# History of Modern Civilisation

## Prof. Danilo Zardin

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

The aim of the course is to shed light on the genesis of the cultural and social foundations that underlie the development of modernity in the context of Western Europe.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

– understand the main developments of the origins and development of the modern world from an interdisciplinary perspective and in relation to results which defined the current social-cultural context;

– understand and test the characteristics of the arguing method based on proof, which underpins the historical reconstruction of the shift from the past to our present;

– place attention on the historical scale of cultural contexts and social issues regarding the implementation of appropriate educational intervention to the stratified, multi-polar complexity of the contemporary world;

– know how to communicate information regarding historical knowledge in conjunction with data and skills contributed by other subjects.

***COURSE CONTENT***

* Two fundamental pillars of Western modernity: the dignity of the human person (rights, freedom) and the feeling of unity of European civilisation. Their roots and the fruitful continuity of a tradition that still challenges us in present-day reality.

Subsequent lines of study:

– fundamental characteristics and issues of the development of the European cultural identity;

– birth and affirmation of the modern State. Its effects on the organisation of society and on the governance of collective life (from the beginnings of modernity to the new international order from the 19th century on).

[Alongside the course lectures, there will be a cycle of practical exercises (10 hours) held by Dr Luca Ceriotti on the theme: “History of feelings in society and in the family of the modern West” (beginning of the second semester, on dates that will be announced later). Participation in this stage of didactic activity will allow students to be exempted from studying the further-study monograph to be identified in the list of titles of your choice included in the reading list.]

***READING LIST***

D. Zardin, *I fili della storia. Incontri, letture, avvenimenti*, Edizioni di Pagina, Bari, 2014 (except Chapters 1 to 3 and 34 to 46).

D. Zardin, *Nel cantiere della modernità. Storia, memoria, identità*, Edizioni di Pagina, Bari, 2019.

Choose one of the following:

P. Prodi, *Introduzione allo studio della storia moderna*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 1999 (quest’ultimo consigliato per i non frequentanti; esclusi il cap. VII e le appendici finali).

*Or*

M. Pellegrini, *Guerra santa contro i turchi. La crociata impossibile di Carlo V*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2015.

*Or*

V.L. Tapié, *Barocco e classicismo*, Vita e Pensiero, Milano, 1998.

*Or*

U.L. Lehner, *Illuminismo cattolico. La storia dimenticata di un movimento globale*, Studium, Roma, 2022.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures and the use of in-depth teaching material (texts and images) accessible on the Blackboard platform on the University website.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

There will be an oral examination. Students may split it into two parts with a mid-term test (oral) which will take place during the January/February 2020 break between the two semesters. The interim test, for which students can registered by e-mail, will focus on the topics covered in the first semester (the two pillars of European modernity; culture, politics and religion up to the eighteenth-century crisis); the final interview will refer to topics covered during the second semester (society and state; the European framework between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries) and a specialist subject chosen by the student. Blackboard will also contain precise instructions regarding the mandatory reading list; students should study this material for the two separate interviews.

Students will be assessed on their understanding of course material, clarity of their presentation and their critical ability (in proportion to the level of the general course from the first year).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are no prerequisites for attending 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.