

POL 223T, Italy: Politics, Culture, and Society,

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Fall 2018

I. COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Morris M. Mottale

Instructor's Email: mmottale@fus.edu

Office Hours: Monday 14:00-16:00 W. 8 – 12 or by appointment, OFFICE 5, MV.

Class location: MV 5

Class meeting times: M – TH at 4 – 5:15

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to the contemporary politics of Italy and the issues that are confronting its policy makers and its people. The focus will be mainly on the evolution of Italian society after World War II and the cultural, economic, and social trends that have shaped its political system. There will be a travel component that includes, principally, Puglia.

III. TRAVEL DESCRIPTION

Students will be introduced to millenarian civilizations of Puglia and will become acquainted with the Italic, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Renaissance, and post-Renaissance heritage of this region in southern Italy. This travel program will focus on the history, culture, politics, and arts of a territory and its final integration into the Italian nation state. Students will be visiting the main urban centers throughout Puglia including Lecce, Foggia and Bari. A particular focus will be placed on the synthesis of civilizations that have come to influence the cultural and physical landscape of the area. Emphasis will be put on salient aspects of Classical Greek civilization, its symbiosis with Roman rule, and the evolution of Byzantine imperial domination, the influence of the Levant and the Ottoman Empire. Students will also be introduced to the modern dynamic elements of the region, and the development of contrasts with other parts of the Italian Peninsula. The final aim of this academic travel is to gain an insight into the historical identity of a population and a civilization that has contributed so much to that broad theme of Italian civilization. The travel will prepare the students to fully understand the complex issues that have characterized Italian history and contemporary politics.

IV. SPECIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES

The goal of this class is to develop a comprehensive understanding of the details of the politics of Italy.

V. REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Ginsborg, Paul. *A History of Contemporary Italy: Society and Politics, 1943 – 1988*. London: Penguin Group, 2003.

Benito Mussolini – The Doctrine of Fascism -

<http://www.worldfuturefund.org/wffmaster/Reading/Germany/mussolini.htm>

Tomasi di Lampedusa, *The Leopard*

Christina La Rocca ed. *Italy in the Early Middle Ages: 476-1000* (Short Oxford History of Italy) 2002 [excerpts on reserve]

John A. Marino ed. *Early Modern Italy: 1550-1796* (Short Oxford History of Italy) 2002 [excerpts on reserve]

Smith, Denis Mack. *Italy: A Modern History*.

Journals & Newspapers

Articles to be e-mailed as lectures proceed. They are drawn from newspapers and academic journals in Europe and North America. They will also include videos, blogs, and news announcements from international television networks.

VI. ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

Students will be assessed upon the basis of their performance on a midterm examination, a research paper, their attendance and participation in class lectures and discussions, and a final examination. The midterm is worth 15%, research paper is worth 20%, and attendance is worth 15%. The research paper must be a minimum of ten pages, devoted to a topic related the politics of energy. Research will be judged by the ability to use readings and to produce a relevant, original analysis, not a summary. Topics must be discussed and approved by instructor beforehand, and must be submitted in a ½ page proposal by the specified date (Thursday, February 11th, 2016). A student's ability to employ formal English is an expectation. Correct formatting (Times New Roman font, 12pt, Chicago-style citation) will be standard for the submission. The class final will count as 50% of grade. **Cheating and plagiarism will be severely punished. See official policy in the University Catalog.**

VII. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: STATEMENT ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Refer to the full statement in the catalogue.

VIII. COURSE SCHEDULE

Schedule of Lectures

WEEK 1 Introduction to the history of Italy

WEEK 2 The Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the beginning of the modern age.

WEEK 3 The French Revolution and its impact on Italian society

WEEK 4 Italian unification

WEEK 5 World War I, the rise of Fascism and World War II: the Republican Constitution

WEEK 6 Italy: its economic boom, economic modernization, and the foundation of the European Union

WEEK 7 The politics of the first republic

WEEK 8 The evolution of the Italian political system, right, left and center.

WEEK 9 Travel: specific topics to be discussed when in Puglia

WEEK 10 Travel: specific topics to be discussed when in Puglia

WEEK 11 The fall of the first republic and the making of the second republic; Berlusconi

WEEK 12 Italy today

WEEK 13 Review for the Final Exam

Readings Schedule

WEEK 1) Christina La Rocca ed. Italy in the Early Middle Ages: 476-1000 (Short Oxford History of Italy) 2002 [excerpts on reserve]

WEEK 2) John A. Marino ed. Early Modern Italy: 1550-1796 (Short Oxford History of Italy) 2002 [excerpts on reserve]

WEEK 3) Ginsborg: Preface, Chapters 1, 2, 3

WEEK 4) the Leopard by Tomasi di Lampedusa

WEEK 5) Benito Mussolini – The Doctrine of Fascism -

<http://www.worldfuturefund.org/wffmaster/Reading/Germany/mussolini.htm>

WEEK 6) TBA

WEEK 7) Ginsborg: Chapters 4, 5, 6

WEEK 8) Ginsborg: Chapters 7 and 8

WEEK 9) Travel

WEEK 10) Travel

WEEK 11) Ginsborg: Chapters 9 and 10, complete reading

WEEK 12) TBA

Question for Midterm Examination

Describe and analyze the rise of Fascism.

Date of Midterm Examination: October 11 2018

Due Dates for Research Paper:

Date for Topic Submission (1/2 page proposal): October 11, 2018

Date for Paper Submission: October 15, 2018 (Late papers will be penalized)

Study Question for Final Examination

What are the issues and problems that confront the Italian political system and Italian society today?

Other questions to be arranged.

Date of Final Examination: Monday December 12th 16:00 to 18:30