COURSE DETAIL

ITALIAN CULTURE THROUGH THE MEDIA
Country Italy
Host Institution UC Center, Rome
Program(s) Made in Italy, Rome,Sociology in Rome,Communication Studies in Rome
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Film & Media Studies Communication
UCEAP Course Number 109
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title ITALIAN CULTURE THROUGH THE MEDIA
UCEAP Transcript Title ITAL CULTURE MEDIA
UCEAP Quarter Units 5.00
UCEAP Semester Units 3.30

Course Description

To what extent do stereotypes and prejudices affect the way we read and interpret news? How is wrong or inaccurate information conveyed, and how can we detect and contrast it? Is fake news a novelty of our time? This course examines the characteristics of the contemporary Italian media landscape in the light of some specific cultural traits of the country: attachment to family, distrust of institutional power, the influence (now in decline) of the Catholic Church, and the low propensity to read books and newspapers. The course analyzes historical moments where information, disinformation, and counter-information are closely intertwined, including the rumors after the fire of Rome under Nero; the anonymous epigrams of Pasquino and other "talking statues" in the 16th century as a reaction to papal censorship; the cause célèbre around a child, Edgardo Mortara, stolen in the mid-19th century from his Jewish family by the papal state; and will include moments from the last decades. The topics covered include the era of "Hollywood on the Tiber"; the media coverage of two cases between Italy and the US; the Islamophobia phenomenon; the long silence on the Italian colonial past finally broken thanks to Black Lives Matter protests; the controversies on vaccines; and the memes and the conspiracy theories related to the pandemic. Students research, discuss, and edit and produce texts, images, and audio and video materials on each topic within a simulated newsroom.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

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Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed 2021-2022

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