

University of Rome Tor Vergata
Undergraduate Degree (B.A.) in Global Governance

Course Syllabus
Global Anthropolgy
6 CFU
Prof. Pietro Vereni

Learning Objectives

This course is a study of present Rome, its cultural complexity and diversity. It offers the students local perspectives on globalization as it offers global perspectives on the city of Rome. The intertwined processes of globalization and localization will be addressed via an in-depth study of Rome and the social, cultural, political, demographic and economic transformations the city is currently going through. From a more general perspective, the course will introduce the concept of “global cities” and discuss global city theory. The course will introduce Rome via a diversity of topical prisms: immigration, neighbourhood formations, ethnicity, tourism, popular culture, youth culture, religious identities, food and identity, etc. The course has an explicit aim to force students to recognize and valorise local particularities in a globalizing world, but also to understand these particularities less as relics of the past for the tourist to gaze at, and more like dynamic and ongoing adaptations to the centrifugal forces of globalization. Within this general frame, the course aims at training students to watch at Rome not only as a immobile city with a cherished past, but also a vivid location going towards its future.

In this respect a secondary aim of the course is to allow students to critically assess the economic theory of the global city and to integrate it with a more complex perspective based not only on economics, but also on political science, sociology and cultural anthropology, since cultural aspects of globalization are central to a city like Rome and more relevant to her current development than strictly economic factors.

The student will be asked to think about his or her own cultural backgrounds, to develop an analytic stance toward identity and power in the world today, to compare Rome to other urban settings in the World, and to learnedly discuss the global and local forces that shape their own lives.

Teaching Method

Each week, one lecture in class and one “on site visit”. So the course combines two teaching methodologies: lesson and fieldwork. Discussion in class will be used from time to time to check students’ reading work.

Main References

Course TEXTBOOK: I. Clough Marinaro and B. Thomassen (eds.), *The changing faces of the Eternal City*, Indiana University Press 2014. The book is a collection of essays on the impact of globalization on Rome and addresses all the main issues discussed in class and during the walking tours. Further material for discussion and reading may be handed to the students in class.

Attendance

Students are required to notify the professor on time (that is in advance) if they cannot attend a class/tour. Missing a tour is like missing a lesson, and missing any class/tour without a valid WRITTEN justification (EITHER BY A PHYSICIAN OR THE PROGRAMME DIRECTOR) will adversely affect the final grade in an altogether automatic way. The use of smart phones, ipods, ipads, computers or other electronic gadgets is forbidden during class time (including tours). It is the course policy that students just take pen/pencil and paper in class or during walking tours. Phone calls and text messages are allowed during tours for emergencies only.

Exam

Written finals in class.

Analytical Syllabus

Changes in course plan may occur and will be announced in class. A routinely updated online version of the plan shall be available to students as soon as they confirm their participation. See my blog at pierovereni.blogspot.com for update course plan.

Time	Agenda	hours	Total hours
CLAS S 1	Introduction to the course. The global city theory(part 1)	3	3
Class2	Introduction to the course. Global city theory (part 2)	3	6
Class3	Urban development	2	8
Tour 1	Walking tour of Pietralata and Nomentano	4	12
Class4	Globalization and History	2	14
Class5	Roman Muslims	2	16
Tour2	Visit to Grand Mosque of Rome	5	21
Class6	Global music in Rome	3	24
Tour3	Rap concert by roman bands	3	27
	MIDTERM IN CLASS		
Class7	Immigration and asylum in Rome	3	30
Tour4	Visit to the Joel Nafuma Refugee center	4	34
Class8	Squatting Rome	3	37
Tour5	On site visit to multiethnic squats in Rome	5	42
Class9	Diversity in religion	3	45

Tour6	On site visit to the Great Synagogue and the Jewish Quater	3	48
	FINALS IN CLASS		