



**Prof. Fabio Zampieri**  
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Fabio Zampieri is Associate Professor of History of Medicine at the Department of Cardiac, Thoracic, Vascular Sciences and Public Health of the University of Padua. Before starting his carrier there, he worked at the Geneva Institute of History of Medicine in Switzerland and at the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, University College of London, UK. His principal fields of research are the contributions of evolutionary biology in the medical sciences, the history of pathology, and the history of Padua's medical school.



Medieval and Renaissance Studies  
Organized by Prof. Giovanni Spani



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# "The Golden Age of the University of Padua Medical School"

The University of Padua, founded in 1222, is one of the oldest universities in the world. During its long history, it hosted many eminent figures in all fields of science and humanities, such as Pietro Bembo (poet and linguists), Giacomo Casanova (humanist), Pietro Arduino (botanist), Nicolaus Copernicus (astronomer and physician), Elena Cornaro Piscopia (philosopher and the first woman to earn a doctorate in the western world), Galileo Galilei (mathematician and astronomer), Andrea Vesalius (father of modern anatomy), and Giovanni Battista Morgagni (father of pathology). Historically speaking, the 'Golden Age' of the University of Padua lasted from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century, a period during which the Most Serene Republic of Venice made it the preminent cultural institution of the whole Republic. Venetian administrators recruited the most talented professors in all of Europe and gave the University great freedoms, including the right to oversee its own research and teaching. After the fall of the Serenissima, the University of Padua maintained a prominent role in several fields in the sciences and humanities. Indeed, it remains to this day one of the most prestigious centres of learning in the world and continues its uninterrupted tradition of liberty and independence of thought. Not by chance, our motto remains 'universa universis patavina libertas', meaning 'the freedom of Padua is universal and for everyone'.

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**Zoom link:**

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