

MOBILITY STUDIES TRAINING SEMINAR

10-11 JANUARY 2022

Researching in XIX century international telecommunications

Objective

The main aim of the seminar is describing the methodology, the sources and the results of a broad historical research about telecommunications in Europe during the second half of XIX century (2nd industrial revolution).

Teacher

From 2003 to 2015, Simone Fari studied the institution and the development of telegraph in Europe, using a broad range of historical sources stored in some prestigious museums and archives. In particular, he studied: 1) the Italian telegraph service (1861-1914); 2) the early private telegraph companies in United Kingdom (1840-1869); 3) the International Telegraph Union (1865-1914). The results of his researches have been published in three monographies and in many articles and book chapters.

Content

1. Methodology and research objectives

The teacher will explain the first stage of a research: 1) the use of a scientific approach and, consequently, the choice of a methodology; 2) the definition of the research objectives and the elaboration of a research plan. The teacher will use its own experience as a case study.

2. Historical sources

This part describes the main historical sources used during the teacher researches. He will show some primary sources: 1) original telegraph companies documents stored in British Telecom archives; 2) artefacts (and related files) stored in the Science Museum in London; 4) personal files belonging to telegraph inventors and entrepreneurs, stored in IET archive in London; 5) original International Telegraph Union correspondence and administrative documents stored in ITU archives in Geneva.

3. Elaboration and implementation of the research

This part describes the third stage of a historical research: the elaboration of the data collected. The teacher will illustrate how the historical sources have been used to fulfil the research objective.

4. Final results

The last stage of a research is the elaboration of some final results which usually are conference papers, articles, book chapters and books. The teacher will show the different purpose of each kind of publication and he will describe how a scholar publish and spread the final results of its own research.

Time schedule

10 January 2022 from 9.30 to 12.30

11 January 2022 from 9.30 to 12.30

Location

On campus: Sala Bortolami, Palazzo Jonoch, via del Vescovado 30, Padova

Online: Zoom link to be confirmed