Code B_2764

Code B_2/64	
Department	Social and Political Sciences
UniCa reference person	Marco Pitzalis
Project title in English	Epistemologies at the margins
Project title in Italian	Epistemologie ai margini
Subject area of reference (World University Ranking)	SOCIAL SCIENCES (inc. Education, Law, Politics & International Studies, Sociology, Psychology, Geography)
Project summary and VPS' profile	"The 'epistemological crisis' in the social sciences is at the center of a vibrant international debate. The key question driving this debate pertains to sociology's capacity to formulate paradigms capable of comprehending the complexity of the contemporary times and spaces we inhabit. This inquiry becomes even more pressing in an era where even 'hyper-constructivist' epistemological paradigms are approaching their limits. These limits arise, for instance, from the scepticism surrounding the possibility of attaining stable and shared knowledge, and consequently, establishing a scientific community as a reference point. Historically, the field of sociology has been structured around oppositions and crises often, as Bourdieu reminds us, fictitious ones. However, today, we find ourselves compelled to initiate an epistemological departure from the dominant and homogenising model of neoliberal reason and its associated paradigms. These paradigms have demonstrated their inability to offer credible solutions to the contemporary challenges faced by societies, especially in the realms of the environment and migration. It is imperative to engage in critical reflection on epistemologies that have sought to universalize forms of knowledge and experiences calibrated predominantly to the Global North contexts. This analysis should reveal the mechanisms by which dominant epistemologies generate and portray specific "dominated" knowledge, research, contexts, and methodologies as either non-existent or imperceptible. Furthermore, it should map out emerging modes of anti-hegemonic experiences through a broader representation of knowledge, practices, and actors in the field. In this context, the visiting professor will be tasked with presenting a seminar program for doctoral students and faculty.
Proposed length of stay	Long visit of 1 month
Expected period of activity	Fall 2024
Academic position of the VPS'	Professor
Course of Study	Dottorato di ricerca (PhD Course)
Language of instruction	English