

ADVANCED SEMINAR DATINI-ESTER FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORIANS

2024



Fondazione Istituto Internazionale di Storia economica "F. Datini"

and

European School for Training in Economic and Social Historical Research (ESTER)

Call for Papers

The Fondazione **Istituto Internazionale di Storia Economica "F. Datini"** and the **European School for Training in Economic and Social Historical Research (ESTER)** announce their ninth jointly-organized **Datini-ESTER** Advanced Seminar for economic and social historians on 12th-18th May 2024, in Prato (Italy). The topic of the seminar is:

"Social and geographic mobility"

ESTER, established in 1991, is an international postgraduate network incorporating more than 60 European Universities. ESTER organizes research training in the form of both the annual Research Design Course for starting PhD-students and a series of Advanced Seminars on special themes within economic and social history.

"F. Datini" International Institute of Economic History was founded in 1967 by Federigo Melis and Fernand Braudel. The aim of the Institute is the study of pre-industrial economic history (thirteenth-eighteenth centuries) and the creation on the topic of a space for historical culture, making comparison between different methodologies and schools of research easier and supporting young scholars during their formative years.

The topic of the Datini-Ester seminar is closely related to the theme of the congress yearly organized by the "F. Datini" International Institute of Economic History and devoted in 2024 to *Social Mobility in pre-industrial societies: tendencies, causes and effects (13th-18th centuries)*. The 2024 Datini-Ester seminar will deal with *Social and geographic mobility*. We particularly welcome papers on social and socio-economic mobility (both upward and downward) in different historical contexts, as well as on geographic mobility, that is migration (short- or long-distance). As is well known, across human history geographic mobility has often played a major role in shaping patterns of socio-economic mobility. Our purpose is to clarify the determinants, the

extent and the final consequences of mobility in different periods, across entire societies or regarding specific social groups. Papers can cover any relevant aspect and any period from Antiquity until today.

Description and organization of the Advanced Datini-ESTER Seminar

The seminar is jointly organized by the members of the board of the Datini-Ester Seminar: Guido Alfani (Fondazione Datini), Ben Gales (ESTER), Jaco Zuijderduijn (ESTER), Francesco Ammannati (Fondazione Datini). The members of the board, together with other colleagues, specialist in the field, will participate in the seminar as instructors.

The Datini-ESTER Advanced Seminar consists of two complementary parts:

- a) **the participation in the international Datini congress (LV Settimana di Studi)**, devoted in 2024 to *Social Mobility in pre-industrial societies: tendencies, causes and effects (13th-18th centuries)*. The congress will be held in Prato, from May 12 (opening 18.00 with the inaugural speech in the municipal building) until May 16 (afternoon) 2024. For information on the congress: <https://www.istitutodatini.it/temi/htm/temi55.htm>
- b) **a two-day workshop** from May 17 (morning) until May 18 (late afternoon), in a reserved room of the [Datini Palace in Prato](#).

The workshop will bring together a number of senior researchers from different countries. Prior to the workshop, students will be asked to prepare a paper. They will have the opportunity of presenting their research project dealing with one or more core problems of their research field and discussing them with both senior researchers and other fellow students. Each paper will be presented by the author during the seminar and then examined and discussed by one of the participating students and by one of the instructors, after which a general discussion among all participants will take place. The students will be guests of the Fondazione Istituto Internazionale di Storia Economica "F. Datini" from Sunday May 12 (in) until Sunday May 19 morning (out). On May 18, at the end of the seminar, the students will receive diplomas attesting their participation in the Datini congress and Datini-ESTER. **The diplomas will be delivered only to the students who will take part BOTH in the Datini congress AND the seminar.**

Besides providing a feedback opportunity for ongoing project on Social and geographic mobility, the seminar will provide the opportunity to attend the international Datini congress, and foster cooperation between economic and social historians coming from different countries.

This Advanced Datini-Ester Seminar is open to 15 PhD-students and Post-Docs (who finished their doctorate less than five years prior to the seminar).

Applications and admission:

Students should [apply online](#), and present a 800 words abstract of the content of their paper dealing with social and geographical mobility.

A first selection of students (by ESTER and Datini) will take place on the basis of the abstracts. After this stage, students who are accepted will be asked to draft their research paper.

The final admission to the course depends upon the following points:

- the student must meet the deadline for submission of his/her paper (whose deadline is the 15th of March 2024);
- the paper must be of sufficient academic quality and the level of the English used in the paper must be sufficient.

The language of the papers, such as that of the seminar, will be English.

Dates and location

The Advanced 2024 Seminar will take place in Prato, Italy, from May 12 (Sunday with the **inauguration of the congress**) to May 18 (Saturday), so the day of arrival will be Sunday May 12 and the departure Sunday morning May 19. Both the students and instructors will meet on Sunday evening (12th of May) at 7 pm o'clock for a dinner together (the place to be defined). **The seminar will start on Friday 17 at 9 am.** Students wishing to participate are requested to send their application no later than the **15th October 2023**. To this purpose the students will use the [online form](#). The selection of students will be completed by the end of October 2023. Deadline for submission of papers by accepted students is **March 15th 2024**. Following that date, the papers will be made available to all participants.

Application forms are available on the ESTER website

<https://posthumusinstitute.org/>

Dates: a summary (2023-24):

June 2023 - Call for Applications

15th October 2023 - Deadline for Applications

31st October 2023 - Selection completed, applicants informed

15th March 2024 - Deadline paper submission

31st March 2024 - Papers online for reading

12th May 2024 (morning or afternoon): arrival in Prato

12th May 2024 (18.00 inaugural speech in the municipal building)

13th-16th May (afternoon) 2024 – International Datini Congress

17th-18th May 2024 (late afternoon) – Advanced Seminar

18th May 2024 (end of the seminar) delivery of diplomas

19th May 2024 (morning) departure

Funding

Costs for accommodation and catering will be covered by the organizers. The organizers will not cover travel costs (possibly covered by students' home institutions). Travel arrangements to and from Prato have to be organized by the selected participants themselves.

The workshop will be funded by the **Fondazione Istituto Internazionale di Storia Economica "F. Datini"** and by the **ESTER Graduate School**.

Contact

For inquiries concerning this course, please contact ESTER:

ESTER/N.W. Posthumus Institute

Faculty of Arts

P.O. Box 9103

The Netherlands

E-mail: [**posthumus@uu.nl**](mailto:posthumus@uu.nl)

For inquiries concerning the hospitality in Prato, the students have to contact the secretary of the Datini Institute on the dates of their arrival and departure:

Letizia Finocchiaro - Istituto Internazionale di Storia Economica "F. Datini" di Prato

E-mail: [**letizia@istitutodatini.it**](mailto:letizia@istitutodatini.it)