

Italian

Module descriptors for Inbound Students.

Name	Renaissance History and Politics: A Critical Reading of Machiavelli's <i>The Prince</i>
Code	ITU44191
Semester	1
ECTS credits	5
Module Coordinator	Contact Inbound Italian Study Abroad Coordinator.

Module Content

Modern reflection on politics and historiography would be unthinkable without Niccolò Machiavelli's treatise *On the Princedoms* or *The Prince*. The module sets the work in its historical context (clarifying the story of 'Machiavellism' in the Anglophone world) and offers a reading of the work's key questions at stake: the nature of princedoms, the figure of the prince, his behaviour, fortune, the meaning of the work in Machiavelli's development of a new vision of history and politics.

Learning Outcomes

The module aims to familiarise students with a major figure of Italian Renaissance literature, Niccolò Machiavelli. Machiavelli's *The Prince* will be analysed in depth. Assuming students have attended all or most lectures, completed their assignments and engaged in independent learning, at the end of this module students should be able to:

- read and understand 16th century Italian language
- set the work under examination in its historical context
- comment on 16th century Italian history, society and politics
- learn about ancient, medieval and Renaissance historic and political theories
- consider the importance of the author and his texts for contemporary society, ethics and politics.