

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

INTERDISCIPLINARY DOCTORAL WORKSHOP

ECOLE FRANÇAISE DE ROME –
ECOLE DES HAUTES ETUDES EN SCIENCES SOCIALES

The Mediterranean: a laboratory of global history and globalization



[Dominico Remps, *Cabinet of curiosities*, c. 1690, Museo dell'Opificio delle pietre dure, Firenze]

2018

Science and knowledge from the Mediterranean through the world

Rome, École française de Rome, 22nd-26th October 2018

In its fourth instalment, the interdisciplinary doctoral workshop organized by the EFR and the EHEES will, this year, examine the Mediterranean as a laboratory of global history and of globalization by focussing on science and knowledge.

In the last thirty years, the centrality of Europe and its Mediterranean heritage in the emergence of “modern science” has generated intense criticism. The issue of chronology and its fractures has been fundamental in calling into question the analytical frameworks for understanding “scientific revolutions”. The role and status of actors and objects of science have engendered interrogations about the relations

between science and knowledge, knowledge and society, processes of knowledge production, beliefs and politics. The proliferation of surveys on the constitution of scientific disciplines (physics, mathematics, botany, zoology, chemistry, etc.) has finally allowed specialists to decentre their gaze, whether through the development of comparative approaches, the historicisation of categories of analysis, or by other methods.

This workshop will provide the opportunity to discuss, from a new angle, the fragmented landscape of the analysis of science and knowledge, inscribing it in a long-term perspective. This is suggested by our placement in Rome, which has been traditionally regarded as the heir of “Greek science”, placed at the foundation of “modern science”, while covering a broader Mediterranean area. Such a genealogy will be critically questioned, through the participation of scholars working on different historical periods, diverse geographical areas and distinct disciplinary fields, and relying on the (new?) perspectives opened up by global history. To what extent has the Mediterranean built itself in relation to other spaces and to other systems of knowledge, distinct from those of Greek (classical or Hellenistic) science? According to what political dynamics has “modern science” integrated this space, and to what extent? Or, conversely, in what ways did the shaping of knowledge frame the “modernity” developed in the Mediterranean world from the 16th century? How has the global horizon of the Enlightenment redefined the agenda of European sciences? How does present-day globalization recompose the spaces of knowledge production?

The workshop is open to PhD candidates and students in M2 (second year of Master’s) from all disciplines and all nationalities. Historiographical and thematic lectures will be followed by workshops based on presentations of students’ work. The seminars and presentations can be held in French, Italian or English.

Please send your application to the following address, **before the 31th May 2018**: secrmod@efrome.it.

It should contain:

- A letter of motivation;
- A *curriculum vitae* (max. 3 pages), including a description of the ongoing research and its timetable;
- An abstract (max. 4000 characters) of the proposed paper;
- A letter of recommendation.

All these documents can be written in French, Italian or English.

The candidates admitted are requested to participate in all the seminars and lectures.

Participants are asked to send to the organizers, by the 24th September 2018, 6 to 7 pages of presentation of their own research, including a description of the sources, as well as a short bibliography.

The cost of the workshop, including lunch and accommodation, will be covered by the École française de Rome and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales. Participants must cover the cost of their own travel to and from Rome.

For further information, please contact Claire Challéat, scientific referent for the early-modern and modern period at the École française de Rome, Piazza Farnese 67, Roma, e-mail: secrmod@efrome.it.

Scientific board: Elisa Andretta (LARHRA), Fabrice Jesné (EFR), Antonella Romano (EHESS), Silvia Sebastiani (EHESS).

