

## **Call for paper - *Multiple identities. Problems, methodologies and sources from Antiquity to present day***

We are pleased to announce the conference entitled “*Multiple identities. Problems, methodologies and sources from Antiquity to present day*”, originally to have been held at the University of Pisa, which will now take place in webinar format on 10-12 December 2020.

The purpose of the conference is to investigate identity in all its aspects from a diachronic and global perspective, with different panels covering antiquity to the contemporary world. The event is organized indeed in the frame of the PhD course in History at the University of Pisa that covers all historical periods, so that a different panel will be dedicated to each different historical time or area. The main topics of the conference, are: the multiple facets of individual social identity, the link between identity and territory, social inequality, the relationship between religion and community belonging, the influence of different mobility experiences on definitions of belonging, and the modalities of defining a natural subalternity/diversity of the Other through gender, race, class.

The panels concerning ancient Egypt, the ancient Near East and Southern Arabia will examine the birth of the first hierarchical societies with a strong sense of distinctive identity, and the integration and acceptance of alien cultural features inside those communities, focusing in particular on their expression in the archaeological data.

In archaeological and historiographic research, material culture can be used to reconstruct political, economic and community differences. These phenomena date back to the dawn of civilization and the first state organizations but can be identified throughout the history of society.

These elements leave traces in material and visual culture, and reflect a malleable social identity, influenced by mechanisms of exchange and technical-stylistic influences from outside. The different methodologies adopted by modern research are increasingly able to identify the multiple strands of identity which characterised ancient communities and societies.

The aim of the panels is to examine in more depth the tools necessary for the study of different dimensions of identity in Near Eastern, Southern Arabia and Egyptian history, examining exchange of cultural practices and the transmission of ideas in a more careful and dynamic perspective.

The final aim of the conference is to reconstruct an "invisible" but materially verifiable social history and to recognize its importance or eventual examine its reconstruction by means of various historical methodologies. The particular methodological points of view offered by the various sources will permit a dialogue to emerge between the different research perspectives.

If you wish to present a paper, please send the title and an abstract of no more than 300 words in English, French or Italian to the conference board email (below). *Abstracts should be submitted as Word files/PDF and include your name, title, institutional affiliation (if appropriate) and full contact details.*

The call for papers closes on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**For questions and further information contact:**

Conference board email: [multipleidentity2020.unipi@gmail.com](mailto:multipleidentity2020.unipi@gmail.com)

Riccardo Andreozzi (Egyptology, PhD student): [r.andreozzi2@phd.unipi.it](mailto:r.andreozzi2@phd.unipi.it)

Alessandro Galli (Egyptology, PhD student): [alessandro.galli@phd.unipi.it](mailto:alessandro.galli@phd.unipi.it)

Sara Quaggio (Near Ancient East, PhD student): [sara.quaggio@phd.unipi.it](mailto:sara.quaggio@phd.unipi.it)

Silvia Lischi (Southern Arabia, PhD student): [silvialischi@msn.com](mailto:silvialischi@msn.com)