History of Medieval Art

# Prof. Carlo Cairati

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

During semester 1, the course aims to focus on the history of art from the 4th to the beginning of the 15th century, outlining, in the wide panorama of medieval art, some explanatory guidelines and relevant topics. At the end of the module, students will be able to acquire a general knowledge of the main turning points of medieval art, and a basic understanding of the reading of a work of art.

***COURSE CONTENT***

*Outlines of the history of medieval art (4th-15th century)*.

***READING LIST***

For the study of the general part of the course – concerning medieval art from Paleochristian art to International Gothic included – students are invited to consult a good History of Art textbook: the key topics of the course content are specified in the attachment ‘AM-argomenti parte istituzionale’ (Am-topics of the general part) that can be downloaded from Prof. Stefania Buganza’s Blackboard page. If needed, students are expected to complete their study material with the topics that are not covered by the textbook of their choice.

This is a recommended reading for those who need to/wish to buy a new textbook: P.L. De Vecchi-E. Cerchiari, *Arte nel tempo,* Vol. I, Book I (from ‘Roma da capitale dell’Impero a capitale del mondo Cristiano’; in English: ‘Rome from capital of the Empire to capital of the Christian world’) and II, Vol. II, Book I (‘Il Quattrocento ‘internazionale’; in English: ‘The ‘international’ 15th century’), Bompiani, Milan, 1991 (and reprints). This textbook is no longer available (but it can still be purchased online or on the second hand market, or found at UCSC Libraries or EDUCatt) so, since 2020, the publishing house Sansoni has published a new edition with the same authors and title: P.L. De Vecchi-E. Cerchiari, *Arte nel tempo*.

Further information on the study of the general part of the course will be made available by the lecturers and the beginning of the course.

Furthermore, students will have to read one of the textbooks listed in the attachment ‘Elenco libri’ (‘List of books’) that can be downloaded from the same Blackboard page mentioned above (that is to say, Prof. Stefania Buganza's page).

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures, held in class, supported by the use of slides; study visits to museums and monuments analysed during classes; meetings with subject-matter experts.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The assessment of the students’ preparation will consist of an oral exam of appropriate duration, aimed to evaluate the acquisition of the topics explained in class and those learnt through the textbooks of the reading list. Students will be allowed to divide the exam into two different parts, to be taken on official exam dates, starting from MODULE 1 and then passing, at the end, to MODULE 2. The exams will be structured as follows: for the assessment of the general part of the course (MODULE 1), the exam will be focused on the images that can be found in the textbook of their choice; with regard to the single-subject part of the course (MODULE 2), the exam will be based on the images shown and commented in class, and then made available for students at the end of the course and uploaded on the lecturer’s Blackboard page. In particular, students will be assessed on their ability to make a clear and concise exposition, find relevant answers, and use an appropriate terminology.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

*Prerequisites*

Since this course represents an introduction to the history of medieval art, students should have a basic knowledge of the subject and medieval history. Any learning gaps will be addressed and filled through specific interventions.

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.