



Ca' Foscari
University
of Venice
Department of
Philosophy and
Cultural Heritage



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

Schedule

Winter Semester, IV period,
from March 25 to May 4, 2019

Wednesday, h. 12.15 - 13.45
Room 14 S. Sebastiano

Thursday, h. 10.30 - 12.00
Room 24 S. Sebastiano

Friday, h. 10.30 - 12.00
Room Padoan S. Sebastiano

Contact

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Master's Degree
(Laurea Magistrale)
FM0459 – Political Epistemology



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Political Epistemology

This class aims at articulating a critical philosophy of science based on concrete historical cases taken from the history of science in a long-term and cross-cultural perspective. The range of case studies will be from Mesopotamia, India, China, and Europe. This is essential to reflect on the dynamics of scientific developments, in order to critically construct a non-reductionist theory of science. The political focus will consist in looking at science in relation to its contexts of practice and material production, its societal dimensions and its cultural politics.

The course will be arranged around three basic categories of science as a cultural phenomenon:

1. Abstraction: the process of codification of knowledge considered in relation to alienation;
2. Orientation: the ambivalent uses of science for exploration, political power and transformation;
3. Valuation: the ideals of science as a contested political field.

The course will be taught by a collective of historians and philosophers of science from Germany, India and Italy.