# History and Languages of Broadcasting

## Prof. Aldo Grasso; Prof. Paolo Carelli

## Semester 1 *Prof. Aldo Grasso*

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

The advanced course aims to tackle the television medium from a historical point of view, defining its main developments and focusing in particular detail on certain development trends in the Italian context. By addressing both text and language, as well as the political, productive and consumer contexts, students will learn to identify and interpret periods, transitions and methods in the historical and cultural evolution of the medium, and develop interpretative approaches and critical and analytical instruments that apply to television of both the past and present.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course is divided into two main modules:

1. *History of Italian television. General trends and historical-cultural developments*

– Periodisation, key genres and their transformation, important case studies.

2. *Rai’s investigative reports of the 1950s and 1960s*

– Analysis of the investigative report “Tv delle origini”.

***READING LIST***

Lectures notes and other materials provided by Prof. Grasso.

A. Grasso, *Storia critica della televisione italiana,* Il Saggiatore, Milan 2019.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will be delivered by means of frontal lectures with screenings of television programmes and other audio-visual content. Attendance is therefore strongly encouraged.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of an oral exam designed to verify their preparation on the fundamental concepts presented in lectures and in the texts on the reading list. Students will be assessed on relevance of their answers and appropriateness of the terminology they use; these criteria will weigh equally on the assessment. Attending students will conduct analytical tasks (individual and group) on the course topics, to be agreed with the lecturer in class and to be presented during lectures in the form of Word report. The analytical work will affect 50% of the final evaluation.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for the course.

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.

Semester 2 *Prof. Paolo Carelli*

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

The course aims to explore key phases in the evolution of television as a medium, focusing on the concepts of “scarcity”, “availability” and “abundance” and on the recent transformations towards convergence and the multichannel model. The course will identify the main evolutionary trajectories of the television system in terms of institutional and linguistic-textual history, considering in particular the Italian context and some other relevant countries at an international level.

In particular, by various means including the analysis of specific and significant case studies, students will learn about changes in television, particularly in terms of regulatory aspects, production models, genres and formats of contemporary texts, distribution and fruition models (linear and on demand). Students are also expected to learn the specialist terminology of television studies.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course is divided into two main areas:

*1. History of television. Eras, key figures, programmes*

– Periodisation and evolutionary trajectories of the Italian context and comparison with the main international television systems

2. *Productive cultures, genres and languages of television*

– Production and distribution models, major players and supply management, with a focus on the transformation of certain key genres

***READING LIST***

Lecture notes and other materials (essays, videos) provided by the lecturer.

A. Grasso, *Storia della comunicazione e dello spettacolo. Vol. III. I media e la sfida della convergenza (1979-2012)*, Vita e pensiero, Milano 2017 (pp. 11-101).

S. Turnbull, *Crime. Storia, miti e personaggi delle serie tv più popolari*, minimum fax, Roma 2019.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will be delivered by means of frontal lectures with screenings of television programmes and other audio-visual content. Attendance is therefore strongly encouraged.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

There will be a final oral examination on the course themes and the texts and materials on the reading list. The assessment criteria are as follows: knowledge, argumentative and analytical skills and understanding of the historical processes characterising the recent development of the television system. In particular, students may be able to conduct analyses (individual or group work) according to the instructions provided by the lecturer, using Teche Rai materials, which will be worth 50% of the final mark for this semester.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no specific prerequisites for this course. However, students are expected to be curious about and follow the dynamics of the television and media industry and its historical and cultural developments.

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