**Contemporary History (12 ECTS)**

## Prof. Paolo Borruso

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

The course aims to teach students the historical categories so that they may acquire a deeper and broader understanding of the contemporary era, with a special focus on the historical dynamics of globalisation and of its impact on the present times. To this purpose, a well-structured reading of events and historical processes, from a “World History*”* perspective will be facilitated, highlighting their transnational and interactive dimension, in the public, social, cultural and religious spheres, between the 19th and 21st centuries.

The objective is that at the end of the course, students will have achieved the following results:

1. basic and critical knowledge of the main events of the contemporary era;

2. acquisition of a specific and articulate disciplinary lexicon for addressing issues dealt with during lectures, through reading and analysis of the suggested reading;

3. acquisition of an approach and study methodology for an autonomous understanding of historical issues: research and analysis of primary and secondary sources, analysis of critical essays, periodisation, collection and interpretation of data from other scientific fields (sociology, anthropology, geography, medicine, psychology);

4. development of autonomous judgement skills on historical topics, concerning institutional, social, religious and ethical topics, linked to the present situation;

5. ability to present information, ideas, issues, historical and cultural processes to expert and lay interlocutors in a clear and articulate manner.

***COURSE CONTENT***

During the first semester the course will cover the chronological period between the Congress of Vienna and the first decades of the 21st century, highlighting the transformations caused in single societies by the gradual broadening of geopolitical horizons and of the transnational and transcontinental links. The lectures will examine the development of societies in and outside Europe, the fall of Empires, the formation and strengthening of Nation-States, the emergence of ideologies, the development of Christian and non-Christian worlds and the evolution of interreligious relations, the great “global” crises in the military and economics fields, as well as the great institutional, political and cultural changes. In this framework, contemporary Italy from the end of the Second World War to the present day will be a specific course topic. The course will cover the following points:

1. Definition, periodisation, sources of Contemporary History.

2. Nationalisms and European colonial expansion.

3. The Catholic Church and missionary expansion.

4. Islam and the Mediterranean world.

5. The Russian Revolution and its global impact.

6. World Wars, totalitarianisms, ideologies of race.

7. The building of democratic Europe and the extra-European world after the Second World War.

8. the Cold War, the bipolar world, decolonisation.

9. The end of the Cold War and global disorder.

During the second semester, the lectures will deal with more specific topics regarding contemporary globalisation processes, based on the most recent historiographical trends of “World History”, with a specific focus on the transformations of mass society between the 19th and the 21st centuries and on Europe’s relations with the extra-European world. The course will cover the following points :

1. Building of the «idea of Europe» and of European «civilisation».

2. The European colonial expansion and the comparison between European «civilisation» and extra-European «otherness» (Asia, Africa, Latin America).

4. Development of transnational networks and movements in the political, social and religious fields (populism, sovereignism, fundamentalism-Jihadism, Catholicism, Orthodoxy, Protestantism).

5. Decolonisation processes and global interactions (development-underdevelopment, democracies-dictatorships).

6. Evolution of migration phenomena and their global links.

7. Ecumenism and interreligious dialogue.

8. Environmental issues and new conflicts.

***READING LIST***

Compulsory reading:

1. Lecture notes and any other material provided during the course.

2. A manual of contemporary history (students should read L. Caracciolo, A. Roccucci, *Storia contemporanea. Dal mondo europeo al mondo senza centro*, Le Monnier, Milan 2017, from Chapter 7 to 27, covering the period 1870-2015).

3. A. Giovagnoli, *Storia e globalizzazione*, Laterza, Rome-Bari, 2009 or another edition.

4. P. Borruso, *Debre Libanos 1937. Il più grave crimine di guerra dell’Italia*, Laterza, 2020.

It is possible to replace the lecture notes with J. Osterhammel-N.P. Petersson, *Storia della globalizzazione*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2005.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures in the classroom (teaching may be organised differently in case of anti-Covid rules), debates with students, group work, involvement of experts, use of videos and slides.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will take an oral exam with the following format: a) one/two questions on the general part (lectures, manual), in which students must contextualise and describe the main events of contemporary history; b) two questions on single-subject texts (one for each of the listed volumes). The exam is designed to assess students’ acquistion of the required knowledge. Students must demonstrate an adequate historical understanding of course topics. The assessment will not insist on factual, but will primarily focus on students’ ability to reason and argue using a historical approach.

