unife/dottorati35-emas>

- **International scholarship holders:** in addition to the required documents indicated in the Ph.D. description sheet, candidates must attach a document certifying the scholarship awarded by the foreign country, or a copy of the application they sent to the authorities responsible for awarding such scholarships;
- **Candidates included in international mobility projects** in addition to the required documents indicated in the Ph.D. description sheet, candidates must attach a document certifying the grant or scholarship awarded within the international mobility project.

Candidates who intend to apply for positions reserved for fellows from foreign countries or fellows from specific international mobility projects must prove that they are in possession of such scholarships by the preemptory deadline set on **March 30th 2022**. Candidates must send this mandatory documentation to the Ufficio IUSS (dottorato@unife.it) by that date; otherwise, the candidate will be excluded from the Ph.D. Course.

For all reserved positions, the examining commission will issue a separate ranking according to the position types. Should there be no suitable applicants for reserved positions regarding international scholarship holders and candidates included in international mobility projects, vacant position cannot be assigned to other candidates.

Art. 8 Selection Commission

The selection commission will be appointed by the Rector according to the provisions of the Consortium Agreement and to the art.14 of the Università di Ferrara *Regulations governing the Research Doctoral Courses* that was issued pursuant to the Italian D.M. no. 45 dated February 8 2013.

The composition of the commission will be published before the announcement deadline at the website <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/commissioni>.

The commission shall not send any personal communication to applicants about exams outcomes: it is the candidates' exclusive duty to inquire about the exam outcome through the procedures described in this announcement.

Art. 9 Ranking list

After the approval of the competition proceedings, the ranking lists will be available online at the following web page: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/emas>.

The publication of the ranking list will be the only official means of communication of the results. **No personal communication will be sent to successful candidates.**

Art. 10 Registration procedure

Candidates are admitted to the Doctoral Course after the approval of the selection proceedings, according to the order of the respective ranking list, until the number of positions included in the competition announcement is completed.

Admission to positions for specific research topics either with scholarship or with other equivalent form of funding will follow the ranking order, if the suitability to carry out the research topic is ascertained.

Failure to complete the enrollment procedure **within the deadline** will result in forfeiture of the right to be admitted to the course. In this case, vacant positions are assigned to those who hold a useful position in the merit ranking.

In the event of a tie, the following criteria will be applied to the "Home institution - University of Ferrara":

- For positions covered by a scholarship, the assessment of the economic situation prevails, determined on the basis of the ISEE certification "Subsidized social benefits for the Right to University Education" without omissions or discrepancies, expiring on January 15, 2022;
- For positions that are not covered by a scholarship, the younger candidate prevails.

Candidates admitted to the Ph.D. course will subscribe to the agreement needed for attending the Course and will be enrolled in both Partner Institutions.

For the University of Ferrara all the information are available on the website: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/emas>.

For the University of Cadiz, information will be available within the deadline of the present call.

Art. 11 Enrollment to the Courses

Winning candidates must enroll using the online procedure according to the instructions that will be available on the web page: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/>.

The enrollment deadline is October 22nd, 2021 – 11.30 a.m. (Italian time).

Only online applications are accepted.

The enrollment request will be concluded only upon presentation of all documents listed in the enrollment instructions.

Those who will not regularize their position within the deadline will be considered RENUCCIATORS in all respects, and the vacant positions will be assigned to other applicants, according to the ranking order.

Art.12 Replacements

Eligible candidates, who are not winners of a position, and who wish to take over any places that will become available (because not covered by winners) must sign and send a **replacement request** to dottorato@unife.it, **within October 22nd 2021, at 11:30 (Italian Time)**. Candidates can download the replacement form at this [link](#)

Those who do not send the replacement request within the deadline will not be admitted to take over.

IUSS Office will send appropriate communication regarding the possibility and terms of enrollment to anyone entitled to take over a position.

