The Department of Humanities, currently directed by prof. Sebastiano Gentile, was founded in the academic year 2011-2012, on the initiative of researchers formerly belonging to the Faculty of Humanities.

**MAIN OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Department derive from some basic principles, which are common to the totality of its lines of research.

1) **Multidisciplinarity and interdisciplinarity**

The Department’s activity focuses on the historically consolidated and strategically fundamental connections between the varieties of knowledge upon which the centuries-old tradition of humanistic studies has evolved. The cultural effort aimed at convergence, methodological debate and integration between different research areas is, in fact, one of its basic purposes. The interdisciplinarity should be understood in two senses: it is internal to the Department’s specializations (philology; history; literature; archeology; history of written records; medieval, modern and contemporary history; Italian, modern European and North American languages and literatures; history of art and music; linguistics; philosophy; geography); and it is external in the sense that it is open to contributions and collaborations with other scientific disciplines, such as information technology (development of portals and web applications; use of automatic image recognition methods and innovative tools and practices for cultural mediation); engineering (contributions offered to archaeological research); statistics (application of quantitative analysis to historical research); physical, chemical, biological and geological sciences for their numerous applications, both to the study and the protection of cultural heritage and to traditional philosophical, cognitive and behavioral problems. The mission of the Department is to facilitate the synergy and constructive comparison between its different competencies and skills. This occurs both through forms of structural interaction, thanks to the collaboration between individual researchers or the activation of transversal lines of research (literature, art and music; classical and medieval disciplines and the history of written culture), and through the promotion of relations with internal and external researchers and institutions from the hard sciences.
2) Specialization
The breadth of scientific interests within the Department is combined, in a complementary and non-contradictory manner, with the presence of areas of high specialization, in which the members often occupy positions of recognized importance at national and international level, as demonstrated by their affiliation to prestigious scientific societies, often with specific responsibilities such as the direction of journals or book series; teaching assignments or fellowships at important universities and research centers in Italy or abroad; the participation in research projects or excavations of considerable interest and prestige in which members frequently act as coordinator.

3) Internationalization
The Department’s international calling is consistently pursued, despite the increasing difficulty of sustaining its costs. It is implemented in different ways and different proportions, depending on the specificity of the research sectors of its members. Particularly in some areas (primarily foreign languages and literatures) internationalization is a natural inclination, but also other areas of research are strongly rooted in international contexts, supported by wide-ranging collaborations and sometimes financed through European funding. Even the studies centered on the territory, and aimed at enhancing its potential, contribute in more than one case to the strengthening of the international vocation of the Department, because of their methodological value and the exemplary character of their results which can be extended to contexts which stretch beyond the ones in which they were originally developed.

4) Openness towards experimentation and innovation
Innovation is pursued both in research, teaching and training, also thanks to the use of the most advanced technologies for the design, management, and dissemination of research results and products.

5) Interaction between research and education
The close and continuous link between research and education is one of the founding elements of the Department’s main objectives. Department members, while transferring the results of their scientific activity into their teaching, encourage the participation of students, doctoral candidates, grant holders and early stage researchers in workshops and training sessions; students and young researchers are also involved in the researchers’ projects.
The Department of Humanities offers two degree courses:
The bachelor degree course in Humanities (L-10), which offers 4 curricula:
- Classics;
- Modern studies;
- History and Art-History;
- Communication and Media studies.

The master degree course in Humanities (L-14) offers 2 curricula:
- Ancient and Medieval Studies;
- Modern and Contemporary Studies.

The Department also offers the PhD program:
"LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SCIENCES IN THE DIGITAL AGE"

Starting from the XXXII cycle, the PhD program has changed its project and title (Literary and Historical Sciences in the Digital Age), in order to develop, on the basis of the preexisting scientific projects, a focus on the innovative methodologies of Digital Humanities, and a strong emphasis in internationalization as is demonstrated by the composition of the newly formed PhD board, a third of which is composed by professors belonging to foreign universities.

The program aims at providing a methodological training in humanistic research for the historical and philological sciences of antiquity, Italian literature and philology, European languages and literatures, history, together with the ability to apply digital technologies to the various fields of the humanities.

