

MEDITERRANEAN CULTURE AND HISTORY

Number of sessions: 30

Length of each session: 1,5 h

Total length of the module: 45 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course wants to offer a wide introduction to the History of the Mediterranean Basin since the emergence of civilization to the present day situation studying the most important changes in the political and social scenario. At the same time, students will study the development of the most important cultures of the Mediterranean —Ancient Greece, Rome, the Renaissance— and also the most important Mediterranean religions —the polytheist, the henotheist and the monotheist.

At the end of the semester students will be able to deal with documents and events of the major civilizations that shaped the Mediterranean as well as the World since the Neolithic Revolution.

GRADING

1st and 2nd Test (25% + 25%)

These exams will be based on both, class notes and the handout provided by the professor during the first week of the semester. Twenty-five multiple-choice questions will be provided with five optional answers each (a, b, c, d, e).

Documentary (10%)

During the semester, students will spend one session watching a documentary or a movie. After watching the documentary, students will have to answer a short questionnaire on the documentary they watched.

Giving a Lecture and designing a Handout (10%+10%)

During the second half of the semester, students will have to give a lecture. In groups of four members, students will teach a session (one hour long) on a topic chosen by the professor. In order to provide a starting point to the group, professor will provide a book but this reading will not be central to the presentation. The group will present on a topic and will use that book as a primary source but they will have to work using other sources (movies, academic and journalistic articles, encyclopedias, books) to give a lecture and fully cover the main ideas of a topic.

Class participation (10%)

In some sessions, attendance and participation is required. For example, the evaluation days with tests or the final exam are mandatory for obvious reasons, but also the sessions based upon readings or documentaries. These sessions will offer the chance to students to participate in debates and discussions, so attendance is basic to get a grade.

Final Exam (10%)

The last session students will take a mandatory exam. This test will be based upon two short questions to answer in a given space. Each of the questions will be answered in less than a page being as specific as possible covering all the elements asked by the professor.

Type of evaluation	Percentage on the final grade
Test	25%
Test	25%
Documentary	10%
Participation	10%
Project and Handout	10% + 10%
Final Exam	10%
Total	100%

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Abulafia, David, *The Great Sea: A Human History of the Mediterranean*, Oxford: OUP, 2011.
- Hause, Stephen & Maltby, William, *Western Civilization. A History of European Society*, London: Wadsworth Publishing, 2004.
- Russell, Bertrand, *A History of Western Philosophy*, New York: Simon and Schuster, 1945.
- Ariela Keysar and Barry A. Kosmin (Ed.), *Secularism & Science in the 21st Century*, Hartford: Institute for the Study of Secularism in Society and Culture, 2008.
- Rietbergen, Peter, *Europe. A Cultural History*, London: Routledge, 1998.
- Wickham, Chris, *Framing the Early Middle Ages. Europe and the Mediterranean 400–800*, Oxford: OUP, 2005.
- Page, Gill, *BEING BYZANTINE. Greek identity before the Ottomans*, Cambridge: CUP, 2008.
- Greenberg, Robert D., *Language and Identity in the Balkans. Serbo-Croatian and its disintegration*. Oxford: OUP, 2004.
- BERTRAND RUSSELL, *A HISTORY OF WESTERN PHILOSOPHY And Its Connection with Political and Social Circumstances from the Earliest Times to the Present Day*, SIMON AND SCHUSTER, NEW YORK, 1945.
- David Abulafia, *The Great Sea: A Human History of the Mediterranean*, London: Penguin Books, 2011.
- Donald Quataert, *The Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922*, Cambridge: CUP, 2005.
- Marina Petrakis. *The Metaxas Myth. Dictatorship and Propaganda in Greece*. London: Tauris Academic Studies, 2006.
- Gene W. Heck. *Charlemagne, Muhammad, and the Arab Roots of Capitalism*. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2006.
- Jacques Le Goff. *The Birth of Europe*.
- Taner Akçam. *From Empire to Republic. Turkish Nationalism & the Armenian Genocide*. London: Zed Books, 2006.
- W.V. Harris. *Rethinking the Mediterranean*. Oxford: OUP, 2005.
- Barry A. Kosmin; Ariela Keysar. *Secularism, Women & the State: the Mediterranean World in the 21st Century*. Hartford: ISSSC, 2009.