

## Curriculum Vitae

Giovanni Semi, PhD  
Professor of Urban Sociology – University of Torino  
Inter-university Department of Regional & Urban Studies and Planning (DIST)  
Viale Mattioli 39, 10125, Torino, Italy.  
<https://giovannisemi.academia.edu>

### Higher Education

---

- 2004            PhD, Comparative Social Research, University of Turin, and Anthropologie Sociale et Ethnologie, EHESS-Paris
- 2000            BA, Political Sciences, University of Milan

### Academic Appointments

---

- 2023-2024            Distinguished ARC Scholar, The Graduate School, City University New York
- 2023, spring            Visiting Professor, EHESS-Paris
- 2016, spring            Visiting Professor, École d'Urbanisme de Paris, Paris.
- 2014, spring            Visiting Research Scholar, CUNY-The Graduate Center, New York.
- 2010 – 2022            Associate Professor, Department of Social Sciences, University of Turin
- 2008, spring            Visiting Scholar, The University of Chicago, Department of Sociology
- 2006 - 2009            Assistant Professor, Dept. of Social and Political Studies, University of Milan
- 2005 - 2006            Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Department of Social and Political Studies, University of Milan

### Selected Recent Publications

---

- Semi, G. (2023), *Breve manuale per una gentrificazione carina*, Sesto San Giovanni, Mimesis (book).
- Semi, G., & Frisina, A. (2023) "What We See (and What We don't): Resignifying Urban Traces of Colonialism." In Pauwels, L. (ed.) *Visual and Multimodal Urban Sociology, Part B*, vol. 18, pp. 125-142. Emerald Publishing Limited.
- Bolzoni, M., & Semi, G. (2023). Adaptive urbanism in ordinary cities: Gentrification and temporalities in Turin (1993–2021). *Cities*, 134, 104144.
- Semi, G. e Bolzoni, M. (2022), *Osservazione Partecipante. Una guida pratica*, Bologna, Il Mulino (2.ed) (Book).
- Semi, G. (2022). The Innovation Complex: The Haunted Mansion Perspective. *Sociologica*, 16(2), 177-183. (journal paper)
- Semi, G. (2022), *BDSG. Piccolo manuale per una gentrificazione carina*, Milano, Einaudi. (ebook)
- Semi, G. (2021). Making Cosmopolitan Spaces: Urban Design, Ideology and Power. In Lejeune C., Pagès-El Karoui D., Schmoll C., Thiollet H. (eds) *Migration, Urbanity and Cosmopolitanism in a Globalized World* (pp. 29-39), Springer, Cham (book chapter)
- Semi, G., & Tonetta, M. (2021). Marginal hosts: Short-term rental suppliers in Turin, Italy. *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*, 53 (7), 1630-1651, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X20912435> (journal paper)
- Semi, G., & Bolzoni, M. (2020a). Star Architecture and the Field of Urban Design. In Alaily-Mattar N., Ponzini D., Thierstein A. (eds) *About Star Architecture* (pp. 55-67). Springer, Cham. (book chapter)
- Semi, G., & Bolzoni, M. (2020b). La gentrification commerciale et le renouvellement urbain à Turin. In Fleury, Delage, Endelstein, Dubucs, and Weber (eds) *Le petit commerce dans la ville-monde*, (pp-239-251). L'oeil d'or, Paris. (book chapter)
- Filandri, M. A., Olagnero, M., & Semi, G. (2020). Casa dolce casa? Italia, paese di proprietari. Bologna, Il Mulino (book)

- Semi, G. (2020). «Look, there are winners and losers and there are losers because there are winners». Understanding relational sociology with Matthew Desmond. *Rassegna Italiana di Sociologia*, 61(1), 191-208. (Journal paper).
- Semi, G., & Tonetta, M. (2019). Short-term rental platforms and rent extraction in Turin: Middle classes confronting austerity. In *Annales de géographie* (No. 3, pp. 40-61). Armand Colin. (journal paper)
- Filandri, M., & Semi, G. (2018). Housing Inequality: The Need for a Shift in Public Policy Intervention. *Sociological Research Online*, 1360780418798377. (journal paper)
- Semi, G. (2018). Entre esthétique et conflit. Table ronde avec Luc Boltanski et Arnaud Esquerre, *Rassegna Italiana di Sociologia*, 59(3), 593-598. (journal paper)
- Semi, G. (2015). Gentrification. Tutte le città come Disneyland?. vol. 829, p. 1-237, Bologna: Il Mulino, ISBN: 978-88-15-25803-8 (book)
- Schmoll, C., Semi, G. (2013). Shadow circuits: urban spaces and mobilities across the Mediterranean. *Identities*, vol. 20, p. 377-392, (journal paper)

