



**Ezio Vaccari**

 UNIVERSITY OF INSUBRIA



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## Contact data

### **Associate Professor**

Department of Computer Science and Communication

Via Mazzini 5

Tel: 0332 218940

Fax: 0332 218919

E-mail: [ezio.vaccari@uninsubria.it](mailto:ezio.vaccari@uninsubria.it)

## Biography

Ezio Vaccari was born in Verona in 1962. He graduated in Letters at the University of Florence in 1989 and obtained a Ph.D. in History of Science from the University of Bari in 1996. Between 1990 and 1998 he was awarded with several research fellowships in Germany (Universität Rostock and Bergakademie Freiberg), Ireland (Trinity College Dublin), Austria (Geologische Bundesanstalt Wien) and France (Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie, Paris).

In 1996 he was appointed 'Resident Fellow' for one year at the Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology (MIT, Cambridge, Mass., USA). From 1998 to 2001 he worked as researcher at the "Center of Study on the History of the Techniques" of the CNR (Italian National Research Council) in Genoa. In 2001 he was appointed Associate Professor in History of Science and Technology at the University of Insubria.

Since 2002 he has organized in Varese a series of conferences on the History of the Mountain and in 2004 he organized with Nicoletta Morello (University of Genoa) the international INHIGEO Fieldtrip "Italian Institutions and Geological Sites in the History of the Geosciences". He is an Associate Editor of the international journal Earth Sciences History.

During the last fifteen years he has attended about 70 symposia, conferences and workshops in Europe and the USA, with papers presented in English, French and Italian. He has published 2 books, edited 2 conference proceedings and published 64 scientific papers.

## Qualifications and awards

1989: Honours Degree in Letters from the Faculty of Humanities, University of Florence (Italy), with a thesis in the history of science on the Italian geologist Giovanni Arduino (1714-1795).

1996: Ph.D. in History of Science from the University of Bari (Italy), with a thesis entitled "Classification of mountains and early lithostratigraphical researches in 18th century Italy" (in Italian).

1992: Nomination as a member for Italy of the International

Commission on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO) and nomination as a member of the French Commission on the History of Geology (COFRHIGEO).

1999-2003: Councillor and later member of the Nominating Committee of the History of the Earth Sciences Society.

2002: Nomination as a member of the National Commission on the "Ethnographic Museum of the Mountain" of the National Institute for the Scientific and Technological Research on the Mountain (Rome).

2004: Nomination as a full member of the Academy of Agriculture, Sciences and Letters of Verona (Italy) and of the Institute of Higher Studies of Insubria "Gerolamo Cardano" (Italy).

## **Research interests**

### **General research interests:**

- history of Earth sciences and history of natural sciences with particular emphasis on the relationships between geology, mineralogy and mining from the 16th to 19th century.
- historical development of technical and scientific communication.

### **Specific research subjects:**

- history of geological and naturalistic researches based on the study and the exploitation of alpine and prealpine regions, with particular emphasis on the reconstruction of the scientific itineraries in the field.
- analysis of the role of the institutions (universities, museums, academies, scientific societies etc.) in the development of the natural and geological sciences in Italy in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- the development of lithology and stratigraphy in 18th century Italy and Europe through the study of the 'classifications' of mountains, the 'theories of the Earth' and the early geological fieldwork on a regional scale.
- the different ways of diffusion of geo-mineralogical theories and mining techniques between the 18th and 19th centuries, with particular attention to the teaching in the mining schools and academies, as well as to the role of periodicals, correspondences, collections, cartography, instructions for travellers and other forms of scientific communication.
- history of the Austrian-Italian relationships in the field of 19th century geology and Earth sciences, with particular emphasis on the making of the first geological maps of Northern Italy by the geologists of the Geologische Reichsanstalt of Vienna.
- recognition of the existence of valuable collections and archives for the history of science and technology in the territory of Insubria, in order to promote scientific studies and organize projects of revaluation with the support of multimedial tools as well as information and communication technologies.

## Teaching experience and appointments

### Appointments:

- Associate Professor of History of Science and Technology in the School of Sciences in Varese (from 2001).
- Professor in charge of the CampusOne project for the University of Insubria (2003 -2004).
- Delegate of the Provost for Didactics (from 2004).

