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## Italian politics. International change and domestic transformation

PROF. ALESSANDRO QUARENGHI

### Overview

Area of study	International Relations
Area Code	IR/PO325
Credits	6 ECTS
Dates	6 – 17 July (2 weeks)
Campus	Milan

### Course Description

The international system has shaped and influenced Italy economically, socially, and politically since the very foundation of the State. Arguably because of its middle power status and geographical location, contemporary processes of change have underlined Italy's sensitivity to international dynamics and interests, highlighting the fact that it has historically been a political border between Eastern (Russia and China) and Western (the United States) international great powers; between Northern (Europe) and Southern regions (the Middle East and North Africa); between developed and developing countries; and between 'the decline of the West and the rise of the Rest'. How have international processes historically influenced Italian politics, society, culture, and economics? How are Italy-specific structures being transformed by contemporary international processes of change?

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have a solid grasp of the basics of Italian political, social, cultural, and economic structures; they will be familiar with the most important issues in the contemporary Italian debate, and aware of processes of change in its political constituencies, foreign policies, and identities. In addition, they will have gained an understanding of how the international system influences domestic structures.

### Course contents

The course is divided into two parts. The first part focuses on how the international system has historically influenced Italian political and social structures, while the second part discusses whether and how some of the most deeply rooted and distinctive Italian political, social, economic, and cultural issues (mafias, Catholicism, familism, migration policies, economic decline, etc.) are adapting to the contemporary processes of international change.

### Method of teaching

The course will consist of lectures, guest speakers, discussions, movie screenings, and a field trip to the Shoah Memorial in Milan. In the second part of the course, some sessions will be introduced by a student (or a small group of students) presentation (15-20 minutes), which can be supported by the assigned readings. The issues raised by the presentation and by the essential readings will foster a discussion led by the instructor, which will constitute the bulk of the class. The instructor will then conclude by briefly (10-15 minutes) summarizing the most important points made during the discussion.



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## Prerequisites

The course is an introduction to the politics and international politics of Italy; therefore, it can be approached by students of all disciplines. A background in political science, international politics, and/or comparative politics could be helpful but is not required.

## Course requirements

- Students are expected to regularly attend sessions and to actively take part in debate;
- Before each class, students are expected to have read the compulsory readings (and are strongly advised to read the recommended readings);
- Students are required to orally present one of the topics outlined in the syllabus according to the instructor's instructions;
- Students will have to take a final written exam.

## Grading

Presentation	1/3 of final grade
Final written exam	2/3 of final grade

## Course readings and materials

All the readings and the lecturer's slides will be available on Blackboard.

## Rules Of Conduct

**Exam Date:** exam dates communicated in the syllabus for the exam cannot be re-scheduled. Unexcused absences will result in a failing grade.

In cases of unforeseeable circumstances such as illness or injury on the day of the exams, the student must submit a medical certificate and communicate his/her absence to the Professor and UCSC International Office via email **prior** to the exam. If the student does not justify his/her absence through sufficient documentation and with adequate notice before the final test, the student will receive an automatic Failed.

## Course Schedule

Lesson	Topic	Main Reading/Course Material
FIRST PART. THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM AND ITALY		
1	INTRODUCTION  THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM AND ORDER	Väyrynen R., "Bipolarity, Multipolarity, and Domestic Political Systems", <i>Journal of Peace Research</i> 32:3 (1995) 361-371 Ikenberry J. G., <i>After Victory. Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order after Major Wars</i> , Princeton University Press, 2001, 21-49
2	MULTIPOLARITY AND ITALY: FROM THE 'BIRTH' OF THE STATE TO THE SECOND	Jervis, R., "A Political Science Perspective on the Balance of Power and the Concert", <i>The</i>