The exam will be marked out of thirty (from a minimum mark of 18/30 to a maximum of 30/30). The final mark will take into account students’ presentation skills (specific lexicon) and the quality of their answers (70%), as well as the ability in presenting arguments in favour of statements, analyses and judgements demonstrated in their replies (30%). If the students’ exam is complete, thorough and appropriately presented, they will pass with distinction.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

**2 ECTS programme**

Students aiming to be awarded 2 supplementary ECTS for the Contemporary History course, will have to study the following text :

M. Bloch, Apologia della storia o il mestiere di storico, Einaudi, Turin, 2009 (or another edition).

Any communication or notice concerning the course, reading list and exams will be inserted in Prof. Borruso’s digital classroom. Please be informed that no replies will be given to email requests for information already included in the digital classroom.

**Prerequisites**

Students must have a good knowledge of Italian, proficiency in the lexicon of the discipline and an average level of understanding of historical reasoning.

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.

**Contemporary History [6 ECTS ] [Module 1 (Semester 1) (Basic course)]**

**Module 1 (Semester 1)**

## Prof. Paolo Borruso

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

The course aims to teach students the historical categories so that they may acquire a deeper and broader understanding of the contemporary era, with a special focus on the historical dynamics of globalisation and of its impact on the present times. To this purpose, a well-structured reading of events and historical processes, from a “World History*”* perspective will be facilitated, highlighting their transnational and interactive dimension, in the public, social, cultural and religious spheres, between the 19th and 21st centuries.

The objective is that at the end of the course, students will have achieved the following results:

1. basic and critical knowledge of the main events of the contemporary era;

2. acquisition of a specific and articulate disciplinary lexicon for addressing issues dealt with during lectures, through reading and analysis of the suggested reading;

3. acquisition of an approach and study methodology for an autonomous understanding of historical issues: research and analysis of primary and secondary sources, analysis of critical essays, periodisation, collection and interpretation of data from other scientific fields (sociology, anthropology, geography, medicine, psychology);

4. development of autonomous judgement skills on historical topics, concerning institutional, social, religious and ethical topics, linked to the present situation;

5. ability to present information, ideas, issues, historical and cultural processes to expert and lay interlocutors in a clear and articulate manner.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The basic course of Module 1 will cover the chronological period between the Congress of Vienna and the first decades of the 21st century, highlighting the transformations caused in single societies by the gradual broadening of geopolitical horizons and of the transnational and transcontinental links. The lectures will examine the development of societies in and outside Europe, the fall of Empires, the formation and strengthening of Nation-States, the emergence of ideologies, the development of Christian and non-Christian worlds and the evolution of interreligious relations, the great “global” crises in the military and economics fields, as well as the great institutional, political and cultural changes. In this framework, contemporary Italy from the end of the Second World War to the present day will be a specific course topic. The course will cover the following points:

1. Definition, periodisation, sources of Contemporary History.

2. Nationalisms and European colonial expansion.

3. The Catholic Church and missionary expansion.

4. Islam and the Mediterranean world.

5. The Russian Revolution and its global impact.

6. World Wars, totalitarianisms, ideologies of race.

7. The building of democratic Europe and the extra-European world after the Second World War.

8. the Cold War, the bipolar world, decolonisation.

9. The end of the Cold War and global disorder.

***READING LIST***

Compulsory reading:

1. Lecture notes and any other material provided during the course.

2. A manual of contemporary history (students should read L. Caracciolo, A. Roccucci, *Storia contemporanea. Dal mondo europeo al mondo senza centro*, Le Monnier, Milan 2017, from Chapter V to XXIV, covering the period 1870-1989).

3. A. Giovagnoli, *Storia e globalizzazione*, Laterza, Rome-Bari, 2009 (or another edition).

It is possible to replace the lecture notes with J. Osterhammel-N.P. Petersson, *Storia della globalizzazione*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2005.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures in the classroom (teaching may be organised differently in case of anti-Covid rules), debates with students, group work, involvement of experts, use of videos and slides.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students will take an oral exam with the following format: a) one/two questions on the general part (lectures, manual), in which students must contextualise and describe the main events of contemporary history; b) one question on the single-subject text. The exam is designed to assess students’ acquistion of the required knowledge. Students must demonstrate an adequate historical understanding of course topics. The assessment will not insist on factual knowledge, but will primarily focus on students’ ability to reason and argue using a historical approach.

