

INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN PRAGMATISM



About Us

The Institute for Studies in Pragmatism is the first and oldest organized center for research on the life and works of American physicist, mathematician, logician and engineer Charles Sanders Peirce (1839-1914), one of the greatest interdisciplinary scientists in history.

Its mission is to provide a collaborative space and intellectual network to experience the immediate benefits of cross-disciplinary research.



XXV World Congress of Philosophy Philosophy Across Boundaries Rome, Italy August 1st-8th, 2024

Charles S. Peirce &...

People, Problems and Scientific Disciplines in His Time and Beyond

Peirce's initial formation was in the sciences, with a strong education in chemistry, physics and mathematics. His encounter with philosophy came later. He worked as a geodetic engineer for thirty years (1859-1891) and also taught logic at various universities (including Harvard and Johns Hopkins) for twenty years (1864-1884). As reflected in his life's work and writings (published and unpublished) interdisciplinarity for Peirce was a *modus vivendi*, a research perspective and theoretical priority. His pragmatism evolved from his vocation for dialogue across boundaries through theory and practice, implicating the sciences, philosophy and life under different aspects. The complexity of his work emerges from a polymorphic context, with foundations in dialogue between the hard sciences, the life sciences and the human sciences. Peirce's research has had a significant impact on the international scholarly community and continues to inspire emerging research trajectories, fields and disciplines. Such concepts as "tychasm", "ananchasm", and "agapasm" spawned in the framework of his evolutionary metaphysics, or his "induction", "deduction", "abduction" in logic and argumentation are not only relevant to the special sciences, but to beliefs, preferences and standpoints in everyday life and social practice. From such a perspective the relation between signs and values is centrally important. In fact, growing devastation and crisis – human, economic and ecological – render encounter among science, philosophy, social practice and values ever more urgent. Peirce's work overall provides a signpost for different pathways across inter-multi-trans-disciplinary dimensions fostering dialogue and encounter in otherness.

Within the context of the XXV World Congress of Philosophy, "Philosophy across Boundaries", this Round Table is dedicated to Charles S. Peirce, his life and works. Contributions different disciplines and perspectives will reflect on Peirce's interdisciplinary approach to signs and semeiosis in science, philosophy and life.

Conference location:
Sapienza University of Rome
Rome, Italy