

Italian

Module descriptors for Inbound Students.

Name	Italian History and Society in 20th Century Italy
Code	ITU22042
Semester	2
ECTS credits	5
Module Coordinator	Contact Inbound Italian Study Abroad Coordinator.

Module Content

This module explores the development of modern Italy from 1946 to 1999. After the Second World War, new democratic political structures were created and Italy recovered. By the late 1950s, the “economic miracle” had begun and Italy became known internationally for its elegant design and successful economical production, making everything from high fashion to fridges, typewriters and cars (Fiat, Alfa Romeo). Italian society was transformed. By the end of the 1960s, the boom had ended and social unrest escalated. Student and worker demonstrations and movements characterized the period, especially after 1968. Civil rights and feminist movements followed, as did home-grown terrorism, which blighted the country throughout the 1970s. Finally, we will consider the economic development of the 1980s, the crisis of Communism after 1989, the corruption scandals called “Tangentopoli” starting in 1993, and the emergence of new political groupings. Lectures aim at telling the historical narrative of the events mentioned above and at examining some texts that illustrate aspects of it. Tutorials focus on exploring excerpts from texts which reflect and construct versions of that history. For set texts and films, please see Mandatory Reading below. Clips, DVDs, and movies will be used in class.

Learning Outcomes

Assuming you have attended all or most lectures, completed their assignments and engaged in independent learning, at the end of this module you should be able to:

- read, comprehend and assimilate a selection of Italian texts and films from the modern period, situating them in their cultural contexts;
- supplement their knowledge of these materials by making appropriate use of



published scholarship and criticism;

- present their knowledge in written form, displaying an understanding of literary techniques and critical approaches;
- describe the historical and social context of Italy in relation to modernity, interpreting materials of various kinds;
- write clear and coherent essays and commentaries to analyse texts, documentaries, films.

Assessment

One essay of 2,500 - 3,000 words