

**Università degli Studi di Napoli "L'Orientale"**

Seminari transdisciplinari

a.a. 2024-25

h 15:00

# **Borderscapes**

## ***Resistenze subalterne***

Il Centro Studi Postcoloniali e di Genere (CSPG),  
in collaborazione con il Centro Studi sull'Africa Contemporanea (CeSac)

presenta

**ANDREA CASSATELLA**

Makerere Institute of Social Research,  
Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

**9 ottobre 2025 - h 12:30-14:30**

Stanza 4.15, IV piano, Palazzo Giusso - Largo S. Giovanni Maggiore, 30

**Beyond the Secular: Religion, Colonialism and Race**

Respondent

**Silvana Carotenuto**

This talk explores the contemporary intersections of religion and politics through Jacques Derrida's critique of secular discourse. It considers how the resurgence of public religions challenges modern epistemic and political models, and highlights secularism's colonial legacies, revealing the racial dimensions of its assumptions about language, knowledge, and religion that circulate globally through processes of globalization.

**10 ottobre 2025 - h 12:30-14:30**

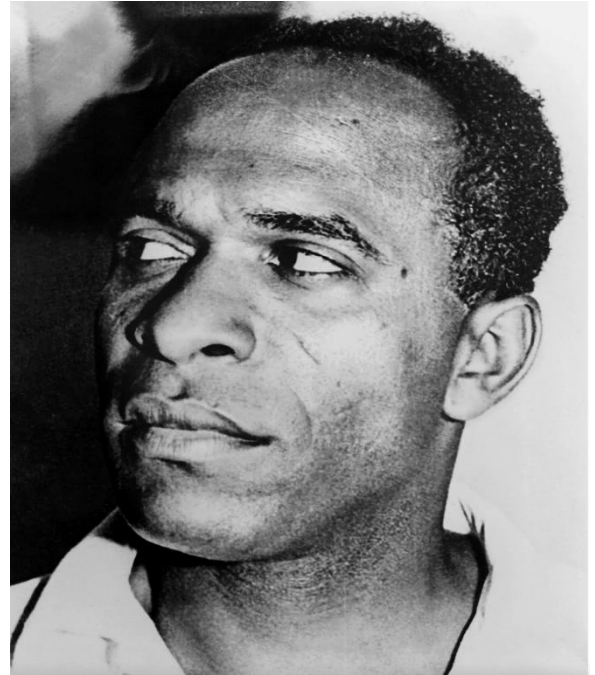
Sala Conferenze, II piano, Palazzo Corigliano - Piazza San Domenico Maggiore

**Psychic Life and Decolonization in Africa**

Respondent

**Simona Taliani**

This seminar examines the interplay between human psychology and decolonization in Africa through Frantz Fanon's psychiatric writings. Focusing on his clinical work in North Africa, it explores his approach to mental illness in relation to culture, knowledge, and epistemology. The seminar argues that Fanon's clinical insights are not only integral to his revolutionary project but also vital for understanding contemporary decolonization. A key point is that while liberation from colonial legacies is deeply political and material, it cannot succeed without addressing the psychological dimension.



**ANDREA CASSATELLA** is a Senior Research Fellow at the Makerere Institute of Social Research, Makerere University. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Philosophy from the University of Toronto and researches cultural and political theory, with a focus on the intersections of political, cultural, and psychic dimensions. He has held academic positions at the University of Toronto Scarborough and Al Quds University, and research fellowships at Columbia Global Centers | Amman, University of Cape Town, Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study, and the Merian Institute for

Advanced Studies in Africa. His recent book, *Beyond the Secular: Jacques Derrida and the Theological-Political Complex* (SUNY Press, 2023), accompanies numerous articles in journals including *Contemporary Political Theory*, *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, *Ratio Juris*, *African Studies*, and *Cultural Critique*. Before academia, he served as a Community Service Officer for UNHCR in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Djibouti.

