

# ITAL 300g

SPRING 2025

# INVENTING MODERN ITALY

This course analyzes 20th-century Italian history, culture, and society by focusing on its specific literary, social, and political movements that contributed to the shaping of contemporary Italy. Through a multidisciplinary approach, this course will address a wide range of topics, such as Fascism and the Italian Resistance; the aesthetics and ideology of Futurism; the years of post-WWII reconstruction and consumerism; the origins and international legacy of Italian Neorealism; the rise of civil and political violence in the 1960s and the Anni di Piombo (Years of Lead) terrorism of the 1970s, and the challenges faced by 21st century Italy. In particular, we will examine the reasons for the formation of the Italian mafia, the tensions between the north and south of Italy, immigration and racism. Students will read a large selection of texts and genres, including novels, historical studies, literary critical essays, manifestos, and films.

**Professor Gian Maria Annovi**

**THIS COURSE CAN  
COUNTS TOWARD THE  
ITALIAN MAJOR OR  
MINOR AND CARRIES  
GE-B CREDIT.**

**Mon & Wed  
10:00-11:20PM  
WPH 201**