Educational goals
1. Mastery of the general methodologies of humanistic research;
2. Ability to critically evaluate written sources and literary texts, for their reconstruction and their historical, philological, linguistic and literary analysis;
3. Acquisition of skills for the historical, philological-literary and linguistic research in specific thematic and chronological contexts;
4. Ability to develop research projects, with original and innovative results based on an accurate critical review of the available material;
5. Capacity to program and manage IT tools for the humanities, such as a) databases of texts, books and manuscripts, artistic works; b) critical digital editions of ancient and modern texts, hypertexts with text analysis and comments;
6. Ability to critically combine traditional methodologies with the most recent applications of 'Digital Humanities', using technology not only as a tool but as an original way of approaching the humanities.

Employment opportunities
The PhD program aims to provide linguistic, historical, philological, and art-historical skills that can be used in all
public and private contexts (academia, libraries, and archives) devoted to research, training, enhancement and protection of cultural heritage in its broadest sense. The knowledge acquired in the program allows the PhDs to carry out research in the respective fields and to teach at the highest levels, thanks to a broad and in-depth disciplinary preparation, to improve the knowledge of national and international historiography, leading to a full mastery of the sources of philological, historical and literary research, combined with a refinement of critical abilities. The PhD qualification is an indispensable requisite for entering the academic career and for high-school teaching, as well as for medium-high level employment in national and international research institutions and in public and private organizations operating in the fields of conservation, promotion and enhancement of cultural heritage. Finally, the specific competencies related to the use of digital methodologies and resources in the humanities will help the PhDs to find employment and professional opportunities in the traditional and digital publishing market, as well as in private companies operating in the sector.

Curricula
The PhD program is divided into three curricula:

1) Historical and philological-literary studies on the ancient and medieval world: the curriculum provides training for historical and philological-literary research on ancient and medieval texts, on the production, writing and decoration of manuscripts and on the techniques for the cataloguing of manuscripts and documents.

2) Italian and European historical-literary, philological and linguistic studies: the curriculum provides training in historical-literary, linguistic and philological research for Italian, French, English and Anglo-American literature, with the adoption of intertextual and comparative methodologies and specific attention to literary theory and criticism.

3) Historical studies: the curriculum aims to provide tools and methodologies in historical research, specifically addressed to the use and textual analysis of documentary and archival written sources, to Italian and European political, economic, social and cultural history, to the history of modern and contemporary political thought, to historiography and international relations.
SCHOOLS FOR ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

Post-Graduate School of Philosophy, Ethics, and Ethology

The Advanced Studies School in Philosophy, Ethics, and Ethology, which has been going since 2008, acts as a center of study and dissemination of the philosophical and ethical implications of ethological research, of the comparative study of behavior, of the theories of natural and social history. The School promotes conferences, workshops, publications, research, and wildlife and environmental protection initiatives. It organizes yearly a short advanced studies course, based on interdisciplinary confrontation and debate and on the methodical use of audiovisual documentation. The course is mainly addressed to graduates, but is open to anyone interested in participating.

Experimental educational-scientific project Museo Facile

http://www.laboratori.unicas.it/museofacile

Museo facile (“easy museum”) is an experimental educational-scientific project which began in 2012 at the University of Cassino and Southern Lazio, in collaboration with the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Tourism (Center for Educational Services of the Museum and Territory), with the contribution of the Superintendence to the National Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art of Rome, of the Hendrik Christian Andersen Museum, of the National Institute for Deafness and of the Pro Blind Federation of Rome, of the National Union for the Fight against Illiteracy (UNLA), and under the patronage of ICOM (International Council of Museum). The project aims to open museums to all types of public, paying particular attention to those with difficulties - of various types - in the uses of the language. The objective of Museo Facile is to encourage the use of cultural heritage thanks to the systematic review of the museum’s communication equipment and the preparation of highly understandable teaching tools and materials.

After the experience of the Andersen Museum in Rome, the Museo Facile team worked on the project “New communication devices for the Museum of the Abbey Montecassino (medieval section)” and on the “Itinerary of the Contemporary locations of interest in Cassino”, aimed at defining a real “journey of art” within the city.
Museo Facile is currently working on the design and implementation of the communication apparatus of the Principe Guglielmo Romanazzi Carducci Civic Museum at Santo Mauro di Putignano.

