PH/PO 342 HISTORY OF ITALIAN POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY (ITALIAN-TAUGHT)
IES Abroad Siena

DESCRIPTION: This course will consider major Italian political philosophers in the context of their era and in the light of theorists in other European countries. Through analysis of original works, students will improve Thomas Aquinas, Dante, Marsilio of Padua, Machiavelli, Campanella, Beccaria, Vico, Pareto, Gramsci and others as reflective of their eras and as important figures in the history of political philosophy. The topics will be presented through the comparison between different theories and their link with political and social Italian History. In particular, the course will review the question of national identity (also in reference to Italian contemporary society).

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: Italian

PREREQUISITES: Appropriate Italian language placement to be determined by predeparture language placement.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
- Lectures and discussions supported by audiovisual material (excerpts from movies, analyses of artistic works, etc.)
- Field study activities (‘Risorgimento’ at the municipal museum of Siena, Machiavelli’s Florence, etc.).

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
- Active participation and class discussions (10%)
- Mid-term written exam (20%)
- 5-7 page research paper in Italian based on a subject suggested by the instructor at the beginning of the course (20%)
- Oral presentation (10%)
- Written final exam (40%)

Course Participation
Attention and concentration during lessons, interest, motivation, curiosity. It may be required some short homework in Moodle.

Midterm Exam
A closed-loop test in Italian

Final Exam
A closed-loop test and some questions in Italian

Research Paper
5-7 page research paper in Italian based on a subject suggested by the instructor at the beginning of the course.

Oral presentation
Present results of the research paper to teacher and classmates.

IES Abroad SIENA numeric GRADING SCALE

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-93</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>92.9-90</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>89.9-87</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>86.9-83</td>
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LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course students will be able to:
- gain an essential knowledge of major Italian political philosophers, from Middle Ages to XX Century;
- understand the main differences between unlike theories;
- analyze the Italian civilization and social evolution from the political theory’s point of view.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Successful progress of the program depends on the full cooperation of both students and faculty members: regular attendance and active participation in class are essential parts of the learning process. Attendance at and participation in all class meetings and field-studies are required. More than TWO unjustified absences (that are not medically excused with a written certificate of the doctor or caused by serious sudden family and/or personal occurrences, as for example death of a family member) will result in a lowering of your grade by two percentage points for every unexcused absence.

CONTENT:

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<th>Week</th>
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| 1    | Introduction to the course; Middle Ages in Italy: general characteristics. | Readings:  
Albertoni (course-pocket pp. 1-16). |
| 2    | Medieval thought: from Agostino to Scolastica. |  |
| 3    | Thomas Aquinas: historical-cultural context and general theoretical frame. |  |
| 4    | Thomas Aquinas: the political thought (natural and divine law; the polities; sovereignty and popular approval). | Readings:  
Albertoni and Fumagalli Beonio Brocchieri (course-pocket pp. 17-21 and 119-127). |
| 5    | Dante Alighieri’s political conception: the Monarchia; reading, analysis and interpretation of an exemplary text. | Readings:  
Albertoni and Fumagalli Beonio Brocchieri (course-pocket pp. 21-23 and 127-133). |
| 6    | Marsilio of Padua: historical-cultural context and general theoretical frame. |  |
| 7 | Marsilio of Padua: *Defensor pacis* (‘universitas civium’ and ‘pars valentior’; the controversy about theocracy); reading, analysis and interpretation of an exemplary text. | Readings:  
- Albertoni and Fumagalli Beonio Brocchieri (course-pocket pp. 23-26 and 134). |
| 8 | Humanism, Renaissance and the birth of modern political thought. |  |
| 9 | Machiavelli: historical-biographical frame. | Readings:  
- Albertoni (course-pocket pp. 27-33). |
| 10 | Machiavelli: the political thought (the citizen and the ‘virtù’; the founding and maintaining of the State in relation to ethics and religion; cyclical conception of History; the relation between ‘virtù’ and ‘fortuna’; Roman history and Republican myth). | Readings:  
- Albertoni (course-pocket pp. 27-33). |
| 11 | Machiavelli: from *Il Principe* (reading, analysis, interpretation). | Readings:  
- *Il Principe*, chap. XXV. |
| 12 | The utopian thought: Tommaso Campanella and *La città del Sole* (politics, pedagogy, theology). | Readings:  
- Albertoni (course-pocket pp. 34-37). |
| 13 | Giambattista Vico’s thought (the controversy about rationalism; the ‘verum ipsum factum’; History’s science; the stage of civilization and historical recurrences). | Readings:  
- Albertoni (course-pocket pp. 41-44). |
| 14 | Italian Enlightenment: between pragmatism and ideal impetus; Cesare Beccaria: from *Dei delitti e delle pene* (reading, analysis, interpretation) | Readings:  
- Albertoni (course-pocket pp. 45-51). |
| 15 | Rosmini and Cattaneo’s political conception. | Readings:  
- Albertoni (course-pocket pp. 52-55 and 58-64). |
| 16 | Pareto: historical-biographical and theoretical frame (‘gusti’ and ‘ostacoli’; the ‘azioni non-logiche’; ‘derivazioni’ and ‘residui’; the élites and social stability). | Readings:  
- Albertoni (course-pocket pp. 70-73). |
| 17 | Pareto: from the *Trattato di sociologia generale* (reading, analysis, interpretation). |  |
| 18 | Italian idealism: general characteristics. | Readings:  
- Bedeschi (course-pocket pp. 108-116). |
| 19 | Gramsci: historical-biographical frame. |  |
Gramsci: the political theory (society and hegemony; the lower class; intellectual’s function).

REQUIRED READINGS:

Primary source materials:


Commentaries:

On a general framing:
Albertoni, Ettore A. *Storia delle dottrine politiche in Italia*. Milan: Mondadori, 1985, chapters I, III (3), IV (1, 2), VI (1), VIII (5), IX (2, 4), XI (1, 1.1, 2), XII (3), XIII (3, 4).

On twentieth century and Gramsci:

On medieval thought:

On an introduction to modern political theories:

RECOMMENDED READINGS: