# Theories and Principles of Citizenship in the Modern and Contemporary Age

## Prof.ssa Chiara Continisio

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

The general aim of the course is to offer students the opportunity to learn about the concept of citizenship as it is used today in history and in the human sciences, with particular reference to the profiles of inclusion and exclusion and of rights and duties.

Specifically, the course aims are:

– provide awareness of the historicity of the concepts of citizen and foreigner;

­– encourage the formation of a critical sensitivity to the issue of rights and their protection, in its historical aspects and in those more related to current events;

– develop an approach to the study of the discipline that is sensitive to causal links and long-term relationships between past and present and is supported by a good use of the subject-specific vocabulary.

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

– know the fundamental turning points of the history of citizenship also from an interdisciplinary perspective;

– understand the difference between citizenship rights and human rights, recognising their fundamental conceptual and historical turning points;

– develop applied understanding skills that allow them to carry out educational and training interventions also through awareness of the historical and cultural dynamics underlying the issues of inclusion and exclusion;

– communicate information relating to the history of citizenship using specialised vocabulary;

– demonstrate independent judgment by drawing information from reference texts and contemporary cultural debate.

***COURSE CONTENT***

After defining what is meant by citizenship, the course will focus on some particularly important turning points in its history, and finally cover the contemporary situation and the theme of democratic-constitutional citizenship. The historical and current commentary on some of the fundamental Principles of the Italian Constitution will allow students to grasp their essential focal point: in particular, the course will address the themes of the inviolability of rights, solidarity, equality, freedom and the condition of foreigners. The lessons will mainly focus on the following core themes:

– Citizenship: definitions and fundamental concepts

– «The right to have rights»: the lesson of Hannah Arendt

– Brief journey through history: the subject of rights from the French Revolution to democratic-constitutional citizenship

– Constitutional democratic citizenship: universalism of rights, constitutional guarantees, solidarity

***READING LIST***

Pietro Costa, *Cittadinanza*,Bari, Laterza, 2013 and following, chapters 1, 9, 10, 11, 12

Maurizio Fioravanti, *Costituzione italiana. Art. 2*, Rome, Carocci, 2017

Espérance Hakuzwimana Ripanti, *Tutta intera*, Turin, Einaudi, 2022

Further specific material possibly made available to students on Blackboard or distributed in the classroom will form an integral part of the exam reading list.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lessons in the classroom. A part of the course (from 6 to 9 hours) will be dedicated to multidisciplinary insights on the theme of citizenship, which can also take place with the participation of experts. These occasions intend to be seminar sessions and will use study and reflection materials from literature, fiction and contemporary debate. Students are invited to participate through independent and free interventions.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The assessment consists of oral exams. Knowledge of the assigned reading list is required. The questions will aim to highlight the understanding of the proposed models and the authors addressed, as well as to encourage independent and critical reflection. The students’ ability to re-elaborate and organise the contents in a clear presentation, the consistency of the answers with the questions as well as the appropriate use of the specialised vocabulary will also be particularly appreciated.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

There are non content-reated prerequisites for attending the course.

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.