

Call for Papers

On the Joint Practice of Conceptual History and the Study of Political Thought

CONCEPTA ONLINE SEMINAR

Monday and Tuesday, 8–9 January 2024

Concepta was set up in 2006 as International Research School in Conceptual History and Political Thought, within the framework of the History of Social and Political Concepts Group. A year before, their founding members organized the first Introduction to Conceptual History course at the University of Helsinki Summer School.

Ever since then, the Introduction to Conceptual History courses have taken place every year (in 2013 and 2014 at Aarhus, in 2015 at Copenhagen), with editions in Spanish at Argentinian and Mexican institutions since 2015, a 2023 edition in Istanbul on concepts in the Bengal to Balkans region, along with numerous research seminars and workshops.

The rhetorical or argumentative uses of concepts are diverse. They cover the many aspects of human interaction, from social and political to cultural, economic, legal, and scientific. The etymology of Concepta sheds light on its renewed uses in modern languages. *Concepta*, the neuter plural past participle of the Latin verb *concipere*, fairly means to say concepts, though the closest Latin term for concept is arguably *notio*. Yet, *concepta*, meaning the things conceived, bears a stronger expressive and phonetic force than the plural of *notio*, namely, *notiones*.

Concepta's mission goes beyond the reach of a mere description. It formulates a normative aim rendered by the association of conceptual history with political thought. By all means, it is possible to do research in either field independently. Most research in conceptual history deals indeed with issues other than political, whereas most research in political thought has been produced on the margins of conceptual history.

Focus

This seminar will explore the various linkages imaginable between conceptual history and political thought. It will delve around conditions, means, and ends of the joint practice of conceptual history focused on political thought, and the study of political thought informed by conceptual history. Their association remains a sign of methodological renewal and inspiration that challenges both scholarly practices and their correspondence in academic curricula. The seminar will inquire into the pros and cons of those interdisciplinary options, paying especial attention to their outcomes or consequences.

Proposals

We welcome paper proposals dealing with any of the issues mentioned above. Kindly send your paper proposal (abstract of up to 150 words, together with contact details) to the e-mail addresses of both conveners: José María Rosales (jmrosales@uma.es) and Rosario López (rosariols@uma.es)

Deadline for submitting paper proposals

Thursday, 30 November 2023

Organisers

CONCEPTA – *Research Seminars in Conceptual History and Political Thought*
Civic Constellation – University of Málaga

Conveners

José María Rosales and Rosario López, University of Málaga