

Ilaria Santoemma

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Professional Profile

Postdoc research fellow in political philosophy working at the intersection of feminist theory, political epistemology, and the politics of technology. My areas of specialization include Contemporary Political Philosophy, Posthuman Studies, Feminist Theory, and Gender and Women's Studies. My research bridges political philosophy with feminist epistemology, with an in-depth analysis of posthumanities and critical philosophy of technology, to develop conceptual tools for understanding ecological and socio-technical transformations, multispecies entanglements, and gendered dynamics of care, labour, and reproduction.

I have published on topic such as contemporary political subjectivity, Cyborg Theory, new forms of bio-labor and accumulation, and relationship between new technologies and design from a critical posthumanist perspective, New Materialism, and Social Reproduction Theory. Ph.D. in Political Philosophy in the international *Human Rights and Global Politics* program of Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, with a thesis entitled *A Cartography of the Posthumanities. From Epistemologies to Political Philosophy*, which won the Paola Bora Prize for the PhD thesis in Gender and Feminist Studies in the 2023 edition.

Academic Positions

2023–present — Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Political Philosophy, Dirpolis Institute, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa

2023–present — Adjunct Professor, Women and Social Sciences (GEMMA Master/LM), University of Bologna

2023–present — Module Coordinator & Lecturer, “Scienze” Module, Master in Gender Studies and Policies, University of Roma Tre

Education

Ph.D. in Political Philosophy – Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (2018–2022)

- Disciplinary Fields: Political Philosophy
- Areas of Scientific Inquiry: Political Epistemology, Gender Studies, Feminist Theories
- Research Title: *A Cartography of the Posthumanities. New Frames from Epistemology to Political Philosophy*
- Supervisor: Prof. Barbara Henry
- Final Assessment: With Honors

M.A. in Philosophical Sciences — University of Bologna (2018)

- Thesis Title: *Bodies, Subjectivities, and Markets in Biolabor. A Gender Perspective*
- Supervisors: Pros. Carla Faralli, Prof. Roberto Brigati, Dr. Angela Balzano
- Final Grade: 110/110 cum laude
- Disciplinary Area: Political and Legal Philosophy, Gender Studies

B.A. in Philosophy — University of Bologna (2017)

Academic Experience Abroad

2020 **Visiting Researcher**

Posthuman Research Institute, Brock University – St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada

Supervisor: Prof. Christine Daigle

2016 **Erasmus +,**

Estudios Avanzados en Filosofía, Universidad Complutense de Madrid – Madrid

Supervisor: Prof. César Ruiz Sanjuán

Honors & Awards

Paola Bora Prize (2023) – Best PhD dissertation in Gender and Feminist Theory

Serics Project, Spoke 1 Cybersecurity: Human, Social and Legal Challenge, Fellowship

Award (2024)

PRO3 National Project “Sostenibilità e Uguaglianza di Genere” Postdoctoral Research

Fellowship Award (2023)

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- “The non-human reproduction turn. Assessing ecofeminist perspectives and non-human agencies contributions in Social Reproduction Theory (SRT)”, *Filosofia e Questioni Pubbliche/Philosophy and Public Issue*, Monographic Issue “Critical and Normative Perspective on Work”, ed. Eleonora Piromalli. [double blind review accepted and forthcoming in 2026].
- “Posthumanities New Subjectivities. What contribution from Critical Feminist Posthumanism to the contemporary political philosophical debate?”, *Rivista Italiana di*

