

GONZAGA-IN-FLORENCE SYLLABUS

Course: HIST 324/INST 380 - Italy in the 19th Century The social and political history of Italy from the Congress of Vienna (1815) to the outbreak of the First World War (1914)
Credits: 3 Credits
Instructor: Dr. Peter Fischer, PhD; (IN) (IS) (SS)



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Fall Semester 2010 – Meeting Times Monday and Wednesday 2.00 – 3.30 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday and Wednesday 1.30-2.00 pm or by appointment (email: pfischer@libero.it)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the history of Italy in the “long” nineteenth century from 1789 to 1914. The main areas of focus will be: the influence of the French Revolution and Napoleon on Italy, the ‘Restoration Periods’ after the ‘Vienna Conference’ and the ‘1848 Revolutions’, the ‘Unification of Italy’, the transformation of society and daily life, as well as the consolidation and policy designs of the newly created Italian state. Particular attention will be paid to key issues such as the concept of ‘nation’, modern political ideologies, church-state relationships, the north-south divide, and Italian mass emigration. In doing so, nineteenth century Italy will be studied from both an Italian and European context. Finally, the course will also examine the major changes in 19th century Florence related to the city’s architecture, society and culture through lectures, walking tours and encounters with influential members of the Florentine community.

COURSE METHOD

The course will be taught through a combination of formal lectures (incl. power point presentations), document discussion workshops, film presentations and outdoor activities. The lectures will provide a broad outline of the respective period while the workshops will enable students to focus on key topics or themes. Students will engage in full class discussion and small group work. The three scheduled outdoor activities should allow students to get some first-hand experiences of the place where they study.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course seeks to provide students with basic knowledge about Italy’s modern political history, so that they may evaluate the complexity of Italian politics with some degree of sophistication. On successful completion of this course students will be able to gain a command not only of the “facts” of modern Italian political history--the dates of key events, the importance of major personalities, and such--but also come to understand the dynamics involved: the basic trends of continuity and change, cause and effect, the interplay of regional, national and international influences, and the significance of global events within Italy.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Develop students’ understanding of the topic area.
- Develop an understanding of the theoretical and methodological issues.
- Encourage active participation in class discussions and in critical evaluation of primary and secondary source material.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the module students will:

- have deepened their understanding of the topic area;
- have acquired new perspectives on approaching history;
- be able to describe and discuss their newly acquired knowledge and understanding;
- have developed their research, writing, and discussion skills, and extended their capacity for critical analysis and reflection;
- have completed, and been assessed on, their course work;
- have developed the confidence to explore ideas individually and in groups.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course requirements include regular class attendance, class participation, required readings and pop quizzes, student presentations, a paper project, a mid-term exam and a final exam.

Paper Project

Each student is expected to write a paper of about 15 pages on one of the topics relating to modern Italian political history. I will not accept any paper without an approved paper outline attached! Late papers will receive a drop in grade. The topics are determined by the available reading, and guidance will be given throughout. You may choose to pursue further a topic that we are exploring in class, or examine another area of academic interest which is related to the subject of this course. Topics must be selected in agreement with me.

Student Presentations

This class is designed so that participation plays an integral role in the learning process. The basic format for the course will consist of an introduction to the narrative and to key issues of a specific chapter of modern political history in Italy. The workshop sessions will consist of the presentation of documentary material (primary and secondary text sources, documentary film material) for which selected student groups will take over responsibility, followed by a class discussion on central themes raised in those documents. There will also be discussions on key topics or themes introduced in the lecture of the same week. The student groups are responsible for preparing questions and topics in order to stimulate lively class discussions.

ASSESSMENT

10% Class Attendance, Class Participation and Pop-Quizzes
10% Class Presentation
30% Paper Project
20% Mid-Term Exam
30% Final Exam

GRADING

Grading will be done on a percentage basis: (A 92.5-100) (A- 90.0-92.4) (B+ 87.5-89.9) (B 82.5-87.4) (B- 80.0-82.4) (C+ 77.5-79.9) (C 72.5-77.4) (C- 70.0-72.4) (D+ 67.5-69.9) (D 60.0-67.4) (F 0-59.9)

ABSENCE POLICY ON LECTURES AND EXAMS

Following university policy, more than four absences will result in automatic half-grade reduction for each additional absence. More than six absences will result in an F for the course. There will be **no written make up tests** without a medical certificate.

REQUIRED READING

- 1) Textbook: Davis John, A., Italy in the 19th Century. Oxford: Oxford University Press 2004 (used copies can be purchased at the Paperback Exchange in Florence (Via delle Oche 4; phone: 055-293460)
- 2) Material contained in course reader. A bound copy covering the documents for the workshop sessions will be made available. Additional Required Readings will be made available by the instructor.
- 3) Additional 'Required Readings' will be made available by the instructor

COURSE OUTLINE & SCHEDULE

Week 1

Sept 20 (Mon): What will this course be about? Introduction to course material.

Sept 22 (Wed): Introduction to Italian History before the 19th Century – A Short overview

Required Readings:

Turner, 40-74; Davis (2004), 283-288; Lyttelton (2002), 272-277; Duggan (2000), 129-146

Week 2

Sept 27 (Mon): Lecture 1 – From the French Revolution to Napoleon

Required Readings:

Davis, Chapter 1, pp. 25-51

Sept 29 (Wed): Workshop 1 – Discussion of Documents

Primary and Secondary Sources:

Doc 1/1: Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen (August 1789)

Doc 1/2: E. Renan, "What is a Nation?" (1882)

Doc 1/3: E. Gellner, Nations and Nationalism (1983).

Doc 1/4: A.-M. Thiesse, Democracy Softens Forces of Change: Inventing National Identity (1999)

Doc 1/5: B. Anderson, The Nation as Imagined Community (1983)

Week 3

Oct 4 (Mon): Lecture 2 – The Age of Restauration and Giuseppe Mazzini's 'Giovine Italia'

Required Readings:

Davis, Chapter 2, pp. 51-74 and Chapter 3, pp. 74-108.

Oct 6 (Wed): Workshop 2 – Discussion of Documents

Primary Sources:

Doc 2/1: G. Mazzini, On Nationality (1852)

Doc 2/2: G. Mazzini, General Instructions for the Members of Young Italy (1831)

Doc 2/3: V. Gioberti, Primato (1843)

Doc 2/4: 'Va Pensiero', from Nabucco by G. Verdi (1842)

Week 4

Oct 11 (Mon): Lecture 3 – Cavour and Piedmont

Required Readings:

Davis, Chapter 4, pp.108-132.

Oct 12 (Wed): Film Workshop 1 – 'The Tree of Wooden Clogs', by Ermanno Olmi (1978)
(followed by class discussion)

Required Readings:

TBA

► **NOTE:** Outlines for your Research Papers must be given by Wednesday, October 12

Week 5

Oct 18 (Mon): Lecture 4 – Garibaldi and the South

Required Readings:

Davis, Chapter 5, pp. 132-154.

Oct 20 (Wed): Film Workshop 2- 'Il Gattopardo' (The Leonard), by Lucino Visconti (1963)
(followed by class discussion) + Review

Required Readings:

TBA

Week 6

Oct 25 (Mon): Mid-Term Exam

Week 7

Nov 1 (Mon): National Holiday (no class)

Nov 3 (Wed): Out-Door Activity 1: 'Making Italians' - Visit of 'Temple of the Italian Glories' in Florence (guided tour of the Santa Croce Church)

Week 8

Nov 8 (Mon): Lecture 5 – Politics in the era of Depretis and Crispi, 1870-96

Required Readings:

Davis, Chapter 6, pp. 154-181.

Nov 10 (Wed): Workshop 3– Discussion of Documents

Primary Sources:

Doc 3/1: Lo Statuto – Constitution of the Kingdom of Sardinia (1848)

Doc 3/2: King Victor Emmanuel: Address to Parliament, Rome, 1871

Doc 3/3: The Triple Alliance (1882)

Doc 3/4: J.St. Mill, On Liberty (1859)

Doc 3/5: J.St. Mill, Liberalism Evaluated (1873)

Doc 3/6: A. Schlesinger Jr., American Liberalism (1956)

Documentary Film Material:

Istituto Luce, *Storia D'Italia.. Dall'Unità al 2000*

Week 9

Nov 15 (Mon): Lecture 6 – Religion, Culture and Society

Required Readings:

Davis, Chapter 7 pp. 181-205 and Chapter 8 pp.206-235

Nov 17 (Wed): Out-Door Activity 2: From Mutual Aid to the Welfare State: The Creation of Fraternal Societies and Social Services at the turn of the century in Florence (out-door conference at ARCI Firenze)

Week 10

Nov 22 (Mon): Lecture 7 – Florence in the 19th Century

Required Readings:

TBA

Nov 24 (Wed): Out-Door Activity 3: Political Walking Tour Through 19th Century Florence + Review

► **Note: Papers must be handed in by November 24 (Wednesday), latest!**

Week 11

Nov 29 (Mon): Lecture 8 – Economy, Society and the State

Required Readings:

Davis, Chapter 9, pp. 235-264;

Dec 1 (Wed): Workshop 4 – Discussion of Documents

Primary Sources:

Doc 4/1: Giolitti's Speech in Parliament, 4 February 1901

Doc 4/2: Rerum Novarum – Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII on Capital and Labor (1891)

Doc 4/3: Manifesto of the Communist Party (1848)

Doc 4/4: A. Einstein, Why Socialism? (1949)

Documentary Film Material:

Istituto Luce, *Storia D'Italia.. Dall'Unità al 2000*

Week 12

Dec 6 (Mon): Class Discussion – Italy's Difficult Modernization + Review

Required Readings:

Davis, pp. 1-25

Dec 8 (Wed): National Holiday (no class)

Week 13

Dec 13 (Mon): Final Exam

*Note: We will stick to this schedule as closely as possible, but please be advised that this calendar may be modified. If you miss a class it is your responsibility to get in touch with a class member or me to find out the following week's material and activities.