

CURRICULUM VITAE ET STUDIORUM

Elena Maini, Ph.D
Archaeologist and Zooarchaeologist
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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name	Elena	Date of Birth
SURNAME	MAINI	Place of Birth

MAIN MEMBERSHIPS

2023-present Ordinary Member of the **EAA** – European Association of Archaeologists
2020-present Ordinary Member of the **IIPP** – Istituto Italiano di Preistoria e Protostoria
2019-present Ordinary Member of the **ISMEO** - Associazione Internazionale di Studi sul Mediterraneo e l'Oriente
2005-present Ordinary Member and, since 2025, Secretary of the Italian Association of Zooarchaeology (**AIAZ**)

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

My research focuses on prehistoric zooarchaeology, environmental and paleo-economic analysis, with a particular interest in animal husbandry from the Neolithic to the Iron Age. I lead projects in Italy and Southwest Asia, including the DExPO Project in Oman, with ongoing work in Italy, Türkiye, Iraq, the UAE, and Oman. I hold a PhD in Archaeology from the University of Bologna and have published 68 peer-reviewed articles in Italian, English, and French. I have taught as an adjunct professor at the Universities of Milan and Padua, and most recently served as a Junior Assistant Professor in the Department of Antiquity Sciences at Sapienza University of Rome, where I taught Zooarchaeology in both Italian and English Master's programs.

PRESENT AND PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENTS, ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES AND TEACHING EXPERIENCES

2022-2025 Junior Assistant Professor (RTD-A) at the Department of Science of Antiquities, Sapienza - University of Rome, Italy **2019-2022 Adjunct Professor** at the Specialization School in Archaeological Heritage – University of Padua, Italy. **2019-2021 Research Fellow** at the Department of History and Cultures, University of Bologna, Italy (2 years) **2019-2022 Trainership supervisor** during the T.O.M. Field-School (Time of Magan) Sultanate of Oman.

2011-2021 Adjunct Professor at the Faculty of Mathematical, Physical and Natural Science, University of Milan, Italy **2015-2017 Tutor of Zooarchaeology** at the Specialization School in Archaeological heritage, University of Bologna, Italy.

2015-2016 Adjunct Professor at the Master *Bioarcheologia, Paleopatologia e Antropologia Forense* - University of Bologna, Italy.

2009-2014 Tutor of Zooarchaeology at the Department of History and Cultures, University of Bologna, Italy.

EDUCATION

2012 PhD in Archaeology at the Department of History and Cultures, University of Bologna, Italy.

Specialization Master (MSc) in “Study, restoration and environmental context of the archaeological materials” Department

2006 of Archaeology, University of Bologna.

2004 Master degree (MA) in Archaeology at the Faculty for Preservation of Cultural Heritage, University of Bologna

RESEARCH INTEREST

Zooarchaeology of domestic and wild terrestrial mammals (shape, size, diffusion and crossbreeding); Zooarchaeology of marine mammals (dolphins); Exploitation of animal resources, Breeding and Pastoralism, Exploitation of derived animal products; Taphonomy, Experimental Archaeology; Environmental reconstruction; Prehistory and Protohistory of Italy, South west Asia, Arabia, and Central Asia.

ACTIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

Principal Investigator, **DExPO - Dolphin Exploitation in Prehistoric Oman** with the institutional support of ISMEO and MAECI and funded by Sapienza (y. 2024).

Structured participants in the research project **Social Complexities, Human Mobility, and Tribal Alliances in SE Arabia** (2024/2025), Grandi Scavi Sapienza, P.I.: F. Genchi.

Structured participants in the international **HERDS Project in Oman – Environmental Resilience and Desert Subsistence in Neolithic Oman**, directed by M.P. Maiorano (Czech Academy) and L. Proctor (Goethe University), funded by Wenner-Green and De Cardi Grant.

Zooarchaeologist in PRIN 2020 Project: **Animal Husbandry and its Economic Role in Protohistoric Central Mediterranean Societies**, P.I.: A. Cardarelli (Sapienza), involving zooarchaeological and paleoecological studies.