**Summer School “Trends in Manuscript Studies. Sources, Issues and Technologies”**
http://www3.laboratori.unicas.it/Libro-e-ricerca/SummerSchool

Since 2015 the “LIBeR - Book and Research Laboratory” of the Department of Literature and Philosophy organizes the “Trends in Manuscript Studies. Sources, Issues and Technologies” Summer School, in collaboration with the Abbey of Montecassino.

The summer school is aimed at enriching and improving the knowledge of students and researchers who are interested in ancient and medieval manuscripts and who intend to be updated on recent developments in manuscript cataloguing and in the art-historical, philological and liturgical-musical analysis of this very important heritage of the past.
RESEARCH

The Department is organized in four scientific macro-areas:

1. **The area of historical, philological and literary disciplines** of the ancient world includes researchers working on ancient history, Greek and Latin language and literatures, as well as on manuscripts and scripts, in a strictly complementary perspective. The focus on written sources, considered in their inseparable unity of contents and graphic and material elements, is a salient feature of the research developed in this area, also thanks to the support of national and local funding. The close synergy between the members and the transversal collaborations with colleagues belonging to the archaeological and art-historical areas are documented by the results of common research and by the organization of numerous international conferences and workshops.

2. **The area of archaeological and art-historical disciplines** gathers scholars interested in archeology (from prehistory to the Middle Ages, passing through the classical era), to the history of figurative arts and music, to museology, from the Middle Ages to the modern age. The common background is the interest for the enhancement and promotion of cultural heritage, in all its material and immaterial manifestations; researchers belonging to this area work both individually and in synergy with colleagues from other scientific areas on projects of common interest. Over the years the area developed various research strands, which have received significant national and international awards and funding (PRIN funding, funding for Maria Curie projects, fellowships at national and international research institutes). The researchers also organize conferences, workshops and seminars, both at the University of Cassino and in other academic institutions.

3. **The area of philological and literary disciplines** focuses on research ranging from Italian literature,
philology and linguistics to the main modern literatures (English, French, Anglo-American). The researches cover a vast field of interests, from Italian and European literary history to comparative studies, from interdisciplinary and inter-art thematic studies to literary translation, both from a theoretical point of view and with reference to modern interlinguistic and intersemiotic translation practices. The quality of the research carried out in this area is documented by the researchers’ participation in various European projects. Also this area has developed a number of profitable collaborations, some of which involve members of the archaeological and art-historical area.

4. The area of historical, geographical and philosophical disciplines covers an ensemble of historical, geographical and philosophical disciplines, with particular reference to issues in modern and contemporary studies. The research and teaching activity is centered on the history of Italian and international politics and institutions, including the Church, and on questions of philosophy of science, above all of a biological-neurological-behavioral nature; research conducted in the field of cognitive biology also deserves to be mentioned.
In the period 2016–2019, five competitive projects were funded, in which members of the Department were involved.

**2016–2019**

Partner of the Project HospitAm “L’hospitalité dans la Méditerranée antique: les institutions et les réseaux” was financed by the Fonds de recherche of the ENS of Lyon as “Projet émergent”, and then through the ELA-ERC call. The coordinating institution is ENS Lyon (Laboratoire Histoire et sources des Mondes Antiques, Institut d’Asie orientale, institute d’Histoire de la Pensée classique, Universités Lyon 2, Lyon 3, Jean Monnet Saint-Étienne, IEP de Lyon).

Main Partners:
- École française de Rome;
- Università degli Studi del Piemonte Orientale;
- Università degli Studi di Cassino e del Lazio Meridionale;
- British Institute in Amman;
- Universiteit van Amsterdam;
- Universität Bamberg;
- Université libre de Bruxelles (2016).

Scientific coordinator: Cristina Corsi

2016–2019

Appel à projets: 2016 Program Erasmus+
EVAL-IC – Evaluation des compétences en intercompréhension: réception et interactions plurilingues
Projet n° 2016-1-FR01-KA203-024155.
Action-Clé 2 – coopération en matière d’innovation et d’échanges de pratiques.
Partenariats Stratégiques pour l’Enseignement Supérieur.

