



PROFESSOR LEE HYOJIN

From: Ca'Foscari University of Venice

**THE CONFUCIAN MEDICAL ETHIC,
INSUL IN SOUTH KOREA:
BETWEEN HIPPOCRATES AND CONFUCIUS**

03 | 03 | 2025, 14.00-16.00



SALA RIUNIONI 1

Sapienza University of Rome, Marco Polo building,
Circonvallazione Tiburtina 4, 00185 Roma

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

ANTONETTA L. BRUNO
(FULL PROFESSOR, LA SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY)

GIULIA SILVESTRI
CLARISSA MIOLI
EXPERTS OF THE CENTER OF KOREAN STUDIES,
LA SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY)



**PARTE DEL PROGRAMMA DEL TIROCINIO DA 2 CFU
PRIMAVERA - AUTUNNO 2025**

In February 2024, the South Korean government announced an increase in medical student quotas and a healthcare policy, sparking controversy within the country's medical community. Two months later, the government and medical professionals have not yet resolved their differences, and criticism towards both sides is intensifying. Doctors, particularly those who resigned, face accusations of "abandoning patients" and prioritizing money.

The dispute, rooted in differing views on medical ethics, cannot be fully understood through statistics alone. Medical ethics, a concept introduced in 1803 by Thomas Percival, defines the professional duties of doctors, but Korea also has a traditional Confucian medical ethic called Insul (Art of Benevolence).

Since adopting Western medicine in the late 19th century, Korea has combined Western and Confucian medical ethics, with students taking the Hippocratic Oath upon graduation. Professor Lee will explore how Korea integrates both traditional and modern medical ethics.

PROF. LEE:

Hyojin Lee currently serves as an assistant professor of Korean Studies at Ca' Foscari University of Venice since 2019, within the Department of Asian and North African Studies.

Her research focuses on the intellectual and historical aspects of knowledge, particularly the transformation and development of studies on Confucianism in modern Korea. Additionally, her research delves into the historical and philosophical formation of Korean Confucian medical ethics, Insul.