### Teaching experience:

2000-2001: "Laboratory for the teaching of history" in the School for Secondary School Teachers of the University of Genoa

2002-04: Lectures within the masters courses in Scientific Communication (Universities of Milan; University of Naples); seminars at the Ph.D. course in History of Science (University of Bari)

2003: Course for the degree in Palaeobiology and History of Life, within the Faculty of Sciences, University of Milan - History of Earth Sciences

2002-05: Courses for the degree course of Communication Sciences within the School of Sciences (Varese), University of Insubria

- History of Science and Technology
- Scientific Museology
- Scientific Communication

2002-05: Courses for the degree course of Analysis and Management of Natural Resources, within the School of Sciences (Varese), University of Insubria

- History of Mountain
- Principles and techniques of communication
- History of Natural Sciences

## Representative publications

### Books:

1 - Giovanni Arduino (1714-1795). Il contributo di uno scienziato veneto al dibattito settecentesco sulle scienze della Terra [Giovanni Arduino (1714-1795). The contribution of a Venetian scientist to the 18th century debate on the Earth sciences], Florence, Olschki, 1993, 408 p. IT

2 - L'ordine delle montagne. La nascita della geologia storica nel Settecento italiano. [The order of the mountains. The birth of historical geology in 18th century Italy] Genoa, Brigati, 2003, pp. 392 IT

### Papers:

3 - Geology and Mining in Northern Italy in the first half of the nineteenth century: the influence of German earth sciences on some Italian scientists, "Rostocker Wissenschaftshistorische Manu-skripte",

Heft 20 (Zur Wissenschaften in der ersten Hälfte des 19.Jahrhunderts), Rostock, 1991, pp.80-83.

4 - Storia della Terra e tempi geologici in uno scritto inedito di Giovanni Arduino: la "Risposta Allegorico-Romanzesca" a Ferber [History of the Earth and geological time in an unpublished writing by Giovanni Arduino. The "Allegorical-Fictional Reply" to Ferber], "Nuncius. Annali di Storia della Scienza", Florence, 6, n.2, 1991, p. 171-212. IT

5 - L'attività agronomica di Pietro e Giovanni Arduino [The agronomic activity of Pietro and Giovanni Arduino], in Scienze e tecniche agrarie nel Veneto dell'Ottocento [Agronomic sciences and techniques in 19th century Veneto], Venice, Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti, 1992, pp.129-167. IT

6 - I manoscritti di uno scienziato veneto del Settecento: catalogo e notizie storiche del fondo "Giovanni Arduino" della Biblioteca Civica di Verona, [The manuscripts of a Venetian scientist of the 18th century: catalogue and historical account of the "Giovanni Arduino" collection in the Public Library of Verona], "Atti dell'Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti", 151 (1992-1993), Classe di Scienze Fisiche, Matematiche e Naturali, Venice, 1994, pp. 271-373.

7 - (with Patrick WYSE JACKSON) The fossil fishes of Bolca and the Travels in Italy of the Irish Cleric George Graydon in 1791, "Museologia scientifica", 12, 1995, pp. 57-81.

8 - Mineralogy and Mining in Italy between eighteenth and nineteenth centuries: the extent of Wernerian influences from Turin to Naples, in B. FRITSCHER & F. HENDERSON (eds.), Toward an History of Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry. Proceedings of the Symposium, München, 8-9 March 1996, München, Institut für Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften ("Algorismus", Heft 23), 1998, pp. 107-130.

9 - Geology: Disciplinary History, in G.A. GOOD (ed.), Sciences of the Earth: An Encyclopedia of Events, People and Phenomena, New York & London, Garland Publishing (Encyclopedias on the History of Science, Volume 3), 1998, pp. 329-337.

10 - Lyell's reception in the continent of Europe, in D.J. BLUNDELL and A.C. SCOTT (eds.), Lyell: the Past is the Key to the Present, London, Geological Society of London (Special Publications 143), 1998, pp. 39-52.

11 - Austro-Italian scientific Relationships in the field of the Earth Sciences. The Geologische Reichsanstalt and the geologists of the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom (1850-1866), in H. LOBITZER & P. GRECULA (eds.), Festschrift 150 Jahre Geologische Bundesanstalt. Geologie ohne Grenzen, "Abhandlungen der Geologischen Bundesanstalt", Wien, 56/1, 1999, pp. 95-114.

12 - Mining and knowledge of the Earth in Eighteenth-century Italy, "Annals of Science", 57, 2000, pp. 163-180.

13 - Le accademie minerarie come centri di formazione e di ricerca geologica tra Sette ed Ottocento, [The mining academies as centers of education and geological research between 18th and 19th century], in Il ruolo sociale della scienza (1789-1830) [The social role of science (1789-1839)], edited by F. ABBRI & M. SEGALA, Florence, Olschki, 2000, pp. 153-167. IT

14 - Spallanzani e le scienze geologiche del Settecento: un percorso interpretativo tra carteggi e diari di viaggio, [Spallanzani and the geological sciences of the 18th century: an interpretation between correspondence and travel diaries], in La sfida della modernità. [The challenge of modernity], edited by W. BERNARDI e M. STEFANI, Florence, Olschki, 2000, pp. 293-317. IT

15 - Voyageurs scientifiques dans les Apennins entre le 17e et 18e siècle: perspectives géologiques, [Scientific travellers in the Apennines between 17th and 18th centuries : geological perspectives], in Un cordée originale. Histoire des relations entre science et montagne, [An original roped party. History of relationships between science and mountain] edited by J.-C. PONT & J. LACKI, Genève, Georg, 2000, pp. 160-181. FR

16 - The museum and the academy: Geology and paleontology in the Accademia dei Fisiocritici of Siena during the 18th Century, in M. T. GHISELIN & A. E. LEVITON (eds.), Cultures and Institutions of Natural History, San Francisco, California Academy of Sciences, 2000, pp. 5-25.

