

Title

Systematic and taphonomic analysis of a Miocene dog from northern Italy

Name of the **supervisor**

Marco Cherin

Name(s) of a **potential co-supervisor(s)**

Dawid Iurino (Sapienza University of Rome)

Prospective **assistance** in the supervision (Lab activity, fieldwork,)

Lab work is needed to restore and prepare the fossil.

Prerequisites based on specialization or specific compulsory courses or (if any)

The student must have good basis of general paleontology, must have attended the course of Vertebrate Paleontology (6 CFU) and, possibly, have experience in the preparation and restoration of fossil vertebrates

Brief **description** of the planned research and references if needed, including the 1) **objectives**, 2) the **study area** and 3) the **research methods** foreseen.

The main objective of the thesis is to describe and classify a fossil canid from the Miocene of northern Italy (Piedmont). The study will be carried out by means of (i) a “traditional” paleontological approach (ie, morphological and morphometric description of the specimen and comparative analysis based on literature data), and (ii) a modern approach based on the use of CT-scans, which will allow analyzing also the internal structures of the fossil.

