

Social History of the Italian Mafia

UNH Course Code: HIS341

Professor: Gabriele Simoncini

Email: gsimoncini@genf.it

Class Meets: Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:15pm - 2:30pm

Subject Areas: History, Cultural Studies

Level: 300

Prerequisites: None. A basic knowledge of general Italian history is desirable.

Language of Instruction: English

Contact Hours: 45

Recommended Credits: 3

Description: This course aims to analyze the Italian mafia through two different and strictly related perspectives: one political and historical, and the other one sociological. We will study the history of the Mafia since the Italian national unity till today.

"Mafia" is one of a long list of words – like "pizza", "spaghetti" and "opera" – that Italian has given to many other languages across the world. It is commonly applied to criminals far beyond Sicily and the United States, which are the places where the mafia in the strict sense is based. "Mafia" has become an umbrella label for whole world panoply of gangs – Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Chechen, Albanian, Turkish, and so on – that have little or nothing to do with the Sicilian original.

This course is a social history of the mafia in Sicily. Some of the most famous American Mafiosi, men like Lucky Luciano and Al Capone, also will be taken into consideration because the history of the Sicilian mafia cannot be understood without telling the story of the American mafia to which it gave birth. It is only when viewed from the coast of a small, triangular island in the Mediterranean that the history of the mafia in the USA, at least in early stages, can begin to make sense.

However, the history of the mafia cannot just be about the mafia, about the deeds of men of honor. Before Falcone and Borsellino, many other people died fighting the mafia. Some of them are characters in the drama. The mafia's story also embraces the people who, for an assortment of motives ranging from rational fear, through political cynicism, to downright complicity, have favored the organization's cause.

You will be guided to critically analyze the material discussed in class and the assigned readings. The history of the Italian mafia, both if analyzed from a micro or macro perspective, presents social, historical and cultural dynamics that are related and need to be understood deeply. It is therefore fundamental that you reflect on these aspects and become able to connect all the information learned, and analyze it with a critical perspective.

Learning Objectives:

- to understand completely all the fundamental aspects of the Italian mafia
- to recognize the relationship between mafia and Italian politics
- to analyze the social relationships within the organization and between the Mafiosi and the external world
- to distinguish the similarities and differences between the Italian and the American mafia
- to chart the contemporary developments such as the relationships of the mafia with other criminal organizations from all over the world
- to explore the mafia as an aspect of Sicilian and Italian customs and traditions

Instructional Format: Class meets twice a week for 1 hour 15 minutes each time. During the first half of each class we will study the historical aspects of the mafia. In the second half a sociological analysis of the phenomenon will be developed by the instructor and discussed by the students. Photographic and cinematic material will be displayed and debated. Meetings with members of the Antimafia Association and personalities involved in the fight against the mafia might be arranged according to the availability of these groups.

Students will also be called to prepare oral presentations on topics assigned by the instructor that will be debated in class with the other students.

Form of Assessment: Your instructor will use numerous and differentiated forms of assessment to calculate the final grade you receive for this course (see the table below). The content, criteria and specific requirements for each assessment category will be explained in greater detail in class. However, you must complete all grading assessment categories to receive a grade for this course. In addition, your work and behavior in this course must fully conform to the regulations of the CEA *Academic Integrity Policy* to which you are subject.

Class Participation	10%
Research project proposal & annotated bibliography	20%
Presentation & other assignments	15%
Midterm exam	15%
Final paper with Portfolio	20%
Final exam	20%

Class Participation (10%): The grade will be calculated to reflect your participation in class discussions, your capacity to introduce ideas and thoughts dealing with the texts, your ability to interpret different uses of literary language and to express your analysis in intellectual, constructive argumentation. When determining your class participation grade, traditional criteria such as material preparation, completed reading before class, and collaborative group work are also evaluated. But it is the active, meaningful and informed verbal and written contribution that you make that is most important to your overall participation grade. Whereas attendance and punctuality are expected and will not count positively towards the grade, laxity in these areas will have a negative effect on your grade. The instructor will use the following specific criteria when calculating your class participation grade:

