# Civilisations of the Ancient and Medieval World

## Prof. Milena Raimondi

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

The general aim of the course is to introduce students to critical, educationally oriented, topics concerning ancient and medieval civilisations.

The specific aims are: a) to promote critical study of the subject, sensitive to the documentary aspect, to the methodology of historical reconstruction and historical interpretation, and modern categories of historical periodisation; b) to develop awareness of the important impact of historical issues and figures of the ancient and medieval world on the subsequent development of world historical experience; c) grasp the educational relevance of the topics discussed.

At the end of the course, students will be able to: a) understand and interpret the main historical phenomena of the ancient and medieval Mediterranean using appropriate language; b) understand the specificity of the present in relation to historical systems in the past; c) develop skills regarding active citizenship related both to crucial aspects of citizenship emerging in the consideration of ancient and medieval civilisations, as well as significant permanent traces of the past found in the modern world; d) create teaching processes that develop the so-called ‘patterns of civilisation’ with appropriate content and which connect modernity issues to cultural, political and religious aspects rooted in ancient and medieval past.

***COURSE CONTENT***

In consideration of the provisions of the 'National Guidelines’ (2012), according to which the primary school programme includes the “historical knowledge of the period between the appearance of man and late antiquity”, the course presents the main issues of periodization and geohistorical orientation of prehistory and civilizations of the ancient Near East and then focus on themes and protagonists of Greek civilization, from Minoan protohistory to Hellenism, and of Roman civilisation, from the origins to late antiquity and the formation of the medieval world, in the context of ancient Italy.

***READING LIST***

1. Materials provided in class and available on the Blackboard platform.

2. *Le Indicazioni nazionali per il curricolo della scuola dell’infanzia e del primo ciclo dell’istruzione*, 2012, pp. 41-45 (storia); *Indicazioni nazionali e nuovi scenari*, 2018 (available on *Blackboard*).

3. G. Geraci-A. Marcone, *Storia antica. Dalla Preistoria al primo espandersi dell’Islam*, Firenze, Mondadori Università, 2021 ISBN 978-88-6184-896-2.

4. A. Barbero-C. Frugoni, *Medioevo. Storia di voci, racconto di immagini*, Bari, Laterza, 20215 ISBN 97 8885 8119 297. (see Notes and prerequisites).

To understand the ancient geographical references, we recommend the use of a historical atlas, available in the library or already owned.

To facilitate the preparation of the exam, it is advisable to combine the study of the above reading list textbooks with the consultation of a good manual of ancient and medieval history used in high school, or already owned by students.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures and discussion, including use of *Blackboard*. Course topics are also presented via the use of ancient sources (historical-literary texts translated into Italian, archeological, monumental, epigraphical and numismatic sources), historical-geographical maps and multi-media tools.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam is oral and consists of an interview with questions relating to the course topics, the materials published on Blackboard and the reading list.

The assessment criteria are: a) knowledge of the topics covered in class and in the exam textbooks, with adequate chronological and geographical contextualisation; b) clarity of presentation and command of the language; c) ability to establish significant historical links between the various civilisations covered during the course; d) ability to grasp the different historical links between antiquity and contemporaneity.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course.

All updated and necessary information for the exam preparation is published on Blackboard and is provided in detail by the lecturer at the beginning of the course and during the lectures.

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.