

HIST 315 / POLSC 430: History and Politics of Modern Italy: From WWII to the Present

Credits: 3

Instructor: Peter Fischer, Ph.D.

Schedule: TBA

Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

This course has been designed to review and examine the modern political history of Italy from the Second World War to the present time. After a short overview over Italian History before WWII, the main areas of focus will be: the Second World War and the Cold War, the workings of governing institutions in the post-war period (there will be detailed discussion of the postwar constitution and the new political system), the role of the Church, political parties and movements, the European unification process, black and red terrorism, as well as political corruption and political conspiracy. There will also be detailed discussion of the crises and transformation of the post-war Italian political system in the early 1990s. This course follows "Part 1: From the Risorgimento to Fascism" taught in the fall term.

The course will be taught through a combination of formal lectures (incl. power point presentations) and workshops in which students are given a variety of primary and secondary source material and/or some extracts from documentary films to discuss.

Course descriptions may be subject to occasional minor modifications at the discretion of the instructor.

Textbooks:

Selections from the following:

B. Turner, ed.. Italy Profiled. NY, 2000.

R. King. Italy. London, 1987.

G. Holmes, ed. The Oxford Illustrated History of Italy. Oxford, 2001.

P. Ginsborg, A History of Contemporary Italy. London, 1990

Italy and its Discontents. London, 2001.

M. Frei. Italy – The Unfinished Revolution. London, 1996.

J.L.Newell. Parties and Democracy in Italy. Ashgate, 2000.

During orientation at the Institute, students will receive a list of textbooks they are required to purchase. Students should not purchase any texts before orientation.