



DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIA CULTURE CIVILTÀ  
SEZIONE DI STUDI ANTROPOLOGICI, ORIENTALI, STORICO-RELIGIOSI

# A Roundtable on Manuscripts Studies

S. Giovanni in Monte, 2 - [Aula Gambi](#)  
Wednesday, November 20th

Over the last two decades, manuscript studies have known a renewed and sustained interest. This includes a deep methodological rethinking that has fully incorporated both the comparative approach as well as a programmatic effort in integrating the contributions from the humanities, natural sciences and information sciences.

Prof Michael Friedrich, founder of the Center for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC) of the University of Hamburg, is a visiting fellow of the MemoryLab of the department of History and Culture (DISCI) of the University of Bologna in November 2024. His visit will offer the chance to take stock of some of the current research on manuscript studies at DISCI as well as across the University of Bologna.

Participants will discuss their past, present and future research interest and activities. Some of the key ideas that will be discussed are:

- Manuscripts as tools/agents of memory
- Paratexts / Paracontents
- Layout
- Composite manuscripts, Multiple-text manuscripts
- Interaction between manuscripts and other media
- The formation of manuscript collections
- The role of manuscript studies in the shaping of philological, historiographical and ethnographic methods

## Programme

09.45–10.00 **Welcome and Introduction**

10.00–10.30 Michael Friedrich  
**Why Manuscript Studies? On the Anthropological Dimension of the Cultural Practice of Writing**

10.30–11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00–12.00 Emma Abate & Saverio Campanini  
**The Formation of Hebrew Books Collections: Case Studies**

12.00–13.00 Giovanni Ciotti & Marco Franceschini  
**From Colophons to Material Analysis: A Comprehensive Approach to the Study of Palm Leaf Manuscripts from Tamil Nadu**

13.00–14.00 *Lunch break*

14.00–15.30  
Lucia Raggetti  
**The Library of Abū al-‘Alā ibn Zuhr: Galenic Medicine and Quaint Erudition**

Sara Fani  
**Second Chances: Ink Production and Removal According to Recipes from the Arab World.**  
Celeste Gianni  
**Retracing Family Histories from the Ownership and Marginal Notes in the Arabic Manuscripts of the Great ‘Umari Mosque in Gaza**

15.30–16.00 *Coffee break*

16.00–17.30  
Giulio Iovine  
**Papyrology: Writing books and Documents in the Graeco-Roman Era**  
Giacomo Vignodelli  
**INTRADAMS: A Research-Based Summer School for the Integration of Traditional and Digital Approaches in Manuscript Studies**  
Anna Sirinian  
**The Colophons of Armenian Manuscripts as “Places of Memory”**

Attività valida per il conseguimento dei CFU seminari per il Corso di Laurea in Antropologia, religioni, civiltà orientali, i Corsi di Laurea Magistrale in Antropologia culturale ed etnologia, Religioni Storie Culture, Scienze storiche e orientalistiche, e per il Corso di Dottorato in Storie, Culture e Politiche del Globale

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