Course Description
We will study Italy from a sociological, cultural, political and anthropological viewpoint, in order to gain an overview of a country which has been a nation for just over one hundred years, marks considerable regional disparities, and has undergone great social and cultural changes since the end of World War II. The course is divided into two parts. We will begin by studying the dramatic social, political, economic and cultural transformations which turned Italy into one of world's leading industrial democracies, starting from the post-war reconstruction, the industrialization, the economic miracle of the 1950s and 1960s, and the great internal migration, to the social movements from 1968 to 1980, to the formation of a post-industrial society. We will see how Italy has achieved a high cultural profile and a level of material prosperity that have generated a post-modern, mass consumer and globalized society. Then, adopting an interdisciplinary focus, we will examine diverse sociological and cultural aspects of contemporary Italy such as Catholicism, gender identities, the role of the family, emigration and immigration, stereotypes and regional identities, media and material culture, etc. We will also focus on how Italy is changing today in the modern and globalized world and how the challenges are impacting Italian society. As a result, I hope you will better understand, enjoy and contribute to Italian society.

This course is open to undergraduates from any major. It is an elective for non-sociology majors and is one of several options to fulfill the required number of sociology courses for majors. Sociology majors need to earn a “C-” or better for this course to count toward the department’s requirements for graduation.

Learning Outcomes:
Knowledge Area (Social and Cultural Knowledge):
By the end of this class:
1. Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the transformation of Italy’s social, cultural and anthropological behaviors from the post-war period to today.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate understanding that Italian values and behaviour, lifestyles and consumption patterns were influenced by specific social factors and have changed substantially over the last 60 years
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of differences of class, gender, and race relations in Italy.
4. Students will be able to demonstrate understanding that specific social and cultural traits, such as religion, family, gender, regionalism, stereotypes are influenced by context, culture and time.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of how the Italian individual self concepts stems from the familial, social, and cultural contexts in which Italians develop.

Course Requirements
Students will complete the assigned readings and participate in class discussions and activities. The assigned reading materials should be read before (not only after) the lessons as the grade on class participation depends on demonstrating that the texts have been studied and the discussions on the topics dealt with are highly encouraged and are an integral part of the course.
Midterm exam:
The midterm exam will include selected questions based on the assigned readings and topics covered in the first part of the course.

Review:
Each student will write review on a book, a film or a documentary. Each student will select a topic of interest related to aspects of Italian contemporary society. This provides an opportunity to either explore a subject from the course in more depth, or to pursue material not otherwise covered in the course. The review will be 6,000 characters long. **Deadline:**

Research project:
The students are required to write a **critical essay**. This is **NOT** an opinion paper. Your paper must be supported by theory and/or substantive research that has been considered in class. The essay will be 10,000 characters long (including spaces, footnotes and bibliography) **Deadline:**

Final exam:
The final exam will include questions based on the readings and discussions covered in the second part of the course.

Required Materials:
Assigned readings found on various online publications

Attendance Policy

In accordance with the JFRC mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy:
- For all classes meeting once a week, students cannot incur more than one unexcused absence.
- This course meets 1 a week, thus a total of 1 unexcused absence will be permitted. Unexcused absences beyond these will result in a lowering of your final grade.

Course grading:
- The final grade will be calculated as follows:
- Attendance and class participation 30%
- Midterm 20%
- Research project 20%
- Review 10%
- Final examination 20%

**Grading**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100:</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-93:</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>87-89:</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>84-86:</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-83:</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>77-79:</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>67-69:</td>
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<td>60-66:</td>
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<td>59 or lower:</td>
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A policy on late work is suggested.

**Academic Honesty**

*Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable at the JFRC* and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago’s guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola’s standards here: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml. You are responsible for understanding what constitutes plagiarism according to the LUC Student Handbook.

**Disabilities**

Students with documented disabilities who wish to discuss academic accommodations should contact me the first week of class, as well as the Senior Academic Services Advisor.

**Semester Schedule:**

Week 1: Presentation of course and syllabus. Introduction to Italian Society.

Week 2: Sociology of modernization. Worksheets provided

Week 3: Documentary on Italian Society

Week 4: Italian Society 1: 1945-1965. Worksheet provided

Week 5: Italian Society 2: 1965-1980. Worksheet provided

Week 6: **Midterm Exam**

Week 7: Italian Society 3: 1980-Today. Worksheet provided

Week 8: Immigration

Week 9: Documentary on migration

Week 10: Gender Relations & Family

Week 11: Italian Catholicism Today

Week 12: Italian Catholicism Today

Week 13: **Review**

Week 14: **Final Exam**