Criteria for Assessing Class Participation	Grade
You make major and original contributions that spark discussion, offering both critical and analytical comments clearly based on readings and research and displaying a working knowledge of theoretical issues.	A+ 97-100
You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings and independent research.	A-/A 90-96.9
You make useful contributions and participate voluntarily, which are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings.	B/B+ 84-89.9
You make voluntarily but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings.	C+/B- 77-83.9
You make limited comments only when prompted and do not initiate debate or show a clear awareness of the importance of the readings.	C 74-76.9
You very rarely make comments and resist engagement with the subject, attending class having manifestly done little if any preparation.	D+/C- 67-73.9
You are unable to make useful comments and contributions, being occasionally absent from, generally passive in, and unprepared for class.	D/D- 60-66.9
You make irrelevant and tangential comments disruptive to class discussion, a result of frequent absence and complete un-preparedness.	F Below 60

Two in-class Exams: (midterm exam and final exam). Midterm and final exams have the same format. The exams consist of two parts of equal value. The first part is an essay, chosen from one of three proposed themes. The second part of the exam consists of ten terms to be concisely defined.

Research project proposal & annotated bibliography: To be handed in during week 4. The first stage of this project is a formal proposal identifying your topic, scope, approach and objectives. You will identify a particular question or political “problem” and offer a way of answering/solving it. Your research proposal must be accompanied by an annotated bibliography (that is, accompanied by your written comments on the origins, value and limitations of your sources) identifying key sources and how you plan to use them.

Final Paper with a Portfolio: The final paper (3,000 words) will be based on your research project proposal and its annotated bibliography. In order to produce your final paper you will keep a portfolio of research materials during the semester. The final paper and the portfolio will both be assessed at the end of the course.

Presentation: You are required to give an individual or team presentation on a specific topic of your choice related to the class program. The presentation will be well-organized, concise, and include (when opportune) audiovisual and electronic materials. Your grade will especially take into consideration accuracy and clarity of content.

More detailed instructions, advice and suggested research topics will be distributed during the course.

CEA GlobalCampus Attendance Policy: Every student is expected to attend all scheduled class sessions on time and be thoroughly prepared for the day’s class activities. In compliance with NEASC and UNH accreditation requirements, CEA GlobalCampus instructors compile regular attendance records from every course and take these records into account when evaluating student participation and performance.

- In each course, a maximum of the equivalent of two weeks of accumulated absences due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transportation delay and other related impediments will be tolerated.
- Final course grade will drop one full letter grade (e.g. A- to B-) for each additional class missed beyond this two week period, regardless of the reason for absence. However, if a student’s absences exceed the equivalent of three weeks of class, the student will fail the course.

Furthermore, to comply with immigration and financial regulations, each student must maintain full-time student status and attend at least 12 hours of class every week. Consequently, the Dean and Program Director will dismiss—from all CEA courses, programs, activities and housing—any student who fails to maintain full-time status.

Required Readings: Please note that it is mandatory to acquire the course text book, which you can purchase at the Anglo American Bookstore during the first week of class. The approximate price is 15 Euro.

- Dickie J., *Cosa Nostra. A History of the Sicilian Mafia.* Hodder, 2007.
- Supplementary Reading Materials to be assigned in class (*assigned readings*).

Throughout the syllabus, **assigned readings** will come from *The Economist*, on *Mafias* and from contemporary journals or newspapers depending on the progress of the class, your personal research interests, and *Mafias* current events.

Recommended Readings: The following are available at the CEA Global Campus Resource Center:

- Lane D., *Into the Heart of the Mafia: A Journey Through the Italian South.* Profile Books, 2009.
- Follain J., *The Last godfathers.* Hodder, 2008.
- Glenny M., *McMafia: A Journey Through the Global Criminal Underworld.* Knopf, 2008.

