

## TRACING TRAITS

### in linguistics, economics, and evolutionary biology

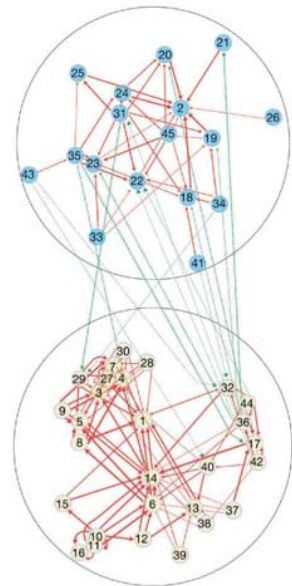
An interdisciplinary workshop

**Federica Da Milano** Linguist, University of Milano Bicocca  
**Nicoletta Puddu** Linguist, University of Cagliari  
**Fabrizio Panebianco** Economist, University of Milano Bicocca  
**Emanuele Serrelli** Philosopher of Biology, University of Milano Bicocca

Thursday, December 13, 2pm-5pm  
 Room U6/3061

#### Abstract

The seminar will present and compare the methods used in linguistics, economics, and evolutionary biology to study traits in their different domains: language features, behaviors and beliefs, genes and phenotypic characteristics. Federica Da Milano and Nicoletta Puddu will present phylogenetic models of language change and illustrate them with the particular geo-linguistic case of Sardegna. Fabrizio Panebianco will outline evolutionary kinds of models in economics. Emanuele Serrelli will explain tree and network analyses used to study shared traits and contacts between organisms. The open discussion will bring some reflections on the transfer of models and ideas between different fields, bringing about productive interchange with the participants and the audience of different specializations.



#### CISEPS

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The seminar is part of the CISEPS project “**The diffusion of cultural traits**”, whose goal is to trigger interdisciplinary debates, emphasizing common problems and peculiarities among economics, philosophy, anthropology, geography, history, biology and many more fields. Thinking in terms of cultural traits – i.e., characters depending in some way on social learning – doesn’t imply exhaustion of cultural processes; rather, it means thinking critically to scientific models and metaphors for studying culture.

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