

Contemporary Italian and European History

3 credits

Part B: Contemporary Italy in Europe: from boom to crises

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10 hours

DESCRIPTION:

This module aims at transporting students back to times of great expectations in Italy and in Europe in the late 1950s and guide them through increasingly troubled European waters, finally hitting the storm of contemporary financial crises and uncontrollable waves of immigration, landing in large numbers on Italian shores. Discussing selected readings, images, mediatised narratives, the role of the protagonist of the Italian/European story and of public opinion, this course will familiarize students with key moments in the history of Italy in Europe from the end of the 1950s to today. It will do so from the point of view of Lombardy, whose position close to the heart of the European Union makes it an extraordinary observatory – as well as being one of the most prosperous and competitive regions in Europe.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the end of this module students will be: 1) familiar with key moments of economic growth and economic/political crisis in Italy and Europe since the 1950s; 2) familiar with the impact of immigration waves from domestic South-North Italian migration in 1950s-1960s to inter-European and finally external migrations in the 1990s-2000s; 3) in control of basic skills of historical observation, description, analysis.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Selected readings lists and class materials will be provided for each lecture and discussion introduced and encouraged by teaching staff aiming at intense levels of class interactivity.

FINAL EVALUATION:

Final evaluation will be based on active participation in class and an assessed essay to be discussed during an oral exam.