



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO

I@UNITO – Visiting Scientists

Scientific area	Scientific responsible	Host Department	Type of activity	Start of mobility	Language
8	Prof. Ermanno Malaspina	Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici	Research	January - March 2017	Latin/Italian/Spanish/French
Type of fellowship	Junior (less than 40 years old) 3 months fellowship				
Title of the research project	The Ciceronian Model in Political Thought and Discourse from the Late Middle Ages to the Early Renaissance				
Description of the research project	<p>The aim of the project is to assess the place of the Ciceronian model on the origins of civil society within the development of Italian political thought from the late Middle Ages to the early Renaissance, i.e., from Boncompagno of Signa's <i>Rethorica novissima</i> to Marsilius of Padua's <i>Defensor pacis</i>, including Brunetto Latini's <i>Tresor</i> and <i>Rettorica</i> — a <i>volgarizzamento</i> of Cicero's <i>De invention</i> — and Dante Alighieri's <i>Convivio</i>. Traditionally, historiography focused on the impact of Aristotle's <i>Politics</i> on the formation of medieval political thought. However, Ciceronian iusnaturalism had a deep and lasting influence on the evolution of Italian political ideas. This project examines the different uses of Cicero's narrative on the origins of civil society (<i>De inventione</i> I, ii) made by two groups of Italian thinkers: on the one hand, those representatives of Latin scholasticism (Boncompagno, Aquinas, Aegidius, Marsilius), and, on the other hand, those forerunners of Renaissance humanism (Brunetto, Dante).</p>				
Profile Description	<p>Preferably scholars from Latin American countries (cf. Research objective 1. Below); PhD in Medieval Philosophy; expertise in Classical heritage, Medieval political thought and Italian Renaissance literature.</p>				
Research objectives	<p>General objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To give the opportunity of establishing new contacts with Latin-American countries in the domain of Classical Heritage, with the purpose of expanding the research horizons of the Department and signing new Erasmus Extra UE agreements. 2. To reinforce the study of the survival of classical texts and themes in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance from an interdisciplinary perspective, combining the history of philosophy and literature. 3. To enhance the exchange with specialists from the classical field to open new channels of collaboration and cooperation. <p>Particular objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To clarify the role of the Ciceronian tradition in the development of Italian political thought in a period that marks the transition from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. 2. To identify the intertwined links late medieval and early Renaissance political theories established between Aristotle's and Cicero's ideas on the origins of civil society. 3. To increase our knowledge of the formation of the political ideas of Italian Renaissance humanism. 				



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	4. To write an essay analyzing the crucial passages of the texts above mentioned and clearly identifying, on the one hand, the Ciceronian model on the origins of civil society as exposed by Cicero himself in <i>De inventione</i> , and, on the other hand, the reception and reinterpretation of the Ciceronian model made by the above mentioned medieval and Renaissance thinkers.
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