- Filosofia Politica*», *Special Issue Posthumanism and Political Philosophy*, Henry B., Cudworth E., Hobden S., (eds), n.8/2025; 55–79. <https://doi.org/10.36253/rifp-3332>;
- “From pervasive technologies to technology of the self. A counter-subjectivation argument for a shift in the critical theory of cyberspace”, *Soft Power. Rivista euro-americana de teoria e historia de la politica y del derecho*, monographic Issue “The New Digital Era” 22 (11,2) July-December 2024, pp. 49-68, doi: <https://doi.org/10.14718/SoftPower.2024.11.2.3>;
 - “Thinking-with Physalias. Towards a relational account of agency”, *Philosophy Kitchen. Rivista di Filosofia Contemporanea*, Call#19/Issue 11 “Fuori Tema”, pp. 149-166. <https://doi.org/10.13135/2385-1945/9382>;
 - “Pandemicity and Subjectivity: the posthumanist vulnerability of the zoe/geo/techno framed subject”, (with Daigle C.) *Matter. Journal of New Materialist Research*, Vol. 3 No. 2, Issue 6, 2022; pp. 86-112.
 - “Postumano”, *Liberazioni. Rivista di Critica Antispecista*, XIII, n. 50, 2021, pp. 77-78.
 - “Haraway con Barad. Per un neomaterialismo postumanista”, *Quaderni Materialisti*, Edizioni Mimesis, D'Angelo L., Pozzoni G., Pinzolo L. (eds) “Nuovo Materialismo”, n. 20/2021; pp. 139-158.
 - “Intelligenza Artificiale: una prospettiva femminista. Dialogo con Marzia Vaccari” *Arel. La Rivista*, 1, 2020; pp. 169-174.
 - “Genetic Enhancement and the CRISPR-CAS9 case. An Attempt for an Agency Approach”, (with Capasso M.), *Ramon Llull Journal of Applied Ethics*, Vol. 11. Issue 1; 2020; pp. 307-331.
 - “My Mother was a... Cyborg. Tecnologia e soggettività ibride a confronto”, *Scienza & Filosofia*, n.23, 2020; 127-141.

Book Chapters & Editorial Work

- “Lines of Flights: Feminist Epistemologies for Gendering Science and Changing the System”, with Balzano A. [book chapter] in Solera C., Naldini M. (eds.), *Gender Inequality in Research and Science: A Multilevel Analysis Across Europe*, M., Edward Elgar, [Forthcoming, Jan 2026].
- “Posthuman Turn. Genealogie e differenze del Postumanesimo”, [book chapter] in Bernava C., De Fazio G. (eds.), *Soglie della visibilità. Ecologie, consumi e sensibilità*, Ventura Edizioni, Ancona, 2024; pp- 99-132.
- “Tecnoποίηση: dalla post-fenomenologia all’approccio postumanista femminista. Appunti per una teoria critica del design tecnologico”, in Henry B., Vaccaro S. (eds.), *Tecnologia, Politica e Società*, Mimesis, Milano, 2024; pp. 103-118; ISBN 9791222305196.

- “Introduzione. Com/pensare la cura transpecie”, (with Balzano A., Bosisio E.) in *Pinguini, Conchiglie e Staminali. Verso futuri transpecie*. DeriveApprodi, Roma, 2022; pp. 5-31.
- “Cartografia”, in *Abecedario del Postumanismo*, Baioni E., Cuadrado Payer L., Macelloni M., (eds.) Milano: Mimesis, 2021; pp. 96-97.
- “Alterità”, in *Abecedario del Postumanismo*, Baioni E., Cuadrado Payer L., Macelloni M., (eds.) Milano: Mimesis, 2021; pp. 38-39.
- “Biolavoro. La riproduzione fra neofondamentalismo e nuove tecnologie”, in Cirillo L., (eds.) *Se il mondo torna uomo. Le donne e la regressione in Europa*, Edizioni Alegre; Roma: 2018; pp. 79-91.
- Editorial work: *Pinguini, Conchiglie e Staminali. Verso futuri transpecie*. With Balzano A., Bosisio E., Roma, DeriveApprodi, 2022.