Scientific coordinator: Maddalena De Carlo

#erasmus
#interactionsplurilingue

**2017-2020**

DTC-LAZIO Centre of Technological Excellence for innovative applied technologies for cultural heritage and other cultural activities. The DTC Lazio is a center for the aggregation and integration of technological competencies which are applied to conservation, enhancement and promotion of the historical, artistic and cultural heritage of Lazio. Amongst the founding partners, apart from the University of Cassino and Southern Lazio, are the Universities of Rome: Sapienza,
Torvergata and Roma Tre, the University of Tuscia and the institutions CNR, ENEA and INFN.

Scientific coordinator: Marilena Maniaci
#cultural Heritage
#applied Technologies
#Lazio
#innovation
#research

2018-2021
BRIC 2018-ID 05. Experimental assessment of the effectiveness of the measures taken for mitigating exposure to formaldehyde on working premises. INAIL-research activity 2016/2018
Scientific coordinator: Edoardo Ales (University of Cassino)
#health
#innovation
#research

2018-2021
Prin 2017-SH-6 “Italy and the “Shock of the Global” during the Seventies: perceptions, interpretations, reactions”. The project is nationally coordinated by Guido Formigoni, Iulm University and the local research units are coordinated by Marco De Nicolò (University of Cassino and Southern Lazio), Renato Moro (University RomaTre) and Giovanni Scirocco (Bergamo University). The Cassino unit is in charge of the project entitled “From society of infinite consumerism to austerity: the restrictions of an illusion and social and economic changes” and aims at investigating how the change from a society of endless consumerism has moved to austerity, examining the restrictions of an allusion and the consequent economic and social transformations.
Scientific coordinator: Marco De Nicolò
#austerity
#globalization
#Seventies
#economic and social transformations
RESEARCH LABORATORIES

The activity of the laboratories and of the research sections supports and enhances the work of individual researchers, promoting synergies between researchers with complementary interests and skills.

LIBeR. BOOK AND RESEARCH
http://www3.laboratori.unicas.it/Libro-e-ricerca

Scientific coordinator: Nicola Tangari

The Laboratory “Liber. Book and Research (LIBeR)”, established in 1992 as a centre for the documentation and study of manuscripts in the southern Middle Ages (the new name dates to 2009), is a structure devoted to the study and documentation of ancient, medieval and modern books, broadly understood both as a means for transmitting culture, in a historical and philological perspective, and as a material object, that deserves to be investigated from a graphic, bibliological and ornamental point of view. The members of the Laboratory are active in several fields related to the description, documentation and analysis of different types of Greek and Latin manuscripts. The tasks of the laboratory include the collection and management of a vast and precious photographic documentation of the manuscripts that have been the object of studies promoted by the Laboratory (ca. 2200 reproductions of manuscripts on digital support, as well as slides, photographs and reproductions on microfiches, that can be freely consulted by researchers coming from all over the world).

Activities and services

The LIBeR Laboratory carries out activities for which it can also provide consultancy and services to research institutions and institutions for the conservation of cultural heritage. These include: codicological, palaeographic, bibliological analysis and standardized cataloguing of ancient manuscripts and printed books; acquisition, conservation and inventory of digital reproductions of manuscripts, with particular regard to the manuscripts kept at Montecassino; set up of databases concerning the ancient book heritage and data dissemination through printed and online and offline publications.
In the various research sectors related to modern culture, an approach has been established over the last few decades that tends to consider literature as one of the artistic manifestations, as one of the “fields” (to use the term introduced by Pierre Bourdieu) which interact in a larger cultural sphere. Already in 1942 René Wellek and Austin Warren indicated the relationships between literature and other arts as a promising research field (not without warning against the risk of simplifications), and in 1963 Umberto Eco traced, against the background of “a new anthropological panorama”, the profile of a new type of scholar “who works in continuous contact with others, in order to continually verify the models he elaborates and decide on their reliability only in the midst of an open and progressive activity of confrontation”. More and more in recent years, even in Italy, there are examples and elaborations that move in this direction.

The SLIA Laboratory is part of this framework and is set up as a privileged area of confrontation between the specialists of the various Department sectors which are representative of modern culture in the broad sense. The Laboratory is intended as a pole of attraction for Italian and foreign specialists interested in these areas and research methods in full evolution.

