



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO

DEPARTMENT	Culture e società
ACADEMIC YEAR	2023/2024
MASTER'S DEGREE (MSC)	HISTORY, ANTHROPOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY
SUBJECT	HISTORY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT AND INSTITUTIONS
TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY	C
AMBIT	21035-Attività formative affini o integrative
CODE	19703
SCIENTIFIC SECTOR(S)	SPS/02
HEAD PROFESSOR(S)	MARSALA ROSANNA Professore Associato Univ. di PALERMO
OTHER PROFESSOR(S)	
CREDITS	6
INDIVIDUAL STUDY (Hrs)	120
COURSE ACTIVITY (Hrs)	30
PROPAEDEUTICAL SUBJECTS	
MUTUALIZATION	
YEAR	2
TERM (SEMESTER)	1° semester
ATTENDANCE	Not mandatory
EVALUATION	Out of 30
TEACHER OFFICE HOURS	MARSALA ROSANNA Wednesday 11:00 13:00 Edificio15, piano 6, stanza n.610. Thursday 11:00 13:00 Edificio15, piano 6, stanza n.610.

DOCENTE: Prof.ssa ROSANNA MARSALA

PREREQUISITES	Basic knowledge of history, philosophy, and Public Law.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	<p>Learning outcomes The lectures will allow the students to develop a critical and detailed comprehension of the main guiding principles of Western political thought. He has a good knowledge of modern and contemporary political and institutional history with particular reference to Italy and Europe. He knows the basic elements of the process of European integration from a historical and legal point of view, as well as political-institutional structures in a comparative perspective. At the end of the course the students will acquire the basic knowledge on the authors dealt with and on themes of the European political tradition, placing them rightly in different historical periods.</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding The study of Western political thought, from its origins at the 19th century, will allow students to develop skills of analysis and critical interpretation with regard to the past and current, national and international political scenarios.</p> <p>Making judgments At the end of the lessons, the students should be able to interpret texts critically, to relate authors to political theories, and finally to compare them with the political and institutional transformations of Western history.</p> <p>Communication skills At the end of the course, students should be able to use political lexicon, to communicate and write clearly brief considerations on the main issues of modern and contemporary politics, through the analysis of the theories of the main scholars who have contributed to shape Western political thought.</p> <p>Learning skills The theoretical study should give students a certain methodological mastery and learning skills, useful to hold future professional roles in the management of political processes.</p>
ASSESSMENT METHODS	<p>The students are evaluated through an oral examination. Each candidate is required to answer open questions on all the subjects covered by the syllabus and the referring bibliography. The examination requires knowledge and comprehension of topics, interpretative competence and autonomy of judgement. The student's preparation will be considered satisfactory if the student is able to recognise historical periods and theoretical issues, and shows valuable skills in exposing topics by using the proper terminology. The candidate receives an assessment out of thirty as final grade (the pass mark is 18/30). The result of the test will be considered: EXCELLENT (30-30 with distinction) if the student shows excellent knowledge of the subject matter, excellent command of language, good analytical skills, and is able to apply the knowledge to solve the problems proposed; VERY GOOD (26-29) if the student shows good command of the subject matter, full command of the language and is able to apply the knowledge to solve the problems proposed; GOOD (24-25) if the student shows basic knowledge of the main subjects, fair command of the language, limited ability to apply the knowledge to solve the problems proposed; MORE THAN SUFFICIENT (20-23) if the student shows that he/she has not fully mastered the main topics but has a fair knowledge of them, satisfactory language skills, little ability to apply the acquired knowledge autonomously; SUFFICIENT (18-19) if the student shows a basic knowledge of the main topics of the course and of the technical language, little ability to apply the acquired knowledge; INSUFFICIENT if the student does not have an acceptable knowledge of the contents of the topics dealt with in the course.</p>
EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES	<p>The course aims to analyse the main political theories from the classic age at the 19th century, by reconstructing the long and complex development of Western political thought. The study of the most significant authors and their historical context, as well as the focus on the fundamental political categories (sovereignty, democracy, equality, representation, freedom, federalism) are thought to give students the cultural background necessary to understand the current political reality. Through the analysis of the thought of the major political thinkers there will also be a historical excursus of the institutions that have been realized in historical concreteness. For this reason, during the course the most significant passages, taken from the classical texts of those authors who still represent a reference point in the political debate, are read to students. Particular emphasis will be given to the analysis and theories concerning the origin of society and states, forms of government and their degeneration, the ideal state projects, the problem of justice, the law, the Roman conception of law, problem of passive and active resistance, the relationship between religion and politics, the concept of sovereignty, the modern state, the relationship between power, authority and freedom, the relationship between society 'civil and state, the relationship between politics and history, representation, parties, cosmopolitanism, federalism.</p>

TEACHING METHODS	Lessons even in PowerPoint and reading of anthological texts. Class tests and seminars.
SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	<p>M. D'Addio, Storia delle dottrine politiche, vol. unico, Genova, Ecig, 2002. Excluding pages: Con esclusione delle pagine: 147-168; 181-190; 201-214; 241-281; 333-342; 375-384. For the part on the idea of Europe in the integration process: Per la parte relativa all'idea di Europa nel processo d'integrazione: C. Malandrino- S. Quirico, L'idea di Europa. Storie e prospettive, Roma, Carocci editore, 2020. Special part: Parte speciale: R. Marsala, Democrazia e corporazione in Léon Harmel, Soveria Mannelli, Rubbettino, 2019.</p> <p>Per gli studenti e le studentesse Erasmus e i non frequentanti il docente è disponibile per concordare eventuali programmi alternativi For Erasmus students and non-attending students, the lecturer is available to arrange any alternative programmes.</p>

SYLLABUS

Hrs	Frontal teaching
4	Presentation of the course and its organization. Political institutions in the classical age. The Sophists. The origins of political thought: Socrates, Plato and Aristotle.
2	Polis and cosmopolis in the Hellenistic age. The Roman political experience: the right, the power. Polybius and the mixed constitution. Cicero: the conception of politics, the problem of freedom and the crisis of the Republic.
2	Religion and politics. Augustine of Hippo: Civitas dei and Earthy Civitas. The political thought of Thomas Aquinas.
2	Institutions in the medieval age. The aspiration for peace: Dante and Marsilius of Padua. The dispute between Philip IV and Boniface VIII. Crisis of the Church and reform movements.
2	The political realism of Machiavelli: effectual truth, the state-power, the moral and political relationship. Jean Bodin: the concept of sovereignty, forms of state and forms of government, the principle of justice.
3	The English political thought in the seventeenth century: the genesis of the modern constitutional state. The Leviathan state of Thomas Hobbes. Liberal Contractualism by John Locke.
3	The Enlightenment political thought. Montesquieu and "The spirit of the laws." Freedom and equality: the democratic state in J J. Rousseau.
2	Immanuel Kant: the rule of law. Georg W.F Hegel and idealism. Law, morality, ethics.
2	Utopian socialism: Saint-Simon, Owen; The anarchist socialism J. Proudhon. Scientific socialism, Marx
2	Alexis de Tocqueville and the problem of democracy: the dialectic of liberty-equality, tyranny of the majority and its corrective, individualism.
2	Antonio Rosmini: Constitutional state and despotism of society, parties and public opinion. Stuart Mill: representative government and democracy, dialectics of opinions and political participation
4	Historical evolution of European integration. The institutions of the European Union: composition and functions.