

History of the Mafia and Global Crime

Instructor: Lorenzo Picchi

Credits: 3

Contact hrs/wk: 3

Prerequisites: None

Course Description

This course analyses the Italian Mafia through two different and closely related perspectives: political-historical and criminal-sociological. The political-historical viewpoint examines the origins of the Mafia, its role in the process of the unification of Italy, its relationships with political power both in the Liberal and the Fascist states, its rebirth during World War II, and its development towards a global, transnational phenomenon. The analysis also traces the evolution of the anti-Mafia as both public opinion and government response from the agrarian period to the more recent widespread perception of the problem and the birth of a collective movement in public opinion. From the socio-criminological perspective, the course examines the myths, theories and realities of organized crime, Mafia ideology, and the law enforcement agents against organized crime in a comparative perspective between Italy, Europe, and the United States.

Course Method

The course is taught through a combination of formal lectures (including PowerPoint presentations), document discussion workshops, film presentations and outdoor activities. The lectures provide a broad outline of the respective period while the workshops enable students to focus on key topics or themes. Students engage in full class discussion and small group work.

Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to demonstrate a detailed, critical understanding of the fundamental aspects of the history of the Italian Mafia, in particular its relationships with politics and the American Mafia, the social and cultural aspects behind this criminal phenomenon, and the ideology of the Mafia. Also, they should be able to develop a critical perspective of the myths, theories and realities of organized crime.

Grading

Grading will be done on a percentage basis:

Letter Grade Range	Numerical Score Equivalent	Student Performance
A	93% - 100%	Exceptional Excellent
A-	90% - 92%	
B+	87% - 89%	Superior
B	83% - 86%	
B-	80% - 82%	
C+	77% - 79%	Satisfactory
C	73% - 76%	
C-	70% - 72%	
D+	67% - 69%	Low Pass
D	63% - 66%	
D-	60% - 62%	
F	59% or less	Fail (no credit)

The instructor will use numerous and differentiated forms of assessment to calculate the final grade you receive for this course. For the record, these are listed and weighted below. The content, criteria and specific requirements for each assessment category will be explained in greater detail in class. Any questions about the requirements should be discussed directly with your faculty well in advance of the due date for each assignment.

FORM OF ASSESSMENT	VALUE
QUIZZES (x4)	20% (5% EACH)
ORAL PRESENTATION	10%
RESEARCH PROJECT	20%
MIDTERM EXAM	20%
FINAL EXAM	20%
CLASS PARTICIPATION	10%

Assessment Overview:

Quizzes (4 x 5% each): The quizzes are a mix of multiple choice and open questions.

Oral Presentation (10%): A short research project orally presented to the class and critically discussed with the class and the instructor. The subject of your presentation is a critical exploration of an issue raised by this course.

Research Project (20%): Each student is expected to write a 2000 words paper on one of the topics studied in class. Papers without the approved paper outline will not be accepted. Late papers will receive a ‘drop’ in grade. The topics are determined by the available reading, and guidance will be given throughout. The student may choose further to pursue a topic that we are exploring in class, or examine another area of academic interest that is related to the subject of this course. Topics must be selected in agreement with me. Likewise, topic ideas should be discussed with the Professor early on. The research outline of your research project should contain: 1) the title of your paper; 2) bibliographic references, and 3) a short abstract. The research outline should be a short, single-spaced, 1-2 paragraph statement of the goals and conclusions of you paper. It should allow the reader to grasp immediately what the paper seeks to communicate in terms of questions, evidence, methods, or interpretations. After its return the approved outline must be attached to the proper paper. Basic resources are available at the Institute’s library. The student should not be afraid to use other libraries as well and may also explore the Internet and look through magazines, newspapers, and archives. Journal articles are one of the primary sources of new theories and research findings. Students should also use the on-line library facilities of their home university to get access to important databases such as JSTOR. The Professor will expect at least four scholarly references (books and/or scholarly articles).

Mid-Term Exam (20%): An exam covering all topics presented until the week before the mid-term exam. It will consist of a series of multiple choice questions, open questions, and one short essay (about one page) chosen among two essay questions. The exam will take approximately 90 minutes to complete, is closed book/closed note and it will constitute 20% of the final grade.

Final Exam (20%): The final exam is the last step in the sequential learning process the course involves. In this exam the student will bring together the various concepts/topics studied in class. The exam will have the same format as the mid-term exam but it will take approximately 90 minutes to complete. Students who plan to depart prior to the exam should not take this course.

