**Modern and Contemporary Italian Literature (12 ECTS Credits) (for Students on the Literature Degree Programme, following the Classic and Modern Literature Curricula) (One-year Course)**

## Prof. Davide Savio

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

The course aims to provide students with overall knowledge of Italian literature from the past two centuries.

At the end of the course, students will have learned to recognise the main features of literary modernity in the texts; to understand, contextualise, including historically, the various works, forms, genres, poetic styles and movements; to analyse and comment on the classic texts and passages. They will also be able to make connections and comparisons between famous authors and works; trace developments and traditions; apply basic philology, hermeneutics and literary criticism when practising exegesis and interpreting texts, with a particular focus on the sociological, structural, narrative, rhetorical, stylistic and inter-textual implications; apply knowledge acquired to unknown texts, by formulating hypotheses re. attribution and/or dating; to independently perform searches and produce assignments on specific literary topics and present the results in a structured, coherent and effective way making appropriate use of technology.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Semester 1

The course intends to present the coordinates of nineteenth and twentieth-century literary modernity from a general point of view, flanking theoretical perspectives with certain case studies that exemplify key concepts, up to the most recent contemporary extreme.

Semester 2:

The course will address the problem of the literary canon in the twentieth century: which authors were considered classics and why, on a track sometimes parallel to that of publishing, which also rewarded today’s forgotten authors with successful sales. Lectures will focus on some case studies, introduced by means of a theoretical and methodological framework.

***READING LIST***

Semester 1:

G. Langella, *La modernità letteraria*, Pearson, Milan-Turin 2021.

Semester 2:

I. Piazza, *«Canonici si diventa». Mediazione editoriale e canonizzazione nel e del Novecento*, Palumbo, Palermo 2022.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures, mainly devoted to the reading and contextualisation of literary texts, with the aid of technological support.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The examination, which will be conducted entirely in oral format, is designed to assess students’ achievement of course objectives. Students will be assessed on the topics covered in lectures, as well as content of the assigned reading list which is to be considered an integral part of the syllabus. More specifically, with regard to the literary textbook, students must be able to demonstrate a firm grasp of the content of the entire book from a critical and historiographical perspective, and be able to contextualise and interpret the texts in the anthology, paraphrasing and providing textual analysis upon request. As a rule, assessment of students’ understanding of the themes discussed in lectures will be based on a text commented. Clarity of expression, coherence and soundness of argument, as well as advanced use of specialist vocabulary, will also contribute to the assessment of learning outcomes. Particularly successful candidates will also demonstrate the ability to: make links; draw on the historical and cultural context; provide historical background; identify sources; archetypes and intertextual threads; recognise an author’s thematic and stylistic features; reinterpret and apply different categories and methods of inquiry; and quote from memory. The general and single-subject sections will contribute equally to the overall mark. The final mark will be the arithmetic average of the marks awarded for the separate exams (general and single-subject), and will be out of 30.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The examination can be broken down into two or more parts. The one relating to the first semester programme can be taken as early as the winter session in January-February. Please refer to the lecturer’s BlackBoard page for the rules governing examination conditions and procedures. In order to be able to follow the course properly, students should have high-school level literary competence.

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.