**Medieval History** **(with elements of didactics)**

## Prof. Alfredo Lucioni; Prof. Andrea Mario Caspani

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

The course aims to contextualise historical science within the current scientific landscape, to teach the basics of the historical method and present the indispensable lexical and conceptual points of reference required for a correct approach to studying medieval history from the 5th to the 15th century.

By the end of the course, students will be able: to identify the cultural, political, religious and economic cornerstones of the medieval millennium; to orient themselves within the main collections of published sources; to compare a written documentary or narrative source (presented in original language and translated into Italian) and use it to interpret the period and topic in question; to contextualise the course and decode its content based on knowledge of the environment in which it was produced and the purpose for which it was written; to examine a recently published historiographical text on a specific context, identifying the progress made in terms of research in comparison with preceding historiographical literature.

Students will also be able to: use the specific vocabulary and presentation techniques inherent to the field of historical study; as well as the tools required for approaching the content of other disciplines addressing specific aspects of medieval culture with as much awareness as possible; and interpret the historical context with sufficient critical skill.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Module 1 *(Semester 1; general course – 6 ECTS credits – non repeatable)*

General and introductory section on medieval history (5th-15th centuries)

Module 2 *(Semester 2; course A, 6 ECTS credits)*

Monks in the Middle Ages: formation and growth of the Cistercian order.

***READING LIST***

For module 1 (general course)

1. A. Zorzi, *Manuale di storia medievale,* UTET Università, Turin, 2016 (except ‘Snodo XIV’ pp. 461-497).

F. Senatore, *Medieevo. Istruzioni per l’uso. Terza edizione*, Pearson Italia, Milano – Torino, 2022.

2. Sources read and analysed in lectures (N.B. alternatively, it is possible to study a second volume chosen from among those listed under point 3).

3. Students must also study one of the following texts:

M.P. Alberzoni, *Santa povertà e beata semplicità.* *Francesco d’Assisi e la Chiesa romana,* Vita & Pensiero, Milan, 2015.

A.A. Settia, *Rapine, assedi, battaglie. La guerra nel Medioevo*, Laterza, Roma – Bari, 2002.

A. Musarra, *Gli ultimi crociati. Templari e francescani in Terrasanta*, Salerno editrice, Roma, 2021.

For Module 2 (Course A)

1. Lecture notes.

2. Photocopied texts, distributed by the lecturer, and read and interpreted during lectures.

3. G. Cariboni, *Cistercensi. Alla ricerca dell’ordine nel medioevo centrale*, Carocci, Roma, (the volume will be published in January 2023).

Details of further reading material will be provided during the course and published on the “Bacheca” (bulletin board) section of the lecturer’s webpage in April 2023 (there will also be information on the texts to be studied by those who do not have the lecture notes or handouts).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures; information on any seminars on course topics will be provided during lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of oral exam on the contents of the syllabus of the two course modules corresponding to the two semesters of the academic year. The exam may be divided into two parts on two separate exam dates, possibly in close succession.

In the exam, students must demonstrate that: they know the main timelines of the medieval period, acquired from studying the course textbook; they grasp the main events and issues of the medieval period, as presented in lectures; they can present and critically interpret some of the sources covered during lectures or in the collection of sources on the reading list; they can present the content of the texts listed on the syllabus.

Marks will be awarded for: relevance of answers; competent use of specialist terminology; presenting information in a coherent narrative structure and justifying arguments; using sources to reconstruct the past; and understanding the essential points related to the historiographical texts presented.

Both parts of the exam will contribute equally to the final mark. Students who answer all questions fully and appropriately in terms of method and language will be awarded honours.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Being it an introductory course, there are no prerequisites in terms of course content. Students requiring only 6 ECTS credits will follow the syllabus and take the exam for Module 1, which constitutes an introduction to the discipline and, given its general nature, is non-repeatable. Those who require 12 ECTS credits will be examined on the syllabi of both modules.

As part of the Workshop, students may participate in Medieval History internships (offering work experience in a historical archives) with or without the awarding of university credits: for students on the three-year degree, 3 ECTS credits are available.

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.

# Elements of disciplinary didactics workshop

## Prof. Andrea Mario Caspani

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

The course (15 hours, 3 ECTS) aims to provide students with a general understanding of the problem of the teaching of history in the current organisation of the Italian school system.

The course is structured as a workshop, in order to promote – through dialogue and the sharing of experience – the acquisition of the ‘practical knowledge’ that characterises the teaching activity.

At the end of the course, students will be able to write and submit a feasibility study of a teaching programme related to a specific historical period.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The Workshop aims to explore the problems at the basis of the teaching of history, with a focus on the importance of the historical dimension and memory and the difference between historical research and the teaching of history, and then provide categories and useful tools to carry out a critical reflection on the issues related to the teaching of history.

***READING LIST***

During the Workshop, further teaching material will be made available for an in-depth study of the topics presented in class.

The knowledge of this material, together with the analysis and commentary of it carried out during the lectures, will be considered as an integral part of the paper for the final assessment.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Dialogue-based frontal lectures, held in class, and group works. Some of the lectures will be recorded and made available on Blackboard.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final assessment will consist of a pass-fail exam.

The assessment criteria will include class attendance, the active participation during the lectures, and the methodological awareness shown during the elaboration and writing of a teaching path the end of the Workshop.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

1) As this is an introductory course, there are no prerequisites in terms of content.

2) Class attendance is compulsory, as the Workshop is based on the sharing of experience and the active participation of students.

*In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to 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.