



SYLLABUS

PALAZZI FLORENCE ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
FLORENCE UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS
SAS - SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
CONTEMPORARY MAFIA AND ANTIMAFIA
LA HS HM 390
3 CREDITS

1. DESCRIPTION

The course presents the specific structural and phenomenological aspects of the various types of mafia operating at present times in Italy and internationally. It analyses contemporary criminal, social, cultural and political features of mafia-type groups, exploring traditional and emerging illegal markets. It describes main Italian and international law policies and legislations to contrast this type of organised crime and the experiences of leading individuals and groups developing a culture of legality to combat the mafia.

2. OBJECTIVE

The course aims at providing students with instruments of knowledge, comprehension, application, evaluation and synthesis on the topic by being able to:

- Define specific elements characterising mafia as compared to other criminal organisations
- Describe the relevance of key concepts like violence, death, honour, shame within mafia
- Identify contemporary illegal markets
- Explain the historical, economic, political and social elements of Italian mafia organisations
- Evaluate the relationships with religion and gender
- Indicate, analyse and compare the range of instruments and strategies to fight against the mafia
- Organise and present a research paper on a topic by choice -
- Enhance participation and constructive critical sense through class discussions

3. REQUIREMENTS

No specific background is required to attend this course.

Students are required to do the **readings** assigned. These readings provide the theoretical background for the topic concerned and are part of the material on which tests are based. You will find information on each lesson's readings on your lecture schedule.

You are **warmly invited to take notes in class** and do the readings on a weekly basis in order to be able to ask questions and have doubts clarified gradually: for the successful completion of the course students have to read the articles indicated in the syllabus and study all the further material that will be used in class during the semester.

No eating or drinking is allowed in class: food and beverages have to be consumed either during the breaks or before/after the class.

At all times cell phones must be turned off.

A responsible and **active class participation** is expected at all times and activities. Please be aware that sleeping or napping is considered an inappropriate behaviour in class. After an initial warning, students may be asked to leave the class.

Personal computers are welcome for note taking, however, navigating social media or using the computer for personal reasons during class time is prohibited. The instructor will warn students of inappropriate computer use. Continued use of computers other than note taking may result in a lowered participation grade.

Please also consider important notes on attendance, participation and assignments (as described in pertinent paragraphs).

4. METHOD

The course uses different learning strategies: lectures, multimedia material, class discussions, structured working groups, written assignments and oral presentations.

Participation plays a role in your final grade and this means that in this course asking questions, making comments appropriate to the topics discussed and the capacity to draw personal conclusions of your own, are central aspects of the teacher's evaluation.

All video material, the related assignments and class discussions, constitute an integral part of course requirements and will be discussed during a given class period. In order for the discussions to be meaningful, each student must come to class fully prepared to discuss the assigned reading and to make meaningful comments.

5. TEXT BOOK – FURTHER READINGS – INTERNET RESOURCES

TEXT BOOKS: The following textbook is required for the course:

Dickie J., *Cosa Nostra*, Hodder & Stoughton, 2004

The Textbook is pre-ordered and available at: Paperback Via Oche 4R. Reserve as soon as possible your copy as it might take a few days to have it and it is needed from the first week of the semester.

FURTHER COMPULSORY MATERIAL: The remaining part of the required readings are available online on the professor's ebox <http://vdolara.fua.it:40009/vdolara>

Each student must read the articles indicated in the syllabus and all the further material, handouts and notes that will be distributed during the semester for the successful completion of the course.

FURTHER RELEVANT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Arlacchi, P., *Men of Dishonour: Inside the Sicilian Mafia*, Morrow and Co., 1993.

Arlacchi, P., *Mafia Business: The Mafia Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism*, Verso, 1987.

Behan T., *Defiance, The story of the man who stood up to the Sicilian mafia*, Tauris & Co., 2008

Bolzoni A., *White shotgun: the Sicilian mafia in their own words*, Macmillan, 2013

Davis, J., *Mafia Dynasty*, Harper Collins, 1993.

Dickie J., *Cosa Nostra*, Hodder & Stoughton, 2004

Dickie J., *Mafia Republic: Italy's Criminal Curse. Cosa Nostra, 'Ndrangheta and Camorra from 1946 to the Present*, Sceptre, 2014

Dickie J., *Mafia Brotherhoods: I Camorra, mafia, 'ndrangheta: the rise of the Honoured Societies*, Sceptre, 2013

Duggan C., *Fascism and Mafia*, Yale University Press, 1989

Fentress J., *Rebels and mafiosi. Death in a Sicilian landscape*, Cornell University Press, 2000

Finckehauer J.O., *Mafia and Organized Crime*, One World Book, 2007

Follain J., *The last Godfathers*, Hodder & Stoughton, 2008

Gambetta, D., *The Sicilian Mafia*, Harvard University Press, 1993.