Class Participation (10%): This 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 use language effectively,

and present 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 all evaluated. Yet, it is the active, meaningful and informed verbal and written contribution that you make that is most important to your overall participation grade. Indeed, willingness to share views in classroom discussions and the insightfulness of your comments and questions about assigned readings will all be taken into account when evaluating your participation.

Additionally, it is important to demonstrate a positive and supportive attitude to the instructor and your classmates, and give full attention to class activities (i.e., cell phones off, laptop for notes only, not sleeping or being distracted, etc.). Whereas attendance and punctuality are expected and will not count positively towards the grade, laxity in these areas will have a negative effect. 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+ (9.70–10.00)
You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings and independent research.	A-/A (9.00–9.69)
You participate voluntarily and make useful contributions that are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings.	B/B+ (8.40–8.99)
You make voluntary but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings.	C+/B- (7.70–8.39)
You make limited comments only when prompted and do not initiate debate or show a clear awareness of the importance of the readings.	C-/C (7.00–7.69)
You very rarely make comments and resist engagement with the subject, attending class having manifestly done little if any preparation.	D (6.00–6.99)
As a result of frequent absences and complete un-preparedness, you make irrelevant and tangential comments that disrupt class discussion.	F (0–5.99)

Class Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. For engaged discussion we will need your active attention and participation. After your second unexcused absence your final grade will be automatically lowered by one point (e.g. from B to B-). An absence is regarded as unexcused if you fail to produce a doctor's certificate or if you do not have witnesses testifying to a serious reason for missing class. If you miss class, you are responsible for obtaining the class notes. Being late to class will also affect your grade. Two tardies (10 minutes late to class) equal one unexcused absence.

Academic Misconduct

This includes all forms of cheating, i.e. copying during exams either from a fellow student or making unauthorized use of notes and plagiarism, that is, presenting, as one's own, the ideas or words of another person for academic evaluation (research paper, written tests, etc.) without proper acknowledgment. This includes also insufficient or incomplete acknowledgement, or failure to acknowledge a source that has been

paraphrased. The Institute believes strongly in academic honesty and integrity. Students will be failed in case of plagiarism and will also be reported to the Director for appropriate action.

Classroom Policy

All students are expected to follow the uniform policy of the International Studies Institute. They are expected to develop the appropriate respect for the historical premises, which the school occupies. For this reason, students are not permitted to eat, drink or chew gum in class. There will be breaks during class. Students should not leave the classroom except in order to use the restroom. Extended departures are unacceptable and will negatively affect attendance and participation grade. Mobile phones and computers must be turned off before the beginning of each class unless otherwise specified by the Professor. Use of a mobile phone during class (such as texting) may be grounds for considering the student absent from class that day.

Required readings:

- A. Block, A., *East Side, West Side: Organizing Crime in New York, 1930-1950*, chapter 6, *Syndicates and Vices*, pp. 129-131. This reading can be downloaded from the first set of slides.
- B. Bell, D., *Crime as an American Way of Life*, in *The Antioch Review*, Vol. 50, No. ½, 50th Anniversary Issue (Winter-Spring 1992), pp. 109-130.
- C. Chubb, J. (1989), *The Mafia and Politics*, Cornell Studies, in *International Affairs, Occasional Papers*, No. 23, in: <https://www.mediafire.com/?e31ff2r8tekfxt>
- D. Dickie, J., *Blood Brotherhoods. The Rise of the Italian Mafias*, London, Hodder & Stoughton, 2011, Introduction.
- E. Dickie, J., *Cosa Nostra. A History of the Sicilian Mafia*, Hodder & Stoughton, London, 2009.
- F. Faris, S., *Italy's Brutal Export: The Mafia Goes Global*, in *Time*, 3/9/2011
<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2057944,00.html>
- G. Finklea, K. M., *Organized Crime in the United States: Trends and Issues for Congress*, Congressional Research Service, 7-5700, www.crs.gov, R40525.
http://www.mediafire.com/view/t13y0csq92rf0bw/Law_enforcements_readings.zip
- H. Gambetta, D., *The Sicilian Mafia: The Business of Private Protection*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge (MA), London (UK), 1996, chapter 4.
- I. Hunt, T., *Is there a Mafia?* published in *onewal.com*:
http://www.onewal.com/a001/f_isthereamafia.html
- J. Kefauver Inquiry, Final Report, Kefauver Committee, *Final Report, Aug. 31, 1951*, U.S. Senate Special Committee to Investigate Organized Crime in Interstate Commerce,
<http://mafiahistory.us/kef/kef4.html>
- K. Jamieson, A., *War and Peace*, in *The Antimafia. Italy's Fight Against Organized Crime*, St. Martin Press-MacMillan, New York, 2000, pp. 200-235.
- L. La Camera, *Civil Society's Role in the Fight Against the 'Ndrangheta*, in Heinrich-Boll-Stiftung, Regine Schonenberg, *Transnational Organized Crime. Analyses of a Global Challenge to Democracy*, Transcript Verlag, 2013.
- M. Levine, H. G., Reinerman, C., *Alcohol Prohibition and Drug Prohibition. Lessons from Alcohol Policy for Drug Policy*, Amsterdam, Cedro, 2004. <http://www.cedro-uva.org/lib/levine.alcohol.html>
- N. Longrigg, *Camorra Godmothers*, in *Mafia Women*, Vintage, London, 1998, pp 1-21.
- O. Lupo, S., *History of the Mafia*, Columbia University Press, New York, 2011, pp. 1-25, 176-197.
- P. Lupo, S., *The Two Mafias: A Transatlantic History 1888-2008*, Palgrave Macmillan US, New York, 2015, pp. 37-40, 87-91, 161-183, 266-275.
- Q. Paoli, L., *Crime, Italian Style*, in *Daedalus*, Vol. 130, No. 3, *Italy: Resilient and Vulnerable, Vol. II: Politics and Society*, Summer 2001, pp. 157-185.