The Laboratory includes the:

**Musical Studies Research Section**

Established in 2016 and coordinated by prof. Susanna Pasticci, the musical studies section includes professors: Michele Napolitano, Francesco Pontuale and Gabriele Poole. This section deals with the study of the performative act, the dynamics of musical communication and the relationship of music with other artistic expressions and disciplines. Within this broad objective, this research section promotes interdisciplinary studies and organizes events, research projects and musical and performative arts workshops.
ITALIAN STUDIES ON LINGUISTICS, LITERATURE AND ART-HISTORY (STILLES)

Scientific coordinator: Gianluca Lauta

In the STILLeS Laboratory, issues of Italian literature are explored, with particular attention to the intersections between literature and figurative arts in Italy, and to the relationships between linguistics and contemporary museology. Within this general objective, STILLeS promotes the interaction and collaboration between historians of Italian language, historians of literature, art historians and museum professionals.

TIME, SPACE; STRUCTURES
http://www3.laboratori.unicas.it/
Laboratorio-Tempo-Spazio-e-Strutture

Scientific coordinator: Marco De Nicolò

The Time, Space, Structures laboratory founded in 2018, is the result of the merging of the pre-existing laboratories of Regional History and Territorial Valorization. Historical and geographic studies are aimed at the analysis of aspects mainly concerning the southern part of Regione Lazio. Research is also carried out concerning the management of the area with the aid of spatially referenced data-bases, WEBGIS and thematic cartographies, development of projects and creation of facilities for training professionals to be employed in activities connected with cultural, historical and geographic fields.
EPISTEMOLOGICAL STUDIES ON BIO-NEURO-COGNITIVE AND ETHO: BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES


Scientific coordinator: Marco Celentano

The laboratory’s activities link back to those developed in the pre-existing Laboratory of philosophical and epistemological studies, but broadening their sphere of application. Amongst these are the courses of advanced education, seminars, and publications edited by members of the Post-Graduate School of Philosophy, Ethics and Ethology, international conventions, conferences and various informative activities which take place in collaboration with local institutions and schools in the area.
The Department of Humanities actively promotes numerous Public Engagement activities, which are events aimed at spreading the knowledge of cultural heritage and outreach activities in humanities.

There are numerous outreach events organized by the Department and open to the public such as:

- Conferences and book presentations with public debates;
- Collaboration with national and local newspapers and cultural magazines;
- Participation in popular radio broadcasts and television shows;
- Participation in various literary and scientific festivals (amongst which the literary Festival of Cassino-Montecassino “ANTICOntemporaneo”);
- Scientific organization of public events in close collaboration with local institutions (Certamina, awards, conferences, seminars, film festivals);
- Planning of events aimed at promoting and implementing access to cultural heritage (such as the project “Museo Facile” created for the Museum of the Abbey of Montecassino).

The Department also collaborates to some events promoted by the Deputy Rector office for the dissemination and promotion of culture and knowledge (SCIRE), amongst which the yearly events Unicittà, the University meets the city in the city, the musical Festival, the Ada Lovelace Day and the program “Humanities in factories”, in collaboration with the company SKF of Cassino.

All these activities have had great success also thanks to a system aimed at publicizing and communication through the local and national press, the web site and social media of SCIRE (Facebook page SCIRE UNICAS).
The Centre for Library Services in the Humanities (CSB) - Giorgio Aprea Library - is one of the three library centers of the University of Cassino and Southern Lazio, open to all students, scholars (PhD students, researchers and professors of the University), and external users who work in the field of humanities and sport sciences.

The library is located in via Zamosch, building C, and occupies the ground floor (book storage) and the first floor (Readers’ Rooms and Offices). In addition, the Sala Braga, a specialist collection in Book History, is located in building B (fourth floor). Altogether the collection of the CSB amounts to over 110,000 volumes. Its extension qualifies it as the second largest library in the province of Frosinone, after the monumental State Library of the Abbey of Montecassino.

Library’s website:  
http://www.sba.unicas.it/CSB-Area-Umanistica

**LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE HUMANITIES**

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