### 2nd term

**COURSE TITLE**

Italian Literature

**Scientific area**

Italian Literature

**Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Modern Cultures**

**Language used to teach**

Italian

**Teaching Commitment:** 18 hours

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**Course summary**

Literature and religion between Catholicism and Reformation.

The objective of this course is to become familiar with the texts that reveal the salient points of the theological, philosophical and political debates between Catholics and Protestants over the course of the sixteenth century and the first half of the nineteenth century. We will begin with an overview of Italian literature and culture of the period before turning our attention to neighbouring cultures affected by the Reformation, such as that of Calvinist Geneva. Naturally, we will consider social and political repercussions, religious censorship and persecution, and the editorial mark and the circulation of religious texts, in both the Protestant and Catholic contexts.

This course will be delivered in two parts. The first ("Religious revival, authority and liberty between France, Switzerland and Italy around 1820 to 1830") will be taught by Luca Badini Confalonieri (36 hours - 6 CFU), and will be held in February and March 2019. The second part, to be taught by a visiting professor in April 2019, will examine the linguistic as well as the literary aspects of religious exile during the sixteenth century.

**Learning objectives**

The course has the following learning objectives: a) to grasp the complexity of the theological and political debates between Catholics and Protestants over the course of the sixteenth century and the first half of the nineteenth century; b) to identify the contours and resonances of some of the most relevant texts of the two periods, in the Italian context, but with an indispensable European outlook, while paying attention to the most important characteristics and literary genres of texts produced in the religious setting of the times; and c) to understand how important changes to, and evolutions of, the Italian language over the course of the sixteenth century are tied to the ideological and religious positions of the Italian emigrant community.

In order to develop a strong comprehension of the theoretical framework and methodologies (points b and c), students will embark on an individual research project focusing on an appropriate Italian text.
**Visiting Professor Profile**
Specialist in Italian Literature and Culture. His/Her main field of research is the History of Italian language, with a focus on relations between language and Reformation during the 16th century.

**Contact person at the Department**
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