History of Ancient Italian States

Prof. Emanuele Pagano

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

The aim of the course is for students to acquire the latest historical knowledge regarding the key figures of Italian civilisation and the Italian states from the 15th century to 1870. At the end of the course, students will be able to

1. Understand key historiographic and interpretative issues about Italy during the Early Modern Period, thanks to the use of methods and concepts that are typical of the most updated historiography.

2. Explain historical problems using an appropriate terminology and argumentation, also thanks to the reading of the textbooks indicated in class.

3. Analyse sources and studies, according to the methods proposed by scientific research.

4. Understand further historical issues thanks to the correct use of historiographic categories and tools: periodisation, conceptualisation, collection and interpretation of statistical data, recognition and analysis of primary and secondary sources and critical essays.

5. Formulate their opinion on institutional, social, religious, and ethical historical issues, and get a better understanding of the reality in which they live.

6. Express information, ideas, and issues in a clear way, so that they can be understood by both experts and amateurs.

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. Civilisation and States in Italy. Characters and dynamics.
2. Population, epidemics, families.
3. Travelling in Early Modern Italy.
4. The Military in Early Modern Italy. Wars, armies, fleets.
5. Institutional profiles, political changes: the Republic of Venice, the Kingdom of Naples, the Duchy of Mantua.
6. Napoleonic Italy.

***READING LIST***

1. Lecture notes and printed or PDF material.
2. E. Pagano, *L’Italia e i suoi Stati nell’Età moderna.* *Profilo di storia (secoli XVI-XIX)*, Brescia, la Scuola, 2010.

A text of students’ choice among the ones in the following points (the chapters for the exam will be indicated by the lecturer in class): a) C. de Seta, *L’Italia nello specchio del Grand Tour*, Milan, Rizzoli, 2014; b) P. Bianchi, Del Negro, *Guerre ed eserciti nell’età moderna*, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2018; c) M. Pellegrini, *Venezia e la Terraferma*, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2022; d) A. Musi, *Il Regno di Napoli*, Brescia, Morcelliana, 2016; e) E.Pagano, *“Questa turba infame a comun danno unita”. Delinquenti, marginali, magistrati nel Mantovano asburgico (1750-1800)*, Milan, FrancoAngeli, 2014; f) E. Pagano, *Il Comune di Milano nell’età napoleonica (1800-1814)*, Milan, Vita e Pensiero (reprint 2002).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Classroom lectures (or video lessons) and written practical classes on primary sources or specialist essays.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Oral exam. By answering a few questions (three or four), students are expected to show familiarity with the fundamentals of Italian history in the Early Modern Period, with a special focus on the issues analysed during lectures. Assessment is based on a 30-point scale (pass mark is 18/30, top mark is 30/30). Students giving comprehensive answers based on strong argumentation and correct language may be awarded honours.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Open to bachelor’s degree students, this course is repeatable and takes place in Semester 2. Foreign students must have a good knowledge of spoken and written Italian and a general overview of the main European historical events from the Middle Ages to Early Modern Period.

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.