New York University in Florence  
FAS Summer Program 2017  

Machiavelli

Cross listings: ITAL-UA 147, HIST-UA 123, MEDI-UA 147

Classroom: villa Ulivi and specified locations
Tue & Thurs. 9-12
Prof. Stefano Albertini <stefano.albertini@nyu.edu>
Office Hours: Tu. & Thu, 12-2, Villa Natalia

Week 1: (May 30) Florence, the Renaissance and the Medici
Screening of segments from *I Medici, L’arte del potere*, RAI Fiction Series, 2017, and *The Medici. Godfathers of the Renaissance*, a PBS documentary (2004) and Discussion:
Read Hibbert, Part I & II (chapters I-X)
Read Machiavelli from *The History of Florence*, pp. 548-571
Class visit: Palazzo Vecchio and Palazzo Medici Riccardi

Week 2: (June 6) The [unofficial] Rule of The Magnificent Lorenzo, Savonarola, the Republic and the return of the Medici
Screenings (same as week 1)
Read Machiavelli from *The History of Florence*, pp. 571-574
Read Hibbert, Part II (chapters XI-XIII) and Part III (chapters XIV-XIX)
Read Celenza, Chapter 1 (pp.4-30)
Class visit: Convent of San Marco

Week 3: (June 13) The Philosophical Context
Read Cox, Chapter 1, What, Where, When, Whose? (NYUClasses)

Review of the historical and philosophical part for the MIDTERM
Class activity: Tuesday, June 13, 8:30 p.m. La congiura, Firenze 1478 by Ritz Ortolani at the Opera di Firenze, Piazza Vittorio Gui 1

Week 4: (June 20) Meet Niccolò
June 20: Midterm Exam
Read Machiavelli selection from the Private Letters (pp. 53-76)
Read Celenza, Chapter 3, Interlude (pp. 57-64)

Week 5: (June 27) The Prince & The Discourses
Read Machiavelli, *The Discourses*, selection from Book I (pp. 167-287)
Read Celenza, Chapter 5 (pp. 102-133)

Read The Prince (whole book)
Read Celenza, Chapter 4 (pp. 65-101)
Class visit: s. Andrea in Percussina (Machiavelli’s estate and residence during his ‘exile’ from Florence)
Week 6: Literary Amusements?

Read Machiavelli, *The Mandrake Root* (pp.430-479)
Read Celenza, Chapter 6 (pp. 134-159)
Machiavelli’s Heritage and [Mis]fortunes from Gentilet to Tupac & students presentations

Required Texts:


Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Portable Machiavelli* (edited and translated by Peter Bondanella and Mark Musa), Penguin, 1979. You might want to use a different edition of Machiavelli’s writings but the reference to page numbers in this syllabus is to this edition.


Suggested Books:


Course Requirements:
Attendance is mandatory. All students are responsible for the assigned readings that will be discussed in class. Active participation in the discussions is appreciated and highly considered in the final evaluation of each student.

Evaluation
50% Final paper, 30% Midterm exams (History & Philosophy), 20% Participation