Selected Conference Presentations

- *The non-human reproduction turn. Assessing ecofeminist/posthumanist perspectives in SRT*, 19th ISEE Conference - 11th International Degrowth Conference, Campus Blindern, Oslo, Norway, June 24-27, 2025.
- *Inquadramento filosofico-politico del Cyberspace. Chiarificazione concettuale, conflittualità e critica dei processi di smaterializzazione*. Barbara Henry, Ilaria Santoemma, SERICS/CybeRights Spoke 1, WP4, Deliverable draft, 16/06/2025.
- *Per una lettura filosofico-politica del Cyberspace. Autonomia, governamentalità e critica dei processi di smaterializzazione*. Barbara Henry, Ilaria Santoemma, Presentazione attività di ricerca area Filosofia Politica Workshop SERICS/CybeRights 11/12/2024.
- *From bodies to matter. Thinking technology, agency and biology from a feminist perspective*, International Conference “Feminist Epistemologies, Methodologies and Methods in the Social Sciences”, Faculty of Political and Social Sciences, Scuola Normale Superiore, Firenze, 14-15 Novembre 2024.
- *Posthumanities’ New Subjectivities. What contribution from Critical Feminist Posthumanism to the contemporary political philosophical debate*, paper presentation nel contesto del Workshop “Posthumanism(s) and Political Philosophy: a work-in-progress”, co-organizzato con Prof. Barbara Henry, Prof. Stephen Hobden, Prof. Erica Cudworth; Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, 8/11/2024.
- *The non-human reproduction turn. Social reproduction theory facing posthumanism and ecofeminism*, International Conference 14th “Braga Meetings on Ethics and Political Philosophy”, 26-28/06/2024, Universidad do Minho, Braga, Portogallo.
- Relazione: *Gender Equality e Politiche Accademiche*, Final Conference PRO3 Project “Sostenibilità e Diseguaglianza di Genere” (PI Prof.ssa Loretoni) Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna e Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa e Firenze, 24 Gennaio 2024.

- *Cartografie del Postumanesimo. Epistemologie politiche, femminismi e ibridazioni* – Ilaria Santoemma, Chair Barbara Henry, Seminario di Ricerca, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, 27/02/2024.
- *Gender and labour in the history of women reproductive workers*, “Gender and Labour Seminars” *Women’s work labour and precarity: Italy an historical perspective* 14/02/2023, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna
- *Il femminismo post-fordista. Ridefinire il lavoro di cura dalla femminilizzazione al biolavoro globale*, con Cristina Morini, “Gender and Labour Seminars”, 27/03/2023, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna.
- *Thinking-with Physalia*, Panel “Posthuman Symptoieisis” (Balzano A., Bosisio E., Mazzella B., Santoemma I.), 11th EFRC – European Feminist Conference – *Social Change in a Feminist Perspective*, University of Milano Bicocca 15/18 June 2022

Selected Invited Talks

- *Carla Lonzi: la differenza e l'emersione del soggetto politico* nel Seminario: “Il pensiero imprevisto. Carla Lonzi tra critica d’arte e rivoluzione femminista” organizzato da FUEL (Feminist and Queer Philosophy Lab) Università degli Studi di Milano, 8 maggio 2025.
- “Discussione a partire dal volume di Carla Lonzi *Sputiamo su Hegel e altri scritti*”, Political Philosophy Seminar, Prof. Filippo Del Lucchese, University of Bologna 12/03/2024.
- *From New Materialism to New technologies*, [Invited Speaker] “Posthumanities, New Materialism and Diffractive Reading Around and Within Literature”, March 15th 2024, Doctoral Workshop EDGES, Lilec Department, University of Bologna.
- *Dal Cyborg alla farfalla monarca. Introduzione al pensiero di Donna Haraway*, nel contesto del Corso in Antropologia Ambientale, Prof. Lorenzo D’Angelo, presso Sapienza - Università di Roma; 20/10/2022.

Teaching Experience

2023- present: Instructor of Record/Professor - Women and Social Sciences, University of Bologna

2022-present: Instructor of Record - “Scienze” Module, Gender Studies and Politics Master, University of Roma Tre

Teaching Assistant — Ethics and Politics in Gender Studies, Univ. of Bologna (2016–2019)

Professional Service & Memberships

Organizing Committee and Teaching coordinator:

- Seasonal School in Gender Studies (2024, present) Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies

- Gender & Labour Research Group (2023, present) Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies
- Seasonal School in Cybersecurity (2023) Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies
- Master in Gender Studies and Politics (2022, present)

Member:

- Italian Society for Women in Philosophy - SWIP
- Società Italiana di Filosofia Politica- SIFP
- Posthuman Research Institute (Brock University, Canada)

Languages

Italian (native)

English (C1)

Spanish (B2)

Affiliations

Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa; Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna

References:

Prof. Barbara Henry (PhD Supervisor);

Prof. Anna Loretoni (Postdoctoral Supervisor);

Prof. Christine Daigle (Visiting Research Supervisor);

Prof. Federica Giardini (PhD Thesis Reviewer);

Dr. Angela Balzano (Teaching and Research Supervisor);

Prof. Carla Faralli (MA Thesis Advisor);

Prof. Giovanni Giorgini (BA Thesis Advisor).