- Maran A. G. D., *Mafia: Inside the Dark Heart*. Mainstream Publishing, 2008.
- Finckenauer J., *Mafia and Organized Crime: A Beginner's Guide*. Oneworld Publications, 2007.
- Devico P. J., *The Mafia Made Easy: The Anatomy and Culture of La Cosa Nostra*. Tate, 2007.
- Saviano R., *Gomorra. Italy's other Mafia*. McMillan, 2007.
- Paoli L., *Mafia Brotherhoods: Organized Crime, Italian Style*. Oxford, 2003.
- Pickering-Iazzi R., *Mafia and Outlaw Stories from Italian Life and Literature*. U. T. P. 2007.
- Orlando L., *Fighting the Mafia and Renewing Sicilian Culture*. Encounter Books, 2003.
- Fiandaca G., *Women and the Mafia: Female Roles in Organized Crime Structures*. Springer, 2007.
- Raab S., *Five Families*. Robso Books, 2006.
- Reppetto T., *American Mafia. A History of its Rise to Power*. Henry Holt, 2004.
- Behan T., *See Naples and Die. The Camorra and organized Crime*. Tauris, 2002.
- Jamieson A., *The Antimafia. Italy's Fight Against Organized Crime*. St. Martin's Press, 2000.
- Falcone G., *Men of Honour. The Truth about the Mafia*. Warner Books, 1993.
- Schneider P. T., Schneider J., *Reversible Destiny: Mafia, Antimafia, and the Struggle for Palermo*. UCP., 2003.

General Readings

- Longrigg C., *Mafia Women*. Vintage, 1998.
- Lumley R., Morris J. (eds.), *The New History of the Italian South: The Mezzogiorno Revisited*. U. of Exeter, 1997.
- Arlacchi P., *Mafia Business: The Mafia Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*. Oxford, 1988.
- Schneider J. (Ed.), *Italy's Southern Question. Orientalism in one Country*. Berg, 1998.
- Robb P., *Midnight in Sicily*. Harvill, 1996.
- Fallain J., *A Dishonoured Society. The Sicilian Mafia's Threat to Europe*. Warner Books, 1995.
- Hamer R., *The Vatican Connection*. Penguin Books, 1982.
- Hess H., *Mafia and Mafiosi*. Crawford, 1998.
- Gambetta D., *The Sicilian Mafia. The Business of Private Protection*. Harvard University Press, 1996.
- Lewis N., *The Honoured Society*. Eland, 1991.
- Siebert R., Heron L., *Secrets of Life and Death, Women and the Mafia*. Verso, 1996.
- Sterling C., *The Mafia*. Harpers Collins, 1993.
- Arlacchi P., *Men of Disonour. Inside the Sicilian mafia: An Account of Antonino Calderone*. Morrow, 1993.
- Stille A., *Excellent Cadavers*. Jonathan Cope, 1995.
- Seindal R., *Mafia: Money and Politics in Sicily 1950-1997*. Museum Tusculanum Press, U. of Copenhagen, 1998.

Recommended Films: These films are available at the CEA GlobalCampus Resource Center:

- L. Visconti, *The Leopard*. 1963.
- M. Turco, *In Another Country*. 2006.
- P. Squitieri, *Corleone*. 1978.
- M. T. Giordana, *I Cento Passi*. 2001
- M. Garrone, *Gomorra*. 2008.
- M. Garrone, *L'Imbalsamatore*. 2002.
- R. Faenza, *Alla luce del sole*. 2005.
- F. Rosi, *Salvatore Giuliano*. 1962.
- P. Scimeca, *Placido Rizzotto*. 2000.
- P. Sorrentino, *Le conseguenze dell'amore*. 2004.
- F. F. Coppola, *The Godfather Part I*. 1972.
- F. F. Coppola, *The Godfather Part II*. 1974.
- F. F. Coppola, *The Godfather Part III*. 1990.

