

**UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO**

selezione pubblica per n. 1 posto di Ricercatore a tempo determinato ai sensi dell'art.24, comma 3, lettera b) della Legge 240/2010 per il settore concorsuale 11/C5, settore scientifico-disciplinare M-FIL/08 - Storia della Filosofia Medievale presso il Dipartimento di FILOSOFIA "PIERO MARINETTI", (avviso bando pubblicato sulla G.U. n. 17 del 02/03/2021) Codice concorso 4540

## Tommaso Alpina

### CURRICULUM VITAE

**INFORMAZIONI PERSONALI**

COGNOME	ALPINA
NOME	TOMMASO
DATA DI NASCITA	02/10/1986

**Personal Information**

Nationality:	Italian
Languages:	Italian (mothertongue), English, French, German, Classical Arabic, Ancient Greek, Latin, Persian (basic)
Areas of specialization:	Islamic Medieval philosophy, Latin Medieval philosophy, Late-Ancient philosophy, History of science, History of medicine
Areas of competence:	Ancient Philosophy, Democritus, Plato, Aristotle, Theory of emotions, Ethics, Theories of Knowledge

**Current and Previous Positions**

Oct. 2018 – present:	<b>Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter (Postdoctoral fellow)</b> , MUSAPh, LMU, Munich  Project of research: The reception of Aristotelian zoology in Avicenna's <i>Kitāb al-Ḥayawān</i> ( <i>Book of Animals</i> )  within the ERC Advanced Grant 786762, <i>Animals in the Philosophy of the Islamic World</i> (PI: Prof. Dr. P. Adamson)
Dec. 2014 – Sept. 2018:	<b>Assegnista di Ricerca (Postdoctoral fellow)</b> , Classe di lettere e filosofia (Department of Humanities), Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa  Project of research: The relationship between psychology and metaphysics in Avicenna, with a particular focus on the study of the manuscripts of Avicenna's <i>Ilāhiyyāt</i> containing also his <i>Kitāb al-Nafs</i> ( <i>Book of the Soul</i> )  within the ERC Advanced Grant 339621, <i>Philosophy on the Border of Civilizations and Intellectual Endeavours: Towards a Critical Edition of the Metaphysics (Ilāhiyyāt of Kitāb al-Šifā')</i> of Avicenna ( <i>Ibn Sīnā</i> ) (PI: Prof. Dr. A. Bertolacci)

## Education

---

- Nov. 2010 – Oct. 2016: **Ph.D. in Philosophy summa cum laude**  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
- Title of the dissertation: “Subject, Definition, Activity. The Epistemological Status of the Science of the Soul in Avicenna’s *Kitāb al-Nafs*” (supervisor: A. Bertolacci)
- Oct. 2005 – Sept. 2010: **Diploma di licenza in Filosofia (High-level university qualification in Philosophy) summa cum laude**  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
- Title of the dissertation: “Aristotle’s Definition of the Soul in Averroes’ *Short, Middle and Long Commentary* on the *De anima*. An Annotated Translation with Glossary of the Relevant Parts of Averroes’ Exegesis” (supervisor: A. Bertolacci)
- Oct. 2008 – Sept. 2010: **Laurea specialistica in Filosofia e forme del sapere (MA in Philosophy) summa cum laude**  
Università di Pisa
- Title of the dissertation: “Avicenna’s *De anima* between Aristotelian Inheritance and Late-Ancient Mediation. Avicenna’s Synthesis of the Notions of Substance and Perfection” (with an entire annotated translation of the first treatise of Avicenna’s *Kitāb al-Nafs* (in Italian)) (supervisors: A. Bertolacci; G. Fioravanti)
- Oct. 2005 – Sept. 2008: **Laurea triennale in Filosofia (BA in Philosophy) summa cum laude**  
Università di Pisa
- Title of the dissertation: “Defining, Classifying, Describing. Dialectics in Augustine’s Early Dialogues” (in Italian) (supervisors: F. Del Punta; G. Fioravanti)
- Oct. 2005: **Admission to the Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa**  
Admission by national competition,  
24 places for the Humanities, **9<sup>th</sup> place**
- Sept. 2000 – Jul. 2005: **Maturità Classica (High school diploma), final grade: 100/100**  
Liceo Classico “Francesco De Sanctis”, Trani

