

Professor Gabriele Simoncini
Department of Political Science
John Cabot University
Rome
Tel. 06 681 9121
Fax 06 683 2088

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M, W, 14:15-15:30
Office Hours: M, W, 13:15-14:15
www.gabrielesimoncini.it
gsimoncini@johncabot.it
gsimoncini@gabrielesimoncini.it

Italy from the Congress of Vienna to the First World War

HS 225

Course description:

This course covers Italian history from the Congress of Vienna to World War I. The development of *Risorgimento* and the creation of the new Kingdom will be studied. Main emphasis will be on political movements: liberalism, nationalism and socialism. The history of Italian economy and society will be treated, including the history of culture and ideas. The class format will include lectures, discussion, presentations, and audiovisual materials. The students will be asked to do a small research project, utilizing information technology.

Course goals:

This course attempts to provide the student with a general understanding of the *Risorgimento* era and the development of a modern Italian state and society. Priority is given to conceptualization of different theories and their historical development. Critical thinking and comparative analysis will be applied to achieve a clear understanding of the foundations of modern political theory.

Required reading:

Beales D., Biagini E. F., *The Risorgimento and the Unification of Italy*.
TX. Mack Smith D., *Modern Italy. A Political History*.
RE. Mack Smith D., *The Making of Italy*.
Supplementary Reading Materials to be assigned (*assigned readings*)

Recommended readings:

Tomasi di Lampedusa G., *The Leopard*.

General readings:

Duggan, C., *A Concise History of Italy*. London, 1994.
Toniolo G., *An Economic History of Liberal Italy: 1850-1918*. London, 1990.

Course requirements:

Two in-class Exams (midterm exam and final exam).
A Final Paper (with a Portfolio).
A Presentation.
Regular attendance and participation in class.

Exams: Midterm and final exams have the same format. The exams consist of two parts of equal value. The first part is an essay, the student will choose from one of three proposed themes, and will write a well-organized essay. The second part of the exam consists of ten terms to be concisely defined.

Program:

- Unit 1** Introduction. Methodology. Definitions. The Beginning of the Risorgimento.
(Sept. 5,7) *(Beales, p. 1-31; RE Smith, 1-36; assigned readings)*
- Unit 2** From Restoration to 1832. The Revolutionary Movements. Bourgeois Liberalism. Mazzini.
(Sept. 12, 14) *(Beales, p. 32-68; RE Smith, 37-83; assigned readings)*
- Unit 3** The Discovery of the Italian Nation. Impact of Romanticism. National Revolution of 1848-1849.
(Sept. 19, 21) *(Beales, p. 69-101; RE Smith, 84-124; assigned readings)*
- Unit 4** Reconstruction and Transformation. Cavour. Garibaldi.
(Sept. 26, 28) *(Beales, p.102-133; RE Smith, 125-165; assigned readings)*
- Unit 5** Women and the Risorgimento. The Roman Question. Brigands. Unification.
(Oct. 3, 5) *(Beales, p.134-178; RE Smith, 166-200; assigned readings)*
- Unit 6** Linguistic and Cultural Nationalism. Enlightened Despotism. Mazzini's Programme.
(Oct. 10, 12) *(Beales, p.179-235; RE Smith, 201-226; assigned readings)*
- Unit 7** The Piedmontese Constitution. The Tuscan Revolution of 1859. Brigands and Repression.
(Oct. 17,19) *(Beales, p. 236-291; RE Smith, 227-255; assigned readings)*
- *MIDTERM EXAM
- Unit 8** Italy Before 1861. The Idea of National Unity. The Social Hierarchy, Immediate Political Problems.
(Oct. 24, 26) *(TX Smith, 1-50; RE Smith, 256-290; assigned readings)*
- Unit 9** The First Decade: The Nation Asserts Itself. Counterrevolution. Foreign Policy. Colonial Enterprise.
(Oct. 31, Nov.2) *(TX Smith, 59-122; RE Smith, 291-322; assigned readings)*
- Unit 10** Depretis and Crispi. Irredentism and National Fervor. Agriculture and Industry. Corruption.
(Nov. 7, 9) *(TX Smith, 123-156; RE Smith, 323-351; assigned readings)*
- Unit 11** Colonial Defeat. Social Unrest. The Ethiopian War. Parliamentary Government.
(Nov. 14, 16) *(TX Smith, 157-190; RE Smith, 352-378; assigned readings)*
- Unit 12** Giolitti and Liberal Reform. Clerical and Radical Cooperation. The Southern Problem.
(Nov. 21, 23) *(TX Smith, 191-234; RE Smith, 378-395; assigned readings)*
- Unit 13** The Onset of War. The German Alliance. The Lybian War.
(Nov. 28, 30) *(TX Smith, 235-270; RE Smith, 386-415; assigned readings)*
- Unit 14** The War and Its Aftermath. Conclusions. Review.
(Dec. 5, 7) *(TX Smith, 270-310; assigned readings)*
- *FINAL EXAM

Final paper: The final paper (five to eight typed pages) will be on any topic of the student's choice related to the class program. The topic should be precisely defined and worthy of investigation. **Portfolio:** In order to produce their final papers, students will keep a portfolio of research materials during the semester. The portfolio will be shared with, and evaluated by the instructor. The production of the final paper is a work in progress during the semester. The portfolio and the paper project are progressive steps toward completion of the final paper.

Final paper format:

Cover page - title, student's name, course name, instructor's name, semester, year.

Text pages - a well organized research paper with an introduction, a body with critical analyses and evidence presented, and conclusion.

Additional materials (when appropriate) - charts, maps, photos, other materials.

Bibliography pages, listing the journal articles and electronic references.

Presentation: Students are encouraged to give a short individual or team presentation on a specific topic of their choice related to the class program. The presentation will be well-organized, concise, and include (when opportune) audiovisual and electronic materials. A separate written (three pages) presentation in substitution of the oral presentation is accepted.

Grading:

The final grade will be computed as follows: midterm exam, 30%; final exam, 30%; final paper, 30%; portfolio, presentation, and other assignments, 10%. Absences, lateness, and missed deadlines will lower the final grade by 10%. Improvement over the semester will be rewarded. Letter grades correspond to the numerical scale:

A to A- = 100% to 90%. B+ to B- = 89% to 80%. C+ to C- = 79% to 70%. D+ to D- = 69% to 60%. F = <60%.

Papers retrieval:

All papers are retrievable from the instructor's office up to the end of the following semester. Students can have their papers mailed to them by giving the instructor a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Library sessions:

The class will meet sometimes in the library to receive instruction on electronic tools and sources. Individual assistance will be provided to the students for their research. To be announced.

Guest speakers:

Guest speakers expert in the fields related to the program may be invited during the semester. To be announced.

Field trips:

Field trips may be scheduled during the semester in connection with ongoing cultural events of interest in Rome. To be announced.

Journals:

Italian Journal, Modern Italy, Italy Economic Studies, Journal of Modern Italian Studies, Italian Studies.

Recommended films:

Some class viewing may be scheduled during the semester. To be announced.

L. Visconti, *The Leopard*.

Data bases:

EBSCO, Social Sciences Abstracts, Historical Abstracts, JSTOR.

Internet sites:

www.italnet.nd.edu

This syllabus is on line: www.gabrielesimoncini.it