Online Reference & Research Tools:

www.italy-news.net
www.istat.it
www.ansa.it

www.governo.it

Recommended films:

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

Library sessions:

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

Guest speakers:

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

Field trips:

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

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Course content:

Session	Topic	Activity	Assignment
1 (Jan 18)	Introduction. Methodology. Terminology. Introduction to Italy.		- Assigned readings (from <i>The Economist</i> on <i>Mafias</i> , and from contemporary journals or newspapers).
2 (Jan 20)	Society and politics in Italy. The South. Corruption, clientelism, and patronage. Informal Institutions.		- Bull M. J., Newell J. L., <i>Political Culture</i> , in: "Italian Politics". Polity 2008. pp. 63-80. - Assigned readings.
3 (Jan 25)	Sicily: Culture and society. The origins and the genesis of the Mafia 1860-1876. Men of honour.		- Dickie, pp. XI-XXII, pp.1-18. - Davis J. A., <i>Changing Perspectives on Italy's Southern Problem</i> , in: Levy C., "Italian Regionalism". Berg, 1996. pp. 53-68. - Assigned readings.
4 (Jan 27)	Dr. Galati and the Lemon Garden. Initiation. The violence Industry. The Mafia name.	Opera <i>Cavalleria Rusticana</i>	- Dickie, pp. 19-64. - Siebert R., <i>A Men Only Society</i> , in: "Secrets of Life and Death". Verso, 1996. pp. 13-27. - Assigned readings.
5 (Feb 1)	The Mafia enters the Italian system 1876 - 1890. The Favara brotherhood. Local government.		- Dickie, pp. 64-94. - Seindal R., <i>Mafia: Background and Terminology</i> , in: "Mafia: Money and Politics". TUP, 1998. pp. 11-23. - Assigned readings.
6 (Feb 3)	Corruption in High Places 1890-1904. A new breed of politician. The Sangiorgi report.	Film	- Dickie, pp. 128-194. - Ginsborg, P., <i>Corruption and Mafia</i> , in: "Italy and Its Discontents". Penguin 2001. pp.179-212. - Assigned readings.
7 (Feb 8)	The Notarbartolo murder. Corleone. Socialism, Fascism. Mafia 1893-1943.		- Dickie, pp. 94-127. - Duggan C., <i>The Concept of Mafia</i> , in: "Fascism and the Mafia". New Haven, 1989. pp. 15-19. - Assigned readings.
8 (Feb 10)	The Mafia establishes itself in America 1900-1941. Joe Petrosino. Cola Gentile.	Guest Speaker	- Dickie, pp. 127-213. - Paoli L., <i>The Italian and American Mafia</i> , in: <i>Mafia Brotherhoods</i> . Oxford, 2003. pp. 51-82. - Assigned readings.
9 (Feb 15)	War and Rebirth 1943-1950. Don Calo' and the rebirth of the Honoured Society.		- Dickie, pp. 214-253. - Lyman Potter, R., <i>Organized Crime</i> , in: "Models of Organized Crime". Prentice Hall, 1997. pp. 39-61. - Assigned readings.
10 (Feb 17)	The Grecos. Salvatore Giuliano: The last bandit.	Film	- Dickie, pp. 254-270. - Falcone G., <i>Violence</i> , in: "Men of Honour, The Truth about the Mafia". Warner, 1993. - Assigned readings.
11 (Feb 22)	God, concrete, and heroine. Cosa Nostra 1950-1963.		- Dickie, pp. 271-276. - Schneider J., "The Mafia and the Cold War", in: "Reversible Destiny", UCP, 2003. pp. 49-80. - Assigned readings.
12 (Feb 24)	Tommaso Buscetta. The sack of Palermo. Joe Banana.	Field Trip	- Dickie, pp. 277-304. - Gambetta D., <i>The Industry of Protection</i> , in: "The

