

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT
AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Rhetoric Today: Communication, Education, Society
Venice, November 11th -12th, 2024

The conference aims to explore the role of rhetoric in contemporary society, focusing both on the strategies actually used in different communicative contexts (e.g. politics, science, law, economics) and on the role of the discipline and its reputation among scholars and the public. In particular, it aims to gather contributions that focus not only on the persuasive function of rhetoric, but also on its pedagogical and cognitive potential, which is increasingly interesting in a world often poisoned by manipulative and misleading discursive practices. Against the backdrop of a widespread negative evaluation of rhetoric, particularly evident in the Italian context, the conference also aims to investigate the current status of the discipline in different linguistic and cultural traditions.

The conference will be an opportunity to present the newly created Inter-University Centre for Research in Rhetoric (CIRHET), which aims to bring together scholars from different backgrounds who, within the specific field of their own discipline, are dedicated to the study of rhetoric from different perspectives. The goal of the Centre is to promote research on rhetoric and its dissemination, in the conviction that a better knowledge of rhetoric and its positive evaluation can offer a strategic contribution to education and to the improvement of the quality of social relations.

Contributions are invited on, but not limited to, the following areas:

- The role of rhetoric in different contexts (public debate, media discourse, scientific communication, doctor-patient interaction, judiciary argumentation, corporate communication, etc)
- The educational function of rhetoric
- Rhetoric and text analysis
- Rhetoric and cognition
- The classic origins of rhetoric and its historical evolution
- Rhetoric as a discipline: nature and perspectives
- Rhetoric's reputation today

Keynote speakers:

Emmanuelle Danblon (Université Libre de Bruxelles)

Christian Kock (University of Copenhagen)

Scientific Committee

Bruno Capaci (Università di Bologna)

Alessio Cotugno (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia)

Salvatore Di Piazza (Università di Palermo)

Maria Freddi (Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele)

Maurizio Manzin (Università di Trento)

Francesca Piazza (Università di Palermo)

Federico Puppo (Università di Trento)
Francesca Santulli (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia)
Mauro Serra (Università di Salerno)
Serena Tomasi (Università di Trento)

Organising Committee:

Gianluca Lebani
Cristina Procentese
Alice Suozzi
Francesca Volpato
Karin Zambonati

Submission Guidelines

Submissions should be directed to the following email address:

retorica@unive.it

Proposals should be not more than 300 words, with a maximum of 5 references

Submission deadline is June 15th, 2024

For all submissions, please clearly indicate:

- Abstract title, author name(s), and full institutional affiliations
- Contact e-mail address for the author(s).
- One or two conference themes (if relevant).

Proposals will be reviewed on the basis of the following criteria:

- relevance of the topic to the conference theme;
- background/contextualisation of the study;
- theoretical/methodological appropriateness;
- clarity and originality of claims/findings.

Proposals can be submitted in Italian or in English

Notification of acceptance will be given by July 10th, 2024

Conference website: unive.it/retoricaoggi