



Trinity College
HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

ROME CAMPUS

Urban and Global Rome 370

Trinity College - Rome Campus.

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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, neighborhood 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 valorize 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 an 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.

Thus the course is interdisciplinary, drawing on perspectives from anthropology, sociology, cultural studies, urban studies, political science, geography, economy and other relevant disciplines. As an exercise in urban studies, this implies to study Rome as a multi-faceted reality, consisting of multiple groups of people definable through different ethnic, religious and socio-economic criteria. Urban researchers and participants in local developments of the city will visit the class, either on campus or in the city. On site visits will introduce the students to alternative settings of Rome through first-hand experience, including meetings with local inhabitants, such as representatives of religious and ethnic minority groups.

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. In order to do that, students will write a 750-word-report every second walking tour (see below) where they compare the lived experience with the appropriate reading assigned before the tour.

Assessable learning objectives.

The course will enable the student to:

- Elaborate on the anthropological concept of “culture” within the urban frame
- Describe and analyze the twin processes of globalization and localization
- conceptualize cultural difference, multiculturalism and intercultural processes from a theoretical and practical perspective
- describe and analyze the multifaceted realities of the city of Rome
- demonstrate a basic knowledge of theoretical approaches in urban studies
- discuss the concept of the “global city” and critically assess recent global city theories
- present anthropological and sociological approaches to cultural difference, ethnicity, minority studies, racism.
- Become aware of the role of history and the past as sources for the present
- Register the new trend of global tourism and its severe impact on urban spaces.
- learnedly address ethical dimensions of globalization and discuss the challenges globalization processes pose to today’s society.

Course learning activities.

Here is the list of the students’ tasks for the course that are presented in this section.

1. Attend ALL classes and tours (active attendance)
2. Take notes from classes and tours
3. Study the assigned readings on a weekly basis
4. Write one special 2000-word report on Venice tour
5. Write four biweekly standard reports (750 words) on specific tours and readings.
6. Take the midterm exam on assigned readings and notes from lectures (including powerpoint presentations)
7. Compose a final report (4000-word essay or 10-minute video with 1,500-word script)
8. Present the final report in class during the final week.

Class discussions will be based on lectures by the Professor and presentations made by the Professor and by the students on the basis of joint readings. Anthropological, political science, economics, and sociological concepts of globalization, localization and glocalization will be addressed, and students will be expected to discuss these concepts and their application to Rome.

On site visits will require the students to attend classes at various locations in Rome where different kinds of citizens and minorities live and work and (sometimes) have their institutional base. After two tours students are expected to choose one tour and write a report (at least 750 words) recalling their experience and comparing it to the **assigned reading** they’ve done before the tour. Each report shall be posted to the professor by email not later than one week after each second tour.

There will be no final exam in class, but students are all required to submit a final report (in the form of an essay or documentary, see below) to be presented to their colleagues as a 10-minute presentation during the final week (more details in class).

REPORT EVALUATION. Since biweekly reports are very important for students' final grades, here are some guidelines.

Students can choose the style of their presentation as a 'diary' entry or a more formal 'essay' style.

Each report will be evaluated along three dimensions:

1. LINKAGE. That is students' capability to offer their own original interpretation of the link between readings and tours. **If a report has scanty or no reference to the assigned reading, it will be graded "C" at the maximum.**

2. INFORMATION. The more students include extra information that have been given by me or other people **during the tour and not included in the readings**, the higher the report will be graded; **If a report has scanty or no reference to the information gathered "on the field", it will be graded "C" at the maximum.**

3. ORIGINALITY. Students should present a sound **personal** perspective on their experience in terms of **original interpretation** (something that has not been noted/stressed/observed by others);

MIDTERM EVALUATION

For their Midterm exam students shall have to answer in class a set of open questions on the course topics presented in readings and lectures, with no need to connect them to the information gathered during the tours. In other words, the midterm exam is a "theoretical exam" to evaluate your **personal study** and **confrontation with the texts** (assigned readings and notes from class/field). Students will be evaluated according to the following aspects:

Consistency. Stay focused on the questions, do not try to answer proffering off-topic information, no matter how relevant in other contexts. If the question is "When did Columbus discover America?", do not begin by discussing the hypothesis that Vikings arrived on the shores of Northern America many centuries before the Italian explorer. The question is intended to check your knowledge about specific aspects and shall be evaluated according to your capability to stick to them. You'll have time and space to expand your perspective once you've given a straightforward answer. At first, be as coherent as possible, and leave your creativity, critics and commentaries for the second part of your answers.

Completeness. Be as detailed as possible when answering a question. If you're asked to report the names of the 7 dwarfs, it's a good idea you name them ALL and anything like "there's Dopey, Grumpy and some others" won't get a very high mark. I shall appreciate precision.

Identification. Especially when discussing theoretical points, try to refer to what specific authors have said comparing their views, instead of conflating everything under the general label "scholars". The more you are able to tell one scholar from the other, the higher your answer shall be evaluated.