Glenny M., *McMafia*, Bodley Head, 2008

Hammer, R., *The Vatican Connection*, Holt, 1982.

Hess, H., *Mafia and Mafiosi*, N.Y. Press, 1998.

Jamieson A., *The Antimafia – Italy's Fight against Organised Crime*, St. Martin's Press, 2000.

Lewis, N., *The Honoured Society: The Sicilian Mafia Observed*, Eland, 2003.

Longrigg C., *Boss of bosses, A journey into the heart of Sicilian mafia*, Thomas Dunne Books, 2009

Longrigg C., *No Questions Asked: The Secret Life of Women in the Mob*, Miramax Books, 2009

Longrigg C., *Mafia women*, vintage Paperback, new ed. 1998

Lupo S., *History of the mafia*, Columbia University Press, 2009

Maran, *Mafia, inside the dark heart*, AGD Maran 2008

Murray J., *How Bernardo Provenzano saved the mafia*, 2008
 Nuzzi G., *Blood Ties : The 'Ndrangheta : Italy's New Mafia*, Pan, 2012
 Orlando L., *Fighting the mafia*, Encounter Book, 2001
 Paoli L., *Mafia brothers*, Oxford University Press, 2003
 Pickering-lazzi, *Mafia and outlaw stories. From Italian life to literature*, Univ. of Toronto Press, 2007
 Reppetto, T., *American Mafia – A History of Its Rise to Power*, Henry Holt, New York, 2004.
 Saviano R., *Gomorra*, McMillian, 2007
 Saviano R. & Hernan A., *Narcoland: the Mexican drug lords and their godfathers*, Verso Books, 2013
 Saviano R., *Zero Zero Zero*, Penguin Books, 2014
 Schneider & Schneider, *Reversible destiny*, University of California Press, 2003
 Santino U. & Dickie J., *Mafia and Antimafia: a history*, I.B. Tauris, 2014
 Schneider J., *Reversible destiny: Mafia, Antimafia and the struggle of Palermo*, Univ. California Press, 2003
 Stille A., *Excellent Cadavers*, Jonathan Cope Ed., 1995.
 Seindal, R. *Mafia, Money and Politics in Sicily 1950-1997*, Museum Tusculanum Press, 1998.
 Siebert. R., *Secrets of Life and Death: Women and the Mafia*, Verso Ed., 1996
 Varese F., *Mafias on the move: how organized crime conquers new territories*, Princeton Univ. Press, 2011

INTERNET RESOURCES

See the course addendum.

6. VISITS – TRIPS

N/A.

7. MATERIAL LIST

N/A.

8. ADDITIONAL FEES:

N/A.

9. EVALUATION – GRADING SYSTEM

Attendance	10%
Class Participation	10%
Home Assignments	15%
Midterm exam	20%
Final Exam	25%
Research Paper	20%

A = 93-100 %, A- = 90-92%, B+= 87-89%, B = 83-86%, B-=80-82%, C+ = 77-79%, C=73-76%, C-=70-72%, D = 60-69%, F= 0-59%, W = Official Withdrawal, W/F = Failure to withdraw by the designated date.

10. ATTENDANCE – PARTICIPATION

Academic integrity and mutual respect between instructor and student are central to our academic policies. This is reflected in the attendance policy.

Class attendance is mandatory and absence from class will negatively impact the final grade.

On the **second absence** your attendance and participation grade will be impacted. Please note that missing certain field trips may count for more than one absence.

On the **third absence** the instructor may lower the final grade by one letter grade. (Example: Final grade average 90% A - will become a B – on the grade report).

On the fourth absence you will receive an automatic failure.

Students with **excessive absences will be asked to withdraw with a W** (if before the deadline) or **leave the course with a WF**.

It is the student's responsibility to know how many absences they have in a course. If you are in doubt, talk to your instructor!

Late Arrival and Early Departure

Arriving late or departing early from class is not acceptable. Two late arrivals or early departures or a combination will result in an unexcused absence. Travel is not an exceptional circumstance.

Travel is NEVER an excuse for delays or absence from class.

Participation: A positive grade in participation will be the result of cooperation during group work, being responsible in class and completion of homework assignments.

11. EXAMS – PAPER

Note: *be aware that the date and time of the exams cannot be changed for any reason so organise your personal schedule accordingly.*

- Students are required to do the **assigned readings** for each lesson.

