

COURSE OF STUDY LM-78

ACADEMIC YEAR a.a. 2023/2024

ACADEMIC SUBJECT History of the Medieval Mediterranean

General information	
Year of the course	First year
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	First half-year (25.09.2023-13.12.2023)
Credits (CFU/ETCS):	6
SSD	M/STO-01
Language	ITALIAN
Mode of attendance	Attendance not compulsory but strongly recommended

Professor/ Lecturer	
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Department and address	Dipartimento di Ricerca e Innovazione Umanistica Palazzo Ateneo (II piano)
Virtual room	Teams (code s7101ai)
Office Hours (and modalities: e.g., by appointment, online, etc.)	By appointment to be made by e-mail

Work schedule			
Hours			
Total	Lectures	Hands-on (laboratory, workshops, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
150	42		108
CFU/ETCS			
6			

Learning Objectives
<p>The Course's educational objectives align with those of the Master's Degree Course in History and Social Sciences.</p> <p>The Course aims to provide specific and in-depth training in the history of the Medieval Mediterranean (4th-15th centuries) by interweaving the different forms and dimensions that characterise historical enquiry: from political history to the history of institutional structures, economic and settlement systems, orders, cultural factors and gender. The Course enables students to acquire at a specialised level the knowledge, methods and practices of historical studies relating to the history of the medieval Mediterranean, allowing them to be able to make critical use of the different types of sources and historiographic literature concerning the specific historical period of the Course and to the specific themes and phenomena of particular interest inherent to it.</p> <p>The student, in particular, will possess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - advanced skills in the methodologies proper to the historical sciences, as well as in the research techniques required for the retrieval, analysis and



	<p>critical use of sources concerning the medieval past of the Mediterranean;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- specific knowledge of the cultures and human civilisations that inhabited the Mediterranean area during the medieval centuries;- an in-depth specialised training in the salient aspects of the historical period examined in its different dimensions, including that of gender, and a critical elaboration of the themes and problems emerging from that history;- an autonomous research capacity in the field of historical sciences applied to Mediterranean Studies;- the ability to communicate the skills acquired in written and oral form.
Course prerequisites	Knowledge of the general outlines of the political-institutional and cultural history of the Middle Ages and the Latin language.
Teaching strategies	The primary teaching method will be frontal teaching. The professor will supplement it with specific exercises on monographic topics indicated to the students during the course: the students will have to prepare a short research paper (elaboration of a 10-page text) and present it in the classroom (with a ppt presentation) in which they will be able to demonstrate an autonomous capacity for research in the field of medieval Mediterranean history and to communicate the results obtained in written and oral form.
Expected learning outcomes in terms of	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dublin descriptor 1: Knowledge and understanding: Knowledge and understanding of the Mediterranean as a political, economic and cultural space from the 4th to the 15th century. The Course gives particular attention to the Mediterranean as a historiographical concept and to the continuous interaction between the peoples who lived in contact in the Mediterranean space (Arabs, Byzantines, Jews, Latins) through the analysis of historical sources and historiography.- Dublin descriptor 2: Ability to apply knowledge and understanding: Development of the ability to read and interpret historical sources relating to the history of the medieval Mediterranean from concrete case studies.- Dublin descriptor 3: Critical and judgement skills: Development of a critical and autonomous sensitivity in the exegesis of historical sources and historiographical reflection. The exercises will allow the student to demonstrate the ability to work using both primary and secondary sources.- Dublin descriptor 4: Ability to communicate what has been learnt: Development of an ability to communicate in written and oral form specific content related to the history of the medieval Mediterranean and to give narrative form to the results of one's research. Particularly useful in this respect will be the exercise work during which the student will be able to document accurately and completely the information on which they base their conclusions as well as the methodologies and historiographical approaches used to analyse a specific topic identified together with the lecturer.- Dublin descriptor 5: Ability to pursue study independently:



