

SCHEDA ALTRE ATTIVITÀ FORMATIVE

A.A. 2025-2026

Corso di Laurea	Lingue e culture dell'Asia e dell'Africa
Titolo	From Imperial Faith to Republican Religion
Delibera di autorizzazione del Corso di Laurea	Sì
Tipologia attività (conferenze, seminari, laboratori ecc.)	Seminario
Docente responsabile	Prof.ssa Donatella Guida
A cura di	Prof. Chen Hsi-yuan (Accademia Sinica, Taiwan)
Numero ore	12
Numero CFU	2
Data inizio attività	A partire dal 3 marzo
Calendario	3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19 marzo ore 10-12
Destinatari	Studenti e studentesse di lingua cinese
Prenotazione richiesta (sì/no)	Sì
e-mail per prenotazioni	dguida@unior.it
Modalità di verifica	Consegna di una relazione scritta su tematiche assegnate entro 20 gg dal termine del seminario. La relazione va inviata a dguida@unior.it
Note	This graduate seminar examines the evolving relationship between state power, ritual practice, and religious belief in Chinese history, with particular attention to the transformation from imperial systems of worship to modern conceptions of "religion." The course consists of six sessions, each lasting two hours and comprising a lecture followed by group discussion. Through these thematic modules, we will investigate how state-sponsored rituals served as instruments of political legitimation, how these rituals were localized and embedded in everyday governance, and how the Western concept of zongjiao (religion) was introduced, contested, and redefined in late Qing and early Republican China. The six sessions are structured as follows:

1. State Rituals in Imperial China
2. Localizing State Rituals (I): The Case of the Altar of Agriculture
3. Localizing State Rituals (II): Rituals for the Dead and Vernacular Religion
4. Prison God Temples and Religious Practice within the Local Yamen
5. When “Religion” Entered China
6. The Development of Modern Confucianism: From “Religification” to Secularization

In conclusion, by examining a range of ritual sites—including Confucian temples, altars for the gods of soil, grain, and the dead, as well as shrines located within local yamen (government offices)—the course addresses both the institutional and grassroots dimensions of religious practice. In parallel, we will critically analyze how Confucianism, traditionally regarded as an ethical and political doctrine, was at times reformulated as a religion in modern efforts to reconstruct national identity.