# . – Civilisation of the Ancient and Medieval World

## Prof. Milena Raimondi

COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The general aim of the course is to introduce the student to a basic knowledge, critically and didactically oriented, of ancient and medieval civilisations.

The specific aims of the course are: a) to promote a critical study of the discipline, focussing on the documentary aspect, the methodology of reconstruction and historical interpretation, and the modern categories of historical periodisation; b) to teach students about the importance of historical issues and figures of the ancient and medieval world in the subsequent development of the world historical experience; and c) to grasp the educational and didactic relevance of the issues addressed.

At the end of the course, students will be able to: a) know and interpret the main historical phenomena of the ancient and medieval Mediterranean using the appropriate language; b) understand the specificities of the present in relation to the historical systems of the past; c) develop active citizenship skills in both the crucial aspects of emerging citizenship in the image of ancient and medieval civilisations, as well as the significant traces of the permanent Italian past; and d) use appropriate content to develop educational paths of so-called ‘frameworks of civilisation’ that link issues of modernity and contemporaneity to cultural, political and religious aspects rooted in the ancient and medieval past.

COURSE CONTENT

In consideration of the provisions of the ‘National Indications’ (2012), which assign to the primary school "the historical knowledge concerning the period between the appearance of man and late antiquity", the course presents the main problems of periodisation and of the geo-historical orientation of prehistory and the civilisations of the ancient Near East; it then focuses on topics and protagonists of Greek civilisation, from Minoan protohistory to Hellenism, and Roman civilisation, from the origins, in the context of ancient Italy, to late antiquity and the formation of the medieval world.

READING LIST

1. Materials provided in class and available on the Blackboard platform.

2. *Le Indicazioni nazionali per il curricolo della scuola dell’infanzia e del primo ciclo dell’istruzione*, 2012, pp. 41-45 (history); *National Indications and New Scenarios*, 2018 (available on *Blackboard*).

3. G. Geraci-A. Marcone, *Storia antica. Dalla Preistoria al primo espandersi dell’Islam*, Florence, Mondadori Università, 2021 ISBN 978-88-6184-896-2.

4. A. Barbero-C. Frugoni, *Medioevo. Storia di voci, racconto di immagini*, Bari, Laterza, 2021 ISBN 97 8885 8119 297. (see Notes).

To understand the ancient geographical references, we recommend a historical atlas, available in the library or already owned.

To facilitate preparation for the exam, it is advisable to consult a good manual of ancient and medieval history used in high school, also already in the student's possession, in addition to studying the reading list above.

TEACHING METHOD

Frontal and dialogue-based lectures, with the help of the *Blackboard* multimedia platform. The topics are presented through the use of ancient sources (historical-literary texts in Italian translation, archaeological, monumental, epigraphic and numismatic sources), historical-geographical maps and multimedia tools.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

An oral exam comprising an interview with questions related to the course topics, the materials published on Blackboard and the reading list.

The assessment criteria are: a) knowledge of the topics covered in class and in the exam reading list, with an adequate chronological and geographical framework; b) presentation clarity and language command; c) ability to establish significant historical links between the various civilisations covered during the course; d) ability to grasp the different historical links between antiquity and contemporaneity.

NOTES AND PREREQUISITES

The course is introductory in nature and does not require any prior knowledge of classical content or languages.

All up-to-date information needed for exam preparation is published on Blackboard and is provided in detail by the lecturer at the beginning of the course and in class.

Should the current Covid-19 health emergency not allow face-to-face teaching, remote teaching will be guaranteed using methods that will be communicated in good time to students.

Information on office hours available on the teacher's personal page at http://docenti.unicatt.it/.