# Economic and Social History of the Modern World

## Professor Pietro Cafaro

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

The course aims to illustrate the most significant events of the economic and social development of the 1900s, with an emphasis on the effects of the gradual globalisation process.

The course aims to enable students (attending students) to understand the complex and gradual development of the economic and financial structure of today's world.

At the end of the course, students will be able to identify the causes and the effects of the peculiar development path followed by our country. In particular, they will be able to carry out an accurate analysis of the issues arising from the progressive financialisation and globalisation of the economy.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Introduction: the 1900s, a long century

1. Origin of the predominance of the West.

2. End of empires and problem of nationalities. Disappointments and crises following WWI.

3. Depression and state intervention between the two wars.

4. Post-WWII: the golden age of the Western economy: reconstruction, economic miracles, and welfare policies.

5. Different blocs and different paths to development during the years of the expansion of consumption.

6. From the crisis of the 1970s to the acceleration of the globalisation process.

7. The new millennium, far-reaching crises, and signs of new equilibria.

***READING LIST***

*For attending students:*

1. Lecture notes.
2. Jacques Brasseul, *Storia economica dalle origini a oggi*, edited by C. Belfanti e I.Paris, Torino, UTET 1922.

*For non-attending students:*

1. Jacques Brasseul, *Storia economica dalle origini a oggi*, edited by C. Belfanti e I.Paris, Torino, UTET 1922.

2. A volume of students’ choice from the following two

4. E.L. Jones, *Il miracolo economico*. *Ambiente, economia e geopolitica nella storia europea ed asiatica*, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2005.

5. K. Pomeranz, *La grande divergenza. La Cina, l’Europa e la nascita dell’economia mondiale moderna*, Bologna, 2012.

***TEACHING METHOD***

The evaluation will be a final oral exam on the entire programme according to the provided reading list. The evaluation will take into consideration relevance of the answers, appropriate use of specific terminology, argumentative and coherent structuring of the discourse, ability to identify conceptual links and unsolved issues.

For attending students, alternatively, a written test could be prepared (one-off) with open questions at the end of the course.

During the course tools for *ongoing* self-assessment will be provided.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The course requires the obvious knowledge of basic history of Italy and of Europe in modern and contemporary age (possibly deriving from a high school manual) and basic economic history of the West in the same chronological context. Anyone who has not completed a course in basic economic history in their study career up to this point is invited to fill any gaps by using a text among those indicated in the reading list of the three-year degree course.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

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*Time and place of office hours*

The teacher will receive students in his office (by reservation via e-mail) at the time communicated at the beginning of 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.