17 - La geologia, [Geology] in Per una storia del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, [Towards an history of the National Research Council] edited by R. SIMILI e G. PAOLONI, Bari - Rome, Laterza, volume I, 2001, pp. 465-491. IT

18 - European Views on Terrestrial Chronology from Descartes to the mid-18th century, in C.L. LEWIS & S.J. KNELL & (eds.), The Age of the Earth: from 4004BC to AD2002, London, Geological Society of London (Special Publications 190), 2001, pp. 25-37.

19 - Les "Voyages dans les Alpes" et la géologie italienne, [The « Travels in the Alps » and Italian geology] in H.-B. De Saussure (1740-1799). Edited by R. SIGRIST, Genève, Georg / Bibliothèque d'Histoire des Sciences, 2001, pp. 197-213. FR

20 - Earth Science and Geology, in B.S. BAIGRIE (ed.), The History of Modern Science and Mathematics, New York, C. Scribner's Sons, vol. 2, 2002, pp. 1-43

21 - Gli studi geologici di Maggi tra lavoro di ricerca e attività didattica, [The geological studies of Maggi between research and teaching], in Leopoldo Maggi (1840-1905): un naturalista eclettico nella Lombardia di secondo Ottocento, [Leopoldo Maggi, an eclectic naturalist in Lombardy during the second half of the 19th century], edited by G. ARMOCIDA, S. CONTINI, E. VACCARI, "Terra e Gente", 10, Comunità Montana della Valcuvia, 2002, pp. 35-47.

22 - Luigi Ferdinando Marsili geologist: from the Hungarian mines to the Swiss Alps , in Four Centuries of the Word Geology. Ulisse Aldrovandi 1603 in Bologna, edited by G.B VAI & W. CAVAZZA, Bologna, Minerva Edizioni, 2003, pp. 179-185.

23 - Problematiche storiche di sfruttamento delle risorse naturali in montagna: il caso minerario in Italia, [Historical problems on the exploitation of natural resources in mountain areas: the case of mining in Italy, in Uomini e parchi oggi, [Men and parks today], edited by J. NEGRI, Salò, Centro Studi Valerio Giacomini, 2003, pp. 53-59.

24 - Wernerian Geognosy and Italian Vulcanists, in H. ALBRECHT & R. LADWIG (eds.), Abraham Gottlob Werner and the Foundation of the Geological Sciences. Selected Papers of the International Werner-Symposium in Freiberg, 19th to 24th September 1999. Freiberger Forschungshefte, D 207 Montan und Technikgeschichte, Freiberg, 2003, pp. 26-35.

25 - (with Ettore CURI) Quarrying and geology in early 18th century Italy: the lithological column of Gregorio Piccoli (1739), in Geological Resources and History Proceedings of INHIGEO Meeting – Portugal, Universidade de Aveiro, 2003, pp. 417-429.

26 - An overview on some geological relationships between Austrian and Italian scientists in the 18th century, "Jahrbuch der Geologischen Bundesanstalt", 144, heft 1, 2004, Wien, pp. 133-135.

27 - Scienze della Terra e istituzioni scientifiche dal Regno d'Italia Napoleonic al Regno Lombardo-Veneto: un inquadramento storiografico, [Earth sciences and scientific institutions from the Napoleonic Kingdom of Italy to the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom: an historical overview] in Historia Naturalis. Alle radici del Museo Friulano [The early history of the Museum Friulano of Natural history], edited by C. BIANCHINI, Comune di Udine - Museo Friulano di Storia Naturale, 2004, pp. 20-27. IT

28 – Dolomieu et les volcans d'Italie [Dolomieu and the volcanoes of Italy], in Dolomieu et la géologie de son temps [Dolomieu and geology of his time], edited by J. GAUDANT, Paris, École des Mines, 2005, pp. 87-94. FR

29 – Tra Nettunismo e Vulcanismo. Gli studi geologici di Goethe ed il 'Viaggio in Italia' [Between Neptunism and Vulcanism. Goethe's geological studies and the Voyage in Italy], in Arte, scienza e natura in Goethe, [Art, science and nature in Goethe], edited by G.F. FRIGO, R. SIMILI, F. VERCCELLONE, D. VON ENGELHARDT, Torino, Trauben, 2005, pp. 417-445.

30 – Le istruzioni per i geologi viaggiatori tra Sette ed Ottocento [The instructions for travelling geologists between 18th and 19th century], in Viaggi e scienza. Le istruzioni scientifiche dei viaggiatori nei secoli XVII-XIX, [Travels and science. The scientific instructions for travellers from 17th to 19th century], edited by M. BOSSI, Florence, Olschki, 2005, pp. 3-25.