**Italian Literature**

Prof. Francesca D’Alessandro; Prof. Elena Rondena

Module 1: Prof. Francesca D’Alessandro

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

The aim of the course is to discover and show the intrinsic relations that literature holds with cultural heritage, ultimately entitling literature, due to its enduring generative force, to claim to be a creator of monuments as well as a monument in its own right. The books studied at lectures reveal how the Italian literary tradition may be interpreted as a privileged point of encounter, source of symbols and custodian of the past, and also a generator of those collectively acknowledged and shared values on which national/European civilisation and cultural identity are grounded.

The course is therefore divided into a dual theoretical and applicative polarity, with the aim of leading students to acquire knowledge of literary tradition and of fundamental historical-critical turning points.

***COURSE CONTENT***

* Literature as cultural heritage; methodological introduction.
* Classical roots and Christian roots: Dante and Petrarch.
* The conscience of the modern age: Petrarch and Machiavelli.
* Dante's memory in our time: Montale and Sereni.
* Cities as a literary monument: Calvino

***READING LIST***

F. D’Alessandro, *Petrarca e i moderni,* *da Machiavelli a Carducci (con un’Appendice novecentesca),* ETS, Pisa, 2007.

F. D’Alessandro, *Manzoni tra san Paolo e Machiavelli,* EDUCatt, Milan, 2012.

F. D’Alessandro-C. Scarpati, *Invito alla lettura di Montale,* Milan, Mursia, 2004.

F. D’Alessandro, *L’opera poetica di Vittorio Sereni*, Vita e Pensiero, Milan, 2010.

E. Montale-S. Solmi, *Ciò che è nostro non ci sarà tolto mai*. Carteggio (1918-1980), edited by F. D’Alessandro, Quodlibet, Rome, 2021.

Additional information on the reading list will be given in class.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Classroom lectures and text analyses will be alternated with direct verification in the city of Milan itself and in situ meetings with the scholars and curators of archives, foundations and libraries.

Frontal lectures are supported by technological aids, multimedia support, podcast and remote video lessons, made available on Blackboard.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Final oral test on the contents of texts proposed in the reading list and on the topics discussed in class. It aims to assess students' acquisition of critical contents, historical context and textual analysis as studied in class. The final mark will take into consideration students' in the subject (60%) adequacy of language (20%), ability to analyse and establish links (10%), and intellectual maturity (10%).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Since this is a basic introductory course on the subject, there are no special prerequisites for attending it.

Given the training credits system, students are strongly advised to attend classes regularly.

In the event that the health emergency should continue, both teaching activities and any forms of learning monitoring, both in progress and final, will be provided also remotely through our University's BlackBoard platform, the Microsoft Teams platform and any other tools envisaged and notified at the beginning of the course, so as to ensure the full achievement of the formative objectives set out in the study plans and, at the same time, the safety of our students.

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.

Module 2: Prof. Elena Rondena

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

The course aims to develop, in a detailed and articulated manner, the students’ knowledge of Italian literature of the last two centuries and of the main critical-methodological references of literary modernity.

At the end of the course, students will be able to independently examine a literary text in detail starting from the most functional methods of analysis, and also place it in its historical-cultural context, by outlining a wider overall picture, which further enhances the single text addressed. An additional achievement, besides the analytical part, will be the ability to summarise the work done and correctly present it in oral and/or written form.

***COURSE CONTENT***

*From drama to rebirth*

Literature has immense power to show the profound dynamics of human events and even to influence the moral and historical changes of an author or a people. We wish to propose a course that covers Italian writers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in which the transition from drama to rebirth is highlighted. A specific study will focus on Primo Levi, Eugenio Corti, Anna Maria Mori.

This will allow students to acquire an in-depth knowledge of the different cultural seasons of the last two centuries, and the poetics of the authors under analysis.

***READING LIST***

Lecture notes are an integral part of the course. Further reading list information will be provided during the course.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures supported by technological aids and remote video lessons, where required. The teaching materials will be available through course packs and/or on the lecturer's personal web page.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Final oral exam focused on the contents of the textbooks included in the reading list and on the topics addressed in class. It will normally be based on a text commented in the classroom and will aim to verify students’ actual knowledge acquisition of the texts and topics covered by the course. Assessment will also consider students’ clarity of speech and consistent and strong argumentation skills. Furthermore, students’ ability to establish connections and to re-elaborate the contents in a personal way will be particularly appreciated.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

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Given the credit system and the nature of the course, attendance is strongly recommended.

In the event that the health emergency should continue, both teaching activities and any forms of learning monitoring, both in progress and final, will be provided also remotely through our University's BlackBoard platform, the Microsoft Teams platform and any other tools envisaged and notified at the beginning of the course, so as to ensure the full achievement of the formative objectives set out in the study plans and, at the same time, the safety of our students.

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