



UNIVERSITÀ  
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## Indian Ocean World

PROF. BEATRICE NICOLINI

### Course aims and intended learning outcomes

The object of the course, that is taught in English, is developing a non-Eurocentric approach to the Indian Ocean World; discuss methodological research questions and empower a conscious attitude toward Indian Ocean World multiple issues of the present. The analysis of the Indian Ocean main realities will be presented through selected case studies that will focus on interconnections and interrelations between politics, power, interethnic conflicts, peace mediation processes, terrorism and religions.

#### *Intended Learning Outcomes (knowledge and understanding)*

Through the use of interactive tools of research, the synergy with the database, and the sharing bibliography methods, students will be able to acquire interdisciplinary approaches from several methodological perspectives.

They will identify key instruments of reading and re-reading the realities inside the vast themes of the Indian Ocean World.

#### *Intended Learning Outcomes (applying knowledge and understanding)*

The processes of analysis and the 'inward looking' approaches will ease new awareness of the Indian Ocean World and will enhance new opportunities towards a true competitiveness to the highest international levels. Moreover, students will become familiar with periodicals such as the Indian Ocean Newsletter, with the databases: Jstor, Proquest political and social sciences, and with Refworks from the Catholic University Library website.

### Course content

1. Indian Ocean as a new geostrategic centre: human trafficking and diaspora migration fluxes.
2. The role of international actors in the Indian Ocean: China, Saudi Arabia, Russia.
3. Land grabbing in Eastern Africa and in South-Central Asia.
4. Environmental security issues: interconnections between global warming and terrorism.
5. The role of migrating communities: piracy, and terrorism.

### Reading list

B. NICOLINI, *The Historical Relationships between Oman and Balochistan in the Indian Ocean*, EDUCatt, ISBN: 9788893353472, 2018.

More bibliography will be delivered through Blackboard page.

### Teaching method

Lectures and class discussions. photographs, travelogues, biographies, will be discussed and analyzed in order to better situate the ongoing processes.

#### *Teaching tools:*

Websites, podcasts, images and maps.



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## Assessment method and criteria

Students attending the course will be evaluated on the basis of:

- a. Participation to classes and discussions (50%)  
During the course, students will have to keep up on the readings. To receive a positive evaluation for this part, they will have to engage with the readings and assignments, and to participate to class discussions in a positive way.
- b. Final paper (50%)  
At the end of the course, students attending the classes will have to write a position paper (6-8 pages) on the Indian Ocean World. The paper will respect the methodological rules for research and the Refworks bibliography. The final score will be expressed out of thirty points. Exact dates will be displayed on the I-catt portal.

## Notes and prerequisites

No prerequisites are requested although a general geographical knowledge of Asia and Africa would be helpful. A critical approach together with strong curiosity will be important drivers throughout the course.

### *Place and time of consultation hours*

Students are welcomed on Wednesdays during lessons from 14,30 p.m. Department of Political Sciences, Gregorianum II Floor; send e-mail to [beatrice.nicolini@unicatt.it](mailto:beatrice.nicolini@unicatt.it).