- R. Picchi, L., *From the National Unification to the Advent of Fascism*, in *History of the Mafia. From Its Origins until the Present Day Everything Has Changed to Remain the Same*, Florence International University Press, Florence, 2010, pp. 43-52.
- S. Picchi, L., *The Origins*, in *History of the Mafia. From Its Origins until the Present Day Everything Has Changed to Remain the Same*, Florence International University Press, Florence, 2010, pp. 29-41.
- T. Picchi, L., *From Fascism to the Early Years of the First Republic*, in *History of the Mafia. From Its Origins until the Present Day Everything Has Changed to Remain the Same*, Florence International University Press, Florence, 2010, pp. 57-69.
- U. Santino, U., *Fighting the Mafia and Organized Crime: Italy and Europe*, in *Crime and Law Enforcement in the Global Village*, 1997, pp. 151-166.
http://www.mediafire.com/view/t13y0csq92rf0bw/Law_enforcements_readings.zip
- V. Santino, U., *From the mafia to transnational crime* in *Nuove Effemeridi, Industry of violence*, n. 50, 2000/II. pp. 92-101: <http://www.centroimpastato.it/otherlang/effemeridi.php3>
- W. Santino, U., *Giuseppe Impastato: His actions, his murder, the investigation and the cover up*, published on <http://www.centroimpastato.it/otherlang/peppino.php3>
- X. Santino, U., *Mafia and Mafia-type organizations in Italy*, published on <http://www.centroimpastato.it/otherlang/mafia-in-italy.php3>
- Y. Santino, U., *The Financial Mafia. The Illegal Accumulation of Wealth And The Financial-Industrial Complex*, in *Contemporary Crises*, 12, September 1988, pp. 203-243:
<http://www.centroimpastato.it/otherlang/finmafiaen.php3>
- Z. Santino, U., *The Mafia and the antimafia fight: an analysis beyond the stereotypes*, published on <http://www.centroimpastato.it/otherlang/bergen.php3>
- AA. Saviano, R., *Mafia Organizations Are More Dangerous Than Terrorist Groups*, in *The New York Times*, 28, April, 2014.
<http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2014/04/28/is-the-mafia-europes-new-security-threat/mafia-organizations-are-more-dangerous-than-terrorist-groups>
- Saviano, R., *Women*, in *Gomorra*, Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, New York, 2007, pp. 136-158.
- Saviano, R., *Angelina Jolie*, in *Gomorra*, Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, New York, 2007, pp. 17-37.
- Saviano, R., *Land of Fires*, in *Gomorra*, pp. 282-301.
- Schneider, J. and P., *Mafia, Antimafia, and the Plural Cultures of Sicily*, in *Current Anthropology*, Vol. 46, No. 4, (August/October 2005), University of Chicago Press, pp. 501-520.
- Siebert, R., *Women*, in *Secrets of Life and Death. Women in the Mafia*, Verso, London-New York, 1996, pp. 48-60.
- BB. *The Schaffer Library of Drug Policies*, chapter 5, *The Lessons of Prohibition and Drug Legalization*, <http://www.druglibrary.org/schaffer/debate/myths/myths6.htm>
- CC. Varese, F., *Mafias on the Move: How Organized Crime Conquers New Territories*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 2012, chapter 1, 2.
- DD. Stanojoska, *The Connection Between Terrorism and Organized Crime: Narcoterrorism and Other Hybrids*, published online in academia.edu.
http://www.mediafire.com/view/68lv1bgkue267xf/The_Connection_between_Terrorism_and_Org.pdf