Originality as your own way to say it. Try to be creative while discussing theoretical points. The same concept can be presented in very different ways. You'll find some of them in readings and lectures, but the more you are able to invent your own examples to present a known topic, the more your answers will be appreciated.

Originality as new issues. Any active readings and participation bring about new issues and themes. You shall be taught to connect some topics with others, but no professor shall ever be able to present all the possible facets of any given topic. While studying Urban & Global Rome you'll learn new things but you'll most likely notice issues, problems and aspects that you'll deem relevant although not sufficiently highlighted in class. Bring to the discussion and in your Midterms your original ideas and that will be highly appreciated.

FINAL REPORT EVALUATION

By the end of the Fall Break the students will have chosen with the teachers a topic to be developed in the second half of the semester for their final report, to be presented in the final week. The report shall be, alternatively, a written essay of **at least 4,000 words** or a **10-minute video with a script of at least 1,500 words**. Guidelines on how to compose the final report shall be presented and discussed in class in due

time. The report shall be evaluated on the basis of **originality** of analytical perspective and the **quality of the sources**, to be selected and discussed in advance with the teachers.

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT NOTE!!!

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 (BY A DOCTOR OR BY THE PROGRAMME DIRECTOR) will adversely affect the final grade WITH NO EXCEPTIONS. Relatives/friends visiting are NOT a proper justification to miss any class. You can instead invite your relatives/friends to participate in classes.**

The use of smartphones, ipods, ipads, computers or other electronic gadgets must be limited during class time (including tours) to taking written or visual notes. It is TC-RC policy that students do not use mobile devices for their private use in class or during walking tours. Phone calls and text messages are allowed during tours for emergencies only (and to get in touch with me if you get lost, of course...).

The course shall have its own social media softwares to share information, videos and images, for further documentation and as a data base for elaborating the final reports.

Evaluation breakdown:

Attendance, Participation and Presentations/Discussions: 30 %

Mid-term exam: 25 %

Tour Reports: 25 %

Final report: 20 %

PLEASE NOTE that, besides attendance, *participation* and *discussion* will strongly influence your final evaluation.

COURSE PLAN

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 they're taking U&G Rome. See my blog at pierovereni.blogspot.com for the update course plan

The list of assigned readings shall be available in pdf format online and downloadable by all U&G students with extra readings and links.

If not otherwise specified, assigned readings are chapters from the handbook: *Global Rome. Changing Faces of the Eternal City*, edited by Isabella Clough Marinaro and Bjørn Thomassen, Bloomington & Indianapolis, Indiana University Press, 2014.

WEEK 1 INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

MON September 9th - 6.00-7.15pm - General introduction to the topics and aims of the course.

THU September 12th - 10.00-11.15am - Discussion on assigned readings plus Documentary "Diversely Global Rome" by PIERO VERENI.

Reading for next class: ISABELLA CLOUGH MARINARO - BJØRN THOMASSEN "Into the City: The changing Faces of Rome" [Introduction: pp. 1-18]; BJØRN THOMASSEN - PIERO VERENI "Diversely Global Rome" [Chapter 1: pp. 21-34].

WEEK 2 THE GLOBAL CITY THEORY

MON September 16th 6.00-7.15pm - Lecture on Global City Theory.

THU September 19th PALERMO TRIP

Reading for next week: CARLO CELLAMARE "The Self-made City" [Chapter 13: pp. 205-218]

WEEK 3 POPULAR VS. MIDDLE CLASS ROME (PIETRALATA AND NOMENTANO)

MON September 23rd - 6.00-7.15pm - Discussion on assigned readings plus Rome: figures and changes. Lecture on Urban Development of the city of Rome

THU September 26th 9.30am-12.00. **WALKING TOUR:** Pietralata and Nomentano neighborhoods.

Reading for next week: TIZIANO SCARPA "Venice is a Fish" (available upon request at the library).

WEEK 4 VENICE

MON September 30th 6.00-7.15pm Movie: "Who creates Venice" by ELIA ROMANELLI and general information on the tour

THU October 3rd 10.30am-11.30 Venice tour briefing: the detailed plan for the tour will be presented in class but the tour is intended to show how globalization and localization intertwine in Venice.

FRI October 4th to Sunday 6th: VENICE TRIP (details in class)

Reading for next week: RUBA SALIH "Muslim women, fragmented secularism and the construction of interconnected 'publics' in Italy", 2009 [PDF File ONLINE FOLDER]

WEEK 5 MUSLIMS IN ROME

MON October 7th 6.00-7.15pm – Lecture on "Industrial Venice", Discussion on assigned readings plus Introduction to Muslims in Italy.

THU February 10th 9.30-12.00 **WALKING TOUR.** The Grand Mosque of Rome.

