

**Lecture Series on Buddhist Modernisms organized by Prof. Ester Bianchi (Perugia)  
Palazzo Stocchi, Piazza Morlacchi 30, Perugia (also online)**

By ‘Buddhist modernism’ we refer to forms of Buddhism that developed in the nineteenth century and afterward as a response to the spread of ideas drawn from Western modernity. The variety of aspects and local developments involved include the use of a text-oriented approach, the adoption of a modern notion of Buddhism as a world religion and opposed to the category of superstition, the search for a ‘pure’ and ‘original’ Buddhism, an emphasis on meditation, on rationality and on a modern scientific approach, discourses on gender equality and egalitarianism, the establishment of modern forms of education for the clergy, the urge for a social and/or political engagement of the Buddhist clergy, as well as increased involvement of the laity and a connection with nationalism, etc. This course will introduce Buddhist Modernism through a selection of case studies in China, Nepal, India, and the West.

• **Friday, November 18, h. 16:30. Alexander Von Rospatt (University of California, Berkeley):**

“Buddhism and Modernism. With a Focus on Nepal”

• **Friday, November 25, 16:30. Ester Bianchi (University of Perugia):**

“Buddhist Modernism in China: Impact on Vinaya and Meditation”

• **Tuesday, November 29, 16:30. Daniela Campo (University of Strasbourg):**

“Modern Chinese Buddhism and Education. With a Focus on the Jiangxi Dajinshan Buddhist Academy for Nuns”

• **Friday, December 2, 16:30. Francesca Tarocco (Ca’ Foscari University):**

“Multispecies Ecojustice in Modern Chinese Buddhism”

• **Tuesday, December 6, 16:30. Federico Squarcini (Ca’ Foscari University):**

“Opium, Samādhi and Capital. The Future of ‘Today’s Buddhism’, between Buddha, Leopardi, Marx and Ambedkar”