- **Home Assignments** aim at documenting your knowledge and understanding on specific aspects relating to the course topic and count for a **15%** of the final grade.

They have to be returned by the beginning of following class, printed or hand-written and they will be checked and discussed in class.

Please be aware that late assignments will not be accepted in any form and the related grade for that assignment will be F corresponding to 0 points. The text of the assignments is in the online course folder and the specific instructions will be given in class in their due time.

- There will be a **Midterm and a Final exam** consisting of essay and short questions on lectures and readings of the course-pack.

Format: both exams are divided in three sections:

Part I: *Short-answer* questions requiring students to answer with concise explanations of main ideas, key words and concepts, based on readings from the course-pack and lesson material;

Part II: *Essay questions* requiring a depth and width of analysis and not simply the description of factual occurrences.

Each correct and complete answer will be marked with the relevant points, summing up to 100 points in case of all perfect answers.

A complete answer consists in accurate and complete factual explanations, analysis or definitions, clear expression of personal opinions with appropriate language style, correct spelling and punctuation.

Part III - Matching questions, multiple choice, true/false questions

- **Research Paper counts for a 20%** of the final course grade.

The Research Paper is a **Group Research** (*to be realised in small groups of at least 3 students that need to be formed and communicated to the instructor by Lesson 4.*

Research is meant to discover information and explore ideas. The group work aims at stimulating creativity, the capacity to work well in teams and employing critical thinking skills.

Furthermore, it aims at assessing multiple viewpoints on potentially challenging juridical, historical or ethical issues. Working with teammates gives you the opportunity to consider and weigh alternative perspectives and opinions that you might not have considered working on your own.

The instructions for the Research Papers are in the attached course addendum.

The topic selected has to be communicated after the midterm break and see the addendum for the deadline of its submission. Research papers will be discussed in class.

See the specific detailed explanations in the course addendum.

12. LESSONS

Lesson 1 **Introduction to the course**

Lecture: **What is Mafia: characteristics and specificities; deconstructing the stereotypes**

Objective: Inform on the level, requirements, and main contents and practices of the course.
Define specific elements characterising mafia as compared to other criminal organisations

Reading assignments:

Umberto Santino, "Mafia and Mafia-type organisations in Italy"

René Seindal, "Background and Terminology", in *Mafia: Money and politics*, Univ. of Copenhagen Press

John Dickie, "Introduction", "Men of honour", "The so-called Maffia: how the mafia got his name", in *Cosa Nostra*

- Lesson 2 Lecture: **The main types of Mafia in Italy: Cosa Nostra, Camorra, 'Ndrangheta, Sacra Corona Unita: their internal structures and illegal traffics**
Objective: Illustrate the different internal structures and identify the specific criminal traffics
Reading assignments:
Renè Seindal, "The Mafia's business dealings", in *Mafia (...)*, cit.
Libera ed., "The Criminal Markets", in *Europe exists but also the mafias*
Umberto Santino, "From the mafia to transnational crime"
Summary on Drug and Human Trafficking
- Lesson 3 **The Social and cultural background of 'Ndrangheta and Camorra; The drug and waste trade: a global reality**
Objective: Analyse the social and cultural environment of these two mafia organisations and their role in these global criminal markets
Reading assignments:
Roberto Saviano, "Cocaine" in *Zero Zero Zero, 2013*, "Land of fires", "Hollywood", in *Gomorra*, 2002
ASSIGNMENT #1 - FOR NEXT WEEK
- Lesson 4 **DEADLINE FOR COMPOSITION OF RESEARCH PAPER GROUPS**
Lecture: **The roles inside the mafia: the so-called "Men of Honour" and Women**
Objective: Evaluate the relationships with the social and cultural environment of 'Ndrangheta and the relevance of gender inside the different types of Mafia
Reading assignments:
Giovanni Falcone, "Power" in *Men of Honour, selected pages*
Pino Arlacchi, "The behaviour of the mafioso" in *Mafia business*
Claire Longrigg, "Introduction", "The sins of the Mother", "Vendetta by law", in *Mafia Women*, London, Vintage, 1998
- Lesson 5 Lecture: **Mafia and Religion: the God of mafiosi and brave frontline priests**
Objective: Analyse the role of religion and of the Church in the mafia culture
Reading assignments:
Archibishop Pappalardo, "The need for antimafia pastoral", in *Culture of Lawfulness - The role of religious experiences*, The Sicilian Renaissance Institute, 2002
C. Scordato, "What model of Church to face the Mafia", in *ib.*
Mons. Di Cristina, "The Church moral condemnation of the Mafia and the Clergy's role in the Parish"
Roberto Saviano, "Don Peppe Diana", in *Gomorra*, cit.
ASSIGNMENT #2 - FOR NEXT WEEK
- Lesson 6 Lecture: **The origins of contemporary political connections to the mafia**
Review for Midterm Exam
Objective: Explain the historical and political roots of mafia organisations; clarify doubts on the content of the exam
Reading assignments:
Christopher Duggan, selected pages from *Mafia and Fascism*
Alexander Stille, selected pages from *Excellent cadavers*
Renè Seindal, "The political mafia", in *Mafia: Money and politics*, cit.
John Dickie, "Socialism, Fascism, Mafia", "War and rebirth", "God, concrete, heroin and Cosa Nostra", in *Cosa Nostra*
- Lesson 7 **MIDTERM EXAM**
- Lesson 8 No class - **Midterm Break**
- Lesson 9 **DEADLINE FOR TOPICS OF RESEARCH PAPER**
Lecture: **Law enforcement against the mafia; The first defeat of the Mafia: the Maxi-Trial and the Anti-Mafia Pool in Palermo**
Objective: Indicate and analyse the legal and judicial instruments to fight against the mafia
Reading assignments:
Law Enforcement in Italy and Europe against mafia and organised crime
John Dickie, "The first mafia war and its consequences", "Terra infidelium", in *Cosa Nostra*
ASSIGNMENT #3 - FOR NEXT WEEK

