# Modern History

## Prof. Alberto Tanturri

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

The course aims to illustrate key aspects of the development of European civilization (institutions, ideas, socio-economic organisation, religious and cultural features), over the period between the age of geographical discoveries and the Conference of Vienna (1492-1815), with a particular focus on the development of forms of production and models of social and political organisation.

***INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

***Knowledge and understanding:***

Know and assess political, cultural and social processes which accompanied the formation of modern Europe;

***Ability to apply knowledge and understanding:***

Carry out comparative analysis of different institutional and political contexts;

***Independent judgment:***

Historically problematise the current geo-political configuration of the European continent;

***Communication skills:***

Know how to communicate analytically, using proper specialised vocabulary, regarding course topics;

***Learning skills:***

Appreciate the contribution made by national cultural traditions to the definition of European identity.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course consists of a presentation of European history, with emphasis, on the one hand, on the formation of modern states, and on the other, on the demographic, economic and cultural changes which acted as a backdrop to political-institutional transformation. The complex elements of continuity and persistence of economic and social structures, modifications to religious sensitivity and the ensuing conflicts, the development of modes of production and political formation of politics, populations and states, are at the forefront.

***READING LIST***

For students taking 6 ECTS credits:

- lecture notes;

- R. Ago - V. Vidotto, *Storia moderna,* Rome-Bari, Laterza, 2006 (whole text);

- G. Sabbatucci -V. Vidotto, *Storia contemporanea. L’Ottocento*, Rome-Bari, Laterza, 2012 (until 1815).

For students taking 12 ECTS credits:

- lecture notes;

- R. Ago - V. Vidotto, *Storia moderna,* Rome-Bari, Laterza, 2006 (whole text);

- G. Sabbatucci -V. Vidotto, *Storia contemporanea. L’Ottocento*, Rome-Bari, Laterza, 2012 (until 1815);

A choice of one of the following:

- H. S. Klein, *Il commercio atlantico degli schiavi*, Rome, Carocci, 2010;

- R. Bainton*, La Riforma protestante, prefazione di D. Cantimori*, Turin, Einaudi , 2000;

- A. Tanturri, *“Il flagello delle Indie”. L’epidemia colerica del 1836-37 nel Mezzogiorno,* Brescia,La Morcelliana, 2022.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will be conducted through classroom lectures with the support of slides.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam. The exam will assess students’ knowledge, as well as their critical thinking and communication skills. The examination consists of three questions worth (four for the 12 ECTS exams), equal marks. Students who demonstrate a critical and organic approach to the material, and express themselves effectively using specialist language will receive top marks (*eccellenza*). Students who demonstrate mechanical or largely memorised knowledge, a poorly developed ability to summarise and analyse, and use language that, whilst correct, is not entirely relevant will receive a fair mark (*discreta)*; content gaps and inappropriate language - albeit accompanied by minimal knowledge of the exam syllabus - will receive no more than a pass mark (*sufficienza*). Students who demonstrate serious gaps in their knowledge, express themselves using imprecise language and are insufficiently familiar with the recommended texts will not pass the exam.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course. However, students should have basic textbook knowledge of general European history in the modern age.

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.