ITALIAN Fall 2020

ITALIAN 240/AMCULT 205 Italian Mafia
Karla Mallette  Lecture  MWV 1-2:30
Discussion Th 9-10 (#32302 / #29348), Th 10-11 (#32303 / #29349), or Th 12-1 (#32304 / #23950)
Learn about the history of the Italian mafia—from its origins in nineteenth century Sicily to the rise of the antimala youth movement in 21st century Sicily. You’ll also study the spread of mafia crime in the US, and you’ll research the little-known history of the Detroit mafia, between Prohibition and the 1990s. Taught in English. HU distribution.
R&E requirement.

ITALIAN 250 Undergraduate Seminar in Italian Studies: Food and Identity in Italian Culture
Giulia Riccò  Tth 2:30-4  #32307  HU distribution
Why are Italians so obsessed with food? In this course students will explore the ways in which food and culinary knowledge have shaped specific Italian identities. First, we will discuss the ways in which the Italian State, both before and during fascism used food to create and fortify a national identity through cookbooks, agricultural practices, and food related policies. At the same time, we will examine the contrast between this national cuisine and the strong regionalism that still dictates much of what people eat in Italy, focusing on food in three major cities: Bologna, Napoli, and Palermo. Last, we will explore how Italian food and culinary knowledge have developed in the Americas includes hands-on cooking experience and field trips to Italian establishments in Ann Arbor. Class taught in English.

ITALIAN 270 Language in Action, I
Leonardo Chiarrantini  MWF 12-1  #29215  HU distribution
In Italy, theater has played a pivotal role through the centuries both as a form of entertainment and as a means to represent society. In this course, we will use theater to practice our Italian. The objective of the course is to improve speaking, writing, and comprehension through the analysis and discussion of both written and performed plays, as well as through expressive reading and acting out of scenes. Playwrights will include Carlo Goldoni, Luigi Pirandello, Alessandro Baricco, and Stefano Benni. Evaluation will be on the basis of frequent short writing, oral activities, participation in discussions, and creative group collaborations. Taught in Italian.

ITALIAN 325 Italian Novels and Films
Vincenzo Binetti  TTH 1-2:30  #32305
This course addresses issues of sovereignty, state formation, migration, citizenship, and globalization in order to further investigate and problematize various and often controversial modes of representation of Italian "identities" in literary and cinematic production from the end of the Second World War to the present. Close readings of novels by Cesare Pavese, Natalia Ginzburg, Andrea De Carlo, Igaba Scego, and Amara Lakhous; screenings, among others, by Roberto Rossellini, Federico Fellini, Vittorio De Sica, Bernardo Bertolucci, M. T. Ciotti, Roberto Benigni, Gianni Amelio, Liliana Cavani, and Francesca Archibugi. All work done in Italian.

ITALIAN 346 Italian Internship
Janaya Lasker-Ferretti  ARR  permission of instructor
Italian 346 allows students to find an internship in Italy and to advance their Italian skills. The internship must be arranged and approved by the end of Winter semester 2020 and should be pursued in Italy during the Spring or Summer of 2020. Credit will be given in Fall 2020. The workload consists of blogging about the experience weekly, writing a paper in Italian, and then creating a PowerPoint presentation to discuss your internship with other students upon your return. Faculty will be in constant contact with you throughout the experience and afterwards as well.

ITALIAN 410 Italian for Spanish Speakers
Amaryllis Rodriguez Mojica  MWV 10-11  #32300
Italian 410 is an introduction to the Italian language and culture. It is designed for students with an active competence in Spanish who wish to acquire a more profound understanding of the Italian culture and society at an accelerated pace.

ITALIAN 422 / HISTORY 445.002 / INTLSTD 470.001 Politics and Literature: Global Fascism: Legitimizing State Violence Across the Atlantic
Giulia Riccò  TTH 11:30-1  #27720 / #31183 / #30822
How can an ideology that seems to fit so perfectly the needs of a particular national experience adapt to many different historical, social, and economic contexts? In its global approach to fascism, this course aims to show that since its theorization in the early twentieth century, this ideology has produced similar trends in state violence in disparate geographical spaces. We will begin the class by defining fascism and looking at how it was precisely through a set of cultural practices that it was able to implement its powerful ideology—in varying forms, with varying degrees of success—in Italy, Spain, Portugal, and across the Atlantic in Brazil, Argentina, and the US. Course taught in English.

ITALIAN 470 Advanced Topics in Italian Studies: Il romanzo della resistenza
Vincenzo Binetti  TTH 4-5:30  #32306
This course studies novels, films, and theoretical texts which address issues related to the Italian Resistance as a historical and political event and to the problematic reconstruction of the nation in the years between 1940 and 1950. We will also be analyzing the way in which the notion of “resistance” has been affecting the literary and cultural production and the way of thinking and imagining Italian national identity in a frame of time going beyond the immediate postwar period and covering a wider historical frame. Authors studied include Elio Vittorini, Giorgio Bassani, Italo Calvino, Renata Viganò, and Cesare Pavese. All work done in Italian.