

Socio-Cultural Dynamics and Food Security
University of Georgia, Department of International Affairs

Course Instructor Information:

Dr. Erin Little

Little.erin@uga.edu

Email me or contact me in person if you would like to meet about any course-related activities.

Course Meeting Information:

Maymester 2023

Study Away - Firenze

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Italy provides a uniquely diverse case to expand an understanding of food security to other global contexts. We will be exploring how environmental, social, and cultural factors throughout different parts of the Italian peninsula frame patterns of food security, both within and outside of Italy.

The course will be divided into two sections. The first section will discuss the historical origins of food culture and related food security in a few of the distinctive regions of Italy - Rome, Tuscany, Naples, and Milan. The second section will explore how these historical origins are reflected in modern patterns of international and state development, with an emphasis on the Italian state.

ASSIGNMENTS

PRESENTATIONS

On the last day of courses, you will give a presentation connecting the facts and themes we have discussed in class to the broader context of global food security. Details will be provided prior to arriving in Italy.

SCAVENGER HUNT ACTIVITY

Once we arrive in Florence, you will receive a list of activities, sites, and challenges that you must document from throughout the city. We will discuss details and expectations regarding this assignment in more detail during class.

JOURNAL ENTRIES

You will have three prompts, available on eLC, to which you will write a 1-2 page journal entry. These entries are entirely written through your perspective - there are no wrong answers! All thoughtful responses will pass for this Pass/Fail grade. You may also include observations related to sites and excursions in Italy outside of Florence. All entries will be due on Wednesday, June 7th, at 11:59pm.

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION

The last 25% of your grade will be based on your attendance and active participation in class activities and discussion. Attendance is mandatory for all class sessions, unless an absence can be excused due to factors described in this syllabus.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance will be taken at the start of each class. Absences will only be excused for the following, discussed with me in advance: observance of a religious practice, documented (by a doctor or health clinic/hospital) sickness, or death of a relative or close friend. Due to the condensed nature of this course, attendance is mandatory for all class sessions.

GRADING POLICY

The breakdown of your grades and the scoring rubric for this course are below (P/F indicates a portion of your grade that is Pass/Fail):

25% - Attendance/Participation (P/F)

25% - Presentations

20% - Scavenger Hunt activity

30% - Journal Entries (3 entries, 10% each) (P/F)

94 to 100 – A

80 to 83 – B-

67 to 69 – D+

90 to 93 – A-

77 to 79 – C+

64 to 67 – D

87 to 89 – B+

74 to 77 – C

60 to 63 – D-

84 to 87 – B

70 to 73 – C-

59 and below – F

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

All readings or external materials to be familiar with prior to class will be made available on eLC before arrival in Italy.

Part 1: Origins of Italian Food Culture and Security

5/23 - Etrusca/ Tuscany

5/24 - Venice

5/25 - Rome

5/29 - Naples

5/30 – Puglia

Part 2: Reflections of Italian Food Culture and Security

5/31 - Italian unification

6/1 - 20th century development

6/5 - EU and Eurozone participation

6/6 - Food security in Italian art and media

6/7 - The Italian case in a global context

6/8 - Presentations

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

UGA Student Honor Code: "I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others." A Culture of Honesty, the University's policy and procedures for handling cases of suspected dishonesty, can be found the website of Office of Instruction. We expect that the Student Honor Code will guide your efforts in this course. A lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy does not explain a violation. Please direct any questions to the instructor.

COURSE POLICIES

The following is taken verbatim from the University Council: "The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary."

The following is taken verbatim from LINK: "In the absence of written authorization from the UGA Disability Resource Center, students may not make a visual or audio recording of any aspect of this course. Students who have a recording accommodation agree in writing that they:

- Will use the records only for personal academic use during the specific course.
- Understand that faculty members have copyright interest in their class lectures and that they agree not to infringe on this right in any way.
- Understand that the faculty member and students in the class have privacy rights and agree not to violate those rights by using recordings for any reason other than their own personal study.
- Will not release, digitally upload, broadcast, transcribe, or otherwise share all or any part of the recordings. They also agree that they not profit financially and will not allow others to benefit personally or financially from lecture recordings or other course materials.
- Will erase/delete all recordings at the end of the semester.
- Understand that violation of these terms may subject them to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct or subject them to liability under copyright laws."

FERPA STATEMENT

The following is taken verbatim from the Syllabus Checklist:

"The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) grants students certain information privacy rights. See the registrar's explanation. FERPA allows disclosure of directory information (name, address, telephone, email, date of birth, place of birth, major, activities, degrees, awards, prior schools), unless requested in a written letter to the registrar."

DISABILITY SERVICES

The following is taken verbatim from the Disability Resource Center:

"If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center. They can be reached by visiting Clark Howell Hall, calling 706-542-8719 (voice) or 706-542-8778 (TTY), or by visiting the Disability Resource Center"

The following is taken verbatim from the document of Syllabus Creation:

"Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment."

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESOURCES

The following is taken verbatim from the University Council:

"If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit the website of Student Care and Outreach. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.

UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services or crisis support. If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center. Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App."