



Giovedì 25 Settembre 2025 alle ore 11:00 presso l'aula I

**il Dr. Salvatore Caterino**

Institute für Naturwissenschaft in der Kunst,  
Akademie der bildenden Künste  
Vienna, Austria

terrà il seminario dal titolo:

## **Iron-gall inks chemistry: Chemical characteristics and behavior of iron-polyphenolic coordination compounds**

*La presenza della S. V. sarà molto gradita*

Iron-gall inks (IGI) were among the most widely used writing materials in antiquity. From the 11th–12th centuries onward, they spread throughout Europe and the Mediterranean, serving as the primary medium for manuscripts of diverse types, including those of significant historical and artistic value. However, their use is strongly associated with pronounced degradation phenomena, which has long attracted scholarly attention to their chemistry and mechanisms of deterioration.

This lecture will provide a general overview of IGI chemistry, with particular attention to the variability in their composition and the resulting degradation patterns, and how these factors contribute to manuscript deterioration. This theoretical framework will highlight the current state of knowledge on IGI and explain the growing research interest in this field.

In addition, results from the FWF-funded project “Synergetic interactions in writing materials”, a project developed at the Academy of Fine Arts of Vienna in collaboration with the DiSC of Padua University, will be presented. This section will focus on the study of degradation patterns, emphasizing the new methodological approaches employed.