



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO

ID

VP50_DIP_STO

Visiting Professor Program Academic year 2020/2021

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORICAL STUDIES

TEACHING COMMITMENT: 12 hours

COURSE TITLE

Ancient Near Eastern Diplomacy: Treaty Traditions According to Assyrian and Babylonian Sources.

TEACHING PERIOD

2nd term

SCIENTIFIC AREA

History of the Ancient Near East

LANGUAGE USED TO TEACH

Italian and English

COURSE SUMMARY

The course aims at providing an introduction into the different treaty traditions attested in Assyria and Babylonia during the 2nd and 1st millennium BCE. The topic will be addressed by analysing and discussing a selection of the different textual sources (treaties, royal inscriptions, historiographic compositions, letters) that can be used to reconstruct and understand the historical, political and cultural background that prompted the stipulation of treaties, and how these were used as a means for securing peace as well as for enlarging and strengthening the territories controlled by two great kingdoms of ancient Mesopotamia.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course shall enable the students to deepen their knowledge of Mesopotamian history and develop a critical approach towards the use and interpretation of the ancient sources available for its reconstruction. At the same time, the guided analysis of different types of texts should provide

them with an opportunity to strengthen their skills as philologists and widen their mastery of the Akkadian language and of the cuneiform writing.

TUTORSHIP ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE)

LAB ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE)

OTHER ACTIVITIES (IF APPLICABLE)

Conference within the seminars of the graduate school in "Scienze archeologiche, storiche e storico-artistiche" and of the planned "Scuola di Specializzazione in Beni Archeologici".

VISITING PROFESSOR PROFILE DESCRIPTION

The visiting professor should be an expert of ancient Near Eastern civilizations, whose research and publications focus in particular on the history of Mesopotamia in the 2nd and 1st millennium BCE and on the methodological issues raised by the relevant sources, with academic teaching experience of Mesopotamian history and languages, and with a good knowledge of spoken and written Italian.

CONTACT PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT

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