

## Dipartimento di Biotecnologie e Bioscienze – UNIMIB

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# Challenges of the study of microbial degradation of plastics and their degradative functions for biotechnological applications

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**Abstract:** Plastic pollution is a global concern due to the high persistence of many synthetic plastics. Huge amounts of plastic waste have been accumulating in the environment and their management has become a critical challenge, especially polyethylene which is highly recalcitrant. A promising approach is the development of green technologies comprising effective microbial biodegradative strategies for bioremediation to mitigate environmental plastic contamination and biotechnological applications.

This seminar will focus on the microbial biodegradation of polyethylene including metabolic and genetic features. The most promising results on *Rhodococcus* strains and their oxidative enzymes will be highlighted.

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