# Bibliology

## Prof. Edoardo Barbieri

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

The course will teach the student specific bibliography skills. After the extensive introduction to the History of the Book, which was done during the 1st year of the Master degree, the course should lead to reflect, in both diachronic and synchronic perspective, on the specificity of the book object, making full use of the study methodology, and the technical and practical skills required to treat ancient books and analyse publishing products.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Theory Part

Elements of bibliology: production and structure of the printed book (with a special focus on the book of the Renaissance) and its evolution from the origins to the early 20th century: format, page layout, characters, book decoration and illustration, developments in other aspects of books (from the title page to modern covers).

Practical Part

Description of the ancient printed book, especially the materials used and its features (binding, owner’s notes, ex libris, decoration).

Written assignments to learn the notions of bibliology.

***READING LIST***

L. Armstrong, *La xilografia nel libro italiano del Quattrocento,* Educatt, Milan, 2015.

E. Barbieri, *Guida al libro antico. Conoscere e descrivere il libro tipografico,* Le Monnier Università, Florence, 2006.

E. Barbieri (ed.), *Materiali per il corso di Bibliologia a.a. 2021-2022,* Ufficio fotoriproduzioni.

M. Cursi, *Le forme del libro. Dalla tavoletta cerata all'e-book*, IL Mulino, Bologna, 2016.

L. Hellinga, *Fare un libro nel Quattrocento,* Forum, Udine, 2015.

It is also compulsory the reading of a text from a list provided by the lecturer on his bulletin board and on his webpage at the beginning of the course.

Students unable to attend will agree with the teacher on a specific reading list.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures. The frontal lectures will include: the use of Power Point presentations and visual documents concerning the topics explained in class; the direct analysis of ancient books; visits to libraries; meetings, seminars (also available online), and, possibly, a study visit. All the teaching material will be made available on the lecturer’s webpage.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

For the final exam students will be tested on a textbook of their choice. The exam also includes questions concerning lectures and the textbooks assigned for the individual study. Besides assessing the acquisition of the topics covered, students will be tested on their understanding of the issues brought up during the course. During the exam students will also be required to hand in analytical description worksheets concerning three printed editions one of the sixteenth century, one of the seventeenth and one of the eighteenth.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students have already acquired historical knowledge of the history of publishing and printing activities in Europe and particularly in Italy thanks to the course of "History of books and publishing".

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.