

## Monday, 15 May

2.00 pm Institutional greetings from the Department  
Director FRANCESCA SOFIA

2.30 pm **Introduction**  
FRANCESCA SBARDELLA  
GIUSEPPINA PAOLA VISCARDI

### SESSION I

*Religion as a Human Phenomenon*

Panel moderator: Roberto Brigati

2.45 pm ARMIN W. GEERTZ (Aarhus University),  
Lectio Magistralis: *A Biocultural Approach to  
Mysticism*

3.45 pm JEPPE S. JENSEN (Aarhus University),  
*Cognition in Religion as Social Facts*

4.15 pm LORENZO MAGNANI (Università di Pavia), *Faith  
and Its Pervertibility. Sacred and Sacrifice: The  
Violent Boundaries of Divinity*

4.45 pm Debate

8.00 pm Dinner

## Tuesday, 16 May

10.15 am Institutional greetings from  
FRANCESCA CENERINI - Section Coordinator  
of Storia antica  
CRISTIANA NATALI - Section Coordinator of  
Studi antropologici, orientali e storico-religiosi

### SESSION II

*At the Core of the Question*

Panel moderator: Laura Carnevale

10.30 am JESPER SØRENSEN (Aarhus University), *Why  
Cultures Persist? Towards a Cultural Immunology*

11.00 am ROBERTO ALCIATI (Università degli Studi di  
Firenze), *The Prehistory of the Cognitive Science  
of Religion: Notes from a Classroom*

11.30 am Coffee Break

12.00 am EMILIANO URCIUOLI (Università di Bologna),  
*"I get no thrill out of being called a scientist."  
Jonathan Z. Smith and the Cognitive Science of  
Religion*

1.00 pm Lunch

### SESSION III

*History and Science*

Panel moderator: Lia Giancristofaro

3.00 pm FRANCESCO PAOLO DE CEGLIA (Università  
degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro), *Criminals, Saints  
and some Vampires. The Limits of Nature and the  
Power of Death in Different Early Modern  
European Contexts*

3.30 pm LECH TRZCIONKOWSKI (Jagiellonian University  
in Kraków), *What kind of History does the Scientific  
Study of Religion need? Advances in Historiography,  
CSR and the Future of the Study of Religion(s)*

4.00 pm Coffee Break

4.30 pm LUCA ARCARI (Università di Napoli Federico II),  
*Brain, Mentality, Religions: Further on the  
Relationships between CSR and History of Religions*

5.00 pm Final debate and conclusion of the work



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA  
DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIA CULTURE CIVILTÀ

# RELIGION/S AND COGNITION THE MAKING OF A DIALOGUE

*INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE*

Reflections on Armin W. Geertz's  
*Approcci cognitivi ed evoluzionistici alla religione*,  
Bologna, Patron 2020

May 15-16, 2023

Aula Prodi

Dipartimento di Storia Culture Civiltà (DISCI)  
piazza San Giovanni in monte 2, Bologna