Art. 13 Tuition and administrative fees for the course

It is established a single common amount for "tuition fees" in order to participate to the programme, independently from the "home institution" chosen.

All registered candidates, must pay the tuition fees to the University of Ferrara according to the following indications:

Candidates holding a Scholarship:

Candidates enrolled in Research Doctorate Courses holding a Scholarship or any other kind of financial support – such as those enrolled in the Ph.D. Course with Industrial Doctorate, Salary Keep or High Apprenticeship programmes - must pay the tuition fees outlined in the table below:

Regional contribution	140,00 €
Stamp duty	16,00 €
Insurance	12,00 €
University contribution	532,00 €
Total annual amount	700,00 €

First year tuition fees have to be paid according to the following deadlines and instalments:

Instalment	Amount	Description
I Instalment: At the time of enrollment	28,00 €	Stamp Duty - 16,00 € Insurance - 12,00 €
II Instalment: before 31/01/2022	472,00 €	Regional contribution-140,00 € Contribution - 332,00 €
III Instalment (*): before 16/05/2022	200,00 €	Contribution - 200,00 €

Reductions can be applied to Candidates holding a Scholarship, in case of particular income conditions (exemption from payment of the third installment). For further information you will contact the **Ufficio Diritto allo Studio Studentesse e Studenti** through the SOS Online System.

Web page: <http://www.unife.it/it/iscriviti/tasse/post-laurea/dottorato>

Candidates without a Scholarship:

According to the Law 232/2016, Candidates enrolled to a Ph.D. Course who do not benefit from a Scholarship are exempted from fees and contributions to the University.

Therefore, candidates must pay only the fixed tuition fees:

Regional contribution	140,00 €
Stamp duty	16,00 €
Insurance	12,00 €
Total annual amount	168,00 €

Candidates must pay first year tuition fees following the deadlines as showed below:

I Instalment: At the time of enrollment	28,00 €	Stamp Duty - 16,00 € Insurance - 12,00 €
II Instalment: before 31/01/2022	140,00 €	Regional contribution-140,00 €

The above-mentioned amounts may be subject to variations in subsequent years. In the event of renunciation of studies, forfeiture or exclusion, the PhD student who enrolled **is not entitled, under any circumstances, to the refund** of the paid contributions.

Art. 14 **Personal Data Protection**

Personal and sensitive data provided by candidates will be used only for administrative purposes and for possible proceedings for the management of the academic career of the winners.

The treatment of the personal data according to art. 13 of EU art. 2016/679 – General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The communication regarding the request for personal data is mandatory in order to evaluate the prerequisites for participation, or exclusion of the candidate from the selection process.

The personal data provided can be communicated to the Administration of the Università degli Studi di Ferrara and to related external structures within the framework of the Università degli Studi di Ferrara, which are authorized to manage personal data under the direct control of the Owner of the Service of the Data Protection officer, exclusively for the above-mentioned purposes.

Pursuant to DGPR, the Data Controller is the Università degli Studi di Ferrara, located in Via Ariosto, 35, Ferrara – e-mail: rettore@unife.it, PEC: ateneo@pec.unife.it;

The appointed Data Protection Officer is Lepida S.c.p.A., located in Via della Liberazione 15 – Bologna; e-mail: dpo_team@lepida.it, PEC: segreteria@pec.lepida.it.

In order to pursue the aims mentioned in this announcement, Personal data can be transferred to the appointed Responsible of Data Treatment: Cineca Consorzio Interuniversitario, located in via Magnanelli 6/3 - 40033 Casalecchio di Reno (BO).

Art. 15 **Referral rules**

For any matters that are not covered by this announcement, the currently in force laws and regulations on the subject do apply, insofar as they are compatible.

For everything regarding the competition referred to in this announcement, the person in charge is the head of the IUSS Office.

This announcement is available at the Web site of the University of Ferrara at <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/emas>.

THE RECTOR
G. Zauli