STS-Italia, the Italian Society of Science and Technology Studies and the Department of Political Sciences of the University of Pisa organize the **5th Summer School** *Expertise at stake: technoscience and public participation in the post-truth age*, to be held in Pisa, on 1-5 July 2019.

Goals and topics

Science, technology and related expertise have taken an increasingly prominent role in society. Public unease with and controversy over the way science and technology progress and expertise is applied to address societal needs, expectations and demands have however grown proportionally. Institutions such as the European Union have recognised this as a major question, leading to what has been sometimes depicted as a crisis of trust in science and, more recently, a crisis of rationality in addressing public issues. A number of theoretical frameworks and approaches have been developed along the years. Though these may differ considerably as to how the origin of the problem is diagnosed and the answer is conceived, there is a widespread agreement that any simplistic view of the interface between science and society is to be abandoned, and that more inclusive approaches have to be worked out. As a result, there has been a vast increase in awareness, conceptual frameworks, tools and skills in communicating science, gauging public responses and involving people in science-related policy-making. Yet, public issues (re)emerge continually as science, innovation and industrial policies proceed, challenging the capacity to fruitfully apply scientific expertise in a socially unsettled context.

Aims

The summer school aims at providing an updated outline of this problematic, with a focus on frameworks, approaches, methodologies and experiences.
The main themes that will be addressed are:

- Science-society interface approaches from public understanding of science to post-truth
- Participatory innovation, with special reference to Responsible Research and Innovation
- Investigating and communicating environmental risks
- Public health and trust
- Mapping techno-scientific controversies
- Expertise and public deliberation

The Summer School will offer PhD students and early career researchers the opportunity to interact with international scholars with a transdisciplinary background in social studies of science and technology and specific expertise in the topics above.

Description of activities

Activities will be articulated in morning and afternoon sessions. The morning sessions will be devoted to keynote speeches and discussion. The afternoon sessions will develop the topics addressed in group work coordinated by the teachers with the help of tutors. The ECTS credits that will be allocated to the successful participants are 3, conditional to the completion of a group work assigned during the school. All participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

Confirmed speakers

- Rita Biancheri (Department of Political Sciences, University of Pisa)
- Fabrizio Bianchi, (Institute of Clinical Physiology, CNR, Italy)
- Liliana Cori (Institute of Clinical Physiology, CNR, Italy)
- Ulrike Felt (Institute for Scientific and Technological Research, Vienna University)
- Pierluigi Lopalco (Department of Translational Research and New Medical and Surgical Technologies, Pisa University)
- Tommaso Venturini (Internet and Society Center, CNRS, France)
- Brian Wynne (Centre for the Study of Environmental Change, Lancaster University)

Admission requirements

Applicants should hold a BSc, MSc or PhD in social and political sciences or any field relevant to Science and Technology studies. Candidates will be selected on the base of their CV and research interests, maintaining a balanced participation in terms of gender and nationality of candidates. The organizers reserve the right to cancel the summer school if fewer than 20 students are enrolled. A maximum number of 30 students will be admitted to the school.

Funding

Two scholarships (covering the participation fee) will be available for talented students. Scholarship applicants must send a Statement of Purposes (max 500 words) enclosed in their application. The Statement should explain why attending this summer school would be important for their academic studies or career, outlining also the reasons why they need a scholarship. Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of documented academic performance, personal achievements and financial needs.

Benefits from attending

Students will gain insights and suggestions on how to develop STS sensibility in relation to the study of technoscientific controversies, participation and communication, by attending lectures and practising concepts, theories and empirical methods in group discussions and workshops. Moreover, the school is intended to act as an intellectually and socially stimulating environment. Drawing upon prior experience, the school is organized to foster informal learning opportunities, sharing ideas, and developing networks among participants.

How to apply

Instructions on how to apply and on how to pay the school fee are available on the University of Pisa website: https://bit.ly/2B8jrjs. In addition to the standard documentation, a statement of purposes (maximum 500 words) is mandatory only for scholarship applications. The statement of purposes for applications must be sent to Professor Luigi Pellizzoni, Coordinator of the School, at: luigi.pellizzoni@unipi.it.

Fee

The fee for participation is 250 €.

The fee includes:

- access to all lectures and workshops
- coffee breaks
- a social dinner

Accommodation is not included in the fee. Some information about budget accommodation can be found at: https://www.unipi.it/index.php/accommodation. An additional possibility is the following: http://www.istitutolanteri.it/?page_id=73

Important dates

March 30th, 2019: Applications deadline.

April 19th, 2019: Confirmation of the school, notification for participation and for scholarship eligibility.

May 11th, 2019: Registration deadline.

Scientific and Organizing Committee

Luigi Pellizzoni, University of Pisa & Coordinator of the School

Simone Arnaldi, University of Trieste

Rita Biancheri, University of Pisa

Stefano Crabu, Politecnico Milano

Marina Maestrutti, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Paolo Magaudda, Università di Padova

Federico Neresini, Università di Padova

Assunta Viteritti, Sapienza University of Rome

Info

Please, contact the University of Pisa, Department of Political Sciences, dr. Nicla Candelli (nicla.candelli@unipi.it), for information about fees, applications, and other administrative details of your participation, and prof. Luigi Pellizzoni (luigi.pellizzoni@unipi.it) for questions about the scholarships and school program.