



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

Welcome to Materioteca

08.10.2025 | Monica Corio

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Welcome to Materioteca

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Welcome to Materioteca

Materioteca is an archive that gathers about 10,000 samples of materials in order to support teaching and research. Materioteca was born in 1999 thanks to the collaboration of two Departments: Chemistry & Chemical Engineering and Design. In 2014 it moved to Candiani Library as a special section.

The samples are divided by material classes: polymers, wood, ceramics, glass, metals, paper/cardboard, recycled materials, stones and building materials, textiles, fibres and yarns, composite materials, innovative materials and smart materials and visible in the material sample online catalogue.

The collection is constantly enriched and updated through contacts with national and international producers.

The samples are visible in the material sample online catalogue

You also find available for consultation two archives collections:

- **Maglieria Marina Spadafora Archive** which contains samples made by and for the Italian designer Marina Spadafora during a career of more than forty years in the knitting industry
- **Lino Archive of SISTEMA MODA ITALIA**, which collects original flax yarns and fabrics produced by different companies since 1993.

What is a Material Library

A material library is a collection of materials and an educational archive of materials.

It is very useful for **students, teachers and professionals**, a **real laboratory** where they can experiment with all the characteristics of the materials necessary for the project.

It is an example of circular economy with the aims to keep materials and products in use for as long as possible focused on reusing, repairing, refurbishing, and recycling materials, products, and resources to minimize waste,

Each sample is classified and cataloged according to criteria useful to the project, considering both the engineering properties that the expressive - sensory characterization. It is useful to explore and compare different materials and also locate the right manufacturer contact. It is a handling collection that emphasises the importance of sensory experience in learning about materials, their properties and their possibilities.

Each material in the collection has a unique number and a profile that includes images, data sheets and technical description.

Samples are classified according to group of materials and they have a fixed place on the shelves.

Maglieria Marina Spadafora Archive

Marina Spadafora **Archive of knitting points and samples** is a donation of more than 5000 knitting samples documenting inspiration and creativity of Marina Spadafora, the ambassador of ethical fashion in the world. She had its own fashion brand that was distinguished by the prevalence of knitters considered experimental and the cutting edge. Over the years she has collected more than 3000 knitting points that testify his relentless research and passion for this art.

She collaborated as senior design consultant with Ferragamo, Prada, Miu Miu e Marni.

She was creative director of Auteurs du Monde (<https://www.auteursdumonde.fr/index.php>), the fair trade brand of Altro Mercato, working with artisans all over the world.

Her work has always included a strong attention to social and ecology believing that ethics and aesthetics can perfectly match: her motto is "Fashion with a Mission".

In 2015 she received the award Women Together of the United Nations in New York and in 2014 she gave a TEDx talk on sustainable fashion.

In 2020 she wrote" **La rivoluzione comincia dal tuo armadio : tutto quello che dovrete sapere sulla moda sostenibile**

She is the Italian national coordinator of Fashion Revolution (<https://www.fashionrevolution.org/>)



Lino Archive of SISTEMA MODA ITALIA

Sistema Moda Italia, the Italian Association of Industries in the Textile and Clothing Supply Chain, is the largest global organization representing clothing industrialists.

This collection consists of thousand samples of original flax yarns and fabrics produced by different companies since 1993 has the main scope of make available the archive of books, trend books, original yarns and fabrics and produced by individual companies, for information and for training in fashion and textile schools.

Linen is biodegradable, renewable because it can be sown in every season over a six-year-long cycle and it preserves the soil in which it is planted. As for its textile applications, linen is breathable, heat-regulating, it transfers the body's moisture to the outside, it can be easily dyed even in bright colors, its dyeing requires less water and dyes than other fibers and, unlike what is commonly believed, linen is an easycare material, for it is machine washable and the new linen fabrics do not crease as easily as they use to, some do not even require pressing.



Materials

Our collection of samples can be accessed during Library opening hours or via [digital catalogue](#) which is the main tool for exploring and identifying materials in our collection, both remotely and when in the library.

Each material in the collection has a unique number and a profile that includes images, data sheets and technical description.

Samples are classified according to group of materials and they have a fixed place on the shelves.