## Grants and Scholarships

---

- May 2020: *Fritz Thyssen Stiftung*
- Fundings for the Organization of the Conference “Medieval Arabic and Latin Conceptions of Spirit: Between Philosophy, Theology, and Medicine” (<https://www.fritz-thyssen-stiftung.de/en/funding/funded-projects/>)  
(budget: 6500 €)

Nov. 2017:	<i>Premio ‘La Colombaria’</i> Accademia Toscana di Scienze e Lettere ‘La Colombaria’, Florence Prize for the Best PhD thesis in the section of Historical and Philosophical Sciences
Sept. 2015 – Dec. 2016:	<i>Young Scholar Grant – GR15_A_ALPINA</i> Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa  Title of the research project: “Psychology and Medicine between Arabic and Latin. Internal Senses and Cardiology in a Key Work of the Arabic-Latin Translation Movement of the 12 <sup>th</sup> century” (budget: 10.000 € – maximum achievable funding)
May – Jul. 2014:	<i>École Normale Supérieure, Rue d’Ulm (Paris)</i> Visiting Student
Oct. 2013 – Apr. 2014:	<i>École Normale Supérieure, Lyon</i> Visiting Student
Jan. – Jul. 2013:	<i>University of Cambridge, St. John’s College</i> Visiting Student
Sept. – Dec. 2012:	<i>University of Jordan, Amman</i> 4 month intensive language programme in Arabic Language Final mark: 95/100
Nov. 2010 – Oct. 2013:	<i>Scuola Normale Superiore</i> Fully funded PhD Scholarship
Jul. 2011:	<i>Premio Antonella Musu</i> Università di Pisa Prize for the Best MA Thesis in Philosophy
Oct. 2005 – Sept. 2010:	<i>Scuola Normale Superiore</i> Fully funded Undergraduate Scholarship

## Memberships

---

2019 – present:	Société Internationale d’Histoire des Sciences et de la Philosophie Arabes et Islamiques (S. I. H. S. P. A. I.)
2019 – present:	Member of the S. I. H. S. P. A. I. Executive Council
2013 – present:	Medieval Philosophy in the UK

## Organized Conferences

---

6-7 Nov. 2020 (postponed to November 2021 due to Covid 19):	(with B. Somma) <i>Medieval Arabic and Latin Conceptions of Spirit: Between Philosophy, Theology, and Medicine</i> , International Conference LMU – Munich
--	--

27-29 Jun. 2018: (with A. Bertolacci) *Making the Impossible Possible. On the Methodology for Editing Medieval Works with Massive Manuscript Tradition*, International Conference  
Scuola Normale Superiore – Pisa/School for Advanced Studies IMT – Lucca

## Teaching Experience

---

Nov. 2016 – July. 2017: **Instructor** Arabic Language (Intermediate level) and Islamic Philosophy – 20 hours per semester  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

Arabic morphology and syntax  
Introduction to the *Qur'ān*  
Avicenna's science of the soul (excerpts from the *Kitāb al-Nafs*, *Book of the Soul*)

Nov. 2015 – July 2016: **Instructor** Arabic Language (Intermediate level) and Islamic Philosophy – 20 hours per semester  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

Arabic morphology and syntax  
Introduction to the *Qur'ān*  
The technical terminology of the *falsafa*: the case of Avicenna's *Ilāhiyyāt* ([*Book of*] *Divine Things*), I, 4

## Workshops

---

Sept. 2010: “The Manuscript Tradition of Avicenna's *Kitāb al-Šifā'*. The Current State of Research and Future Prospects”. International Colloquium (org. A. Bertolacci)  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

Jun. 2009: “Reading Arabic Manuscripts: The Witness and the Text” (Prof. Dr. A. Gacek, McGill University)  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa – Biblioteca Laurenziana

Jun. 2008: “Arabic Manuscripts Studies: An Introduction” (Prof. Dr. A. Gacek, McGill University)  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa – Biblioteca Laurenziana

Dec. 2007: “Reading Greek and Latin Manuscripts” (Dr. C. E. L. Luna)  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

Dec. 2006: “Reading Greek and Latin Manuscripts” (Dr. C. E. L. Luna)  
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa

## Publications

---

### Books

1. *Subject, Definition, Activity. Framing Avicenna's Science of the Soul*, Scientia Graeco-Arabica series 28, De Gruyter, Berlin-Boston 2021
2. Avicenna (Ibn Sīnā), *Book of the Soul (Kitāb al-Nafs)*, English annotated translation with Arabic-English glossary, and index of authors and works (in progress)