Reading for next week: FRANCESCA MODENA AND CONCETTA RONDINELLI, "Leaving home and housing prices. The experience of Italian youth emancipation" [PDF File ONLINE FOLDER]

WEEK 6 VADO VIA DA ROMA – VIRGILIO LICÉE VISIT AND ROMAN YOUTHS

Deadline to submit via email your **special report #1** on Week 4 tour to Venice (2000-word report).

MON October 14th 6.00-7-15pm Discussion on assigned readings plus Lecture: Youth Italian consuming culture

THU October 17th 9.30-12.30am **WALKING TOUR.** Virgilio Licée Visit.

Reading for next class: ARJUN APPADURAI (1996) "Disjuncture and Difference in the Global Cultural Economy", *Modernity at Large. Cultural Dimensions of Globalization*, Minneapolis, Minneapolis UP [PDF File ONLINE FOLDER].

WEEK 7 MIDTERM WEEK

MON October 21st **6pm Deadline** to submit via email your **report #2** on Week 3 (Pietralata/Nomentano) or Week 5 (Muslims) walking tour.

MON October 21st 6.00-7.30pm Lecture and discussion on Appadurai plus "What I'm expecting from the Midterm"

THU October 24th 16.00pm-17.30 **MIDTERM IN CLASS**

Reading for next week: PIERPAOLO MUDU "Where is Culture in Rome? Self-Managed Social Centers and the Right to Urban Space" [Chapter 16: pp. 246-264].

MONDAY 28th OCTOBER - SUNDAY 3rd NOVEMBER: FALL BREAK - NO CLASS

WEEK 8 ROMAN SQUATS AND COSMOPOLITANISM: PORTO FLUVIALE

MON November 4th 6.00-7.15pm Lecture on "Squatting and sharing the city"

THU November 7th 9.00am-12.00 - **WALKING TOUR** The multiethnic Squat of Porto Fluviale.

Readings for next week: ALESSANDRA BROCCOLINI "Torpignattara/Banglatown: Processes of Reurbanization and Rhetorics of Locality in a Suburb of Rome" [Chapter 5: pp. 81-98]; PIERO VERENI "Foreign Pupils, Bad Citizens. The Public Construction of Difference in a Roman School" [Chapter 6: pp. 99-113].

WEEK 9 IMMIGRATION AND INTEGRATION (TORPIGNATTARA)

MON November 11th **6pm Deadline** to submit via email your **report #3** on Week 6 (Roman youths) or Week 8 (Porto fluviale squat) walking tour.

MON November 11th 6.00-7.00pm - Discussion on assigned readings plus Lecture on Second Generation Italians.

THU November 14th 9.00am-12.30pm - **WALKING TOUR:** Torpignattara neighborhood and the Pisacane Elementary School.

Readings for next week: "Jubilee" (Wikipedia entry) and CHRISTOPHER HIBBERT "The Refuge of All the Nations" (1985); FABRETTI AND VERENI "When Homogeneity calls for Super-Diversity: Rome as a religious global city" (2016) [PDF FILES online folder].

WEEK 10 CATHOLICISM BETWEEN LOCAL AND GLOBAL

TUE November 18th 6.00-7.15pm Lecture “Catholicism, Globalization and Localization in Rome” +
Movie: *Non tacere*, by Fabio Grimaldi.

THU November 21th 9.00am-12.00. **WALKING TOUR** Divino Amore

Reading for next week: P. Vereni “The urban space between private and public”.

WEEK 11 PUBLIC VS. PRIVATE SPACE. EX SNIA LAKE

MON November 25th **6pm Deadline** to submit via email your **report #4** on Week 9 (Torpignattara) or
Week 10 (Catholicism)

MON November 25th 6.00-7.30pm Lecture on the assigned reading.

THU November 28th 9.30-12.00 **WALKING TOUR** Ex SNIA lake.

Reading for next week: SCOTT LERNER “Narrating over the Ghetto of Rome” (2002) [PDF File ONLINE FOLDER].

Week 12 THE JEWISH TRADITION (SYNAGOGUE AND JEWISH QUARTER)

MON December 2nd- 6.00-7.00pm Discussion on assigned reading and introduction on the coming tour

THU December 5th 10.00am-12.00 **WALKING TOUR**: The Synagogue and the Jewish quarter.

No assigned reading for last class

WEEK 13 GLOBAL ROME MUSIC (RAP CONCERT)

MON December 9th **6pm Deadline** to submit via email your **report #5** on Week 11 (Ex SNIA) or Week
12 (Synagogue and Jewish in Rome).

MON December 9th 6.00-7.00pm Lecture on rap music plus Movie: *Alisya in Wonderland*, by SIMONE
AMENDOLA

THU December 12th 10.30am-12.00 **RAP CONCERT AT THE CONVENT: Strikkinino and
MILITANT A perform for TC-RC.**

FINALS

MON December 16th (or THU 19th, to be confirmed) 10.00-12.30am: Presentation in class of final
reports.