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He obtained a degree in Biology in 1990 and presented a Doctoral dissertation on microalgae wastewater treatment engineering in 1996. He was a postdoc research visitor at the University of California (2001) and University of Gent (2005).

Joan carries out interdisciplinary research on the development and improvement of environmental biotechnologies that mimicking nature and maximizing eco-efficiency allow treatment of wastewaters and other kinds of wastes. In particular, his research is currently conducted on systems for wastewater treatment and at the same time materials and energy recovery, like microalgae photobioreactors and constructed wetlands. Joan has published more than 100 scientific papers on these topics. Contributions by Joan on these biotechnologies include development of new designs and online monitoring tools; low-cost biomass harvesting strategies; comprehension of removal mechanisms of nutrients and emerging contaminants present in wastewaters, such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products; energy and environmental evaluation through life cycle assessment and carbon footprint analysis; study of greenhouse gas emissions; and improvement of microalgae anaerobic digestion and biogas production.

Complete CV and Publications: <http://gemma.upc.edu/faculty/dr-joan-garcia>