ITALIAN FASCISM

This interdisciplinary course examines the dictatorship that ruled Italy between 1922 and 1943. We address the relationship between culture and politics, public and private; Fascist biopolitics; anti-Fascism; fascist colonialism and racism; the cult of Mussolini; and Fascist-era feminities and masculinities. We will combine secondary sources with readings of Fascist speeches and anti-Fascist novels, and viewings of newsreels and Fascist war films. The course is conducted in English, and most of the readings are in English.

Breakdown of Weekly Topics:

**Week 1:** Introduction

**Week 2:** Themes and Historiography
Griffin, “The Fascist Quest to Regenerate Time,” 3-12, 18-22
Ben-Ghiat, Fascist Modernities, 1-15
Horn, Social Bodies, 3-12

**Week 3:** Backgrounds and Origins
De Grand, Italian Fascism, 14-37
Campbell, “Vital Matters”
Marinetti, Mafarka the Futurist, intro and Chapter 1

**Week 4:** The 1920s: From Squadrist to the Police State
De Grand, 41-57, 71-77
Ben-Ghiat, Fascist Modernities, 17-37
Mussolini, “Speech of 3 January 1925”

**Week 5:** Fascist Biopolitics: Protecting and Regenerating the Race
Foucault, “Society Must be Defended,” 239-263 (March 17 1976 lecture)
Falasca-Zamponi, Fascist Spectacle, 120-125
Horn, Social Bodies, 18-34, 42-65
Mussolini, “The Ascension Speech” (1927)
Week 6:  Presentations on Luce newsreels (1920s or on population or youth).

Week 7:  Public and Private under Dictatorship
Peukert, *Inside Nazi Germany*, 236-242
Atkinson, “Totalitarianism and the Street in fascist Rome,”
Benadusi, “Private Life and Public Morals: Fascism and the ‘Problem’ of Homosexuality”
Film: *A Special Day*

Week 8:  Fascist Imperialism: Fantasies and Realities
Ben-Ghiai, *Fascist Modernities*, 123-135
Atkinson, “Embodied Resistance”
Barrera, “Mussolini’s Colonial Race Laws”

Week 9:  The Fascist Man
Martin, “Football and Fascism” 80-89, 91-97, 103-104
Landy, *Italian Film*, 309-314

Week 10:  The Fascist Woman
Horn, *Social Bodies*, 66-94
Lombardi-Diop, “Pioneering Female Modernity”
Paulicelli, *Fashion under Fascism*, 17-27

Week 11:  Axis culture: Autarchy and Anti-Semitism
Morgan, *Italian Fascism*, 179-187, 193-208
Ipsen, *Dictating Demography*, 184-194
“Manifesto of Race” (1938)

Week 12:  Anti-Fascism: the Silone Case
Leake, *The Re-invention of Ignazio Silone*, 3-13, 117-142
Silone, *Bread and Wine*

Week 13:  Generation F
Ben-Ghiai, *Fascist Modernities*, 157-159, 162-165
Re, “Fascist Theories of ‘Woman’,” 92--95

Week 14:  Class Presentations
See Visconti, *Ossessione*
Works Listed on Syllabus


Falasca-Zamponi, Simonetta. Fascist Spectacle (Berkeley, 1997).


Landy, Marcia. Italian Film (Cambridge, 2000).

Leake, Elizabeth. The Re-Invention of Ignazio Silone. (Toronto, 2003).


Morgan, Philip. Italian Fascism.


Spackman, Barbara. Fascist Virilities (Minneapolis, 1996).