### COURSE

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<tr>
<th>COURSE</th>
<th>CAS HI 263 MODERN ITALIAN HISTORY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COURSE LANGUAGE</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>INSTRUCTOR</td>
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<td>INSTRUCTOR EMAIL</td>
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<tr>
<td>OFFICE HOURS</td>
<td>Thursdays 12.30-1.30 pm</td>
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<td>SCHEDULE</td>
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<td>COURSE VALUE</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
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### LEARNING OUTCOMES

**Padua Italian & European Studies Program**

1. Students show knowledge of written and oral Italian at different proficiency levels, from beginner to advanced, including the ability of interaction with locals in real life contexts.
2. Students develop knowledge of Italian culture with respect to at least one of the following areas: history, literature, international relations, food policies, and the arts in general.
3. Develop new perspectives on one’s own culture and an ability to think critically about one’s own values and beliefs.

**Padua Internship Program**

1. Students gain knowledge of local work culture, workplace dynamics, labor market, and the role of Italy in the European economy.
2. Students develop knowledge of skills appropriate to the field of the internship placement, including professional and inter-cultural communication, through written, verbal, and nonverbal means.
3. Students refine and clarify professional and career goals through analytical reflection on their internship experience and research projects.
4. Develop new perspectives on one’s own culture and an ability to think critically about one’s own values and beliefs.

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The history of Italy in modern times is that of a ‘young’ country transformed in a short range of time from an agricultural economy to an industrial and post-industrial nation.

Focusing on political, social, and economic developments, the course will cover 150 years of Italian history, from the wars of independence leading to Italy’s Unification (1861) to the beginning of the new millennium. Starting with an overview of the Italian Risorgimento, we will proceed to discuss the country’s ‘Liberal’ period (1870-1915), World War I (1915-1918) and the eventual collapse of Liberal Italy (1918-22). Class sessions will then be devoted to the Fascist era (from Mussolini’s becoming prime minister in 1922 to his removal in 1943), World War II and Liberation (1940-1945). The course will finally explore the post-war Republican period up to the new millennium, highlighting the dramatic social, economic and political transformations which took place in Italian society after 1945. The subjects discussed will range from the ‘economic miracle’ (late 1950s-1960s) to social unrest and terrorism (late 1960s-1970s) to the passage from the First to the Second Republic in the 1990s. Other key aspects of modern Italy history covered in the course are emigration, colonialism, the transformation of the Italian family and the role played by women in Italian society over time.

In addition to attaining a good knowledge of the most important aspects of the political, social and economic history of Italy and to gaining an understanding of the basic trends in Italian history over the last 150 years, the students attending this course will improve their ability to think critically and express their thoughts clearly.

### LEARNING STATEMENT

The course will be run on a Tue/Thu schedule of two 50-minutes classes on each day. The main material in the course consists of chapters/parts of chapters from
books, essays in academic journals and the instructor’s power point presentations. Video-documentaries illustrating key moments and issues of Italian history will be screened and analyzed. Songs expressive of the political, social and cultural context of key phases of Italian history will also be played during class sessions. Assessments include 2 quizzes and a class presentation including a video based on interviews on a significant aspect of Italian modern history. Preparing for class discussions, quizzes and class presentation will require 6-8 hours per week of student effort outside class time.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The course will be taught in English. Lectures and class discussions will alternate. The instructor’s lessons will complement readings as well as present new material. The main material in the course consists of chapters/parts of chapters from books, essays in academic journals and the instructor’s power point presentations. Video-documentaries illustrating key moments and issues of Italian history will be screened and analyzed. Songs expressive of the political, social and cultural context of key phases of Italian history will also be played during class sessions. Students are expected to arrive in class on time having completed the assigned readings, and to actively participate in class discussions. Students will also be asked to work in pairs or small groups on a ‘History & memory project’.

COURSE MATERIALS

Course Text book:

Once in Padua, you will purchase a copy pack including other material required for the course at the dedicated copy shop.

Copies of the instructor’s power point presentations and additional material will be handed out in class.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Readings included in the copy pack:

Documentaries: the subjects covered include the Fascist regime, the Italian colonial empire, the late 1950s-early 1960s ‘economic miracle’, Italian emigration after World War II, the change in Italian society in the last decades of the twentieth century.

