



General information	
Academic subject	History of Ancient Christianity
Degree course	Bachelor's Degree in Cultural Heritage (L1)
Academic Year	2022-2023
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	9
Language	Italian
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	First Semester (26.09.2022 – 9.12.2022)
Attendance	Attendance is governed by the Didactic Regulation of the Course which can be found at the following link: https://w3.uniba.it/corsi/scienze-beni-culturali/presentazione-del-corso/R.D.SBC20222023.pdf

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Virtual headquarters	
Tutoring (time and day)	Tuesday and Thursday, 10.00-12.00 (Bari, Old Town, Santa Teresa dei Maschi complex - 1st floor) and by appointment via email and Teams.

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	The course aims to offer students a specific knowledge of the cultural and historical-literary traditions of early Christianity (I-IV).
Course prerequisites	Basic knowledge of ancient history
Contents	<p>The course intends to deepen themes such as: the construction of Christian identity; the establishment of the first ecclesial communities; the impact between Christianity and paganism; persecutions; Constantinian politics and the so-called "peace of the church"; the age of Theodosius I.</p> <p>Analyzes of documents relating to the anti-Jewish controversy, apologetics and hagiography will be conducted.</p> <p>Particular space will be devoted to the question of the historical figure of historical Jesus and to the forms of sacralization of spaces and places of worship.</p>
Books and bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Storia del cristianesimo. I. L'età antica (secoli I-VII)</i>, a cura di E. Prinzivalli, Carocci Editore, Roma 2015, pp. 15-30; 69-112; 122-132; 185-249; 435-460.• A. Destro-M. Pesce, <i>Il Battista e Gesù. Due movimenti giudaici nel tempo della crisi</i>, Carocci Editore, Roma 2021, pp. 13-47.• I. Aulisa, <i>Pellegrinaggi femminili tra tarda antichità e medioevo: donne e sante pellegrine al Gargano</i>, in L. Pellegrino (a cura di), <i>Siponto e Manfredonia nella Daunia. Numero III – Nuova Serie. Rassegna di studi anno 2020. Società di Storia Patria per la Puglia - sezione di Manfredonia</i>, Manfredonia 2020, pp. 93-123.• I. Aulisa, <i>Apparizioni di San Michele: Monte Gargano, Mont-Saint-Michel, Sacra in Val di Susa. Leggende agiografiche, con introduzione, testo e traduzione</i>, Pacilli Editore, Manfredonia 2021, pp. 1-100.

Additional materials	Some photocopies of translated primary sources will be distributed to the attending students.
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Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
150	42		108
ECTS			
9			
Teaching strategy		The course is based on an interdisciplinary didactic method, through face to face lectures that are integrated with slides and deepened by workshops. The course also offers some lectures given by experts from different Italian and foreign Universities.	
Expected learning outcomes			
Knowledge and understanding on:		Knowledge of the main aspects of the history of ancient Christianity, with particular reference to doctrines, institutions, rituals, places of worship, interaction with other religious cultures of the ancient world. Interpreting, through the methods of historical-Christian research, textual and iconographic sources related to the spread of Christianity in the first four centuries.	
Applying knowledge and understanding on:		Acquisition of a methodology that allows a critical analysis of historical and iconographic sources related to the spread of Christianity in different historical and geographical areas. Ability to apply the acquired knowledge about the development of Christianity in interdisciplinary contexts.	
Soft skills		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Making informed judgments and choices</i> Developing personal analytical skills for a critical approach to the history of ancient Christianity and to the related sources through some case studies. • <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding</i> Using a rigorous and accurate specialized language. Ability to communicate, with terminological accuracy and attention to diachronic aspects, notions and historical knowledge, acquired during the Course. • <i>Capacities to continue learning</i> Developing the necessary skills to undertake subsequent studies in the field of Christianity and ancient history with critical capacity and autonomy. 	

Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	At the end of the course, every student has to take an oral exam, that concerns the topics included in the bibliography and the analyzed primary sources. The scheduled calendar is available on the website of the Degree course. The students must use the online system (Esse3) in order to enroll to the list of candidates for the final exam.
Evaluation criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Knowledge and understanding</i> The student will have to trace the evolution of Christianity from the origins to the time of Theodosius I and to show that he is aware of the main questions relating to the relationship between Christianity and paganism, as well as to the times and methods of spreading Christianity in the Roman Empire. • <i>Applying knowledge and understanding</i> The student will have to demonstrate that he is able to apply the knowledge acquired in relation to the development of Christianity in interdisciplinary contexts and to elaborate historical and cultural comparisons with other religious civilizations of the ancient world.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Autonomy of judgment</i> The student will have to demonstrate that he has acquired an independent method of investigation and interpretation of sources, which includes the ability to effectively use the reference bibliography. • <i>Communication skills</i> The student will have to demonstrate that he is able to treat and expose, with logical coherence and mastery of language, themes such as: the construction of Christian identity; the establishment of the first ecclesial communities; persecutions; apologetics; the anti-Jewish controversy; the forms of sacralization of spaces and places of worship. • <i>Capacities to continue learning</i> The student will have to demonstrate that he has acquired the notions and developed an independent study method.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	<p>For the purposes of the evaluation, the degree of knowledge of the main problems relating to the history of ancient Christianity (I-IV century) and of the sources analyzed will be verified. Particular attention will be paid to language properties and the ability to correctly interpret and contextualise sources.</p> <p>The evaluation will comply with the following parameters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - insufficient grade: lack of basic knowledge and inability to correctly interpret the different phases of the history of ancient Christianity (1st-4th century) and the related sources. - sufficient grade: possession of basic knowledge and sufficient ability to correctly interpret the different phases of the history of ancient Christianity (I-IV century) and the related sources. - positive grade: possession of basic knowledge and good ability to correctly interpret the different phases of the history of ancient Christianity (1st-4th century) and the related sources. - excellent grade: possession of basic knowledge and excellent ability to correctly interpret the different phases of the history of ancient Christianity (1st-4th century) and the related sources. Accuracy of exposure and autonomy of judgment.
Additional information	<p>In order to discuss the final thesis in the discipline it is necessary to have attended the lessons given during the course.</p> <p>The topic of the thesis will be agreed with the student following an interview with the Professor, during which the student will be able to illustrate his/her course of study, his/her interests and his/her skills.</p>