Theories and Institutions of Citizenship in the Modern and Contemporary Age

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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 the social sciences, with particular reference therefore not so much to its legal profiles, but to the historical-cultural ones. We will highlight the many aspects of membership and non-membership, rights and duties, burdens and responsibilities, and, at least for the most relevant theoretical models, the different ways in which these aspects have been understood in the modern and contemporary age.

Particular attention will be paid to the alternative, historically crucial in the profiles of citizenship, inclusion/exclusion and, therefore, to the issue of foreigners.

Specifically, the course aims to:

- provide awareness of the historicity of the citizen concept and of citizenship models, focusing attention on the disciplinary lexicon, the sources and general problems of historiographic interpretation;

- provide awareness of the historicity of the foreigner concept, including its correlation to that of the citizen;

- develop a critical approach to the study of the discipline, attentive to causal links and long-term relationships between past and present.

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

- know and understand the fundamental issues of the history of citizenship from also an interdisciplinary perspective;

- develop skills of applied understanding that allow them to also carry out educational and training interventions while aware of the underlying historical and cultural dynamics;

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

- develop an autonomy of judgment by drawing information from reference texts and contemporary cultural debate.

COURSE CONTENT

After having defined what is meant by citizen and citizenship and by "theoretical models of citizenship", and after having observed some of the main models (liberal, supportive, totalitarian, constitutional), the course will proceed with the topic of those excluded from citizenship in history and in the contemporary world, focusing in particular on the figure of the foreigner but with references also to the history of female citizenship. Historical and current commentary on Articles 10 and 2 of the Italian Constitution will allow us to observe the topic of the inviolability of human rights, the guarantees offered to them, and solidarity, all integral parts of democratic constitutional citizenship, relative to our present.

***READING LIST[[1]](#footnote-1)***

* Pietro Costa, *Cittadinanza*,Laterza, Bari 2013, chapters 1, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. [*Purchase from VP*](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/costa-pietro/cittadinanza-9788842075875-174246.html)
* Pietro Costa, *Costituzione italiana. Art. 10*, Carocci, Rome 2018, chapters 1, 3, 4. [*Purchase from VP*](https://librerie.unicatt.it/scheda-libro/pietro-costa/costituzione-italiana-articolo-10-9788843088669-258643.html)
* Cristina Cattaneo, *Naufraghi senza volto. Dare un nome alle vittime del Mediterraneo*, Raffaello Cortina, Milan, 2018.

Any further specific material made available to students on Blackboard or distributed in class will form an integral part of the exam reading list.

TEACHING METHOD

Frontal lectures. A part of the course (from 6 to 9 hours) will be dedicated to multidisciplinary in-depth studies on the topic of citizenship, which may also include the participation of experts. These occasions are intended to offer authentic seminar-based insights into the course topics and will include the study of and reflection on materials from literature, fiction and contemporary debate. Students are invited to participate independently and freely.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

The exams are held in oral form. Knowledge of the assigned reading list is required. The questions will aim to highlight students' understanding of the proposed models and the authors addressed, as well as to encourage their independent and critical reflection. Particular weight will also be given to the student's ability to re-elaborate and organise the contents in a clear presentation, offering consistent answers to the questions and appropriate use of the specialised vocabulary.

NOTES AND PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisites for attending the course.

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/.

1. The texts indicated in the reading list may be purchased at the University bookstores; they may also be bought from other outlets. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)