



**Code: SPS/14**

**Credits: 9**

**Matter: History and Institutions of Asia**

**Main language of instruction: Italian**

**Other language of instruction: English**

## Teaching Staff

### Head instructor

Prof. Matteo Antonio Napolitano - [matteoantonio.napolitano@unicusano.it](mailto:matteoantonio.napolitano@unicusano.it)

### Introduction

1. *Objective of the course:* the **History and Institutions of Asia** course aims to provide students with a basic knowledge of the **main stages** that have characterized the evolution of the Asian dynamics after the 1945. The course will be divided into lessons dedicated to examining some of the most significant aspects related to this processes, including: the contemporary Asia; the history of Japan after the 1945; the history of China under Communism; the Korean issues; the Indian partition and the contemporary India; the Vietnam war; and the relations between Italy and the People's Republic of China (1949-1976).

### Objectives

2. *Course Structure:* the course of History and Institutions of Asia has the following **educational objectives**:
  - illustrate the main historical dynamics related to Asia;
  - historical analysis;
  - provide interpretative tools for the contemporary Asian issues.

### Competencies

Basic knowledge of Contemporary History and History of International Relations.



### ***Knowledge and understanding***

At the end of the course the student will have demonstrated an overall picture of the main events that have characterized the process of decolonisation and the great development of Asia after the Second world war. Furthermore, the student will acquire the ability to create critical connections between the events and, through the e-tivity, will have the opportunity to directly confront the teacher and the other students.

### ***Application of knowledge***

The student will be able to reconstruct the underlying dynamics of the main problems of contemporary Asia, to dwell on the historiographical criticism of the same and to critically use the insights proposed in the e-tivity.

### ***Ability to draw conclusions***

The student will have the essential elements to orientate himself in the history of Asia and to use the acquired knowledge as instruments of interpretation of the contemporary reality.

### ***Communication skills***

The student will be able to support conversations on the topics studied during the course and to describe the problems and interpretations of the main events of the history of Asia.

### ***Ability to learn***

The students at the end of the course will have knowledge of the fundamental themes, necessary for the analysis of the contemporary dynamics. All this will allow them to continue their studies in international relations with greater maturity and will provide them with the bases to be able to learn what will be proposed, mainly, in the courses of historical-political area.

## **Syllabus**

3. *Programme of the course*: the course is developed through the **pre-recorded audio-video lessons** that compose, together with the **lecture notes**, the study materials available on the platform.

**Self-assessment tests** are then proposed (12 for modules 1-4; 15 for modules 5-9) of asynchronous type, which accompany the pre-recorded lessons and allow students to ascertain both understanding and the degree of knowledge acquired of the contents of each of the lessons.

**Lessons in web-conference** scheduled on the calendar are also available during the teaching periods.

The interactive teaching is carried out in the forum of the **“virtual class”** and includes the **e-tivity** that deepen the knowledge acquired in the lessons.

In particular, the History and Institutions of Asia course provides **9 training credits** for LM-52 degree students. The total study load for this teaching module is 225 hours for 9 credits, divided as follows:

- about 170 hours for the visualization of the videotaped material and the study of the lecture notes;
- about 55 hours of Interactive Teaching for the execution of self-assessment tests.

It is advisable to distribute the subject study uniformly over a period of at least **10/12 weeks**, devoting about 20 hours of study per week.

**Modules 1-4 (12 lessons for a total commitment of approximately 10.5 hours)**

Presentation of the course: structure, content and methodological notes. – Asia between imperialism and post-colonization (Colonial Asia and the Imperialisms, The nationalism in Asia, Bandung conference); Different political issues (The political issues of the Region, The relation between “Asian values” and democracy, The Asian century); Japan between crisis and rebirth (A dramatic year: 1945, From occupation to the early Seventies, Japan between the 1970s and 1990s); The giant of the East: China (China between '45 and the advent of Mao, Communist China between the 1950s and 1970s, After Mao: the Eighties and Nineties).

**E-tivity 1-2:** in-depth analysis on specific aspects of the topics covered in modules 1 to 4.

**Modules 5-9 (15 lessons for a total commitment of around 15.5 hours)**

References to the main historical stages learned previously. – The Korean peninsula (The birth of the two states and the Korean war, The Korean peninsula after the war, Korea between the Seventies and the new Millennium); The other Asian giant: India (India from Gandhi to the partition, From Nehru to the Decline of the Congress, The journey until the Nineties); The Vietnam War: a dramatic aspect of decolonization in Indochina (The two Vietnam, The main phases of the war and the difficulties of the United States, Conflict resolution and its consequences); Future perspectives (Japan in the new Millennium, China's global challenge, The Indian potential and its fragility); Relations between Italy and communist China (1949-1976) (Italy and China after '49: the first phases, The Sixties, The recognition of China).

**E-tivity 3-4:** in-depth analysis on specific aspects of the topics covered in modules 5 to 9.

### Evaluation system and criteria

The exam usually consists of an **oral and / or written test** aimed at ascertaining the abilities to analyze and re-elaborate the concepts acquired and a series of in-depth activities (e-tivity) carried out during the course in virtual classes. In this way the expected learning outcomes regarding the knowledge of the subject, the ability to learn independently, the communication skills and the ability to draw conclusions are evaluated.

The **oral exam** consists of an interview aimed at ascertaining the level of preparation of the student.

The **written test** includes 3 closed questions and 3 open questions; to the 3 closed questions relating to the contents of the entire examination program the value of 1 point is assigned for each correct answer; for open questions, a maximum score of 9 is assigned, based on the teacher verification on expected learning outcomes.

A part of the exam (both written and oral) may focus on the **topics contained in the e-tivities** on the platform. The same will be able to have a maximum of 4 points.

### Bibliography and resources

4. *Materials to consult:* by the professor.

5. *Recommended bibliography:*

**Stu.g.e.s. (2019)**, *Manuale di Storia e Istituzioni dell'Asia*, Edicusano

**Vaghi M. (2016)**, *I mondi dell'Asia*, Mimesis

**Fiori A. (2011)**, *L'Asia orientale. Dal 1945 ai giorni nostri*, il Mulino

**Sellier J. (2010)**, *Atlante dei popoli d'Asia Meridionale e Orientale*, il Ponte

**Mazzei F., Volpi G. (2006)**, *L'Asia al centro*, Egea-Università