

Learning Outcomes

- Analyse and evaluate the impact of relevant historical, societal, economic, and political events on Italian literary and cultural products throughout the centuries
- Demonstrate understandings of how objects/artefacts, places and symbols can reveal insights into Italian culture
- Think critically about collective identity issues related to political affiliation, religion, gender and sexuality, and context that enable us to make sense of a cultural product
- Investigate and describe cross-cultural issues through different debates and theoretical approaches
- Demonstrate an ability to research, organize and criticize a corpus of academic materials independently

PAGE	CONTENT	READINGS
2 6	MODULE 1: Places & Spaces Lesson 1: Cities & States Further material for Lesson 1: Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols	Martines, L., 'The Ascent of Communes', in <i>Power and Imagination: City-States in Renaissance Italy</i> , Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988, pp. 7-21. Waley, D. and T. Dean, 'Civic Spirit and the Visual arts' in <i>The Italian City Republics</i> , 4th Edition, London: Routledge, 2013.
8 14	Lesson 2: Birth of a Country & the Two Italies Further material for Lesson 2: Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols	Riall, L., (2009) "Risorgimento, Reform and Revolution" in <i>Risorgimento: the History of Italy from Napoleon to Nation State</i> , Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 1-37. Gribaudo, G. (1996), "Images of the South", in Forgacs and Lumley, eds., <i>Italian Cultural Studies: An Introduction</i> , Oxford: Oxford University Press, 72-88.
14 21 23	Lesson 3: The Linguistic Unification of Italy Further material for Lesson 3: Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols DISCUSSION 1: Q&A	Tosi, A. (2001) <i>Language and society in a changing Italy</i> . Bristol: Multilingual Matters, chapter 1, 'Language Planning and Language Change'. pp 1-7. Maiden, M. (1995) <i>A linguistic history of Italy</i> . London: Longman, from the <i>Introduction</i> , pp. 1-12.
23 27	MODULE 2: Identities Start Lesson 4: Faith & Religion Further material for Lesson 4: Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols	Peterson. D., 'Religion and the Church' in Najemy, J. (ed.) <i>Italy in the Age of the Renaissance 1300-1550</i> , Oxford: OUP, 2004 pp. pp 59-81. Kerzer, D. 'Religion and society 1789-1892' in Davis, A. (ed.) <i>Italy in the Nineteenth Century 1796-1900</i> , Oxford: OUP, 2000, pp. 181-203
28 37	Lesson 5: Migration & Language Further material for Lesson 5: see Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols	Castles, S. (1992) Italian migration and settlement since 1945. In Castles et als <i>Australia's Italians</i> . Sydney. Pp. 35-55. Rubino, A. (2017) Language dynamics among Italians in Australia. In M. Di Salvo & P. Moreno (eds) <i>Italian communities abroad: Multilingualism and migration</i> . Newcastle upon Tyne.pp. 49-73
37 43 43	Lesson 6: Family & Gender Further material for Lesson 6: see Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols DISCUSSION 2: Q&A	Mignone, Mario B., Chap. 11 "Family: Tradition and Change", in <i>Italy Today. Facing the Challenges of the New Millennium</i> (New York: Peter Lang, 2008). Passerini, Luisa, 'Gender Relations', in <i>Italian Cultural Studies. An Introduction</i> , ed D. Forgacs and R. Lumley (Oxford: OUP, 1996), pp. 144-159.

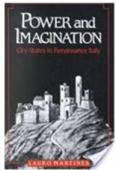
44	MODULE 3: Fractures Lesson 7: Language & Fascism	Kinder, J. (2000) Language policy. In G. Moliterno (ed) <i>Encyclopedia of contemporary Italian culture</i> . London: Rutledge. Pp. 320-322.
49	Further material for Lesson 7: see Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols	Tosi, A. (2001) <i>Language and society in a changing Italy</i> . Bristol: Multilingual Matters, chapter 1, 'Language Planning and Language Change'. pp 7-20.
49	Lesson 8: Youth & Rebellion	Ginsborg, P., "The era of collective action 1968-1973", in <i>A History of Contemporary Italy</i> , Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1990 39-71.
53	Further material for Lesson 8: see Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols	Hilwig, Stuart (2009) "The Case of Turin I: Defending the Ivory Tower" in <i>Italy and 1968: Youthful Unrest and Democratic Culture</i> . Springer, 2009, pp. 34-57.
53	Lesson 9: TV, Politics & Sport	Ginsborg, Paul, <i>Italy and Its Discontents 1980-2001</i> (London: Penguin, 2003), pp.108-119.
58	Further material for Lesson 9: see Images & Texts; Myths & Symbols	Ruggiero, Christian, "Forecasting in the Politics of Spectacle, From Berlusconi to Grillo: The Narrative of Impolite Politics", <i>Bulletin of Italian Politics</i> , Vol. 4, No. 2, 2012: 305-322
58	DISCUSSION 3: Q&A	