Here you find some examples of classes.



Biopolymers

Composed
Materials

Woods

Stones

Glass

Paints

Skin

Metals

Recycled Materials

Ceramics



How to find a sample

02

Online catalogue

<https://opac.biblio.polimi.it/SebinaOpac/.do?sysb=materioteca>

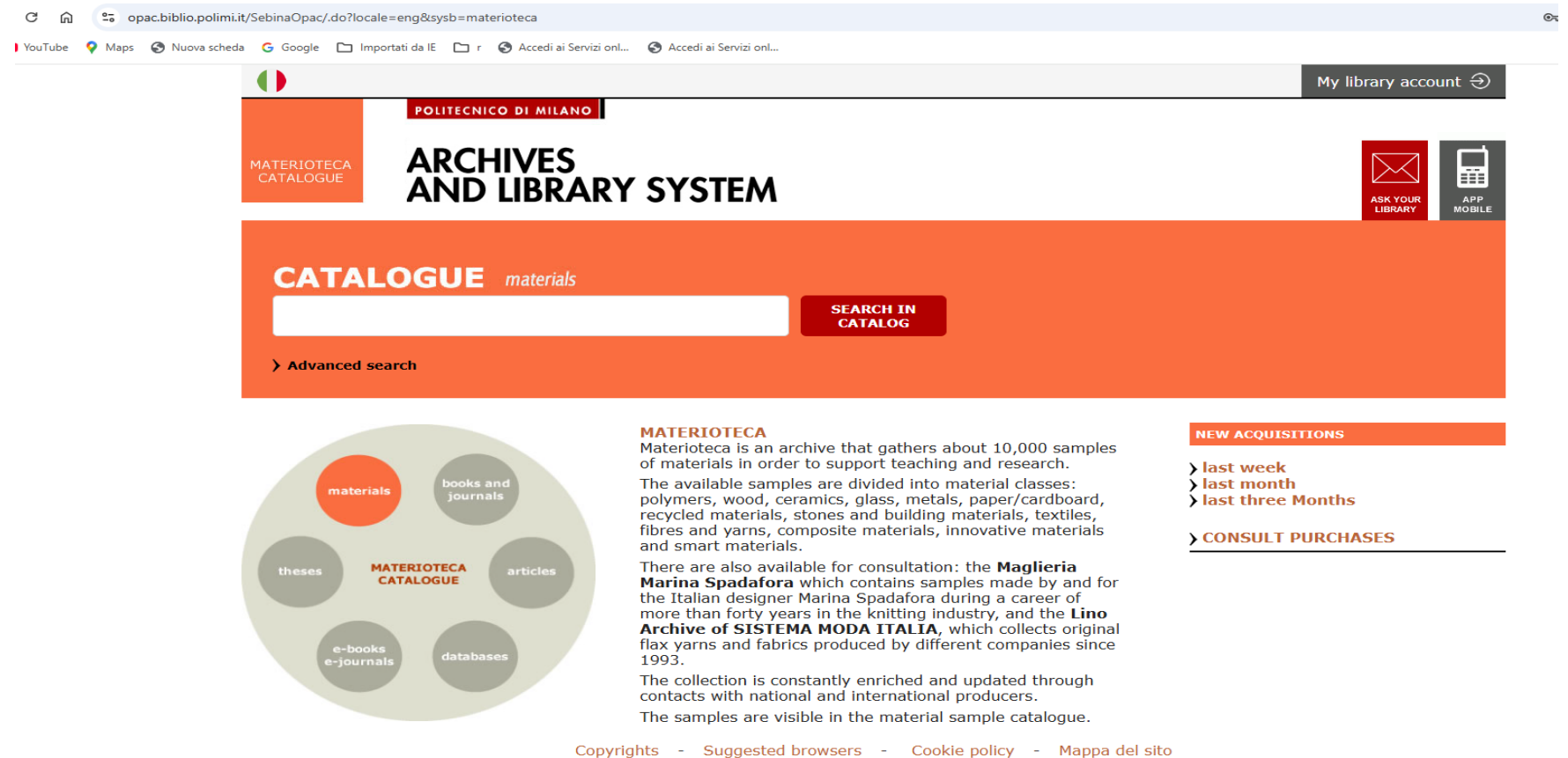
Every material has a complete description and is catalogued and inventoried.