Reconstruct the Bronze Age Breeding in Emilia-Romagna. Zooarchaeological, palaeoecological, and palaeoeconomic studies of faunal remains from Northern Italy in collaboration with Soprintendenze and the Universities of Bologna, Milan, Padua and Rome.

MAIN FIELD & RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- Since 2023** **MAM Mission– Missione Archeologica a Mozia (Sicily) Italy** - Sapienza – University of Rome.
- Since 2022** **Tell Abraq e Sīnīya Island excavation in Unn al-Quwain (UAE)** Tourism and Archaeology Department of Umm alQuwain (TAD-UAQ), IAMUQ – Italian Mission to Umm al- Quwain and Sīnīya Island Archaeological Project.
- Since 2018** **Ninive – Iraq.** Iraqi-Italian Archaeological Expedition of the University of Bologna and the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage to East Nineveh.
- 2017-2023** **Ras al Jinz area and RJ-3 site– Sultanate of Oman.** Laiden University
- 2017-2022** **Terramara di Pilastrini di Bondeno (FE) Italy.** University of Padua.
- 2014-2022** **Dibba al Bayah** (Daba funerary Iron Age site) – Musandam, Sultanate of Oman. Department of Excavation & Archaeological Studies - Ministry of Heritage and Tourism – Sultanate of Oman and Sapienza University of Rome.
- Since 2013** **Kharkemish – Türkiye.** Turco-Italian Archaeological Expedition of the Universities of Bologna, Istanbul and Gaziantep to Karkemish (Türkiye).
- Since 2011** **Terramara S. Rosa Poviglio (RE) Italy.** University of Milan.
- Since 2007** **Solarolo via Ordiera (RA) Italy** - University of Bologna.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Since 2011, I have collaborated with various institutions, including the Archaeological Museum of Bologna, Musei Civici Imola (BO), Museo Civico Archeologico di Monterenzio (BO) and the Terramara di Montale Park and Museum (MO), the providing archaeological expertise in exhibitions, educational programs, and cataloging faunal remains. Additionally, as an advisor to the Ministry of Heritage and Culture in Oman (2011-2016), I developed a digital artifact catalog and established a conservation lab under the CALSA Project.

LANGUAGE & INFORMATIC SKILLS

Proficient in English and French (spoken, written, read), with native Italian. Skilled in MS Office, Adobe Photoshop, and ECDL certified, with experience in analog/digital photography, pottery and bone restoration, optical microscopy, and archaeological drawing and casting.

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

- **Conference Organization:** Organized 3 events, including the EAA Annual Meeting and the 9th and 11th National Conference of Archaeozoology in Italy.
- **Oral Presentations:** Delivered 32 presentations at major international and national conferences, including the ASWA, Seminar for Arabian Studies, and various Scientific Meetings of the Italian Institute of Prehistory and Protohistory (Annual meeting IIPP), addressing topics from animal exploitation to environmental adaptation.
- **Poster Presentations:** Contributed 26 poster presentations, with awards for outstanding contributions, showcased at high-profile events such as ICAANE, Seminar for Arabian Studies, and other National and International Archaeological Meetings, highlighting zooarchaeological research across regions and periods.

PUBLICATION

With over 70 publications spanning from 2003 to 2025, my research focuses on Bronze Age animal husbandry, zooarchaeology in Italy and the Arabian Peninsula, and faunal analyses from diverse prehistoric and historical sites. Recent contributions include collaborative works on the archaeozoology of Oman, Türkiye, and the Italian Terramare culture, with additional studies forthcoming on Neolithic resilience and faunal variability in South-Eastern Arabia.

Last 10 years list:

<https://research.uniroma1.it/researcher/66981fcfbe85fe9ef19abe7dd295d92dedf97d7de03aecb313e23106>

Ravenna 09/04/2025

STATEMENT

I certify that the information contained in this Curriculum Vitae is true and accurate. Authorize the processing of personal data, including sensitive ones, under and for the purposes of Articles 13 and 23 of Legislative Decree 196/2003.