# History of Written Communication

## Prof. Edoardo Barbieri

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with the essential historical and critical tools for reflecting on the methods of producing and using texts created using different media. Students will learn to critically and historically consider the function of writing as well as paper and eBooks.

***COURSE CONTENT***

After a detailed introduction on the historical evolution of written communication from ancient times to the creation of the eBook, the course will explore the topic of the different types of books which have been produced over the last millennium by Western society, thus linking issues and typologies already present in manuscripts with the innovation of eBooks.

***READING LIST***

The close study of the following texts is essential:

Barbieri E.,*Materiali per il corso di Storia e forme della comunicazione scritta 2021-2022 II semestre (the digital version of this course pack will be made available online*)

Cavallo G. – Chartier R., *Storia della lettura nel mondo occidentale*, Laterza, Rome-Bari 2021 (or previous edition)

Gilmont J.-F.,*Dal manoscritto all’ipertesto. Introduzione alla storia del libro e della lettura,* edited by L. Rivali, Le Monnier Università, Florence, 2006; [Buy fromV&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/gilmont-jean-francois/dal-manoscritto-allipertesto-9788800206150-172045.html)

Roncaglia G.,*La quarta rivoluzione. Sei lezioni sul futuro del libro,* Laterza, Rome, 2010;  [Buy from V&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/roncaglia-gino/la-quarta-rivoluzione-9788842092995-174380.html)

Students must also read one of the following:

Armstrong L., *La xilografia nel libro italiano del Quattrocento. Un percorso tra gli incunaboli del Seminario vescovile di Padova*, edited by P. M. Farina, EDUCatt, Milan, 2016.

Balsamo L., *Per la storia del libro,* Olschki, Florence, 2006.

Barbieri E. (ed.), *“Ad stellam”. Il libro d’Oltramare di Niccolò da Poggibonsi e altri resoconti di pellegrinaggio in Terra Santa fra Medioevo ed Età moderna*, Olschki, Florence, 2017.

Barbieri E. (ed.), *Imago librorum. Mille anni di forme del libro in Europa*, Olschki, Florence, 2021.

Bechtel G., *Gutenberg*, Introduction by E. Barbieri, EDUCatt, Milan, 2021.

Braida L., *Libri di lettere. Le raccolte epistolari del Cinquecento tra inquietudini religiose e “buon volgare”*, Laterza, Rome-Bari, 2009.

Carnelos L., *Con libri alla mano. L’editoria di larga diffusione a Venezia tra Sei e Settecento*, Milan, Unicopli, 2012

Castillo Gomez A., *Dalle carte ai muri. Scrittura e società nella Spagna della prima età moderna*, Rome, Carocci, 2016. [Buy from V&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/antonio-castillo-gomez/dalle-carte-ai-muri-scrittura-e-societa-nella-spagna-della-prima-eta-moderna-9788843084869-549751.html)

Chartier R., *Inscrivere e cancellare,* Laterza, Rome-Bari, 2006.

Cicala R., *I meccanismi dell'editoria : il mondo dei libri dall’autore al lettore*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2021. [Buy from V&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/roberto-cicala/i-meccanismi-delleditoria-il-mondo-dei-libri-dallautore-al-lettore-9788815292209-692134.html)

Davies M. – Harris N., *Aldo Manuzio. L’uomo l’editore, il mito*, Rome, Carocci, 2019. [Buy from V&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/martin-davies-neil-harris/aldo-manuzio-luomo-leditore-il-mito-9788843095018-679044.html)

Hellinga L., *Fare un libro nel Quattrocento*, Forum, Udine 2015.

McKitterick D., *Testo stampato e testo manoscritto,* Sylvestre Bonnard, Milan, 2005.

Natale A., *Gli specchi della paura. Il sensazionale e il prodigioso nella letteratura di consumo*, Milan, Carocci, 2008. [Buy from V&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/alberto-natale/gli-specchi-della-paura-il-sensazionale-e-il-prodigioso-nella-letteratura-di-consumo-secoli-xvii-xviii-9788843048021-255862.html)

Nuovo A., *Il commercio librario nell’Italia del Rinascimento*, Franco Angeli, Milan, 2003.

Roncaglia G., *L’età della frammentazione. Cultura del libro e scuola digitale*, Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2018. [Buy from V&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/gino-roncaglia/leta-della-frammentazione-cultura-del-libro-e-scuola-digitale-9788858142165-687140.html)

Schiffrin A., *Editoria senza editori*, Bollati Boringhieri, Turin, 2000 or Quodlibet, Macerata, 2019. [Buy from V&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/andre-schiffrin/editoria-senza-editori-9788822903433-678817.html)

Tedesco A. (ed.), *Scriver veloce. Sistemi tachigrafici dall’antichità a Twitter*, Olschki, Florence, 2016.

Vacalebre N. (ed.), *Five Centuries Later. Aldus Manutius: Culture, Typography and Philology*, Florence: Olschki, 2018

Vivarelli M., *La lettura. Storie, teorie, luoghi*, Bibliografica, Milan, 2018. [Buy from V&P](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/maurizio-vivarelli/la-lettura-storie-teorie-luoghi-9788893570282-658245.html?search_string=vivarelli%20la%20lettura&search_results=1)

***TEACHING METHOD***

The teaching methods used during the course will include lectures and in-person activities. Classroom lectures, held with the aid of PowerPoint containing images on covered topics and, possibly, hands-on analysis of ancient printed books, will be complemented by educational visits (also virtual) to various libraries, by meetings and seminars (also digital) and, if it is feasible, a study visit. All teaching materials will in any case be available on the course’s webpage on the University platform. During the second part of the course, students will give live presentations based on course topics. Part of the course teaching material will be made available on the lecturer’s webpage. Non-attending students will integrate recommended reading with materials which will be published on Blackboard during the course.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam to assess understanding of the topics addressed and assimilation of specialist technical language. In particular, the exam will focus on ascertaining the following: students have an understanding of the full chronology covered on the course; students have developed independent judgement on the history and development of contemporary publishing, and are able to use the information provided by their selected text from the reading list.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course. However, students shold have an intellectual interest in the subject.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.