General Information	
Academic Course	**History of ancient Christianity**
Academic Year	2020 - 2021
Degree Course	Cultural Heritage
ECTS credits	9
Department	Studi Umanistici – DISUM (Humanities) Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro
Compulsory attendance	The obligation to attend is regulated by art. 4 of the Teaching Regulation.
Language	Italian

Professor	Name Surname	Mail	
	Immacolata Aulisa	immacolata.aulisa@uniba.it	

ECTS credits details	Field of Research	SSD	Number of Credits
	History, philosophy, psychology, pedagogy, anthropology	M-STO/07	9

Class schedule	
Period	First semester
Year	Third
Type o	Lectures – Workshops

Time management	
Hours	225
In-class study hours	63
Out of class study hours	162

AcademicCalendar	
Begin	September 28th 2020
End	December 11th 2020
Classrooms and timelines	https://manageweb.ict.uniba.it/ricerca/dipartimenti/disum/calendario-lezioni

Syllabus	
Prerequisites/requirements	Basic knowledge of ancient history
Expected learning outcomes	*Knowledge and understanding* • 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*

	• 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; • Developing historical and cultural comparisons with other religious civilizations of the ancient world. *Making informed judgements and choices* • Developing personal analytical skills for a critical approach to the history of ancient Christianity and to the related sources through some case studies. *Communicating knowledge and understanding* • 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. *Capacities to continue learning* • Developing the skills necessary to undertake subsequent studies in the field of Christianity and ancient history with critical capacity and autonomy.
Contents	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. Analyzes of documents relating to the anti-Jewish controversy, apologetics and hagiography will be conducted. 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.
Course Programme	
Bibliography	• *Storia del cristianesimo. I. L'età antica (secoli I-VII)*, a cura di E. Prinzivalli, Carocci Editore, Roma 2015, pp. 15-30; 69-112; 122-132; 185-249; 435-460. • A. Destro-M. Pesce, *La morte di Gesù. Indagine su un mistero*, Saggi Rizzoli, Milano 2014 (I capitolo). • I. Aulisa, *Le prime conquiste islamiche in Oriente: la percezione dei cristiani in alcune opere di VII e VIII secolo*, in Vetera Christianorum 55, 2018, pp. 33-53.

	• I. Aulisa, *Giudei, cristiani e musulmani in Oriente: fonti cristiane di VII e VIII secolo*, in Analele Ştiinţifice ale Universităţii „Alexandru Ioan Cuza" din Iaşi, s.n., Istorie, 65, 2019, pp. 235-257.
Notes	Some photocopies of translated primary sources will be distributed to the attending students.
Teaching Methods	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.
Evaluation Methods	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	The student must be able to:
	
	• trace the evolution of Christianity from the origins to the time of Theodosius I;
	• 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;
	• 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.

Thesis Requirements and/or assignment methods	In order to discuss the final thesis in the discipline it is necessary to have attended the lessons given during the course. 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.