



SOCIOLOGY 267: ITALY TODAY

Spring Semester 2023

Wednesdays: 2.30-5.00pm/ Section A01

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Classroom: 123

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 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

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, 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: March 22**

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: April 12**

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'.

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

94-100: A	90-93: A-	87-89: B+	84-86: B
80-83: B-	77-79: C+	74-76: C	70-73: C-
67-69: D+	60-66: D	59 or lower: F	

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 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. Jan 18 Presentation of course and syllabus Introduction to Italian Society	2. Jan 25 Sociology of modernization Read: 'Modernization' https://www.britannica.com/topic/modernization
3. Feb 1 'Sociologies' of modernization Read: S. N. Eisenstadt: 'Studies of Modernization and Sociological Theory', History and Theory, Vol. 13, No. 3, pp. 225-252	4. Feb 8 Italian Society 1: Modernization & Re/construction (1945-1965) Worksheets provided
5. Feb 15 Italian Society 2: A Modern Society in Transition (1965-1980) Worksheets provided	6. Feb 22 Italian Society 3: A Post-industrial Society (1980-Today) Read: a) Francesco Bartolini, 'Back to a future civilization: cities and countryside in the 'Third Italy'', <i>Urban History</i> (2021), 48, pp. 108-124
7. Mar 1 MIDTERM	8. Mar 8 New Immigration Read: a) Emilio Reyneri, 'Immigrants in a segmented and often undeclared labour market', <i>Journal of Modern Italian Studies</i> , 9 (2), 2004, pp. 71-93. https://doi.org/10.1080/1354571042000179191 b) Asher Colombo & Giuseppe Sciortino, 'Italian immigration: the origins, nature and evolution of Italy's migratory systems', <i>Journal</i>

	<p><i>of Modern Italian Studies</i>, 9, https://doi.org/10.1080/1354571042000179182</p>
<p>9. Mar 15 Docu/Film on Contemporary Italy</p>	<p>10. Mar 22 Gender Relations Read: a) Chiara Saraceno, ‘The Italian Family from the 1960s to the present’, in <i>Modern Italy</i>, vol. 9, 1, 2004, pp. 47-57. b) Elisabetta Ruspini, ‘Role and Perceptions of Women in Contemporary Italy’, in A. Mammone, E. G. Parini., G. Veltri (ed.), <i>The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Italy History, Politics, Society</i>, 2015, pp. 64-76. c) Gianluca Argentin, ‘New Generation at a Crossroads: Decline or Change?’, in A. Mammone, E. G. Parini., G. Veltri (ed.), <i>The Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Italy History, Politics, Society</i>, 2015, pp. 77-88.</p> <p>DEADLINE FOR REVIEW</p>
<p>11. Mar 29 Italian Catholicism Today Read: a) Enzo Pace, ‘A Peculiar Pluralism’, in <i>Journal of Modern Italian Studies</i> 12 (1), 2007, pp. 86-100.</p>	<p>12. Apr 5 Docu/Film on Contemporary Italy</p>
<p>13. Apr 12 Italian Catholicism Today Read: Peter J. Margry, ‘Merchandising and Sanctity: the Invasive Cult of Padre Pio’, in <i>Journal of Modern Italian Studies</i> 7 (1), 2002, pp. 88-115.</p> <p>DEADLINE FOR RESEARCH PROJECT</p>	<p>14. Apr 19 REVIEW</p>
<p>15. Apr 26 FINAL EXAM classroom 123</p>	