CIVILISATIONS AND FORMS OF KNOWLEDGE
The CFS Department conducts high-level research in a variety of fields. Thus, we present here only the main project that has been awarded among the “departments of excellence”

The project *The time of structures. Resilience, acceleration and perception of changes (in the Euro-Mediterranean space)* studies the structural changes in past and present societies, reflecting on the speed of changes and the resistances and responses to it. To take full advantage of the resources of the Department, we have chosen an interdisciplinary approach. We want to develop a clearer common identity to link up excellence research already carried out in the DCFS. The project is divided into four lines of research.
RESEARCH PROJECTS

**Accelerations and resilience: dynamics of expansion and growth processes in the Early States and in the empires of Ancient World**

The research themes are the expansion dynamics of the Early States and examples of accelerating economic growth in the Ancient World.

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**Accelerations and resilience: the making of the Middle Ages (10th-12th centuries)**

The aim of the research is to elaborate a new way of framing the transition from the Early to the High Middle Ages, which connects the multiple structural changes between 10th and 12th centuries.

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**Accelerations and resilience: times and concepts of modernization**

In order not to trivialize and restore complexity to the theme of modernization, two lines of research will be followed: (a) the awareness that contemporaries had of the historical diversity of their age; (b) the complex relationship between change and resistance/resilience at the level of political and cultural structures.

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**Communication and propaganda in the Late Modern and Contemporary Period. Structures, persistence, reception**

The project will analyze four essential structures of mass societies (technological, institutional, discursive and ideal structures) through a study of the innovation/persistence dialectics, which will cover three main chronological phases (from the late 1700s to the First World War; interwar period; after 1945).

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**CIVILISATIONS AND FORMS OF KNOWLEDGE**

[https://www.cfs.unipi.it/dipartimento/dipartimento-di-eccellenza/progetto-di-ricerca/](https://www.cfs.unipi.it/dipartimento/dipartimento-di-eccellenza/progetto-di-ricerca/)
RESEARCH IMPACT

Local

Improve research quality in the disciplinary areas of the DCFS involved in the project.

Develop multidisciplinary research, integrating different specialist knowledge towards a common objective in order to achieve quality results, with a degree of reliability superior to that which would be obtained from studies conducted independently by each of the different experts.

Keep the DCFS research in line with the best international standards.

General

In the light of the present historical moment, we intend to analyze the migration phenomena of masses of populations and the consequent social and environmental changes in a wide chronological period (from antiquity to the present day). Even though such analyses will not provide a remedy for present concerns, they will provide fruitful theoretical hypotheses that will allow us to better understand those phenomena.

Education

Promote the excellence from an educational point of view, through multidisciplinary actions aimed at qualifying the University educational and training path.

Growth of attractiveness towards students and young researchers, both Italian and non-Italian.

https://www.cfs.unipi.it/dipartimento/terza-missione/

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