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	WORLD WAR	<p><i>American Historical Review</i>, 97(3) (1992) 716–724. <a href="https://doi.org/10.2307/2164776">https://doi.org/10.2307/2164776</a></p> <p>Beales, D. &amp; Biagini F. E., <i>The Risorgimento and the Unification of Italy</i>, Taylor and Francis, 2014, 114-133 DOI: 10.4324/9781315839004 <a href="https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.unicatt.it/lib/unicatt-ebooks/reader.action?docID=1741871">https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.unicatt.it/lib/unicatt-ebooks/reader.action?docID=1741871</a></p>
<p>MOVIE: Luchino Visconti, <i>Il gattopardo</i> -The Leopard (1963), based on Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa's novel (1958)</p>		
3	BIPOLARITY AND ITALY: THE 'FIRST REPUBLIC'	<p>Guzzini S., "The 'Long Night of the First Republic': Years of Clientelistic Implosion in Italy." <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>, . 2 (1) 1995, 27–61. JSTOR, <a href="http://www.jstor.org/stable/4177133">http://www.jstor.org/stable/4177133</a></p>
	FIELD TRIP:  MEMORIALE DELLA SHOAH and PIAZZALE LORETO	
4	UNIPOLARITY AND ITALY: THE 'SECOND (AND THIRD?) REPUBLIC'	<p>Recommended Reading:</p> <p>Cladi L., Webber M., "Italian Foreign Policy in the Post-Cold War Period: A Neoclassical Realist Approach", <i>European Security</i> 20:2 (2011) 205–19</p>
SECOND PART. CONTEMPORARY DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS		
5	<p>ISSUES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MIGRATION</li> <li>• REGIONALISM MAFIAS</li> <li>• ECONOMIC DECLINE</li> <li>• FAMILY AND FAMILISM</li> <li>• CATHOLICISM,</li> <li>• NATIONAL IDENTITY</li> </ul>	<p>Armao F., "Mafia-owned democracies: Italy and Mexico as patterns of criminal neoliberalism", <i>Tiempo devorado</i>, 2(1), 2015, 0004-21</p> <p>Foot J. , "How Italian Football Creates Italians: The 1982 World Cup, the 'Pertini Myth' and Italian National Identity", <i>The International Journal of the History of Sport</i>, 33:3, 2016, 341-358, DOI: 10.1080/09523367.2016.1175440</p> <p>Costabile A., Coco A., "Social actors and social ties in multiple modernity: Familism and social change in the South of Italy", <i>European Journal of Cultural and Political Sociology</i>, 4:1, 2017, 76-99, DOI: 10.1080/23254823.2017.1274119</p>



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MOVIE: <i>Il giorno della civetta - The Day of the Owl</i> (1968), based on Leonardo Sciascia's novel (1961)		
6	THE MAIN POLITICAL PARTIES: IDENTITY, GOALS, CONSTITUENCIES, DISCOURSES	<p>Ventura S. "The Italian Democratic Party from Merger to Personalism", <i>South European Society and Politics</i>, 23:1, 2018, 181-196, DOI: 10.1080/13608746.2018.1440483</p> <p>Albertazzi D., Giovannini A., Seddone A., " 'No regionalism please, we are Leghisti!' The transformation of the Italian Lega Nord under the leadership of Matteo Salvini", <i>Regional &amp; Federal Studies</i>, 28:5, 2018, 645-671, DOI: 10.1080/13597566.2018.1512977</p> <p>Sondel-Cedarmas J., "Giorgia Meloni's new Europe, Europe of sovereign nations in the Brothers of Italy party manifestos", in Sondel-Cedarmas J., Berti F. (eds.), <i>The Right-Wing Critique of Europe. Nationalist, Sovereignist and Right-Wing Populist Attitudes to the EU</i>, Routledge, 2022, 60-75</p>
7	ITALY AND THE UNITED STATES	<p>Nation R.G., "Intra-Alliance Politics. Italian-American Relations 1946-2010", in Giacomello G., Verbeek B. (eds.) <i>Italy's Foreign Policy in the Twenty-First Century. The New Assertiveness of an Aspiring Middle Power</i>, Lexington Books, 2011, 29-54 Available at <a href="https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.unicatt.it/lib/unicatt-ebooks/detail.action?docID=860105&amp;pq-origsite=summon">https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.unicatt.it/lib/unicatt-ebooks/detail.action?docID=860105&amp;pq-origsite=summon</a></p>
8	<p>ITALY and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The EUROPEAN UNION</li> <li>• The MEDITERRANEAN</li> <li>• RUSSIA</li> <li>• CHINA</li> </ul>	<p>Giacomello G. and Verbeek B., "'It's the Perception, Stupid!'" Italy's Hard Life as a Middle Power", in Giacomello G., Bertjan V. (eds.) <i>Italy's Foreign Policy in the Twenty-First Century. The New Assertiveness of an Aspiring Middle Power</i>, Lexington Books, 2011, 13-28. Available at <a href="https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.unicatt.it/lib/unicatt-ebooks/detail.action?docID=860105&amp;pq-origsite=summon">https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.unicatt.it/lib/unicatt-ebooks/detail.action?docID=860105&amp;pq-origsite=summon</a></p>
	EXAM	MULTIPLE CHOICE AND OPEN QUESTIONS



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## Course Evaluation

At Cattolica we highly value student opinions as they are among our most important resources for assessing and improving the quality of teaching.

The course evaluation will be available on the Blackboard two weeks before the end of the course.

Note that **you will not be able to view your final grade if you do not submit the survey for the course.**

The survey is made of multiple choice questions and open questions. The evaluations will remain anonymous. Professors will receive an average score of each answers (except for the open question).

## Instructor Bio

**Alessandro Quarenghi** is a Lecturer in International Politics at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, where he teaches on International Relations and International Relations of the Middle East. He holds a degree in Law, a PhD in International Relations, a Specialization in International Economics and Politics, and Masters Degrees in Postcolonial Politics and Cross-cultural Mediation. His work focuses on US foreign policy, international order and international relations and politics of the Middle East, Italian politics, and technological change.

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