	Ability to individually study topics the lecturer assigned and work independently on specific issues forming part of the syllabus.
Knowledge and understanding on:	In this course, students will learn about the historical context that marked the geographical space of the Mediterranean in the medieval age. They will learn how different cultures (Christian, Jewish, Arab) confronted each other from multiple points of view: political, military, economic, cultural, religious. They will also learn to use historical sources to understand the processes that marked the Mediterranean Middle Ages.
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	The discovery of a Middle Ages different from those normally presented in medieval history courses.
Soft skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Informed judgements and choices:</i> Knowledge of the history of the Mediterranean in the medieval period can help to understand the wider world in which our country is embedded, fostering cultural openness and a sense of the complexity of the processes that have led to our present.• <i>Communicating knowledge and understanding:</i> Students will be trained to know how to communicate what they have learnt through active and co-participative forms of teaching.• <i>Ability to continue learning:</i> Students will gain a method that will enable them to analyse other historical contexts and periods.
Syllabus	
Content knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) History of Historiography on the Medieval Mediterranean2) From the Roman to the Byzantine Mediterranean (IV-VIII)3) A Mediterranean disputed between Byzantines and Arabs: frontiers, islands, ports (VIII-X)4) Clashes and encounters: the Mediterranean of the three empires (XI-XIII)5) Clashes and encounters: economic revolution, trade and crusades (XI-XIII)6) The Mediterranean as an open space (13th-15th)7) From the Mediterranean to oceanic expansion (XV)
Texts and readings	<p>Lecture notes and materials distributed by the lecturer during the course can be found on the course Teams page.</p> <p>Bibliography for non-attending students (possessing the non-attending student certificate issued by the Degree Course Coordinator). Examination preparation will be based on the text:</p> <p>D. Abulafia, <i>Il grande mare. Storia del mediterraneo</i>, Mondadori, Milano 2017 (from p. 209 to p. 392).</p> <p>And it will be completed with one volume to be chosen from:</p> <p>D. Abulafia, <i>I regni del Mediterraneo occidentale dal 1200 al 1500. La lotta per il dominio</i>, Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2012³ G. Ravegnani, <i>Bisanzio e l'Occidente medievale</i>, Il Mulino, Bologna, 2019 F. Cardini, <i>Europa e Islam. Storia di un malinteso</i>, Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2021⁷ A. Musarra, <i>Medioevo marinaro. Prendere il mare nell'Italia medievale</i>, Il</p>

	Mulino, Bologna, 2021
Notes, additional materials	The indicated texts are available in the university libraries.
Repository	Teaching material will be made available on the course Teams class.

Assessment	
Assessment methods	Oral examination of the topics covered in the lessons and the texts indicated in the programme. The oral examination consists of an interview in which the Commission will verify the student's ability to learn and critically re-elaborate the contents, as well as adequate language property. The examination ends with awarding a grade in the thirtieths and the possible attribution of honours.
Assessment criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • - Knowledge and comprehension skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Verification of the degree of knowledge of the main issues inherent to the history of the medieval Mediterranean and their historiographical interpretation. • - Applied knowledge and comprehension skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Verification of the understanding of the ability to analyse the contexts and processes that marked the medieval Mediterranean. • - Autonomy of judgement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Verify the ability to correlate the problems, critically discuss what was expounded in the lecture, and put forward reading hypotheses on the issues presented. • - Communication skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Verify the learning of the adequate and appropriate technical language of the subject. o Verify the ability to construct and organise a discourse autonomously. o Verify the ability to counter arguments by motivating one's choices. • - Ability to learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Verify the ability to understand a complex problem and elaborate on it autonomously.
Final exam and grading criteria	The examination ends with the awarding of a mark, given in thirtieths. The examination is deemed passed when the mark is greater than or equal to 18. The lecturer reserves the right to award honours, particularly to students who have demonstrated that they have maturely achieved all the course objectives.
Further information	