



Università  
Ca' Foscari  
Venezia

Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici

Università Ca' Foscari Venezia  
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Palazzo Malcanton Marcorà  
Dorsoduro 3484/D, 30123 Venezia  
P.IVA 00816350276 - CF 80007720271  
www.unive.it/dsu

**Research fellowship on “Human-cattle relations in Colombia and Argentina through an inter-disciplinary perspective which takes into consideration disciplines such as ethology, zoology, animal behaviour and welfare”**

**Department of Humanities Ca' Foscari University of Venice**

(Italian law 30 December 2010, n.240, art. 22 and subsequent amendments and additions)

The present document in English is to be considered as a mere summary of the main provisions of the notice of competition which is available in Italian at the following ([link](#)) The text in Italian is the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, in the event of non-conformity with the present document, it shall prevail.

#### Description

The Department of Humanities at Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici dell'Università Ca' Foscari Venezia) invites applications for a fellowship in: **“Human-cattle relations in Colombia and Argentina through an inter-disciplinary perspective which takes into consideration disciplines such as ethology, zoology, animal behaviour and welfare”**, Academic discipline: BIO/05 – Zoology and AGR/19 – Special Zootechnics, duration 12 months, tutor Dr. Valentina Bonifacio, financed by the ERC COG project “CowDom - Between domestication and ferality: cattle-human relationships in the making of post-colonial South-American society”, Grant Agreement n. 101088949, CUP: H73C23000470006, Principal Investigator Dr. Valentina Bonifacio.

**Abstract:** The ERC project Cow-Dom aims at understanding how different configurations of human-cattle relations reflect social, economic and political dynamics in four countries in post-colonial South America. It will answer this question by analyzing the values, practices and colonial legacies related to human-cattle relationships in four South American countries - Brasil, Argentina, Paraguay and Colombia - by focusing on the opposite poles of the domestication process: genetically improved races and feral or semi-feral creole cattle. Through long-term ethnographic fieldwork, interdisciplinary teams of zoologists and anthropologists will observe and analyse cattle-human relational behaviours in cattle fairs and historical feral cattle territories. The zoologist (or trained in related disciplines) will work in close collaboration with an anthropologist, with whom s/he will carry out long term fieldwork periods in Argentina and Colombia. More broadly, s/he will be part of a team of six people who will work in close coordination with each other, and will meet them regularly every six months in South America or Venice. The researcher is also requested to spend an initial period of time (about 1 month) in Venice, before the beginning of the fieldwork.

The research may be carried out in English.

The fellowship is intended to provide the successful candidate with the opportunity to pursue his/her own research while benefiting from the range of expertise at Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

#### Who can apply

Prospective candidates are expected to hold **a PhD in one of the following fields: Animal Biology, Zoology, Zootechnics, Ethology, Applied Ethology, Animal behaviour and welfare, and should have a suitable scientific / professional curriculum.**

Ca' Foscari encourages applications from researchers with positive evaluation in all the criteria in individual proposals such as Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar. Researchers having successfully completed Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) or similar funded projects are warmly encouraged to apply.

**Duration of contract:** 12 months (approximately starting: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024)

**Stipend:** The research fellowship amounts to **27,000 Euros**, including taxes and social charges.



**Deadline for submission of applications: 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024, h. 12.00 noon (Italian time).**

#### How to apply:

Candidates shall submit:

1. The application form;
2. A motivation letter (max 1 page) along with their CV in European format, duly dated and signed, both to enclosed as a one single.pdf file ([link](#)); a declaration must be appended in the footnote of the curriculum, pursuant to the Italian DPR 445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions, that the information provided corresponds to the truth. Moreover the candidates have to consent to the use of their personal data for the purposes of this selection procedure pursuant to the Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003 and to the EU Regulations 2016/679;
3. The attachments called "obligations and understanding" and "participation and compatibility";
4. All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure (please, see the notice - [link](#));
5. A copy of a valid identity document (either Identity Card or Passport);
6. (If available) Evaluation Summary Reports of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships/ ERC Starting Grants/FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/SIR (Scientific Young Independence Research) individual proposals having passed all the evaluation thresholds;
7. (If available) Details of Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions - Individual Fellowships, ERC Starting Grants, FIRB (Italian Fund for basic research investments)/ SIR Scientific Young Independence Research funded projects;
8. Declaration on availability to held the interview in remote ([Link](#)) to be send via email at the following address: [ricerca.dsu@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.dsu@unive.it)

All the schemes of the quoted documentation are available on the website ([link](#)).

**Incomplete applications will be rejected.**

#### How to submit your application

Applications should be submitted by the online procedure, available on the notice webpage ([link](#)) **Or submit here:** <https://apps.unive.it/domandeconcorso-en/accesso/2023-dsu-ar-34>

Foreign citizens not yet in possession of the Italian Tax Code can use the following link: <https://apps.unive.it/utills/cf> to obtain a temporary one and be able to proceed with the request.

The candidate, after the uploading, will receive a submission number and an e-mail acknowledging receipt of his/her application.

The candidate if necessary could access the procedures for updating any data and materials by the link provided by the e-mail, in any case any updates must be made no later than the deadline on **29<sup>th</sup> February 2024, h. 12.00 noon (Italian time)**.

Please note that the University can be contacted for any support needs by the candidate until 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 (h. 1 p.m. Italian time).

Please note that the University will be closed from December 27th to January 2nd for Christmas holidays.

Please note that in case of an high number of applications and / or weight of the materials loaded by the candidates the system might become slower, Therefore it is suggested not to start the process close to the deadline.

**NB:** the University does not take on responsibility for wrong or late communication of addresses, nor for any communication problem not depending on the University.

#### Evaluation



Up to 100 points, specifically:

For qualifications, publications and possible tests, from 0 to 60;

For interview, from 0 to 40.

The following qualifications are considered as evaluation criteria:

- a) Specialization diplomas and certificates of attendance of post-graduate specialization courses, obtained both in Italy and abroad, in subjects related to the research field and other academic titles;
- b) Publications (a list) and electronic submission of at least of 2 publications (in PDF format), which will be evaluated by the commission;
- c) Documented research activity with private or public subjects in Italy or abroad;
- d) Documented periods of ethnographic research;
- e) Documented collaboration with international and interdisciplinary research groups;
- f) attached 'preferential securities', if the candidate possesses them - see Article 5 of the competition available in Italian ([link](#));
- g) any other element provided for the announcement, to the articles 2, 3 and 5 of the competition available in Italian ([link](#)).

The interview aims to assess the candidates' skills and expertise on the following subjects:

- Familiarity with the following research fields: ethology, applied ethology; mammalogy, animal welfare and behaviour;
- Language proficiency in both English and Spanish.

At the end of his/her research activity, the research fellow is required to provide the Department with:

- Research report in preparation of an article;
- Fieldwork results presentation in an international seminar;
- Visual documentation;
- Presentations of book and articles reviews in internal seminars.

### Selection procedure

The short-list of the candidates admitted to the interview and the related calendar, or any postponement, will be published on the University's webpage on **15/03/2024** ([link](#)). The interview will be held in remote with Google Meet.

### Information and contacts

Candidates may find further details about the application process and the research project in the official call published on the following ([link](#))

For further information please contact Department of Humanities - Research Office, e-mail: [ricerca.dsu@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.dsu@unive.it) (email object: Research Fellowship on **“Human-cattle relations in Colombia and Argentina through an inter-disciplinary perspective which takes into consideration disciplines such as ethology, zoology, animal behaviour and welfare”** – ERC “CowDom” project)