



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

CENTRO DI SERVIZI
CULTURALI
PER STRANIERI

Italian literature

From the middle age to the contemporary age

Prof. Gino Tellini

Course Description

The course sets out to explore, in the clearest possible way, some of the main authors and some of the most important topics that, due to their historical and aesthetical significance, contributed to the development of the Italian cultural identity. The course will include the reading and the critical analysis of some excerpts of the major works of our literary tradition.

The analysis will begin with essential preliminary philological-documentary considerations, and it will also include considerations related to literary genre and to the linguistic experimentation of the texts under scrutiny.

Aims

The primary purpose of the course is to provide students with fundamental tools to understand the distinctive features of Italian literature.

Methodology

The lectures held in Italian will employ an extremely clear and basic terminology. Students are encouraged to participate in class discussions, to ask questions and to approach the professor. Every lecture will be accompanied by an illustrative PowerPoint presentation to help students to memorize topics explained by the professor.



Main themes

- Dante Alighieri and the *Divine Comedy*
- Francesco Petrarca and the *Canzoniere*
- Giovanni Boccaccio and the *Decameron*
- Cultural and literary movement of Humanism and Renaissance (Angelo Poliziano, Lorenzo de' Medici, Leon Battista Alberti, Michelangelo, Giorgio Vasari, Benvenuto Cellini, Niccolò Machiavelli, Francesco Guicciardini, Ludovico Ariosto, Torquato Tasso);
- Neoclassicism, Classicism, Romanticism (Ugo Foscolo, Giacomo Leopardi, Alessandro Manzoni);
- Poetry and novel of the newborn Italy (Giosue Carducci, Giovanni Verga, Giovanni Pascoli, Gabriele D'Annunzio, Italo Svevo, Luigi Pirandello);
 - 20th century poetry (Umberto Saba, Giuseppe Ungaretti, Eugenio Montale, Aldo Palazzeschi)

These themes will be rotated so that the same topics will not be repeated in the immediately following courses.

Textbook

The suggested textbook for the students who want to deepen their knowledge of the topics covered during the course is the following one: G.TELLINI, *Letteratura Italiana. Un metodo di studio*, Firenze, le Monnier Università, 2011, 2014 (II ed.).

Material

The selected excerpts analysed during the course will be photocopied and distributed by the professor to the students.