

CLAUDIO SMIRAGLIA

Department of Earth Sciences
University of Milan

INSTITUTIONAL ROLES

Former Full Professor of Physical Geography and Geomorphology



MAIN RESEARCH INTERESTS

High mountain physical geography; glacial geomorphology; glaciology; climate change and cryosphere; high mountain tourism; high mountain ecology

ACADEMIC CAREER

Associated professor until 2020, full professor until 2016-2017

He taught geography, physical geography, physical geography and cartography, climatology, glaciology, didactics of physical geography at the degree courses of Geology, Natural sciences, Human environmental sciences of the University of Milan.

Past coordinator of the Section "Geology" of the University of Milan

He has been responsible of many national and international scientific projects (e.g. COFIN, PRIN, EVK2CNR, SHARE, PAPRIKA, SEED, SHARE Stelvio, HYDROSTELVIO, PERMALEV, CARIPANDA).

His research was mainly concerned with the high mountain physical geography, especially regarding glacial and periglacial morphosystems.

His main research fields were: recent variations of alpine and extra-alpine glaciers and their relationships with climatic changes; epiglacial morphology with its morphometric and sedimentological characteristics; debris covered glaciers and their evolution, also based on the remote sensing; the crionival morphology, in particular structure and origin of rock glaciers; the incidence of glaciers in natural disasters and the ongoing increase of hazard and risk, also for tourist and sporting activities, due to the cryosphere degradation; the effect of glacier retreat on surrounding ecosystems (in collaboration with ecologists and botanists).

He is author of about 400 publications on these issues on the most important national and international scientific magazines. He has carried out scientific missions in all the main glacial areas of the Earth, including Antarctica.

Past president of the Italian Glaciological Committee and of the Scientific Committee of Italian Alpine Club.