Songs: Fascist songs: Giovinezza (1925), Faccetta nera (1935); Resistance songs: Bella ciao, Fischia il vento; Political songs: Contessa (1966), Borghesia (1972).
AIMS OF THE COURSE

a) Develop a knowledge of Italian history and culture from the country’s unification to the present day.
b) Develop the ability to critically compare the history and culture of one’s own country of birth with that of a different country.
c) Develop the ability to historically contextualize political and social events as well as values and beliefs.

GRADING CRITERIA

- Attendance and class participation: 15%
- 1st Quiz: 15%
- 2nd Quiz: 15%
- ‘History & memory project’ class presentation: 25%
- Final exam: 30%

Attendance and participation: see BU policy

Quizzes (2) (Quiz 1: October 15, Quiz 2: November 12): 20 multiple choice questions plus 6 short answers to open-ended questions.

‘History & memory project’ class presentation (December 3): students will produce an 8-10 minutes long video on a significant aspect of Italian modern political, economic or social history. The video will be based on interviews with several informants and will include images (photographs etc.) illustrating the subjects being discussed. Students will show the video to the class and present the historical information gathered while conducting the project.

Final exam (December 12 at 9:00am): 5 open-ended questions on the subjects covered in the whole course.

BU POLICIES

Examinations
All academic commitments must be completed before you leave the site; no incompletes are permitted. Students who do not complete a course on time will be given an F.

Students are required to sit their examinations on the dates, at the times, and in the same classroom as the other students in their class.

If a student is ill or has another extenuating circumstance which causes the student to be absent from a scheduled examination, he/she must provide appropriate documentation and receive approval from the Director.

Attendance
Students should note that attendance will be taken into account by faculty. Boston University Padua students are expected to attend each and every class session, tutorial, on-site class, internship work appointment, and activity required for the class as indicated in the syllabus. Any student with irregular class attendance may have his/her final grade penalized.

Absences
Unjustified absences from class, and any class related activity, will affect the students’ participation grade, which will be lowered by one letter grade for each absence.

Absence for Religious Reasons
According to Chapter 151C of the General Laws, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, any student in an educational or vocational training institution, other than a religious or denominational educational or vocational training institution, who is unable, because of his or her religious beliefs, to attend classes or to participate in any examination, study, or work requirement on a particular day, shall be excused from any such examination or study or work requirement, and shall be provided with an opportunity to make up such examination, study, or work requirement that may have been missed because of such absence on any particular day; provided, however, that such makeup examinations or work shall not create an unreasonable burden upon such school. No fees of any kind shall be charged by the institution for making available to the said students such
opportunity. No adverse or prejudicial effects shall result to students because of their availing themselves of the provisions of this section. Students who have questions about practicing their religion while abroad should contact Boston University Study Abroad.

**Lateness**
Students arriving more than 10 minutes after the posted class start time will be marked as late. Being late three times is equivalent to missing one class.

**Late Assignments**
Students are expected to turn in all course assignments on time as stated in each course syllabus. Late assignments will not be accepted and missed assignments will automatically be awarded an F. Please note that all coursework must be completed by the end of the program.

**Plagiarism**
Simply stated, plagiarism is taking another’s work and presenting it as your own. Definitions of plagiarism frequently include terms such as ‘theft’ or ‘steal’. Plagiarism is, in fact, intellectual theft. It is one of the most serious forms of academic misconduct. Plagiarism committed by a student will certainly result in course failure and may result in suspension or dismissal. For more details see Boston University’s Code of Student Responsibilities: http://www.bu.edu/lifebook/universitypolicies/policies-code.html

**Disability accommodations**
If you are a student with a disability or believe you might have a disability that requires accommodations, please contact the Office for Disability and Access Services office (DAS) at 617-353-3658 to coordinate any reasonable accommodation requests. For more information, please visit: http://www.bu.edu/disability

**Interruption of program or early departure**
Only in serious cases – mostly related to medical emergencies – the Director will allow a student to take a significant break during the program or to leave before its official conclusion. Official written approval must be received by the Director.

**Academic Advice**
The Director and Assistant Academic Director serve as the heads of the faculty and as academic advisors. The Director/Assistant Academic Director is available on an appointment basis to assist students with academic issues. For academic advice regarding students’ home institutions’ policies and transfer credit information, non-Boston students should also contact their school’s academic advisors.

**Tutorials**
BU faculty are available by appointment for students who may need support in the learning process. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this resource. Students in the past found it very useful to succeed. Students who receive a C on a test must seek support from faculty.