3. Avicenna (Ibn Sīnā), *Book of Plants (Kitāb al-Nabāt)*, English annotated translation with Arabic-English glossary, and index of authors and works (in progress)

#### ***Edited volumes***

4. (with A. Bertolacci), *Documenti e studi sulla tradizione filosofica medievale*, 28, 2017 (special issue: The Latin Translations of Avicenna's *Kitāb al-Šifā'* [*Book of the Cure/Healing*])

#### ***Articles***

5. "A Plant in Itself, a Medicament for Us: Temperament Interactions in Avicenna's Botany", *Early Science and Medicine*, forthcoming (2021)
6. "Exercising Impartiality to Favor Aristotle: Avicenna and "the accomplished anatomists" (*aṣḥāb al-taṣrīḥ al-muḥaṣṣilūna*) in *Ḥayawān*, III, 1", *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy. A Historical Journal*, forthcoming (2021)
7. "The Soul of, the Soul in Itself, and the Flying Man Experiment", *Arabic Sciences and Philosophy. A Historical Journal*, 28.2, 2018, 187-224
8. "Knowing the Soul from Knowing Oneself. A Reading of the Prologue to Avicenna's *Kitāb al-Nafs (Book of the Soul)*", *Atti e Memorie dell'Accademia Toscana di Scienze e Lettere 'La Colombaria'*, 82 (68), 2018, 443-458 [with the English translation of *Nafs*, Prologue]
9. "Al-Ġūzġānī's Insertion of *On Cardiac Remedies* in Avicenna's *Book of the Soul* : the Latin Translation as a Clue to his Editorial Activity on *the Book of the Cure?*", *Documenti e studi sulla tradizione filosofica medievale*, 28, 2017, 365-400
10. (with A. Bertolacci), "Introduction", *Documenti e studi sulla tradizione filosofica medievale*, 28, 2017, vii-xviii
11. "Intellectual Knowledge, Active Intellect and Intellectual Memory in Avicenna's *Kitāb al-Nafs* and Its Aristotelian Background", *Documenti e studi sulla tradizione filosofica medievale*, 25, 2014, 131-183

#### ***Book chapters***

12. "Something went Wrong. Avicenna on Monstrous Generation in *Ḥayawān*, XVII-XVIII", in M. Benedetto, R. De Filippis, *Monsters and Monstrous Generation*, Pagina di Quaestio, Bari, forthcoming (2021)
13. "Retaining, Remembering, Recollecting. Avicenna's Account of Memory and Its Sources", in V. Decaix, C. Thomsen Thörnqvist eds., *Aristotle's De memoria et reminiscencia and Its Reception*, Studia Artistarum, Brepols Publishers, forthcoming (June 2021)
14. "Is the Heaven an Animal? Avicenna's Celestial Psychology between Cosmology and Biology", in R. Salles ed., *Biology and Cosmology in Ancient Philosophy: from Thales to Avicenna*, Cambridge University Press, forthcoming (June 2021), 261-278
15. "Use and Limits of Experience (*tağriba*) in Avicenna's *Book of Animals (Kitāb al-Ḥayawān)*", in K. Krause ed., *Premodern Experience of the Natural World in Translation*, Routledge, forthcoming (2021)

16. “ ‘Dogs fear the mud, the wooden stick, and other things’. Avicenna on Animals’ Emotions”, C. Cerami, V. Cordonnier, eds., *Actes du 10th international colloquium of the Société Internationale d’Histoire des Sciences et de la Philosophie Arabes et Islamiques (S. I. H. S. P. A. I.) Science, philosophy and kalam in Islamic civilisation: the old and the new*”, Studia Artistarum, Brepols, forthcoming (2022)
17. “Is Nutrition a Sufficient Condition for Life? Avicenna’s Position between Natural Philosophy and Medicine”, in R. Lo Presti, G. Korobili eds., *Nutrition and Nutritive Soul in Aristotle and Aristotelianism*, De Gruyter – Topics in Ancient Philosophy, Berlin-Boston 2020, 221-258

### **Encyclopedia entries**

18. (with A. Falcon), *Zoology in Greek and Arab world*, Encyclopedia of the Sciences/Encyclopédie des sciences, ISTE – WILEY, forthcoming (due by September 2021)

