

# School meeting

**GIOVEDÌ 22 MAGGIO 2017 - Ore 13.00 - Aula “C. Musatti”**

presenta:

**PROF. MILES HEWSTONE**  
*University of Oxford*

## **Social Network Analysis: A (Not So New) Tool for Investigating Intergroup Contact**

Abstract:

*Social network analysis (SNA) is a relatively novel approach in social psychology, albeit one that is still under-used. Specifically, it can advance the analysis of intergroup contact in multiple ways that help us to understand when and how contact is an effective means to reduce prejudice. It helps to increase the validity of measures of direct and extended contact (compared with self-reports); it underlines the reciprocal nature of friendship (of specific importance to studying cross-group friends); it provides a novel measure of extended contact; and it helps to identify the underlying social mechanisms (notably, norms) that facilitate social cohesion between different groups in increasingly diverse societies. The value of SNA in this field of research is illustrated with data from studies of: extended contact; a field experiment on integrating two segregated schools; positive and negative contact; and factors affecting the translation of opportunities of contact into actual contact.*