The exam will be marked out of thirty (from a minimum mark of 18/30 to a maximum of 30/30). The final mark will take into account students’ presentation skills (specific lexicon) and the quality of their answers (70%), as well as the ability in presenting arguments in favour of statements, analyses and judgements demonstrated in their replies (30%). If the students’ exam is complete, thorough and appropriately presented, they will pass with distinction.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

**2 ECTS programme**

Students aiming to be awarded 2 supplementary ECTS for the Contemporary History course, will have to study the following text :

M. Bloch, Apologia della storia o il mestiere di storico, Einaudi, Turin, 2009 (or another edition).

Any communication or notice concerning the course, reading list and exams will be inserted in Prof. Borruso’s digital classroom. Please be informed that no replies will be given to email requests for information already included in the digital classroom.

**Prerequisites**

Students must have a good knowledge of Italian, proficiency in the lexicon of the discipline and an average level of understanding of historical reasoning.

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.

**Contemporary History [6 ECTS] [Module A (Semester 2) (Advanced course)]**

## Prof. Paolo Borruso

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

The course aims to teach students the historical categories so that they may acquire a deeper and broader understanding of the contemporary era, with a special focus on the historical dynamics of globalisation and of its impact on the present times. To this purpose, a well-structured reading of events and historical processes, from a “World History*”* perspective will be facilitated, highlighting their transnational and interactive dimension, in the public, social, cultural and religious spheres, between the 19th and 21st centuries.

The objective is that at the end of the course, students will have achieved the following results:

1. basic and critical knowledge of the main events of the contemporary era;

2. acquisition of a specific and articulate disciplinary lexicon for addressing issues dealt with during lectures, through reading and analysis of the suggested reading;

3. acquisition of an approach and study methodology for an autonomous understanding of historical issues: research and analysis of primary and secondary sources, analysis of critical essays, periodisation, collection and interpretation of data from other scientific fields (sociology, anthropology, geography, medicine, psychology);

4. development of autonomous judgement skills on historical topics, concerning institutional, social, religious and ethical topics, linked to the present situation;

5. ability to present information, ideas, issues, historical and cultural processes to expert and lay interlocutors in a clear and articulate manner.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course aims to deal with more specific topics regarding contemporary globalisation processes, based on the most recent historiographical trends of “World History”, with a specific focus on the transformations of mass society between the 19th and the 21st centuries and on Europe’s relations with the extra-European world. The course will cover the following points :

1. Building of the «idea of Europe» and of European «civilisation».

2. The European colonial expansion and the comparison between European «civilisation» and extra-European «otherness» (Asia, Africa, Latin America).

4. Development of transnational networks and movements in the political, social and religious fields (populism, sovereignism, fundamentalism-Jihadism, Catholicism, Orthodoxy, Protestantism).

5. Decolonisation processes and global interactions (development-underdevelopment, democracies-dictatorships).

6. Evolution of migration phenomena and their global links.

7. Ecumenism and interreligious dialogue.

8. Environmental issues and new conflicts.

***READING LIST***

Compulsory reading:

Lecture notes and any other material provided during the course.

D. Kennedy, *Storia della decolonizzazione*, Il Mulino, 2017.

P. Borruso, *Debre Libanos 1937. Il più grave crimine di guerra dell’Italia*, Laterza, 2020.

One text among the following:

A. Morone (edited by), *La fine del colonialismo italiano*, Le Monnier, 2018.

V. De Cesaris – M. Impagliazzo (edited by), *L’immigrazione in Italia da Jerry Masslo a oggi*, Guerini e associati, 2020

M. Giro, *Global Africa. La nuova realtà delle migrazioni: il volto di un continente in movimento*, Guerini e Associati, 2019.

A. Plebani, *Jihadismo globale. Strategie del terrore tra Oriente e Occidente*, Giunti, 2016

G. Sofri, *Gandhi tra Oriente e Occidente*, Sellerio editore Palermo, 2015

C. Casola, *Sahel. Conflitti, migrazioni e instabilità a sud del Sahara*, Il Mulino 2022.

R. Morozzo della Rocca, *Oscar Romero. La biografia*, Milano, Ed. San Paolo, 2015