### **List of previous and ongoing research project**

- The short-term city: digital platforms and spatial (in)justice [STCity], 2020-2023, research funded by Italian Ministry of University and Research (PRIN/MIUR), role: Principal Investigator of local unit of the University of Turin.
- Quale futuro per Torino Nord? Trasformazioni, speculazioni e crescita nel comparto residenziale e commerciale dell'area nord di Torino, 2019-2021, research funded by Fondazione CRT – Torino, role: Principal Investigator.
- The Global Production of Local Atmospheres, 2012-2014, research funded by Compagnia di San Paolo and Università di Torino, role: Principal Investigator
- La crisi del ceto medio, 2004-2010, research funded by Consiglio per le Scienze Sociali, Roma, role: Principal Investigator of research unit on middle class and consumption
- L'Italie. Recomposition territoriales du Local à l'Europe, 2012-2016, research network, role: Member. <http://www.efrome.it/la-recherche/programmes/detail-programme/detail/litalie-recomposition-territoriale-du-local-a-leurope.html>

### **Invited presentations to peer-reviewed internationally established conferences**

- March 2024, Paper presentation with Magda Bolzoni: "Conspicuous mountains. The value of exclusive atmospheres in the pandemic Alps", Workshop on Leisure & Consumption of Economic Elites, University of Amsterdam
- December 2023, Keynote Speech: "Crises, informality and rent-extraction: an ordinary Mediterranean, Workshop "Mediterranean Cities Tomorrow: Between Tourism Massification and Migration Flows", Iméra, the Institute for Advanced Study of Aix-Marseille University.
- November 2023, Paper presentation with Magda Bolzoni, "Shrinking gentrification for shrinking Southern European cities. Restructuring inner Torino for short-term populations", European Urban and Regional Studies Workshop - The nexus of housing financialisation/gentrification/touristification in Southern Europe: Decolonising dominant perspectives, Thessaloniki, Greece.
- October 2023, Advanced Collaborative Research seminar: "Going up! Land grabbing and ecological gentrification in the pandemic Alps", The Graduate Center CUNY, New York.
- September 2023, Paper presentation, "'Gentrification, da urbana a montana?'" Ordine/Disordine, Incontri di architettura alpina, Associazione Culturale Edoardo Gellner, Borca di Cadore (BL)
- Mai 2023, EHESS seminar, "Des chalets et des super-riches: les Alpes Occidentales après la pandémie", Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris.
- December 2022, Keynote Speech: Qu'est la propriété?, 4<sup>e</sup> Biennale de Sociologie de l'Urbain et des Territoires, Association Française de Sociologie, Université de Tours.
- January 2022, 'Keynote Speech: Droit à la ville ou droit à la rente? Plateformes, rentiers et ville court-terme' Conference « Airbnb en région Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur : approches comparées des dynamiques touristiques et foncières locales », Aix-en-Provence, MMSH.
- December 2019, 'Keynote Speech: A Fifth- Wave of Gentrification? Platforms, Rentiers and the Short-Term City', Conference "Consumption, Gentrification, and the New Colonialism", Florence University of the Arts, Florence, Italy.

June 2019, Keynote Speech: Between scales and focals. Municipalism and the challenge of the local trap., Conference “¿Un Municipalismo Transformador? La Experiencia de Barcelona en Perspectiva“ Institut de Govern i Politiques Publicques, Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona

September 2017, ‘When the Syndrome Goes Viral: Airbnb and Tourism in an Ordinary City’ (with Marta Tonetta), RC21 Conference, Leeds, UK.

April 2016, ‘Urban designers and the global provision of manufactured public spaces’, Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, San Francisco, US.

August 2015, “I mean, Disney makes places”. Professional boundary-making, (public) place-making and the envisioning power of Urban Design”, RC21 Conference, Urbino, Italy.

April 2015, ““Place-making? I think it's retrograde, conservative, nationalist". The making of a new professional élite group: Urban Designers.” Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers, Chicago, US.

July 2014, “A City, Two Neighborhoods, Ten Years: Observing Gentrification before and during the Crisis”, XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology, Yokohama, Japan

Mai 2012, “Is national multiculturalism still the issue? Rescaling the local in Italy” (with Camille Schmoll), Living Together in Diversity Conference, Central European University, Budapest.

March 2012, “Rendez-vous, vous êtes cernés! Actions publiques, stratégies marchandes et les effets de gentrification”, L’action publique au service de la gentrification : dynamiques, acteurs et stratégies d’un processus inévitable ?, Université de Tours

September 2011, “Circulations, transnational networks and urban spaces: Do we inhabit the same "Space-Time"?” (with Camille Schmoll), Ethnography, Diversity and Urban Space Conference, St Anne's College, Oxford University

Torino, 7/3/2024.

In fede,

Giovanni Semi

