



AN/SO 350 ORGANIZED CRIME IN ITALY: MAFIAS, MURDERS AND BUSINESS

IES Abroad Rome

DESCRIPTION: The course analyzes the role of organized crime in Italy through a historical, structural, and cultural perspective. After an overview of the various criminal organizations that are active both in Italy and abroad – the Camorra and the Ndrangheta, today's richest and most powerful criminal organization – the course will focus on the Sicilian mafia, Cosa Nostra. Discussion topics will include both mafia wars, the importance of investigators Falcone and Borsellino, the Maxi Trial, and the anti-mafia state organizations, from their origins to their role today in the struggle against organized crime. The course will highlight the creation of the International Department against Mafia and legislation developed specifically to aid in the fight against criminal organizations. It will examine the ties between Cosa Nostra and Italian politics, the period of terrorist attacks, and response of the Italian government.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Lectures
- Seminar discussions
- Use of multimedia resources
- Course-related trips during class time

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

Class Participation (10%);

Assignments: to write reports and/or to response to specific questions (of 250-500 words each) on movies or reading (10%)

Presentation (10%);

Paper (8-10 pages) (15%)

Midterm exam (25%);

Final exam (30%).

- Midterm exam
- Paper and Presentation topic(s) will be chosen with the instructor;
- Final exam

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Examine the complexity of social structures related to Organized Crime;
- Analyze the cultural and social background of Cosa Nostra
- Describe the relation between Cosa Nostra, cultural values and the Italian political system;
- Define how the phenomena conditioned the development of democracy in Italy;
- Identify how the reality of criminal organizations differs from common stereotypes on Italian Mafia;

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance is mandatory for all IES classes, including field studies. If a student misses more than two classes in this course, 2 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical emergencies or family emergencies. IES will only consider extreme emergency cases and will strictly adhere to this policy.

CONTENT:

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Week	Content	Readings
Week 1	Introduction to the course The four major Criminal Organizations in Italy: Cosa Nostra, 'Ndrangheta, Camorra and Sacra Corona Unita. The American Cosa Nostra. <u>Film viewing:</u> The Godfather (part of the movie will be viewed in class)	
Week 2	Between the Italian and American 'Cosa Nostra'. Debate on "the Godfather" <u>Film viewing:</u> <i>Donnie Brasco</i>	From John Dickie book "<i>Cosa Nostra. A history of the Sicilian Mafia</i>". London: Hodder, 2007." Chapter 5: The Mafia Establishes Itself in America 1900–1941 (pp. 161-190)
Week 3	Course-related trip: The Library of the House and Senate – the visit is intended to provide students with access to research facilities for the course. (a basic dress code has to be respected and Id or Passport is required)	From John Dickie book "<i>Cosa Nostra. A history of the Sicilian Mafia</i>". London: Hodder, 2007." Chapters 7 : "God, Concrete, Heroin, and Cosa Nostra 1950–1963"
Week 4	Code of honor and ceremony of initiation	
Week 5	Debate on <i>Donnie Brasco</i>: The real life of Joe Pistone. <i>Guest lecture DIA – Investigative anti mafia Department</i>	
Week 6	Review Midterm Exam	
Week 7	The "First" Mafia War and its consequences (1962-1969) <i>On Monday 24 at 6,00 pm <u>course-related trip</u> to the Civic Anti-mafia Association, Libera and meeting with a relative of a victim of mafia.</i> The Second Mafia War: a double war (1978-1983) Presentation group 1 <u>Film viewing:</u> <i>The 100 Steps</i> (part of the movie will be viewed in class)	- Baris Cayli, "Creating counter-publics against the Italian mafia cultural conquerors of web-based media" (Libera) - From John Dickie book "<i>Cosa Nostra. A history of the Sicilian Mafia</i>". London: Hodder, 2007." Chapter 8: "The 'First' Mafia War and its Consequences 1962–1969" (pp. 217-258) "Giuseppe Impastato: his actions, his murder, the investigation and the cover up" http://www.centroimpastato.com/giuseppe-impastato-his-actions-his-murder-the-investigation-and-the-cover-up/
Week 8	<i>The Monday lesson (10/31) is cancelled. It has been replaced by the field study to the Civic Anti-mafia Association, Libera, on Monday October, 24 at 6,00 pm</i>	From John Dickie book "<i>Cosa Nostra. A history of the Sicilian Mafia</i>". London: Hodder, 2007." Chapter 9: "The Origins of the Second Mafia War 1970–1982" (pp. 259-293)