### **Reviews**

19. Massimo Campanini - Corrado la Martire, *Dizionarietto di arabo per filosofi*, Brescia, Scholè, 2019, pp. 368 (orso blu, 123), *Studi Medievali*, 2020

### **Reports**

20. Congrès terminés. Firenze: “Giornata di Studi in memoria di Francesco Del Punta (1941-2013)”, *Bulletin de Philosophie Médiévale*, 56, 2014, 524-526

### **Online entries**

220 Manuscript cards concerning mss. containing Avicenna’s *Ilāhiyyāt* alone or together with other parts of the *Šifā’* (manuscript descriptions; transcriptions, transliterations and translations of the mss. relevant parts, i.e. incipit, explicit, colophon; indexing of contents) published on the online database of ERC project (Advanced Grant 339621) *Philosophy on the Border of Civilizations and Intellectual Endeavours: Towards a Critical Edition of the Metaphysics (Ilāhiyyāt of Kitāb al-Šifā’)* of Avicenna (*Ibn Sīnā*) : <https://www.avicennaproject.eu>

### **Conference talks as invited speaker**

---

- ‘Contemplating the Contemplator. Human Soul as the Object and the Subject of Contemplation’, *Intellect and Contemplation in Ancient Greek and Medieval Islamic Philosophy* (orgs.: Rotraud Hansberger and Mareike Hauer), Munich School of Ancient Philosophy (MUSAPh) – LMU, Munich, 6–7 March 2020 (postponed to September 2021 due to Covid19)
- ‘Studying the Living Being. Different Approaches to the Soul in the Medieval Arabic Tradition’, *The Methods of Philosophy in its Different Disciplines. A Comparative View on Syro-Arabic and Latin Philosophy (6.-13th cent.)/Die Methodik der Philosophie in ihren verschiedenen Disziplinen. Ein vergleichender Blick auf die syrisch-arabische und die lateinische Philosophie (6.-13. Jhdt.)* (org. M. Perkams), Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, Jena 23-25 September 2020 (postponed to September 2021 due to Covid19)
- ‘One *Summa* within Another? The case of the *Ḥayawān* between the *Qānūn* and the *Šifā’*’, *Surveying the summae: Comparisons and Contrasts among Avicenna’s Eight Main Works. Avicenna Study Group – Third International Meeting* (org. A.

Lammer), Universität Trier, Trier, 3-5 June 2020 (postponed to June 2021 due to Covid19)

- ‘A Plant in Itself, a Medicament for Us: Temperament Interactions in Avicenna’s Botany’, *Complexio. Across Times and Disciplines* (orgs.: P. Bakker, C. Beneduce), Radboud University, Nijmegen, 25-26 February 2021 (videoconference due to Covid19)
- ‘Are plants and animals a matter of complexion ? Preliminary remarks on botany and zoology in Avicenna’, *Philosophie & médecine dans l’Islam classique* (orgs. C. Cerami, J. Chandelier), CNRS – Sphere (Sciences, Philosophie, Histoire – UMR 7219), Université Paris 1 – Panthéon Sorbonne, Université Paris 7 Diderot, Paris, 18 February 2021 (videoconference due to Covid19)
- ‘ “...secundum quod habet comparationem ad materiam et ad motum”: How physical is Avicenna’s investigation of the soul?’, *Medieval Gatherings. Meetings and discussions on medieval philosophy and beyond* (org. N. Polloni), Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, 6 December 2019
- ‘When Medicine rises to the Level of Philosophy. The Case of Avicenna’s *Adwiyā Qalbiyya*’ – Keynote Speaker, *2nd International Conference on Medical History in Iran and Islam* (orgs. M. Farhadi, N. Habibi, A. Zargar, M. H. Ayati, H. Arezaei), Iran Knowledge and Research Development Institute – Tehran University of Medical Science/School of Persian Medicine, Tehran, 26-29 November 2019
- ‘ “Dogs fear the mud, the wooden stick, and other things”. Avicenna on Animals’ Emotions’, *10th international colloquium of the Société Internationale d’Histoire des Sciences et de la Philosophie Arabes et Islamiques (S. I. H. S. P. A. I.) Science, philosophy and kalam in Islamic civilisation: the old and the new* (orgs.: A. Hasnaoui, A. Straface), Naples, 9-11 September 2019
- ‘Theoretical Principles vs. Medical Experiments. The Role and Use of Experience in Avicenna’s *Ḥayawān*’, *Premodern Experience of the Natural World in Translation* (orgs.: M. Avxentevskaya, K. Krause, D. Weil), Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, 26-27 June 2019
- ‘Veins, Semen, and Heart. Avicenna’s Animals between the First Teacher and the Most Excellent Physician’, *Translating Ibn Rushd into Hebrew. Jewish Averroism and its impact on the development of philosophical and scientific Hebrew language in the later Middle Ages*, 3<sup>rd</sup> International Peshat Conference, University of Hamburg, 12-14 February 2019
- ‘Memory at the Crossroads between Psychology and Medicine in Avicenna’, *La mémoire dans la philosophie arabe* (org.: Véronique Decaix, in the framework of the project ‘MEMORIA – Les théories antiques et médiévales de la mémoire’), University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, 6 October 2018
- ‘PhiBor’s Data Management’ (with Alessia Astesiano), *Making the Impossible Possible. On the Methodology for Editing Medieval Works with Massive Manuscript Tradition*. International Conference (orgs.: T. Alpina, A. Bertolacci), Scuola Normale Superiore – Pisa/School for Advanced Studies IMT – Lucca, 27-29 June 2018
- ‘Soul of / Soul in itself in Avicenna: a Diachronic Perspective’, *The De Anima in the Arabic tradition* (org.: David Bennett, in the framework of the project ‘Representation and Reality. Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on the Aristotelian Tradition’), University of Gothenburg, 28-29 April 2017