- Lesson 10 Lecture: **Denouncing the Mafia: The Antimafia of journalists and media**
Objective: Analyse the role of journalism and mass media in portraying and denouncing the mafia
Reading assignments:
 John Dickie, From "The origins of the second mafia war", in *Cosa Nostra*
 Umberto Santino, "Giuseppe Impastato: his actions, his murder, the investigation and the cover up"
ASSIGNMENT #4 - FOR NEXT WEEK
- Lesson 11 **The Antimafia of new generations: the fight against extortion of Addiopizzo and the ethical consumption**
Objective: Organise and present a research paper on a topic by choice, demonstrate effective communication and presentation skills.
 Analyse the relevance of extortion and the newest strategies against it
Reading assignments:
 John Dickie, From "Bombs and submersion", in *Cosa Nostra*
 Alison Jamieson, "The grass-root Antimafia", in *The Antimafia cit.*
- Lesson 12 Lecture: **The Antimafia of Culture: voices breaking the silence**
Objective: Organise and present a research paper on a topic by choice, demonstrate effective communication and presentation skills.
 Analyse the role of education to citizenship against the mafia
Reading assignments:
 Maurizio De Luca, "A way of taking side", in *Culture of Lawfulness, The role of Mass Media*, The Sicilian Renaissance Institute, 2002
 John Dickie, From "Ricotta cheese and ghosts", in *Cosa Nostra*
- Lesson 13 **DEADLINE FOR RESEARCH PAPERS**
 Lecture: **The role of civil society: The antimafia after the massacres in 1992-1993 Women against the Mafia, LIBERA**
Objective: Organise and present a research paper on a topic by choice, demonstrate effective communication and presentation skills.
 Analyse the role of civil society against the mafia
Reading assignments:
 R.Siebert, "Mothers, sisters and widows in mourning. Women alone" "Women of Men against the Mafia", in *Secrets of Life and Death – Women and the Mafia*, Verso, London, NY, 1996
 Alison Jamieson, "Introduction" and "The significance of 1992" "The political response", in *The Antimafia: Italy's Fight against Organised Crime*, New York, St. Martin Press, 2000
- Lesson 14 Lecture: **A culture of legality**
Review for Final Exam
Objective: Compare antimafia strategies analysed; clarify doubts on the content of the exam
Reading assignments:
 Leoluca Orlando, "From a culture of lawfulness to an economy of legality"
 Rita Borsellino, "In spite of everything. The popular Antimafia commitment in Sicily"
- Lesson 15 **FINAL EXAM (INCLUDING ASSIGNMENT #5)**

ALTERNATIVE LESSON

In the case of the instructor's absence, there will be the screening of a movie relating to some of the topics analysed in the course and students will have to fill a provided handout on the specific social aspects emerging from it, to be mandatory returned to the professor the following week.

Before Midterm: screening of the movie "Galantuomini", Edoardo Winspeare, 2008

After Midterm Break: screening of the movie "I'm not scared", Gabriele Salvatores, 2003