# Contemporary History: Geographies and Society

## Prof. Enrica Neri

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

The course intends to analyse the phenomena of colonialism and migration

From a perspective which takes into consideration the connection between history and human geography. With this aim in mind the first part of the course will focus on the understanding of the theoretical foundations of geography: the history of the subject, geographical determinism and possibilism, cartography.

The second part of the course analyses the constitutive elements of Western colonial expansion (with particular reference to the American continent) and the history of international, intra-European and internal migrations to the state of Italy.

*Intended learning outcomes:*

**Knowledge and understanding**: At the end of the course, students will acquire basic knowledge of the social and political phenomena related to Colonialism and Migration in a historical perspective. They will also be able to identify the main geographical and environmental elements that - based on the theories elaborated by human and historical geography - influence or are influenced by human action in different geo-historical contexts.

**Ability to apply knowledge and understanding:** At the end of the course, students will be able to independently identify the main impacting elements and the related consequences of Colonialism in the various historical periods; as well as to recognise the regularities and variables of some phenomena related to human movement, in particular those produced by intra-European and internal Italian migrations.

***COURSE CONTENT***

1. Geography and history: an interdisciplinary prospect?

2. Historical geography of Western expansion: colonialism.

3. Migration: from the end of Ancien Régime to contemporary migrations.

4. The Italian case: national and international mobility.

***READING LIST***

W. Reinhard, *Storia del colonialismo,* Einaudi, Torino, 2002.

S. Gallo, *Senza attraversare le frontiere. Le migrazioni interne dall’Unità a oggi*, Editori Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2013. Part Two: *L’Italia fascista* (pages76-131).

P. Corti, *Storia delle migrazioni internazionali*, Editori Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2003.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures. Optional monitored practical activities to be arranged with students on the basis of student numbers and level of participation.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of a written examination. Questions will specifically aim to ascertain the candidate’s capacity to express themselves, with accuracy and appropriateness, and their capacity to show their mastery of chronological successions, paying attention to abilities in referring to theoretical bases and specific case studies. The final examination consists of six open-ended questions: further information about the exam will be provided during the course.

The final mark is out of thirty: the exam is successful is students receive a mark equal or superior to 18/30.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching and assessment 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.