An anti-theft is applied (which allows in addition to a security for theft also a streamlining in the loan procedures)

To each sample is assigned a location (abbreviation + number, e.g. CMP 200) that identifies the position of the material in the shelves.

The Catalogue allows you to search materials in different way:

- from a generic term
- from the name of the product
- the manufacturer
- from characteristics such as Material class, Ownership, Processing



The screenshot shows the website interface for the Materioteca online catalogue. The header includes the Politecnico di Milano logo and the title 'ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY SYSTEM'. A search bar is prominently displayed with a 'SEARCH IN CATALOG' button. Below the search bar, there is a link to 'Advanced search'. A circular diagram illustrates the catalogue's structure, with 'MATERIOTECA CATALOGUE' at the center, surrounded by categories: materials, books and journals, articles, databases, e-books, e-journals, and theses. To the right, a section titled 'NEW ACQUISITIONS' lists 'last week', 'last month', and 'last three Months', along with a link to 'CONSULT PURCHASES'. The footer contains links for 'Copyrights', 'Suggested browsers', 'Cookie policy', and 'Mappa del sito'.

MATERIOTECA
Materioteca is an archive that gathers about 10,000 samples of materials in order to support teaching and research. The available samples are divided into material classes: polymers, wood, ceramics, glass, metals, paper/cardboard, recycled materials, stones and building materials, textiles, fibres and yarns, composite materials, innovative materials and smart materials.

There are also available for consultation: the **Maglieria Marina Spadafora** which contains samples made by and for the Italian designer Marina Spadafora during a career of more than forty years in the knitting industry, and the **Lino Archive of SISTEMA MODA ITALIA**, which collects original flax yarns and fabrics produced by different companies since 1993.

The collection is constantly enriched and updated through contacts with national and international producers. The samples are visible in the material sample catalogue.

NEW ACQUISITIONS

- > last week
- > last month
- > last three Months

> **CONSULT PURCHASES**

Copyrights - Suggested browsers - Cookie policy - Mappa del sito

Available services

- Free access to Materioteca for institutional users using Policard (university ID card)
- Consultation service: you can freely view all the samples we have in collection
- Loan service: you can borrow for educational purposes, up to 10 samples, for 5 days, renewable for additional 5 days.
- The loan application can be made
 - directly in Materioteca
 - through the online Catalogue of Materioteca and the materials requested online will be available from the day subsequent to the request.



