SOCIOMETRY 267 - ITALY TODAY
John Felice Rome Center
Fall Semester 2023
Wednesdays: 2.30-5.00pm/ Section A01
Dr. Sarah F. Maclaren Ph. D
E-mails: smaclar@luc.edu
Classroom: Sala 2
Office hours: 1.30- 2.30 pm - by appointment

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, fashion 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.

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 behavior, lifestyles and consumption patterns were influenced by specific social factors and have changed substantially since mid-1940s.
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 stems from the familial, social, and cultural contexts in which Italians develop.

Required Texts / Materials:
Please use the following Loyola library website to access most of the assigned readings:
http://libraries.luc.edu/
Other publications and materials will be published on SAKAI.
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.
Intellectual Property:
The professor is the owner of the intellectual property of all the lectures, worksheets, power-point presentations and the material used in this course. Consequently, it is not allowed to copy, photograph, distribute or share any of the above-mentioned instructional materials without my written authorization. Lectures must not be recorded without my written consent either nor should they be distributed. Failure to respect the professor's intellectual property will have consequences on the final grade.

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 a review on a book, a film, documentary or a museum exhibition. 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: Nov 1**

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: Nov 29**

Check this link on how to write a Sociology essay:
https://howtowrite.customwritings.com/post/sociology-essay-guide/

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

**Attendance Policy** (please note that course attendance is based on prompt class attendance, preparation and active participation in class discussions)
In accordance with the JFRC mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student.

- For all classes meeting once a week, students cannot incur more than one unexcused absence. This course meets once a week, thus a total of **one** unexcused absence(s) will be permitted. Unexcused absences beyond these will result in 1% lowering of your final course grade, for every absence after the ‘approved limit’.

**The collective health of the JFRC is everyone’s responsibility. Do not attend class if you are ill.**

**Assessment Components**

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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<td>59 or lower</td>
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**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](http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml). You are responsible to comply with the LUC Student Handbook.

**Late or Missed Assignments**

Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor.

**Accessibility Accommodations**

Students registered with the Student Accessibility Center requiring academic accommodations should contact the Office of the Dean at the John Felice Rome Center, the first week of classes.

**Course Schedule:**

1. **Sep 6**
   - Presentation of course and syllabus
   - Introduction to Italian Society

2. **Sep 13**
   - Sociology of modernization
   - Read:
     1. ‘Modernization’ [https://www.britannica.com/topic/modernization](https://www.britannica.com/topic/modernization)

3. **Sep 22 (Friday)**
   - Italian Society 1:
     - Modernization & Re/construction (1945-1965)
     - Worksheets provided

4. **Sep 27**
   - Italian Society 2:
     - Worksheets provided
     - Documentary on Italy's modernization

5. **Oct 4**
   - **MIDTERM TEST**

6. **Oct 11**
   - Italian Society 3:
     - A Post-industrial Society (1980-Today)
     - Read:
7. Oct 25
New Immigration
Read:
[https://doi.org/10.1080/1354571042000179191](https://doi.org/10.1080/1354571042000179191)

b) Asher Colombo & Giuseppe Sciortino, ‘Italian immigration: the origins, nature and evolution of Italy’s migratory systems’, *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*, 9,  
[https://doi.org/10.1080/1354571042000179182](https://doi.org/10.1080/1354571042000179182)

8. Nov 1
DEADLINE FOR REVIEW
Gender Relations
Read:


9. Nov 8
Documentary/Film on Contemporary Italy

10. Nov 15
Italian Catholicism Today
Read:

11. Nov 22
Italian Catholicism Today
Read:

12. Nov 29
DEADLINE FOR RESEARCH PROJECT
Italy’s contribution to the modern world
Read:
Carlo Marco Belfanti, ‘Renaissance and ‘Made in Italy’: marketing Italian fashion through history (1949–1952)’, *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*, 20 (1), 2015, pp. 53-66, DOI: 10.1080/1354571X.2014.973154

13. Dec 6
Review

14. Dec 13
FINAL EXAM
Classroom: