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| Academic subject | Christian Tradition and European Cultures |
| Degree course | Modern philology (LM-14) |
| Year of the course | Second |
| Department | Department LELIA – University of Bari Aldo Moro |
| Subject area | Related or complementary learning activities |
| SSD | M-STO/07 |
| ECTS credits | 6 (Study Hours: 150) |
| Language | Italian |
| Type of class | Lectures |
| Compulsory attendance | See Didactic Rules and Regulations (“Regolamento Didattico”), art. 7. |
| Learning Objectives | The course aims at providing the students with a critical awareness of the role played by the Judeo-Christian tradition in shaping the European cultures. The impact of this tradition will be assessed through the analysis and historical consideration of textual, iconographic and monumental sources. |
| Prerequisites | Knowledge of the Italian language. Familiarity with the methodological tools of historical research. Aptitude for analysis and textual interpretation. Familiarity with late antique and/or early Christian history would be advisable. |
| Expected learning outcomes | <p>Knowledge and understanding Students will develop a clear knowledge of different aspects of the cultural, historical and religious influence of the Christian tradition on the social and geographical space of Europe. They will be able to understand both complex texts and visual documents related to Christian tradition(s), placing them into a historical and critical perspective.</p> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding By means of an interdisciplinary reflection, students will apply their understanding of historical and cultural phenomena of the Christian tradition to contemporary society.</p> <p>Making informed judgements and choices Students will learn to critically recognize and correctly evaluate the assessments of the Christian religious system based on commonplace ideas.</p> <p>Communicating knowledge and understanding Students will learn to communicate (also to a wider audience) the mutual influences between the Judeo-Christian tradition, its historical expressions and the plural European identity.</p> <p>Ability to continue learning Students will develop the ability of identifying and deconstructing mass-media prejudices, stereotypes</p> |

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| | and doctrinal preconceptions on the impact of Judeo-Christian tradition on the European space. They will also learn to historically understand the religious differences in today's Europe. | | |
| Evaluation criteria | <p>Students are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -give proof of knowledge of the cultural, historical and religious influence of the Christian tradition on the social and geographical space of Europe. They are also expected to understand and historically assess both complex texts and visual documents related to Christian tradition(s); -be able to apply apply their understanding of historical and cultural phenomena of the Christian tradition to contemporary society; -make informed judgements and critical examination of the superficial assessments of the Christian religious system, based on commonplace ideas; -communicate knowledge and understanding of the mutual influences between the Judeo-Christian tradition, its historical expressions and the plural European identity; -be able to continue learning, investigating and historically assessing the religious differences in today's Europe, also in order to recognize the mass-media prejudices, stereotypes and doctrinal preconceptions on the impact of Judeo-Christian tradition on the European space. | | |
| In-class study hours | 42 | Class begins | September, 27, 2021 |
| Classrooms and class times | Calendario lezioni | | |

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| Academic subject | Christian Origins and their textual sources | | |
| Academic Year | 2021-2022 | Semestre | First |
| Teacher | Laura Carnevale | laura.carnevale@uniba.it | |
| Teacher's web page | https://www.uniba.it/docenti/carnevale-laura | | |
| Syllabus | | | |
| Course contents | <p>After a general overview of the concept of "Christian tradition" in relation to the history of Christianity, the course will be developed in two sections:</p> <p>1. An examination of the seminal role of the Bible as the "Great Code" of the Western culture. In particular, a reflection will be conducted with regard to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a) the historicity of biblical texts, figures and episodes; b) their Reception History.</p> <p>Figures like Abraham, Job, Jesus, Mary Magdalene will be taken into account, assessing their reception and vitality in the history of European cultures.</p> <p>2. A reflection will be conducted on the Cognitive Science of Religion (CSR), exploring the origins of religion, cognition and culture in an evolutionary perspective.</p> | | |
| Bibliography | <p>A. Required readings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M. Simonetti, "Alle origini della tradizione cristiana", in «Vetera Christianorum» 39, 2002, pp. 343-355. - P. Stefani, <i>La Bibbia</i>, Il Mulino, Bologna 2004. - M. Pesce, <i>Chi ha paura del Gesù storico? Ripensare il cristianesimo nel mondo moderno</i>, EDB, Bologna 2015. - A. Norenzayan, <i>How Religion Transformed Cooperation and Conflict</i>, Princeton University Press, Princeton 2013. <p>B. Choice of five chapters within two of the following books:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N. Frye, <i>The Great Code. The Bible and Literature</i>, Harcourt, New York 1982 (and further editions). - P. Brown, <i>The Rise of Western Christendom. Triumph and Diversity. A.D. 200-1000</i>, Blackwell, Oxford 2003. - E. Lupieri (ed.), <i>Mary Magdalene from the New Testament to the New Age and Beyond</i>, Brill, Leiden-Boston 2019. - L. Carnevale, <i>Giobbe dall'antichità al medioevo. Testi, tradizioni, immagini</i>, Edipuglia, Bari 2010. - L. Carnevale, <i>Obbedienza di Abramo e sacrificio di Isacco. La ricezione di un racconto violento tra giudaismo e cristianesimo antico</i>, Il Pozzo di Giacobbe, Trapani 2020. - M. Pesce, <i>Il cristianesimo, Gesù e la modernità</i>, Carocci, Roma 2018 (this book can be substituted by a different text by the same author written in English). - A.W. Geertz, <i>Approcci cognitivi ed evolutivisti alla religione. Una collezione di saggi</i>, tr. it, Bologna, Pátron 2020 (this book can be substituted by a different text by the same author written in English). <p>C. Choice of one from the following books:</p> | | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E. Carrère, <i>The Kingdom</i>, English Translation, Hutchinson, London 2017. - H. Panas, <i>The Gospel according to Judas</i>, English Translation, Hutchinson, London 1977. - J. Saramago, <i>Il vangelo secondo Gesù Cristo</i>, English Translation, Mariner Books, Boston 1994 (and further editions). - N. Tosches, <i>Under Tiberius</i>, Little Brown Company, Boston 2015. - R. Calasso, <i>Il libro di tutti i libri</i>, Adelphi, Milano 2019. |
| Notes | The readings in point B are to be considered compulsory and complementary to those in point A; they will be agreed with the teacher, also on the basis of the interests of each student. |
| Teaching methods | Face-to-face lessons, seminar activities, class discussions, critical reflection on audio-video materials. Students will be encouraged to carry out writing exercises and will be encouraged to speak in public about a topic. Attendance (either in person or online) to round tables, lectures and supplementary seminars on topics related to the course, held by professors from other Universities, will also be encouraged. |
| Assessment methods | <p>Oral examination. The participation to the class discussions and the completion of a writing exercise will be evaluated for the exam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The examination timetable is published on the site of the Degree Course and on “Esse3” system. - Entering the “Esse3” system and using the format available there is the only way to register for the examination. |
| Thesis | Students intending to write their thesis in this subject are asked to contact the teacher by e-mail at least 10 months before their planned graduation session. <u>The writing of the thesis takes at least 6/7 months.</u> For further information, see the “Didactic Rules and Regulation” (“Regolamento didattico”) of the Degree Course. |
| Further information | <p>Office hours are published on the teacher’s web page. These times are subject to change. <u>Students are therefore advised to contact the teacher by e-mail for every appointment.</u></p> <p>Students experiencing difficulties in preparing the exam may contact the teacher during his/her office hours or request an appointment by email.</p> |