

2016 Certamen: *The other and us: integration policies between ancient and modern*

State High School *Dante Alighieri* in Rome, Italy, in partnership with high schools Terenzio Mamiani, Virgilio, Francesco Vivona, and with Italian academic experts, twinned with the Wilhelms Gymnasium in Munich, Bavaria, organizes the second transnational European Certamen.

2016 Certamen Second Edition *The Other and Us: integration policies between Ancient and Modern*

Aims of the competition are:

- strengthening the exchange of good practices between European educational systems through student mobility;
- updating the approach to classical studies through laboratory based activities;
- emphasizing the connections between the teaching of Latin and Greek;
- reinforcing the European cultural identity by revisiting classical authors and texts both synchronically and diachronically: the Sophists, Isocrates, Dionysius of Halicarnassus, Plutarch, Livy, Tacitus, Apuleius, St. Paul and documents of great historical importance such as the *Constitutio Antoniniana*.

In classical civilizations syncretism was realized at various levels - cultural (Hellenism), political (the acquisition of consensus through the granting of rights by Rome), religious (assimilation of foreign cults) - through integration strategies that gave birth to the extraordinary cultural wealth which is still evident in today's artistic and literary manifestations. In this sense the Greek-Latin world laid the foundations of European civilization and constitutes the first embodiment of a multi-ethnic reality. The question of multiculturalism emerged again in a similar manner in the modern and contemporary eras: the problem of language, of cultural mingling, of the reciprocal influences between cultures, of 'collective rights', xenophobia and migration are debated in the works of writers such as Michel de Montaigne, Hans Magnus Enzensberger, Jürgen Habermas, Charles Taylor.

Certamen test

The test will be divided into three sections.

The first section, in Italian and designed for classical high schools, will focus on the analysis of appropriately selected texts by Greek and Latin authors and modern and contemporary philosophers. The candidate will be asked to produce a short two-page essay using the texts given for analysis.

The second section, in Italian and designed for Scientific and Linguistic High Schools, consists in writing a short two-page essay based on appropriately selected texts by Latin authors and by modern and contemporary philosophers.

The third section, in English and open to all high schools, will focus on the analysis of texts by Latin authors and by modern and contemporary philosophers: the test will consist of a short essay of two pages in English. Each school can participate with a maximum of two students. Participation is limited and cannot exceed 50 (fifty) competing for the sections in Italian and 40 (forty) competing for the English section.

In case of applications exceeding the set number of participants, Italian students will be selected on the basis of their school results at the end of the first quarter of the current school year. A list of eligible participants will be drawn based on the average marks obtained in both written and oral Latin and Greek tests. In case of equal marks, the overall average rating of all subjects of the curriculum will be taken into account.

Foreign students will be selected according to the evaluation and assessment certification provided by their schools and, in case of score equality, early applicants will be given precedence. The application form (which must be filled out by the school the prospective participant is attending) must indicate the identity of single candidates and the course and class they are enrolled in in the current school year.

Saturday, January 30, 2016 is the deadline to submit the application forms. These will be downloaded from www.liceodantealighieri.it, filled in and emailed by the schools (with required documents attached) to the following address: rmpc07000l@pec.istruzione.it.

The secretariat of the competition is at LC "Dante Alighieri" via Ennio Quirino Visconti n.13 – 00193 Roma Secretary's office Tel: 06121124725 - fax 063216207 – e-mail: rmpc07000l@pec.istruzione.it.

Applications and certificates that are either incomplete or submitted after the set deadline will not be taken into account.

The 2016 edition of the competition will be held on February 18, 2016. Designated venues are as follows:

1. "Liceo Dante Alighieri" for Classical High School participants;
2. "Liceo Terenzio Mamiani" for Scientific High School participants;
3. "Liceo Virgilio" for Linguistic High School participants;
4. "Liceo Vivona" for the section in English

The test will last a maximum of four hours, starting at 10.00 a.m. and ending at 2.00 p.m.

Participants, carrying valid ID documents, will register for the test on the premises of the designated school from 09.00 to 09.45 a.m. on Thursday, February 18, 2016.

Two best papers awards for each section will be assigned by the competition Committee chaired by Professor Roberto Nicolai Mastrofrancesco, Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Philosophy of the Sapienza University of Rome.

The first prize for both sections in Italian amounts to € 300.00; the second to €200.00.

The first prize for the English section amounts to € 300.00; the second to €200.00.

The award ceremony will take place at 11.00 am on Saturday, February 20, 2016.

For more information please contact the secretariat of the competition.

Competition Rules

1. The Certamen *The other and us: integration policies between ancient and modern*

is established on an annual basis,

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- a) strengthen the exchange of good practices between European educational systems through student mobility;
- b) update the approach to classical studies through laboratory based activities;
- c) emphasize the connections between the teaching of Latin and of Greek;
- d) reinforce the European cultural identity by revisiting classical authors and texts both synchronically and diachronically through laboratory based activities.