	November, 1 National Holiday IES Center closed <u>Film viewing: 100 Steps</u>	
Week 9	Debate on 100 Steps Second Mafia War Oral presentation group 2 Film viewing: Excellent Cadavers	Letizia Paoli, "Mafia and organized crime in Italy: The unacknowledged successes of law enforcement" in <i>West European Politics</i> Vol. 30, No. 4, (2007).
Week 10	Debate on Excellent Cadavers From the "Mattanza" to the Antimafia Pool: the Maxi-trial Oral presentation group 3 <u>Film viewing:</u> <i>Mafia kills only in summer</i>	From John Dickie book "Cosa Nostra. A history of the Sicilian Mafia. London: Hodder, 2007." Chapter 10: "Terra Infidelium 1983–1992" (pp. 293-311).
Week 11	Debate on <i>Mafia kills only in Summer</i> The Italian anti-mafia policies Oral PRESENTATIONS GROUPS 4 AND 5	Marion van San, "The appeal of 'dangerous' men. On the role of women in organized crime" and Alison Jamieson, "Mafiosi and Terrorists: Italian Women in Violent Organizations".
Week 12	Cosa Nostra Today Review	
Week 13	Final Exam	

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

1. Library of the Senate and of the House of Representatives
2. Guest lecture led by detective of the DIA (**Anti-mafia Investigation Department** – executive branch)
3. Anti-mafia non-profit organization, Libera

REQUIRED AND SUGGESTED READINGS:

- Anita Lavorgna and Anna Sergi, "Types of organized crime in Italy. The multifaceted spectrum of Italian criminal associations and their different attitudes in the financial crisis and in the use of Internet technology", in *International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice*, N° XX (2013).
- John Dickie, *Cosa Nostra: A History of the Sicilian Mafia* (London: Hodder & Stoughton, 2004).
- "Giuseppe Impastato: his actions, his murder, the investigation and the cover up," Centro Siciliano di Documentazione "Giuseppe Impastato".
- Letizia Paoli, *Mafia Brotherhoods. Organized Crime, Italian Style*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003).
- Letizia Paoli, "Mafia and organised crime in Italy: The unacknowledged successes of law enforcement" in *West European Politics* Vol. 30, No. 4, (2007,).
- Paul Ginsborg, "Corruption and the Mafia" in: *Italy and its discontents* (London: Penguin, 2001).
- Francesco Calderoni, "Where is the mafia in Italy? Measuring the presence of the mafia across Italian provinces" in *Global Crime*, Vol. 12, No. 1, (2011)..
- Francesco Calderoni, *Strategic positioning in mafia networks*, working paper provided by the Instructor.
- Roberto Saviano, *Gomorrah*, (Milan: Mondadori, 2006).
- Letizia Paoli, "Italian Organised Crime: Mafia Associations and Criminal Enterprises" in *Global Crime*, Vol. 6, No. 1 (2004)
- Federico Varese, "Mafia movements: a framework for understanding the mobility of mafia groups" in *Global Crime*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (2011).
- Francesco Calderoni, "Strategic positioning in mafia networks", working paper provided by the Instructor



- Newspaper articles will be provided by the instructor are available on the course Moodle page

FILMOGRAPHY:

- *The Godfather*, director Francis Ford Coppola
- *Donnie Brasco*, director Mike Newell
- *The 100 Steps*, director Marco Tullio Giordana
- *Excellent Cadavers*, director Ricky Tognazzi
- *Mafia kills only in Summer*, director Pif