

# ITALY TODAY

## Ancient Glories, Modern Challenges

### Sociology/International Studies in Rome: Explore Florence, Naples, and Venice

Visit major political and economic institutions,  
museums, and churches.

Plus weekly Italian movie and cooking nights.

**WINTER QUARTER 2018 | January 3 - March 9, 2018**

**SOC 401/JSIS 488 - 15 Credits / Cost: 7,515**

**Professor Edgar Kiser**

#### **The Culture of Italy (5)**

Italy is justifiably known and loved for food, wine, art, and architecture. We will explore the historical evolution and contemporary varieties of each of these, both in class lectures, and in trips to museums, walks around the city, and dinners in restaurants. We will analyze the role of religion in Italian life, the importance of the family, changing gender roles, and the fascinating regional differences across Italy. Throughout the course, we will explore the many ways in which Italian culture has shaped and been shaped by Italian politics and economics.

#### **Politics and Society in Italy (5)**

The Italian political system is a product of its rich history. Thus we begin with the Roman Empire (and visits to the Coliseum and Forum), medieval city-states (and visits to Florence and Venice), the rise and decline of Fascism, and the birth of post-war democracy. Most of the quarter will focus on contemporary Italian politics, which should be especially interesting since we will be there during an election campaign.

#### **Economy and Society in Italy (5)**

The Italian economy went from the fastest growing in Europe after WWII to economic stagnation in the past couple of decades. We explore its turbulent history, trace the roots of its contemporary problems, and discuss a variety of proposals for economic reform. We will focus on the role of the EU and globalization, and on the causes and consequences of the economic differences in northern and southern Italy (and visit Venice in the north and Naples in the south).

The UW Rome Center is located in the vibrant Piazza Campo de' Fiori, one of the richest areas of Rome's historic center. Within a short walking distance are some of the most well-known and best-loved of Rome's many sites, including Piazza Navona, the Pantheon, the Colosseum and St. Peter's Basilica.



For more information and to apply: <http://tinyurl.com/l7zhmqx>

Visit our Facebook page: <https://tinyurl.com/lcdvn92>

Questions? Contact Professor Kiser at [kiser@uw.edu](mailto:kiser@uw.edu)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 15th, 2017**