**Social History**

Prof. Paolo Valvo

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

The course aims to explore the key issues related to the modernisation of the Italian society during the second half of the 20th century, with a focus on the evolution of collective mind and behaviour, especially among young people.

At the end of the course, students will be able to use the tools offered by knowledge and historical analysis to study, from a critical perspective, some of the socioeconomic and cultural trends that still characterise the Italian society. The knowledge of the historical roots of contemporary social phenomena will help students organise effective educational interventions in their future careers.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will provide an overview of the Italian social history from post-war reconstruction to the 1980s. In particular, it will explain the extraordinary growth experienced in the country during the “economic boom”, with a focus on its social and cultural premises and consequences. At the same time, the course will explore the student contestation of 1968, caused by the transformation of youth that took place during the 50s and the 60s and led to a real anthropological change, that profoundly affected the mentality and lifestyles of Italians, redefining the perimeter of relations between generations and between the sexes, inaugurating new forms of social and political activism (from the feminist movement to more recent forms of “identity politics”) and paving the way for the current processes of digitisation of experience. Finally, the lacerations produced in the social fabric - in the aftermath of 1968 - by the subversive violence of the “anni di piombo” will be the subject of a specific in-depth study, which will also focus on the paths of reconciliation that still today see the victims and perpetrators of terrorist violence as protagonists.

***READING LIST***

Students are required to study the following volume:

*Giovani nell’età del grande cambiamento. Materiali per la storia della società italiana tra anni Cinquanta e Settanta*, testi selezionati da Maria Bocci, Educatt, Milano, 2023

plus one reading of their choice from the following:

G. Balbi-P. Magaudda, *Storia dei media digitali. Rivoluzioni e continuità,* Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2014

A.M. Banti, *La democrazia dei followers. Neoliberismo e cultura di massa*, Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2020

M. Bocci – M. Busani (eds.)*, Towards 1968. Studenti cattolici nell’Europa occidentale*

*degli anni Sessanta*, Studium, Roma, 2020 (capp. III, IV, V, X, XV, XVI)

G. Orsina*, La democrazia del narcisismo*, Marsilio, Venezia, 2018

I. Paris, *Rileggere il miracolo economico. Gli elettrodomestici tra fascismo e anni Settanta,* Carocci, Roma, 2023

L. Scaraffia, *Storia della liberazione sessuale: Il corpo delle donne tra eros e pudore,* Marsilio, Venezia, 2019

S. Zavoli, *La notte della Repubblica*,Mondadori, Milano, 20173 (chap. I, II, IV, V, VII, VIII, IX)

Some indications to facilitate the choice between volumes will be provided by the lecturer in class.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures. Classroom teaching will encourage the active participation of students - who will be encouraged to critically read current events in the light of the content learned during the course - and will be supplemented with the support of audiovisual, iconographic and textual documentation.

Video recordings of lessons and classroom materials will be made available weekly on the Blackboard platform.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The exam is oral. Assessment will take into account students’ mastery and critical reworking of the contents learnt during the course, as well as their clarity of presentation and ability to adequately justify the statements and analyses developed during the exam.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending the course.

*Time and place of reception for students*

During the lecture period, Prof. Valvo receives students before and after lectures. He is always available by appointment (in person or on the Teams platform), to be arranged by e-mail ([paoloantonio.valvo@unicatt.it](mailto:paoloantonio.valvo@unicatt.it)).

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at <https://docenti.unicatt.it/ppd2/it/docenti/27954/paolo-antonio-benedetto-valvo/profilo> or on the Faculty notice board.