



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA HISTORY OF SCIENCE

CLAUDIO SERGIO POGLIANO

Anno accademico
CdS

2020/21
PHILOSOPHY AND FORMS OF
KNOWLEDGE
385MM
12

Moduli	Settore/i	Tipo	Ore	Docente/i
STORIA DELLA SCIENZA	M-STO/05	LEZIONI	72	CLAUDIO SERGIO POGLIANO

Learning outcomes

Knowledge

Attending the course will allow students to deal with various definitions of "life" formulated over time, from antiquity to the birth and development of biology during the past two centuries.

Assessment criteria of knowledge

Through active participation, also with in-depth reports held by students.

Skills

Approaching the multiple issues related to life sciences with a historical-critical attitude.

Assessment criteria of skills

Through active participation, also with in-depth reports held by students.

Behaviors

Regular attendance, attention, participation.

Assessment criteria of behaviors

Direct observation.

Prerequisites

Knowledge acquired during the three-year degree course.

Teaching methods

The course will consist in the presentation of PDFs with images and texts that, available in Moodle, will be an essential part of the material to be studied for the exam.

Syllabus

Chance and necessity. A history of life sciences

Numerous definitions of life have been formulated over time. What distinguishes the organic from the inorganic – or even the natural from the artificial – is a question to which western philosophical and scientific culture has attempted to answer in various, conflicting ways. The course will follow this meandering route of knowledge, from the speculations of antiquity until the advent of evolutionisms – Lamarck and Darwin –, to dwell in the second part on the emergence of biology as a discipline and its developments during the last two centuries.

Bibliography

PDF of the lessons in Moodle.

Telmo Pievani, *Introduzione a Darwin*, Bari, Laterza, 2012.



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[Non-attending students info](#)

Non attending students must add the following book:

Charles Darwin. Antologia di testi, a cura di Pietro Corsi, Roma, Carocci, 2019.

[Assessment methods](#)

Oral examination.

[Notes](#)

The course will have a seminarial character, so attendance is highly recommended.

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