

Silvia Chiodi was born in 1959. She graduated in Philosophy (*Laurea summa cum laude*) with a dissertation in History of Religions at the Università di Roma, La Sapienza” in 1984. In 1993 She received her Ph.D. in study in Studi Mesopotamici at the Istituto Universitario Orientale di Napoli. In 1995 she won a fellowship for post-doctoral at the Istituto Universitario Orientale di Napoli. In 1996 she became a Researcher long time fellowship at the Istituto per la Civiltà Fenicia e Punica (Institute for Phoenician and Punic Civilization) Sabatino Moscati at the National Research Council (CNR) (CNR) in Rome. In 2001 she became “Senior Researcher (permanent position)” in Near Eastern studies at the Istituto di Studi sulla Civiltà Italica e del Mediterraneo Antico (Institute for Studies in the Italic and Punic Civilization), and at the present time is in the process of transfer to Istituto per il Lessico Intellettuale Europeo e Storia delle Idee (ILIESI). From 2004 on, at the initiative of the President of the Republic, she was honored with the Order of Merit of the Republic of Italy. In October, 2007 she taught a course at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan) in project manager. The majority of her scholarly work falls within the category of history of religions, with special emphasis on the Ancient Near East, in particular, Mesopotamia. From 1980 to 1990s she was an active collaborator in research studies for the chair of history of religions at the Università di Roma, “La Sapienza,” and during the 1990s and until 2009 for the chair of Assyriology at the same university. In regard to the latter, she also held the role of coordinator and co-director for various epigraphic projects of both national and international interest. In 1988 under the title of curator, along with the archaeologist, S. Bracco, responsible for the future Byblos Museum, she presented the plans for the Museum, devised by her along with Professor Bracco, to the then President of the Republic, Luigi Scalfaro. From 2001 until 2005 she was responsible of a research line at the CNR, and from 2005 to 2008 responsible of the commessa/Grant Project called “Safeguarding, Knowledge and Evaluation of the National Heritage of the Iraq Museum,” and for the conservation, cataloging, and study of the epigraphic material”. The project included plans for a virtual reality museum called “Project Iraq: The Virtual Baghdad Museum,” of which she was coordinator, and in charge of the Italian technical work on the project. She acted as chief of the Italian mission for the archeological survey at Nassiriya in 2006, with the objective to turn into reality the projected virtual Baghdad Museum. The mission led among other things, to two extremely important archaeological discoveries. Since 2010 she has been co-director of a project for the Unione Nazionale Accademica, “Dizionario sumerico e assiro-babilonese (Sumerian and Assyrian-Babylonian Dictionary),” conceived in 1974 by Professor Giovanni Pettinato and supported by the Unione Accademica Internazionale. Currently she is participant at commessa/grant project “Storia del Pensiero filosofico-scientifico e della terminologia di cultura nelle civiltà del mondo antico e tardo antico”, the responsible is dr. Francesca Alesse. She is the author of numerous scholarly and semi-popular books and articles.