- ‘Avicenna’s Treatment of Nutrition in Psychology and Medicine: Intersection or Subalternation?’, *Nutrition and Nutritive Soul in Aristotle and Aristotelianism* (orgs.: R. Lo Presti, G. Korobili), Faculty of Philosophy II, Institute of Classical Philology, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, 22-24 March 2017
- ‘Psychologia generalis vs psychologia specialis in Avicenna’s *K. al-Nafs*’, ‘*The Place of Intellect in Aristotelian Natural Philosophy. Arabic, Latin, and Hebrew Perspectives*’ (orgs.: D. Wirmer, E. Miteva), Universität zu Köln, Köln 15-16 February 2016
- ‘Al-Ğūzğānī’s Insertion of the *M. fī al-adwiya al-qalbiyya* in Avicenna’s *K. al-Nafs*: the Latin Translation as a Clue of his Editorial Activity on the *Šifā’*’, *A Crossroad between East and West: The Latin Medieval Translations of the Kitāb al-Šifā’ (Book of the Cure) of Ibn Sīnā (Avicenna)*. International Conference (org.: A. Bertolacci), Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, 1-3 July 2015
- ‘The Status of Psychology between Natural Philosophy and Metaphysics. Place, Scope and Boundaries of Avicenna’s Inquiry into the Soul’, *4<sup>th</sup> meeting of ‘Medieval Philosophy in the UK’* (orgs.: J. Marenbon, A. Marmodoro), The Warburg Institute, London, 7 June 2013
- ‘The Status of Psychology between Physics and Metaphysics in Aristotle and Avicenna’, *2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Joint Seminar SNS – ENS* (orgs.: M. Abbès, A. Bertolacci, M. Rashed), Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, 16 May 2013
- ‘The Twofold Role of the Active Intellect in Avicenna’s Account of the Human Intellection’, *3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of ‘Medieval Philosophy in the UK’* (orgs.: J. Marenbon, A. Marmodoro), The Warburg Institute, London, 28 February 2013
- ‘Intellection, Active Intellect and Intellectual Memory in Aristotle and Avicenna’, *1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Joint Seminar SNS – ENS* (orgs.: A. Bertolacci, M. Rashed), École Normale Supérieure – Rue d’Ulm, Paris, 19 April 2012

## Editorial consultant and Ph.D. project examiner activity

---

### *Referee for the following scientific journals*

1. Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie
2. Documenti e studi sulla tradizione filosofica medievale
3. Journal of the History of Philosophy
4. Manuscrito. Revista Internacional de Filosofia
5. Rinascimento. Rivista dell'Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento
6. Sophia. International Journal of Philosophy and Traditions

### *Ph.D. project external examiner*

1. LabEx HASTEC (Laboratoire d’Excellence « Histoire et anthropologie des savoirs, des techniques et des croyances »), École Pratique des Hautes Études

Data

15/03/2021

Luogo

PISA