COURSE TITLE

GLOBAL HISTORY OF THE CONTEMPORARY AGE

**Study programme
International Relations**

LM-52

LAUREA (MAGISTRALE)

A.Y. 2021-22

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SSD **M-STO-04**   **CREDITS** **6**   **Year of study (I, II)** **II**   **Semester (I, II)** **I**

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Course aims at leading the student to acquire an intimate understanding of the specific approach to the making of the global society – focused on cross-cultural and transregional interactions – which is being practiced by the schools of international historiography of the contemporary age grouped under the paradigm of the *New World History*, through the examination of particularly relevant study cases. At the end of the course the student will possess:

1) an in-depth knowledge of a particularly relevant period or theme in the history of globalization;
2) a preliminary notion of the heuristic procedures, treatment of sources, use of analytical categories, organization of the research and modalities of exposition, circulation and evaluation of its results within the scientific community, which characterize the pursuing of original knowledge in the disciplinary field of the Global History of the Contemporary Age.

Knowledge and understanding
At the end of the course the student will possess an in-depth knowledge 1) of the first phase, located between the XVIII and the XIX centuries, of the process of transition to global modernity; 2) of the debate on the role and place of Russia in global history. The student will be able, at the same time, to understand from within the methods and procedures which connote the achievement of original results in the specialized research field of the Global History of the Contemporary Age.

Applying knowledge and understanding
The student will be able to interpret and employ the primary sources and the secondary literature according to the specific problem-orientation of the Global History of the Contemporary Age.

Further expected learning outcomes:
• **Making judgements:** The student will develop the attitude to employ the knowledge and the methods learned through the Course in order both to elaborate an autonomous reconstruction of the topics listed in the programme (below) and to express a critical evaluation of the multiple interpretations proposed or discussed by the teacher about them.   • **Communication skills:** The student will acquire the ability to expound complex transformative processes and single constellations of problems relevant to the Global History of the Contemporary Age in the technical language and according to the kind of logical and empirical argumentation which connote this discipline. He will enrich his communicative repertoire by becoming acquainted with the essential terminology peculiar to the global historians.   • **Learning skills:** The student will have laid the foundations both to independently expand his knowledge and skills in the field of Global History of the Contemporary Age according to different study paths and employment opportunities, particularly in the historical sciences, and to continue in the subsequent stages of the formative and professionalizing process of the global historian.

CONTENTS

The Crisis of the Eurasian Equilibrium, the Transition to Global Modernity and the Debate on the Place and Role of Russia in Global History   1) A common past: themes and methodological presuppositions of the *New World History*;   2) The persistence of the Eurasian equilibrium in the Early Modern Age;   3) Old regimes and "archaic globalization";

4) Passages from the old regimes to modernity;
5) The Eurasian revolution, I: the geopolitical dimension;
6) The Eurasian revolution, II: the cultural dimension;
7) A world crisis? The age of revolutions in a global perspective;
8) The Expansion of Europe in the Perspective of the New Global History;
9) Russia in Modern and Contemporary Global History.

RECOMMENDED READING:

A) Teodoro Tagliaferri, *The New Global Past: An Introduction to the Global History of the Contemporary Age*, forthcoming (a typewritten version will be downloadable on request from the teacher's website);

B)
– A.J. Toynbee, *Civilization on Trial*, Oxford University Press, 1948, pp. 164-183.
(https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.185313/mode/2up)
– A.J. Toynbee, *The World and the West*, Oxford University Press, 1953.
(https://archive.org/details/worldwest0000toyn/page/n7/mode/2up)

ASSESSMENT METHOD

a) Learning results to be verified: The student's preparation will be assessed through an oral examination. The student will be required to answer, both synthetically and articulately, three questions pertaining to the programme of the course (above). The student will have to demonstrate:

1) a basic knowledge of the essential outlines of the transition to global modernity and the concepts and methods employed by global historians in its study;

2) the capacity of using this knowledge in order to interpret in historic terms the general characteristics of the contemporary global society;

3) the capacity of reconstructing complex historical processes and giving autonomous evaluations of the interpretations which have been advanced by the scholars about them;

4) the capacity of expounding the subject-matter of the Course according to the argumentative logic of the global historiography and the appropriate scientific terminology.

In order to pass the exam, obtaining a score not less than 18/30, the student must demonstrate a preparation at least sufficient with reference to parameter 1); to achieve the maximum evaluation of 30/30 cum laude the student must have sustained an excellent test in relation to all the four parameters listed above.

b) Assessment method:

The exam will consist of	Written and oral examination		Written examination		Oral examination	XXX
In case of a written exam, questions are*	Multiple choices		Open questions		Numerical exercises	

(*) more answers possible