

General information	
Academic subject	<i>Biotechnologies for shelf life improvement</i>
Degree course	<i>Innovation Development in Agrifood Systems</i>
Academic Year	<i>2021-2022</i>
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	3
Language	<i>English</i>
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	<i>October 18th 2021 - January 28th 2022</i>
Attendance	<i>No compulsory attendance</i>

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Virtual headquarters	
Tutoring (time and day)	From Monday to Friday (8:00 am – 6:00 pm) only by appointment

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	<i>To provide competencies about novel technologies, based on microorganisms or natural compounds, for increasing shelf-life of food.</i>
Course prerequisites	<i>Knowledge of basic microbiology</i>
Contents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Protective microbial cultures (0.5 ECTS, lectures).</i> <i>2. Natural antimicrobials from animal and vegetable sources (0.5 ECTS, lectures).</i> <i>3. Food wastes and by-products as valuable sources of antimicrobial compounds (0.5 ECTS, lectures).</i> <i>4. Applicative features of protective cultures and natural antimicrobials (0.5 ECTS, lectures).</i> <i>5. Case-studies about use of protective cultures and/or natural antimicrobials for prolonging shelf-life of dairy and meat products, cereal-based foods, and fresh cut vegetables (1 ECTS, "hands on" classes).</i>
Books and bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Charis Galanakis. Food Quality and Shelf Life. Academic Press, 2019.</i> <i>• Persis Subramaniam, Peter Wareing. The Stability and Shelf-life of Food – 2nd edition. Woodhead Publishing, 2016</i> <i>• Farris, G. A., M. Gobetti, E. Neviani, M. Vincenzini. Microbiologia dei prodotti alimentari. Casa Editrice Ambrosiana, 2012.</i>
Additional materials	<i>Notes from lectures and "hands on" classes. Presentations (in pdf) provided by the teacher.</i>

Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
<i>75</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>45</i>
ECTS			
<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	
Teaching strategy			

	<p><i>Lectures will be presented through Powerpoint slides. Powerpoint presentations, in pdf format, will be shared with students through a mailing list and/or will be available on a dedicated virtual class (created in Microsoft Teams). "Hands-on" classes will consist in the analysis and discussion of case studies. Projection of educational videos is also included as supplementary teaching method. Lectures and "hands-on" classes will be held in "blended learning" mode.</i></p>
Expected learning outcomes	
Knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Knowledge about protective microbial cultures and natural antimicrobial compounds ○ Knowledge about applications of protective cultures and natural antimicrobials for increasing shelf-life of food
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applying novel technologies based on protective cultures and/or natural antimicrobial compounds to increase shelf-life of perishable food
Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Making informed judgments and choices about</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Innovation in managing food losses • <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to transfer to food industries technologies, based on protective cultures and/or natural antimicrobials, to increase shelf-life of perishable food ○ Ability to popularize her/his knowledge to policy makers • <i>Capacities to continue learning</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to increase personal knowledge about application of protective cultures and natural antimicrobials to improve food shelf-life
Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	<p><i>The exam consists of an oral dissertation on the topics developed during the lectures and "hands-on" classes.</i></p> <p><i>Students attending at the lectures may have a middle-term preliminary exam, consisting of a written test, relative to the first part of the program, which will concur to the final evaluation and will be considered valid for one year.</i></p>
Evaluation criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mechanisms of action of protective microbial cultures and natural antimicrobial compounds. Sources of antimicrobials ○ Application of protective cultures and natural antimicrobials to increase shelf-life of fresh dairy and meat products, cereal-based foods and fresh cut vegetables • <i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applying technologies, based on protective cultures and/or natural antimicrobial compounds, to increase food shelf-life • <i>Autonomy of judgment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student can make informed judgments and choices about novel technologies for increasing shelf-life of food. • <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student can communicate technologies, based on protective cultures and/or natural antimicrobial compounds, that increase shelf-life of food to industries and policy makers. • <i>Communication skills</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student can communicate her/his knowledge using an appropriate and simple lexicon, which may be understood by academicians, personnel managing food

	<p>industries and policy makers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Capacities to continue learning</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The student can autonomously increase her/his personal knowledge about application of protective cultures and natural antimicrobial compounds to increase shelf-life of food. In addition, she/he can usefully blend the knowledges learned during the course in “Biotechnologies for shelf life improvement” with the knowledges from other courses.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	<i>The method of assessment is detailed in the Academic Regulations for the Master of Science Degree in Innovation Development in Agrifood Systems (article 9).</i>
Additional information	