



Sara Verni

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PhD in biology

University of Pisa and Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn [11/2021 – 31/01/2025]

City: Pisa | **Country:** Italy | **Final grade:** Cum laude | **Thesis:** Integrating molecular approaches to explore the diversity and biogeography of Mediterranean deep-sea polychaetes

Fieldwork: one oceanographic campaign of ten days with SZN in the Gulf of Salerno (Campania); sediment sampling for physical, chemical and ecotoxicological characterisation, macrozoobenthos and meiofauna sampling with Van Veen grab; sediment sampling for environmental DNA metabarcoding with box corer.

Labwork: bench work with tissue DNA extractions and barcoding of polychaetes and crustaceans; eDNA sediment extractions for benthic community characterisation with metabarcoding, PCR and library preparation for Illumina sequencing.

Bioinformatics: Multi-marker phylogenetic analyses, managing environmental DNA data from raw reads to ecological community analyses.

Master degree in marine ecobiology

La Sapienza Università di Roma [2017 – 2021]

Final grade: 110 e lode | **Thesis:** The integration of environmental DNA in marine mammals surveys: a case study on bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) in the Mediterranean Sea

Field experience:

- Freshwater surveys: sampling and identification of invertebrates and fishes
- Five days fieldwork in Isola del Giglio (Tuscany): monitoring of *Posidonia oceanica* sea beds by diving and remote monitoring techniques (e.g. using drone images); experience with marine biocenosis identification;
- Fishes' biodiversity surveys in Santa Marinella (Lazio) using 8 meters transects
- Three months boat sampling in Fiumicino (Lazio); acoustic surveys and photoidentification of bottlenose dolphin, water sampling and filtration for eDNA metabarcoding

Labwork: four months experience of wet laboratory work, performing eDNA extractions from filtered water samples and PCRs for metabarcoding sequencing

Bachelor in Natural Sciences

La Sapienza Università di Roma [2014 – 2018]

Final grade: 110 e lode | **Thesis:** Trophic ecology of abyssal fishes in the Strait of Messina: an overview of survey methods

Field Experience: marine benthos sampling and identification around the island of Giannutri (Tuscany); entomological field course, experience with different survey techniques and identification of samples; Mediterranean plant identification field trips; geological field trips

BENTACS- BENThos TAXonomy CourseS. Taxonomy of polychaetes

Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn [24/10/2022 – 28/10/2022]

City: Napoli

Microscopic identification of marine annelids

ItaPhy Phylogenetics workshop

Università di Trento [06/06/2023 – 10/06/2023]

City: Trento

Learning all the main bioinformatics techniques for doing phylogenetic analysis from the command line

Data Manipulation and Visualization with the tidyverse and ggplot2

Physalia [20/11/2023]

City: Online

TADAB- Tools for Advanced Biology Analysis international workshop

Università di Pisa [27/11/2023 – 01/12/2023]

City: Pisa

WORK EXPERIENCE

 **Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies**

Research fellowship

[01/04/2025 – Current]

- developing protocols to extract and amplify eDNA from spider webs, flowers, and soils
- seminars in international workshops
- supporting students in the wet-lab activities

 **Università di Pisa, marine ecology lab**

Research Fellowship

[13/01/2025 – 31/03/2025]

 **CoNISma (Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Scienze del Mare)** – Italy

Country: Italy

Coordinated collaboration assignment for the project TERNA-ELBA continente

[05/2022 – Current]

Benthos sampling, sorting, and identification

 **S.M.S. Umberto Nobile** – Roma

City: Roma

Environmental educator

[08/05/2023 – 10/05/2023]

Environmental education in the classroom and in the Manziana forest with the Lupotrek® organisation

 **La Sapienza Università di Roma** – Roma, Italy

City: Roma | Country: Italy

Collaboration Fellowship at MUST (University Museum of Earth Sciences)

[08/2018 – 06/2019]

- Organisation of museum material
- Environmental education activities with children
- Guided tours

 **La Sapienza Università di Roma** – Roma, Italy

City: Roma | Country: Italy

Collaboration Fellowship at the Botanical Garden of Rome

[08/2017 – 04/2018]

Environmental education activities with children

Guided tours

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Italian

Other language(s):

Spanish

LISTENING B2 **READING** B2 **WRITING** B2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION B2 **SPOKEN INTERACTION** B2

English

LISTENING C1 **READING** C1 **WRITING** C1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C1 **SPOKEN INTERACTION** C1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

HONOURS AND AWARDS

[09/2023] Unione Zoologica Italiana

Best young researcher contribution 2023

[09/2024] SIBE-Società italiana di biologia evoluzionistica

Outreach prize Silvia Paolucci 2024

DRIVING LICENCE

Driving Licence: B

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

[11/09/2024 – 14/09/2024] Pisa

83° UZI congress (Unione Zoologica Italiana) Part of the organizing staff

[19/09/2023 – 22/09/2023] Palermo

82° UZI congress (Unione Zoologica Italiana) Poster and oral presentation

[08/09/2024 – 11/09/2024] Napoli

10° SIBE congress (Società Italiana di Biologia Evoluzionistica) Oral presentation

[14/11/2023 – 17/11/2023] Online

Marine Evolution, EVOLMAR 2023 Oral and poster presentation

[03/2023] Università di Pisa

Teaching assistance in the Master's degree in Conservation Biology Teaching support seminars on Mediterranean biogeography

[11/2023] Università di Pisa

Teaching assistance in the Master's Degree in Marine Biology Teaching support seminars in the marine biology course on integrated taxonomy

PUBLICATIONS

New records of one cryptogenic and two questionable alien species of polychaetes (Annelida) in Italian waters.

Langeneck, J., Bertasi, F., Grossi, L., Lefons, F., Vani, D., Verni, S. & Castelli, A. (2024). Acta Adriatica, 65(2).

[2025]

Diversity and biogeography of mesophotic and bathyal Onuphidae (Annelida: Eunicida) of the Western Mediterranean Sea.

Journal Name: Deep-Sea Research Part I | Volume, Issue and Pages: 220, 104476 | Publisher: ELSEVIER

Verni, S., Langeneck, J., Silverj, A., Stefanni, S., Musco, L., Castelli, A.

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

Member of the project “Scienza radicata” The aim of the project is to bring scientific knowledge to local communities, involved in environmental battles, by providing tools, techniques, and scientific education in public schools with the use of hands-on experiments.

Member of the organization Lupo Trek ® Employment in the fields of science dissemination and environmental education.

Autorizzo il trattamento dei miei dati personali presenti nel CV ai sensi dell'art. 13 d. lgs. 30 giugno 2003 n. 196 - “Codice in materia di protezione dei dati personali” e dell'art. 13 GDPR 679/16 - “Regolamento europeo sulla protezione dei dati personali”.

Sara Verni