



DRAFT SYLLABUS

Politics in Modern Italy

Instructor: Priscilla Southwell

Language of Instruction: English

UO Credits: 5

Contact Hours*: 45

Total Hours of Student Engagement (THSE) in all course activities*:

Level: 300

Siena, Italy

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine political developments in modern Italy, beginning with the nationalist drive (risorgimento) prior to the achievement of statehood in 1861, continuing through the creation of the Triple Alliance and World War I, the rise of fascism and World War II. Coverage of contemporary politics will center on the issues of governmental instability, regionalism, corruption, and recent political elections and electoral reforms.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course will examine the history of modern Italy as well as the Italian involvement in both world wars, but primarily address contemporary Italian politics and current developments.

STUDENT OUTCOMES.

Students who successfully complete this course will have a grasp of how history has shaped current Italian politics, as well as the impact of the EU, economic crises, and the rise of populism.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

This class will have three class sessions a week, consisting of lectures/discussion. There will also be required day-long excursions to Florence (Firenze) & Bolzano, San Gimignano & Volterra, and Ferrara & Venice (2 nights), but all of these are subject to change before the Spring of 2027. There will also be four required film sessions, usually in the late afternoon or morning.

METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)

The course will be graded as follows:

10% on a short quiz covering major political figures and political geography of Italy.

30% each on three exams of essay/identification questions.

COURSE OUTLINE

- Week One: 1820-1861: Italian Resistance to Austrian Domination, the Movement for National Unity and Independence (Risorgimento), the Leadership of Mazzini and Garibaldi
- Week Two: The Kingdom of Italy and Victor Emmanuel II
MAP/INFORMATION QUIZ
- Week Three: Creation of the Triple Alliance and World War I
- Week Four: The Rise of Fascism, the Mussolini Years and World War II
FIRST EXAM
- Week Five: The Adoption of a Republican Form of Government; Intensification of Partisan Politics; The Beginning of European Integration
- Week Six: The Rise of the Christian Democrats and Eurocommunism
- Week Seven: Urban Terrorism
SECOND EXAM
- Week Eight: Current Governmental Institutions and Procedures; Political Parties and Elections; the Rise of Populism
- Week Nine: Current Political and Economic Issues: Regionalism, Corruption, Relationship with EU
- Week Ten: Recent Elections and Current Coalition: Future of Italian Politics
THIRD EXAM

COURSE READINGS

Broder, David. Mussolini's Grandchildren. Pluto Press, 2023
Course Packet of newspaper articles and journal articles -TBA

FILMS:

"Kidnapped" (Rapito)
"The Garden of the Finzi-Contini"
"Good Morning, Night" (Buongiorno, notte)
"The Night of the Shooting Stars"

[The University Student Conduct Code](#) defines academic misconduct. Students are prohibited from committing or attempting to commit any act that constitutes academic misconduct. By way of example, students should not give or receive (or attempt to give or receive) unauthorized help on assignments or examinations without express permission from the instructor. Students should properly acknowledge and document all sources of information (e.g. quotations, paraphrases, ideas) and use only the sources and resources authorized by

the instructor. If there is any question about whether an act constitutes academic misconduct, it is the students' obligation to clarify the question with the instructor before attempting an act. Additional information about a common form of academic misconduct, plagiarism, is available at researchguides.uoregon.edu/citing-plagiarism.

Prohibited Discrimination and Harassment Reporting

Any student who has experienced sexual assault, relationship violence, sex or gender-based bullying, stalking, and/or sexual harassment may seek resources and help at [Help for Victims and Survivors](#). To get help by phone, a student can also call either the UO's 24-hour confidential hotline at 541-346-7233 [SAFE], or the non-confidential Title IX Coordinator at 541-346-2204. From the SAFE website, students may also connect to [Callisto](#), a confidential, third-party reporting site that is not a part of the university.

Students experiencing any other form of prohibited discrimination or harassment can find information at [How to Get Support](#). You can contact [Investigations and Civil Rights Compliance](#) through this link and at 541-346-3123, or the [Dean of Students Office](#) at 541-346-3216 for help. As UO policy has different reporting requirements based on the nature of the reported harassment or discrimination, additional information about reporting requirements for discrimination or harassment unrelated to sexual assault, relationship violence, sex or gender based bullying, stalking, and/or sexual harassment is available at [Discrimination & Harassment](#).

The instructor of this class, as a Student Directed Employee, will direct students who disclose sexual harassment or sexual violence to resources that can help and will only report the information shared to the university administration when the student requests that the information be reported (unless someone is in imminent risk of serious harm or a minor). The instructor of this class is required to report all other forms of prohibited discrimination or harassment to the university administration. Specific details about confidentiality of information and reporting obligations of employees can be found at [Employee Reporting Responsibilities](#).

Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse

UO employees, including faculty, staff, and GEs, are mandatory reporters of child abuse. This statement is to advise you that your disclosure of information about child abuse to a UO employee may trigger the UO employee's duty to report that information to the designated authorities. Please refer to the following links for detailed information about mandatory reporting: [Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect](#).