Recommended Readings:

History of the Mafia

- Arlacchi, P., *Men of Dishonour: Inside the Sicilian Mafia: An Account of Antonino Calderone*, First Ed., 1993.
- Davis, J., *Mafia Dynasty*, Harper Collins, 1993.
- Hammer, R., *The Vatican Connection*, Holt, 1982.
- Stille A., *Excellent Cadavers*, Jonathan Cope Ed., 1995.

Sociology of the Mafia:

- Arlacchi, P., *Mafia Business: The Mafia Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, Verso, 1987.
- Hess, H., *Mafia and Mafiosi*, N.Y. Press, 1998.
- Lewis, N., *The Honoured Society: The Sicilian Mafia Observed*, Eland, 2003.
- Paoli, L., *The Italian and American Mafia: A Comparison*, in *Mafia Brotherhoods. Organized crime, Italian style*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, New York, 2003, pp.3-23. This reading is available at the library.
- Seindal, R. *Mafia, Money and Politics in Sicily 1950-1997*, Museum Tusulanuum Press, University Of Copenhagen, 1998.
- Siebert. R., *Secrets of Life and Death: Women and the Mafia*, Verso Ed., 1996.

Italian History and Culture:

- Baranski Z. West R., *Modern Italian Culture*, Cup, 2001.
- Barzini L., *The Italians*, Penguin, 1968.
- Duggan C., *A Concise History of Italy*, U.P., 1994.
- Forgacs, David & Lumley, Robert -- Eds., *Italian Cultural Studies*, 1996.
- Ginsborg P., *Italy and Its Discontents 1943-1988*; Penguin, 1990.
- Ginsborg P., *Italy and Its Discontents 1980-2001*; Penguin, 2001.
- Hearder H., *Italy, A Short History*, 1990.
- Holmes G., *The Oxford Illustrated History of Italy*, Oup, 2001.
- Procacci G., *History of The Italian People*, 1991.
- Richards C., *The New Italians*, 1995.

Recommended Films: These films are available in the CEA Resource Center:

The Mafia in American Cinema:

- *The Godfather I*, Francis Ford Coppola, 1972
- *The Godfather II*, Francis Ford Coppola, 1974
- *The Godfather III*, Francis Ford Coppola, 1990
- *On the Waterfront*, Elia Kazan, 1954
- *Prizzi's Honor*, John Houston, 1985
- *Scarface*, Brian De Palma, 1983
- *The Goodfellas*, Martin Scorsese, 1997

The Mafia in Italian Cinema:

- *Alla Luce del Sole* (In the Light of the Sun), Roberto Faenza, 2004
- *L'Imbalsamatore* (The Embalmer), Matteo Garrone 2002
- *I Cento Passi* (One Hundred Steps), Marco Tullio Giordana, 2000.
- *Lucky Luciano*, Francesco Rosi, 1973
- *Placido Rizzotto*, Pasquale Scimeca, 2000
- *Gomorra*, Matteo Garrone, 2008
- *Salvatore Giuliano*, Francesco Rosi, 1962

Online Reference & Research Tools:

- <http://www.antimafiaduemila.com> – the website of the magazine antimafia 2000.
- <http://www.onewal.com>
<http://www.centroimpastato.it/index.php3> - the website of centro siciliano di documentazione “Giuseppe Impastato”, run by Umberto Santino and Anna Puglisi.

