Latin Literature (Degree in Sciences of Cultural Heritage)

Prof. Silvia Stucchi

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

The course in Latin Literature for students on the Sciences of Cultural Heritage degree (6 ECTS credits) introduces students to the discipline and guides them in reading and commenting with the help of the lecturer on selected texts by Latin authors.

The course will cover the development of Latin Literature, referring in particular to the most famous genres and important authors.

Most of the material studied will be literary in nature. The course will focus on reading texts and examining their contribution to artistic and figurative production.

By the end of the course, students will have acquired an overview of the historical development of Latin literature. They will be able to find and study literary Latin sources, and have developed individual critical thinking skills. They will be able to contextualise these texts to expand their understanding of the role of literary phenomena in humanistic culture.

***COURSE CONTENT***

*Food in literature and food literature in ancient Rome*

– Introduction: the evolution of Latin literary genres in their essential lines of development

– Food and literature: reflections.

– Literary representations of the banquet in literature: Cicero, Horace, Petronius, Seneca, Martial, Pliny the Younger, Juvenal

– Recipes and books of recipes in Latin literature: from Cato to Apicius.

During the course, the lecturer will provide a diachronic overview of the evolution of Latin literature, with a focus on the most successful literary genres and the authors who wrote about food, wine, and banquets (single-subject course). An adequate number of hours will be devoted to reading passages by Latin authors in the original language, with the lecturer’s guide and commentary.

***READING LIST***

a) For a history of Latin Literature:

G.B. Conte-E. Pianezzola, *Corso integrato di Letteratura Latina,* Le Monnier, Florence, 2003 and subsequent reprints.

Or

G.B. Conte-E. Pianezzola, *Lezioni di Letteratura Latina,* Le Monnier, Florence, 2010, and subsequent reprints.

Or

G.B. Conte-E. Pianezzola, *Fondamenti di Letteratura Latina,* Le Monnier, Florence, 2012, and subsequent reprints.

b) For the texts that will be studied in lectures:

Catone, *L’agricoltura*, a cura di L. Canali – E. Lelli, Mondadori, Milan 2001.

Orazio, *Satire*, a cura di M. Labate, Rizzoli, BUR, Milano, 1981, continually reprinted.

Petronio, *Satyricon*, a cura di A. Aragosti, Rizzoli, Bur, Milano, 1995, continually reprinted.

J. André (éd.), *Apicius. L'art culinaire*, Les Belles Lettres, Paris 1965.

C. Schneider (éd.), *Bibliothèque idéale des mets et des mots. Parler, boir et manger dans l’Antiquité, d’Homère à Fortunat, évêque de Poitiers*, Les Belles Lettres, Paris 2021.

S. Stucchi, *A cena con Nerone. Viaggio nella cucina dell’antica Roma*, Edizioni Ares, Milano 2021.

Further information will be made available in class by the lecturer.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course will be delivered by means of lectures.

The list of the Latin authors that will be included in the final exam (general course) is available on the Blackboard platfom.

The course in Latin Literature (30 hours) will be activated in semester 2.

There will be a supplementary course (30 hours) in Latin Language and Civilization, held by Simona Ricci in semester 1. The contents of this supplementary course are an integral part of the Literature exam, the syllabus of which is provided in a separate document (see also Prof. Stucchi’s webpage). There will also be 20 hours of Latin Language Practical classes (Dr. Marina Agrillo), as a help for the knowledge of the language and to accompany the reading of the course texts. Please note that the oral exam for the supplementary course in Latin Language held by S. Ricci (semester 1) *must* be taken before the exam in Latin Literature. *It is not necessary to register online for the oral exam*; students need only present themselves at the exam venue during the Latin Literature exams (Prof. S. Stucchi) from the winter exam session that concludes the first semester’s lectures.

Once they have passed the Language exam, they will be able to take the Literature exam. Students can take this exam in one go (the first general section followed by the section on the texts read and commented in lectures, for which they must register online), or in two parts: the first part on the general section (no online registration required) followed by the exam on the texts read and commented in class on a separate date (for which online registration *is* required).

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will be assessed by means of an oral exam. This exam, of appropriate length, will focus on the tradition of the texts examined in class, as well as on commenting on them. During the exam, students will be assessed on the following knowledge and skills: accurate information, clarity of presentation and ability to summarise, use of subject-specific language, ability to develop appropriate responses and development of critical thinking applied to information and knowledge acquired.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students taking the exam (single-subject section on the texts read and commented in class) are reminded that they must register online in advance, as the lecturer will not be able to upload the marks of any students not fully registered for the exam.

As a course on the history of Latin Literature involving direct access to the texts, students are expected to have textbook-level knowledge of the subject. Any gaps in students’ knowledge (in the case of those who have not attended a university-level course involving the study of Latin) will be verified during lectures and remedied by means of specific interventions including the Latin Language course (Simona Ricci - see above), which will serve as an introduction to (or revision of) the basics of Latin language and culture.

Students who did not study Latin at secondary school can also attend a supplementary 20-hour course in basic Latin delivered by Grazia Calciano. The timetable for these lessons will be provided at a later date either by S. Ricci in lectures and on Prof. Stucchi’s webpage.

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.