More Info

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A few numbers

Total samples of materials

9670

Maglieria Marina Spadafora
Archive

5240

Only in consultation for study
or research

Lino Archive of SISTEMA
MODA ITALIA

500

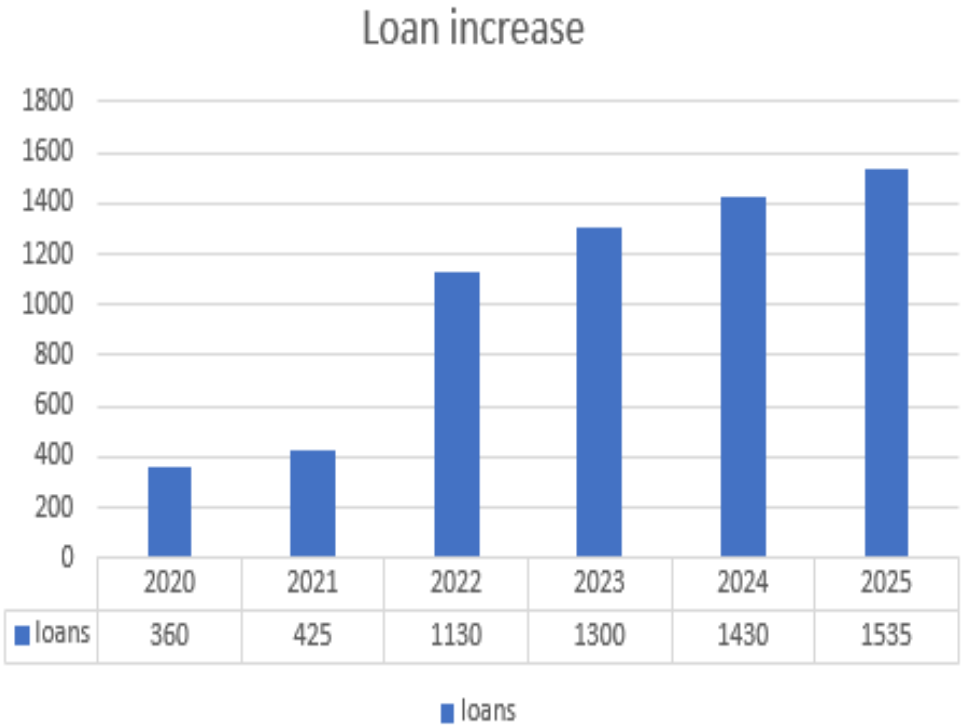
Work in progress

Loans

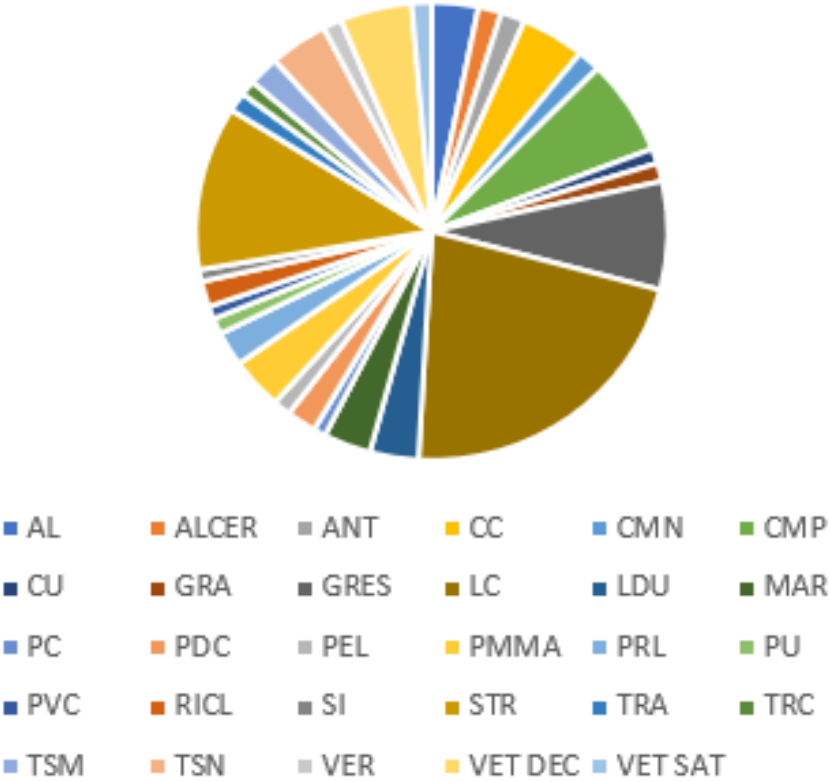
1560

Strating from January 2025

Loans increase from 2020

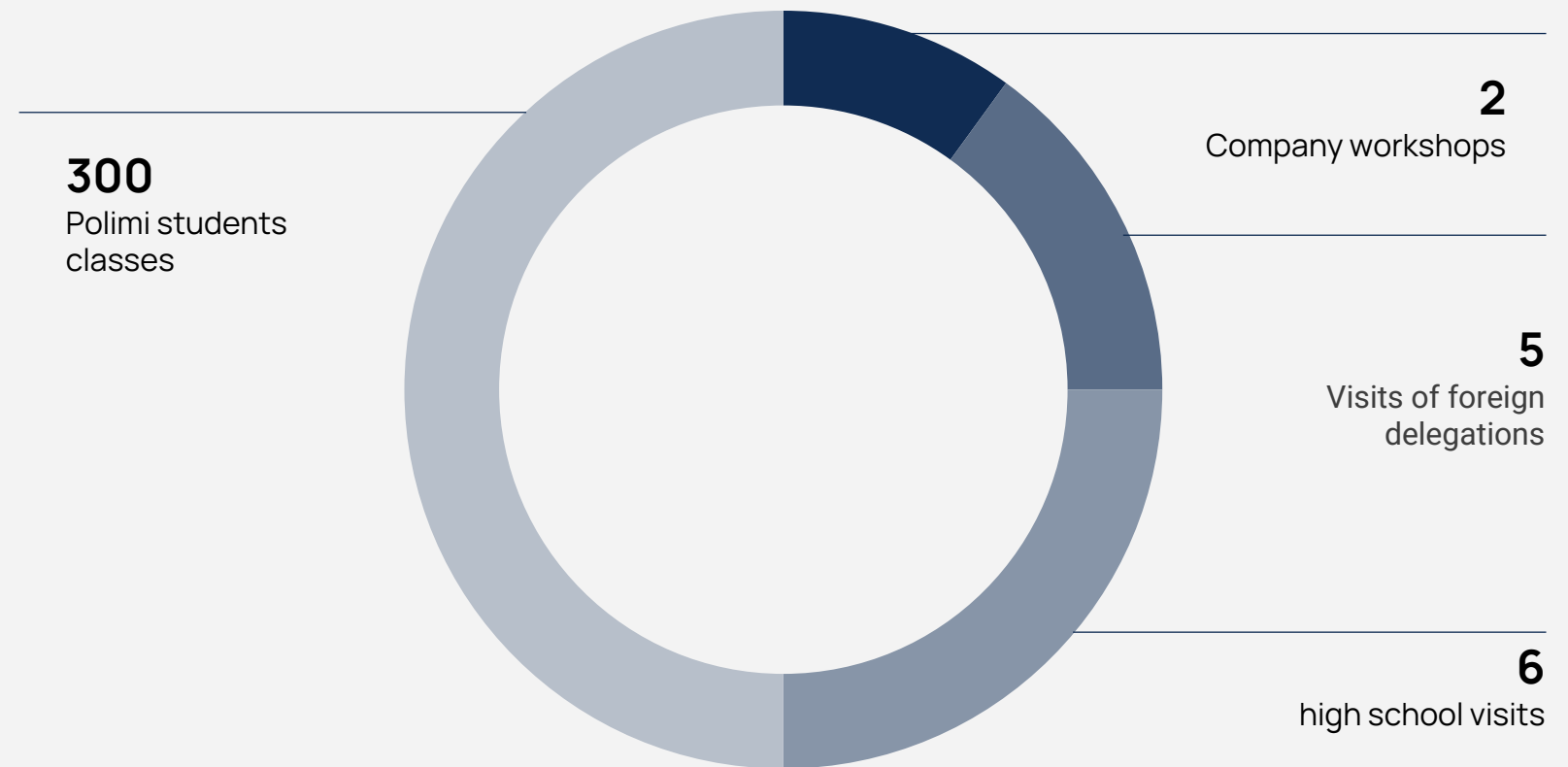


Most requested materials by location



Classes, visits and workshop

During the Academic Year Materioteca hosts various lessons, workshops, and visits. The data provided refer to the period from January up today



Exhibition of material and prototypes produced by Polimi Master classes



Libraries and Archives Home page

<https://www.biblio.polimi.it/en/login>

Libraries and Archives

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LOCATIONS AND TIMES



Bovisa Candiani Library - BBC

Desk Services: 02.2399.5684

Opening hours:
From Monday to Friday
8.30 am to 8.45 pm
Saturday 9 am to 4.45 pm



Bovisa La Masa Library - BBL

Desk Services: 02.2399.8053

Opening hours:
from Monday to Sunday
8.00 am to 9.45 pm



Leonardo Campus Library - BCL

Desk Services: 02.2399.2667

Opening hours:
from Monday to Sunday
8.00 am to 11.45 pm

Libraries and Archives

Services Locations and times Contacts Notices FAQ

CONTACTS



Ask@your library
For any question about libraries, services and use of resources



Virtual desk
by appointment



Libraries and archives
To find quickly the contact details



Reference
To receive advice and assistance



Thesis submission
To receive assistance on the online submission of your post-graduate thesis



Purchase tips
To propose to purchase a book

[Purchase tips](#)



Thank you for your attention
Recycle and respect the environment!



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