

ACCF POIT 350 ITALY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Course	Italy in the European Union
Professor	Simonetta Duretto
Sessions Offered	Spring semester / Fall semester
Course Description	This course is organized on the historical development of national and international interests in both Italy and Europe as a whole between WWII and the present. With Italy as a founding EU member committed to the project of peaceful unity, the narratives intertwine Various issues - cultural, social, political, economic - are addressed. Topics include: the EU and major problems in contemporary Italy; the preservation of Italian national interests; the EU in global and American perspective.
Learning Objectives and Outcomes	 The course teaches students to trace the historical roots of pressing social and economic questions. It shows them how to negotiate a complex set of institutions, processes and policies, in an equally complex historical situation The course keeps its eye on major issues and events, such as EU and world trade, EU expansion, Italian political parties, or the costs of organized crime in Italy. The "big picture" is then key that spurs students to develop and apply strong study skills, for instance to analyze various kinds of texts (from treaties and directives to news stories and extended essays of political analysts). The result is a student who is well-equipped to seriously face today's issues and challenges as a global citizen, interpreting the specific literature as an interdisciplinary experience, in order to develop both critical thinking and a sensitive understanding of the texts.
Student Assessment	The Course requires regular attendance, together with punctuality, responsible and active participation in class: all these elements are essential for a successful completion of the course. The Tasks for the student will include: Written / Oral assignments/research that will be given and evaluated. The Course will have a Midterm and a Final Exam (written essays, in class). The Notes of the Course - taken by the student - will be part of the evaluation. 10% Attendance and Participation 15% Assignments 15% Oral presentation during the visits or in class (with written outline) 20% Notes on the Course 20% Midterm exam 20% Final exam

Bibliography, Webography, Filmography	Textbooks: 1. <i>Italy Since 1945</i> , by P. McCarthy, 2004, Oxford University Press 2. <i>Understanding the European Union. A Concise Introduction</i> , by J. McCormick, 2005, Palgrave
	A very full set of reference works specific to the EU (Euroguide, etc.) is available at the European University Institute at Fiesole. This library also has an important collection of Working Papers, as well as many major periodicals and monographs. EC and various European governmental websites are an important source.

Week 1	Background information 1900-45
Week 2	The idea of European Union; Europe today.
Week 3	Building the European Union
Week 4	Changing Italy (social) –From Rural to post-industrial society
Week 5	Changing Italy (economy & politics) Ups and downs of a success story; Particularities of the Italian Economy
Week 6	European Institutions
Week 7	Review and Midterm, in class (Written essay concerning the first part of the Course)
Week 8	EU, member-states and citizens; Italy, Europe and the World; Non-state actors in the EU
Week 9	Non-state actors in Italy
Week 10	Policy for quality life in EU

Week 11	Italy: cultural traditions and modernity
Week 12	The last directions of the EU and its most relevant contemporary issues, considering the pandemic era.
Week 13	Conclusion of the Oral Presentations.
Week 14	Final Exam (Written Essay, in class)