



# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI CATANIA

*Area delle Politiche Comunitarie e Internazionali*

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Via S. Tomaselli, 31 CATANIA tel. 0039 095 7307971 fax 7307964

EMUNI SUMMER SCHOOL 2009

Course Specification

**LINGUISTIC MEDIATION AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE  
IN THE EUROMEDITERRANEAN BASIN**

Catania, 12-26 July 2009

**SYLLABUS**

The internationalization of the consumption and production relationships, within a context of global economic, technological and cultural relations, has contributed to the uncontrollable multiculturalism phenomenon. In the European continent protection and promotion of diversity is appreciated as a positive value: this perspective is based on the concept of democracy which implies per se pluralism. The European Institutions are, in principle, in the best position to govern the current multicultural process. However, nowadays the European continent and the economic, social and legal process of integration undertaken in this regional area go through a severe crisis. Moreover, European Union has been involved in a migratory phenomenon of new - and structural - proportions which requires a common policy in the field of reception and security to facilitate a positive interaction between different cultures and values. This is the only way to construct a European identity, based on dialogue, and which rejects xenophobia and racism.

This Module contains the useful instruments to valorise a positive approach to the problems arising from a multicultural society. It analyzes European society of multiculturalism and its valorisation, as transversal objective to the entire EU action, whether it is external or internal.

So the key question deals with the European Union ability to exploit the instruments that it has already at its disposal.

Moreover, in recent years, the role of language in cultural mediation has attracted significant scholarly attention. Recent volumes have centred on "cultural translation" and "translation and travel" to point to the close relationship between practices of translation and emerging consciousness of socio-cultural and political boundaries. A growing literature now exists on the role of language ideologies, institutions, and experts in colonial expansion in Northern Europe, the Atlantic, and the Pacific. In studies of the Mediterranean, however, the role of language in defining regions and people as well as their inter-relations (like the concept of Lingua Franca), while often acknowledged as essential to the constitution of socio-cultural boundaries, has not yet come into focus. Therefore, this Module also aims to address processes of cultural mediation in the Mediterranean by attending to the ways in which language served as a central site for the elaboration and contestation of socio-cultural boundaries.



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## **TEACHING METHODS**

The Module will be delivered on the basis of blended learning, a combination of distance and face-to-face tuition. Face-to-face tuition (50 hours) will be held from 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2009 and will be articulated in lectures (30 hours) and workshops and round tables (20 hours) and will take place in the morning. Study materials will be available in the website, approximately a month before the course starting date. During the Summer School period studying materials will be distributed to participants, by a tutor, who will assist them for all the matters concerning their academic and social participation to the programme.

The Module will be open to maximum 20 post-graduate and doctoral participants, who will partly be assessed during the face to face tuition. However, assessment will continue into September, through a final written paper. At the end, an evaluation certificate, including the number of internationally recognized ECTS credits, will be delivered.

## **SOCIAL PROGRAM**

Students will have the opportunity to visit the historical city centre, to participate in variety of cultural events and to a conclusive formal dinner. One excursion to a place of interest will also be organized.

## **LECTURERS - LANGUAGE**

Each course will be delivered by three lecturers: two from the University of Catania and one from a EMUNI partner Euro-Mediterranean institution. Tuitions and roundtables will be held in English. Good knowledge of English is recommended.

## **LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATION**

Teaching activities will be held in “Casa della Cultura”, via Tomaselli 31- Catania. Students will be hosted in the university dormitories.

## **REGISTRATION AND TUITION FEES**

The registration and tuitions is free of charge. It covers accommodation, lunches, lectures, various study material, free access to the internet, including organized trips and visits.



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## **BASIC READINGS**

- UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions(2005)  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001429/142919e.pdf>
  
- 2006/515/EC: Council Decision of 18 May 2006 on the conclusion of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, OJ L 201, 25.7.2006, p. 15–30  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:201:0015:0030:EN:PDF>
  
- Decision No 1983/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (2008), OJ L 412, 30.12.2006, p. 44–50  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:412:0044:0050:EN:PDF>
  
- Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Third Annual Report on Migration and Integration, COM/2007/0512 final, 11/09/2007  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2007:0512:FIN:EN:PDF>
  
- Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - A New Framework Strategy for Multilingualism, COM/2005/0596 final, 22/11/2005  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2005:0596:FIN:EN:PDF>
  
- Multiculturalismo e Unione europea. Atti del Convegno. Catania, 4 aprile 2007. A cura di M. Marletta e N. Parisi, Torino, Giappichelli, 2008
  
- Ron Scollon & Suzanne Wong Scollon, 2005, Intercultural Communication, Oxford, Blackwell, Chapter 7 & chapter 12;
  
- Scott. F. Kiesling & Christina Bratt Paulston (eds.), 2005, Intercultural Discourse and Communication. The Essential Readings, Oxford, Blackwell
  
- Bennet, Milton. Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication. Yarmouth, Maine: Intercultural press, (1998).
  
- Hofstede, Geert and Hofstede, Gert Jan. Cultures and Organizations: Software of the Mind. New York: McGraw Hill U.S.A., 2004
  
- Trompenaars. Fons. Riding The Waves Of Culture: ISBN: 1857881761  
Publisher: NICHOLAS BREALEY, 2000