	SESSION	TOPIC	STUDENT ASSIGNMENT
Wk 1	J 14	Introduction to the syllabus and to the course. Definition of “Mafia”	
	J 16	Introducing Italy's main mafias: Cosa Nostra, 'Ndrangheta, Camorra, and the Sacra Corona Unita. Power and enterprise syndicate	Santino U., <i>Mafia and Mafia-type Organizations in Italy</i> ; Block A., <i>East Side, West Side</i> ; Faris S., <i>Italy's Brutal Export</i> . Hunt T., <i>Is there a Mafia?</i> Paoli L., <i>Crime, Italian Style</i> . Documentary: <i>Italy's Bloodiest Mafia: The Camorra</i> , by BBC http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hte9piNhyPI
Wk 2	J 21	The origins	Gambetta D., <i>The Sicilian Mafia</i> , chapter 4.
	J 23	The role of the Mafia in the Italian national revolution: 1860-1861 The criminal businesses of the Camorra	Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 1-66, 79-86. Saviano, <i>Angelina Jolie</i> . Saviano, <i>Land of Fires</i> .
Wk 3	J 28	Mafia Ideology The interpretations of the Mafia RESEARCH PAPER FORM will be handed in to students; students are supposed to start brainstorming a topic for their research paper. The topic will have to be approved by the professor.	Lupo S., <i>Mafia Ideology</i> . Lupo S., <i>Introduction</i> , pp. 1-25; Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra, Introduction</i> .
	J 30	The Mafia enter the Italian political system: 1876-1890. QUIZ 1	Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 67-78.
Wk 4	F 4	The Sangiorgi report The Notarbartolo murder	Dickie, <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 100-154; Lupo S., <i>The Two Mafias</i> , pp. 37-40.

	F 6	Mafia and Socialism	Lupo S., <i>The Two Mafias</i> , pp. 87-91; Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 155-172.
Wk 5	F 11	Mafia and Fascism	Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 172-194; Lupo S., <i>History of the Mafia</i> , pp. 176-187.
	F 13	WWII and the rebirth of the Mafia QUIZ 2	Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 235-253; Lupo S., <i>History of the Mafia</i> , 187-197.
Wk 6	F 18	The Sicilian Separatist Movement and the Portella della Ginestra terrorist attack	Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 260-270;
	F 20	Review	
Wk 7		Mid-term Exam	
BREAK FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 8			
Wk 8	M 10	Correcting the mid-term exam We are beginning to watch the movie <i>Placido Rizzotto</i>	
	M 12	Movie: <i>Placido Rizzotto</i>	
Wk 9	M 17	Research Paper activity: Students are supposed to come to class with their lap tops and bring their research paper form filled in. The form should include title and outline of the paper and an attempted bibliography. Under the guide of the professor, students are supposed to research primary and secondary sources for their essay and write the introduction paragraph. The introduction paragraph should include the thesis statement and outline the structure of the essay. Students are recommended to choose a topic that matches their major field of study.	
	M 19	Mafia's control over the construction industry: The Sack of Palermo The First Mafia War	Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 271-330.
Wk 10		Mafia and anti-Mafia in the 1960s and the 1970s. The role of intellectuals and journalists in the fight against organized crime in	Santino U., <i>Giuseppe Impastato</i> . Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 331-378.

	M 24	Italy: The cases of Giuseppe Impastato and Danilo Dolci. The Pizza Connection	
	M 26	The 'Ndrangheta and the fight against it QUIZ 3	La Camera, <i>Civil Society's Role in the Fight Against the 'Ndrangheta</i> .
Wk 11	M 31	The wave of violence of 1979-1983.	Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 379-390.
	A 2	The Maxi Trial and other government responses to the Mafia	Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 397-408.
Wk 12	A 7	Women in the Mafia	Siebert R., <i>Women</i> ; Saviano R., <i>Women</i> . Documentary: <i>The Godmother – Italy</i> Recommended readings: Longrigg C., <i>Camorra Godmothers</i> , in <i>Mafia Women</i> , Vintage, London, 1998, pp 1-21.
	A 9	QUIZ 4 <i>Excellent Cadavers</i> , documentary movie	
Wk 13	A 14	WE ARE VISITING THE DIA HEADQUARTER IN FLORENCE	
	A 16	Bombs and submersion Civil society and the grassroots anti-Mafia: The so-called <i>Social Antimafia</i>	Lupo S., <i>History of the Mafia</i> , pp. 266-275; Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 407-460. Vaccaro A., <i>To Pay or Not to Pay?</i> Recommended readings: Jamieson A., chapter 3, 5. Schneider J. and P., <i>Mafia, Antimafia, and the Plural Cultures of Sicily</i> .
Wk 14	A 21	Political Corruption and the Mafia	Jamieson A., <i>War & Peace</i> ; Dickie J., <i>Cosa Nostra</i> , pp. 407-460.
	A 23	Review of all course material RESEARCH PAPER MUST BE HANDED IN	
Wk 15		FINAL EXAM	