

Carlo Alessandro Montanari

Associate professor

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Education and training

2001

Associate professor

University of Genova - Genova - IT

Academic experience

1980 - 2000

Full time confirmed researcher

University of Genova - Genova - IT

1977 - 1980

Grant of Italian CNR

National Research Council - Bologna and Genova - IT

1976 - 1977

Botanic Garden Curator

University of Genova - Genova - IT

Language skills

English

Independent

Teaching activity

since 1981 I have taught courses in Botany for Natural Sciences, Biological Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Geography, Conservation of Cultural Heritage and, occasionally, Architecture. The courses covered General Botany, Systematic Botany, Geobotany, Phytogeography, Plant Ecology, Landscape Ecology, Paleobotany, Archaeobotany, Bioarchaeology.

I followed several thesis and doctoral theses. I have given some lessons for Masters and for UNITE.

Since 1995 I have been (together with a colleague) coordinator of the Laboratory of Archeology and Environmental History (LASA, now Interdepartmental Research Center-LASA). This is a working group composed of historians, archaeologists, naturalists, geologists from the School of Humanities and the School of Sciences, carrying out research on

environmental history, cultural landscapes, use of environmental resources, based on documentary sources and fieldwork. These activities also have ample educational value, through national and international study campaigns involving students, undergraduates, doctoral candidates, graduates, and research doctors.

Since 2001 I take part in the staff of a Ph.D. Course at the University of Genoa, for topics of historical ecology and historical-environmental valorization, first at the Faculty of Architecture and then at DISMEC and DAFIST (Faculty of Letters and Philosophy, today School of Humanities). In this context I was the tutor of several PhD students with research on archaeobotanical bases (palynology, anthracology) and historical geography.

Postgraduate research and teaching activity

Supervision of PhD students, residents and post-doctoral fellows

Since 2001 I have been a member of the Academic Board of two PhD courses, therefore tutor of PhD students and research grant holders in the field of historical Geobotany. I have acted as tutor for numerous doctoral students, above all for research on historical ecology and environmental history, based on archaeobotanical analysis (palynology, anthracology, dendroecology).

Research interests

Most of my research experiences concern different fields of Geobotany and historical Geobotany. I have carried out research on the vegetation of the river gravels of Liguria and surrounding regions, using phytosociological study criteria. I have carried out studies on the current vegetation of some areas of Liguria, with cartography, on phytosociological bases (high Valle Arroscia - Imperia) and high Val di Vara (La Spezia). Other research concerns the palynology, both regarding the biostratigraphic aspects (pollen assemblages in sediments for the reconstruction of paleoenvironments and vegetation history cover over time), and about the current dispersion of pollen and spores and of pollen in honey. For the first aspect, I have carried out numerous researches based on sampling sediments of small lake basins and peat bogs, especially in the Ligurian Apennines, but also in Veneto, Sicily, Tuscany, Emilia-Romagna. The results were presented in the form of pollen diagrams, whose reading in terms of plant ecology has provided the basis for environmental history, as a function of both climatic variations and evidence of human activities. The study of the current dispersion of pollen and spores has been carried out especially through the detection with 'natural traps' such as moss polsters and, for other purposes - basically bio-medical - through weekly volumetric sampler (aerobiology).

Grants

See the Italian version

Participant