

Accademia Fiesolana

Compulsory seminar for SPS first-year researchers, 13-23 September 2022

Accademia Fiesolana is the SPS Department's introductory department seminar. Its objectives are to lay the groundwork for thinking about your own (and others') research as well as to become familiar with the research done in the SPS department.

The first part consists of two seminar meetings. We start with discussing how to identify and ask a research question that can contribute to a broader body of literature, is clearly defined, is answerable, and is something you want to spend four years working on. Then we move on to thinking about how to select an appropriate method for the research questions being asked how choice of question and method are impacted by philosophical foundations. The second part consists of five seminar meetings, in which the faculty members of the department introduce their research by focusing on how their work relates to a broader problem in the political and social sciences.

Asking an effective research question

13 September, **13:00-14:30** Refectory Room

Professors: Juho Härkönen & Simon Hix

Research questions, method choice, and philosophical foundations

13 September, **14:30 -16:00** Refectory Room

Professors: Ellen Immergut & Anton Hemerijck

Inequality and social demography

15 September, **14:00 – 15:30** Refectory Room

Professors: Juho Härkönen & Herman van de Werfhorst

Welfare state and political economy

16 September, **14:00 – 15:30** Refectory Room

Professors: Ellen Immergut, Anton Hemerijck, Waltraud Schelkle

Identity Formation: A Constructivist's Guide

20 September, **13:00 – 15:00** Refectory Room

Professors: Jeff Checkel, Elias Dinas

Analytical sociology

21 September, **14:00 – 15:30** Refectory Room

Professors: Klarita Gërkhani & Arnout van de Rijt

International relations and security

22 September, **14:30 – 15:30** Refectory Room

Professors: Stephanie Hofmann & Daniëlle Flonk

Comparative politics and political behaviour

23 September, **14:00 – 15:30** Refectory Room

Professors: Elias Dinas, Miriam Golden, Simon Hix, Filip Kostelka