			Sicilian Mafia". Harvard, 1993. pp. 15-33. - Assigned readings.
13 (Mar 1)	The first Mafia war 1961-1969. The Ciaculli bomb.		- Dickie, pp. 305-308. - Seindal R., <i>Mafia, Building Booms</i> , in: "Mafia: Money and Politics". TUP, 1989. pp. 73-90. - Assigned readings.
14 (Mar 3)	The Antimafia. Collective criminality.	Film <i>I cento passi</i>	- Dickie, pp. 309-330. - Jamieson A., <i>The Grassroots Antimafia</i> , in: "The Antimafia", MacMillan, 2000. pp. 127-158. - Assigned readings.
15 (Mar 8)	The debate on Mafia history and Mafia culture. The Italian state and Mafia.	Review and Discussion	- Assigned readings.
16 (Mar 10)	<u>MIDTERM EXAM</u>		
17 (Mar 15)	He origins of the second Mafia war 1970-1982. Corleonesi. Lucio Leggio.	<u>Research project proposal & annotated bibliography</u>	- Dickie, pp. 331-343. - Lewis N., <i>The Death of Boris Giuliano</i> , in: "The Honoured Society". Eland, 2003. pp. 253-257. - Assigned readings.
18 (Mar 17)	Peppino Impastato: A leftist fanatic. Heroin: The Pizza connection.	Guest Speaker	- Dickie, pp. 344-361. - Sterling C., <i>From the Pipeline to the Pizza Parlor</i> , in: "The Mafia", Harper & Collins, 1993. pp. 223-135. - Assigned readings.
19 (Mar 29)	Bankers, Masons, tax collectors, and mafiosi. Rise of the Corleonesi. Towards the Mattanza.		- Dickie, pp. 362-378. - Sterling C., <i>Michele Sindona and the B-D.B. Scam</i> , in: "The Mafia", Harper & Collins, 1993. pp. 236-253. - Assigned readings.
20 (Mar 31)	The second Mafia war 1983-1992. The virtuous minority.	Presentations	- Dickie, pp. 379-390. - Sterling C., <i>Palermo's Great Mafia War</i> , in: "The Mafia", Harper & Collins, 1993. pp. 254-270. - Assigned readings.
(Apr 5)	No class. School closed. (Italian national holiday).		
21 (Apr 7)	Eminent corpses. The fate of the Maxi-Trial. Anti-Mafia reaction.	Presentatons	- Dickie, pp. 391-406. - Siebert R., <i>Women against the Mafia</i> , in: "Secrets of Life and Death". Verso, 1996. pp. 175-264. - Assigned readings.
22 (Apr 12)	Bombs and submersion 1992-2003. Toto' Riina.		- Dickie, pp. 407-417. - Arlacchi P., <i>The Entrepreneurial Mafia</i> , in: "Mafia Business". Oxford, 1988. pp. 187-212. - Assigned readings.
23 (Apr 14)	Giulio Andreotti. Bernardo Provenzano. Mafiosi and prison: Art. 41Bis.	Film <i>Gomorra</i>	- Dickie, pp. 417-443. Lyman Potter, R., <i>Undermining Civil Society</i> , in: "Organized Crime". Prentice Hall, 1997. pp. 316-324. - Assigned readings.
24 (Apr 19)	A chronicle of Cosa Nostra since 2003, and current events.		- Dickie, pp. 444-480. - Siebert R., <i>Women with the Mafia</i> , in: "Secrets of Life and Death". Verso, 1996. pp. 107-174. - Assigned readings.

<p>25 (Apr 21)</p>	<p>National Mafias of Italy. International Mafias in Italy.</p>	<p>Presentatins</p>	<p>- Lyman Potter, R., <i>Transnational Organized Crime</i>, in: "Organized Crime". Prentice Hall, 1997. - Assigned readings.</p>
<p>26 (Apr 26)</p>	<p>The debate on state legislation against Mafia. The Anti-Mafia culture.</p>	<p>Review and Discussion <u>Final paper with Portfolio</u></p>	<p>- Assigned readings.</p>
<p>27 (Apr 28)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FINAL EXAM</u></p>		