2. The competition is open to Italian students attending the fourth year of grammar school (Liceo II) and to students of the European Union.

3. To enter the competition Italian students are required to score top marks (not below 8) in Latin and Greek (written and oral) in the report card of the school year in progress.

Students of the European Union are required to submit a statement, issued by the school they are attending, certifying their level of knowledge of Latin and Greek (good, very good or excellent).

4. Each school may enter a maximum of one student. Participation is limited and may not exceed fifty (50) candidates for the Italian section and 40 (forty) competing for the English section. The number of students from EU schools allowed to participate is 15.

5. Students who in the previous two school years (or the previous academic year for students of the grammar school), were taught by a teacher who is now a member of the competition Committee, are not eligible to enter the competition.

6. The participation fee per student is set at € 30,00 to be paid into postal current account n. 60063005 or Banco Posta CODICE IBAN: IT88S0760103200000060063005

with the word *Certamen* written in the reference field (payment description) on the transfer form. The schools involved will be in charge of the application forms and make sure that they are completed properly in each part.

7. A copy of the current school year report card must be attached to the application form by Italian students, while an attendance certificate issued by their schools will be presented by EU students. Students under the age of 18 are required to submit a written authorization signed by a parent or guardian.

8. The competition committee is made up of seven members, will be chaired by a university professor and be thus constituted: two university teachers and five additional members chosen among professors or recognized experts in Latin and Greek language and literature. The committee chooses a vice-president and a secretary among its members. During the marking of papers, the committee may split into subcommittees; it is clear, however, that final evaluations will be decided upon collectively. Exclusive tasks of the committee members are the choice of texts for the annual contest and the correction of papers.

9. Participants may be accompanied by a teacher.

10. Candidates may choose one of the following tests:

a. Italian section designed for Classical High Schools: candidates are required to write a short two-page essay offering a cultural and historical perspective on the Greek and Latin texts given for analysis, drawing evidence from the texts by modern and contemporary authors to support their arguments. Specifically, text analysis will include the following: the Sophists, Isocrates (*Panegyric* §§ 1-50), Dionysius of Halicarnassus (*Roman Antiquities* 2: 15-20), Plutarch (*Life of Alexander*), Livy (1, 6 -16); Tacitus (*Life of Giulio Agricola*), Apuleius (*Metamorphoses*, Book 11), St. Paul (*Galatians* 3), *The Antonine Constitution*. Modern and contemporary works will include: Michel de Montaigne (*Essays*), Hans Magnus Enzensberger (*The Great Migration*, Torino 1993), Jürgen Habermas, Charles Taylor (*Multiculturalism*, Milan 1998). Recommended books to prepare for competition also include M. Bettini, *Foreigners* (Bari 1992), L. Boldrini, *All back* (Milan 2010).

b. English section: candidates are required to write a short two-page essay offering a cultural and historical perspective on the Latin texts given for analysis with the help of the texts by modern and contemporary authors. Specifically, the analysis will focus on the following passages: Livy (1, 6-16); Tacitus (*Life of Giulio Agricola*), Apuleius (*Metamorphoses*, Book 11), s. Paul (*Galatians* 3), *The Antonine Constitution*. Modern and

contemporary works will include: Michel de Montaigne (*Essays*), Hans Magnus Enzensberger (*The Great Migration*, Torino 1993), Jürgen Habermas, Charles Taylor (*Multiculturalism*, Milan 1998). Recommended books to prepare for competition also include: M. Bettini, *Foreigners* (Bari 1992), L. Boldrini, *All back* (Milan 2010). Each year, two months before the competition starts, the committee will issue the names of the authors and the texts selected for the Certamen.

Specifically, this year's theme will be: **The Other and Us: integration policies between ancient and modern**

11. Candidates will have 4 hours to complete their test. The use of Latin-Italian and Greek –Italian dictionaries is allowed as well as that of an English dictionary

12. In order to ensure impartiality of judgment, test administration and evaluation procedures will conform to the rules laid down for public competitions.

13. Candidates cannot leave the examination premises until 3 hours have passed since the start of the exam.

14. The competition committee is responsible for supervision and invigilation during the exam and to this purpose it can avail itself of additional members.

15. The authors of the two best papers in each of the two sections will be awarded a prize. The Committee will be sole judge in the granting of the prizes. Its decision is final.

16. The first prize for the section in Italian and in English amounts to € 300.00; the second, to € 200,00.

17. In case of equal results, the prize can be awarded *ex aequo* and the money be equally shared by winners.

18. All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

19. All travel, accommodation and food costs will be paid by participants (A list of hotels and religious institutions at convenient rates will be provided). It is the participants' responsibility to book in time.