MODULE 1: Spaces & Places

- In this module you will learn about real and imagined places and spaces through which Italy has been represented and perceived throughout the ages.
- What is Italy?
- How do we need to understand its present geographical, cultural, linguistic and political spaces?

Lecture 1 - Cities and States in Early Modern Italy

Power & Imagination



"It is hard to summarize chaos, yet the narrative history of Italy in the eleventh and early twelfth centuries is a story of political wreckage and confused authority."

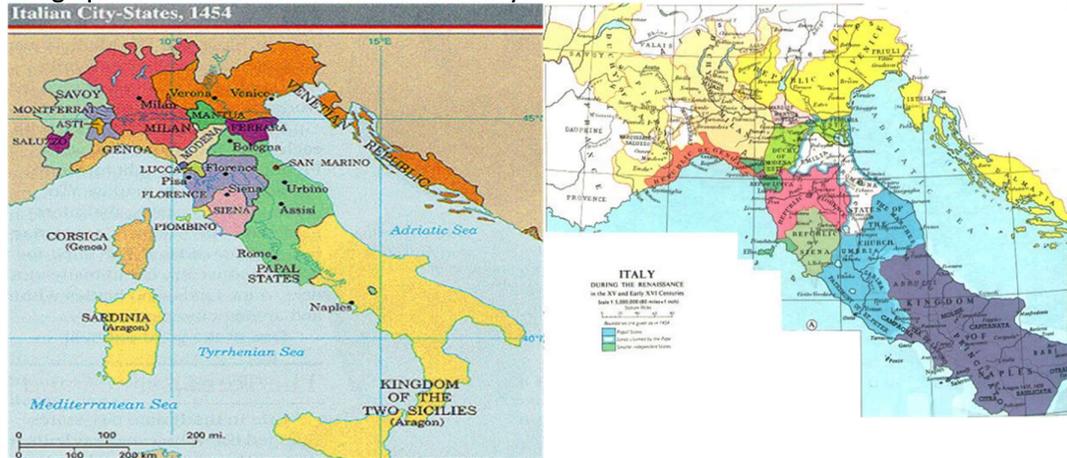
This describes the situation of Italy throughout the Middle ages and Renaissance and even after the Renaissance as chaos and fragmentation summarise the political situation in Italy.

Geographical Context in the Fourteenth Century



- ▶ The 14th century Italian peninsula is geographically unified but deeply fragmented politically and administratively.
- ▶ 1300-1360 map with a number of territories and cities from north to south, that present a complex situation.
- ▶ Yellow - states of Milan and Florence
- ▶ Purple - states and territories of Tuscany in central Italy
- ▶ Orange - kingdom of Naples
- ▶ Pink - Sardinia and Sicily
- ▶ Italy is not a unified state but rather a number of different states and cities living together.

Geographical Context in the Fifteenth and Early Sixteenth Centuries



Looking at the map of the same peninsula 2 centuries later we can see how the situation has changed in terms of the extensions of territories but is still fragmented.

Historical & Political Context

- ▶ Early Middle Ages ca. 476-100 CE
- ▶ High and Late Middle Ages ca. 1000-1492 CE
- ▶ Renaissance ca. 1492-1600 CE

One exception to the fragmentation is the political phenomenon that happened on the Christmas of the year 800 when Pope Leo III crowned the Frankish King Charlemagne as emperor of what was later as of the 14th century to be called the Sacrum Romanum Imperium (Holy Roman Empire), a diverse complex of territories of Central Europe which was meant to bring back the roman ideal of a unified empire in a deeply fragmented situation.

King Charlemagne and the idea of a Roman empire somewhat brought back to Italy a notion of unity that had not been known since the fall of the Roman empire.

Holy Roman Empire

However, this unified situation was not prevalent in Italy in the sense that Italy was still fragmented at this time although it was also ruled by the Emperor in the north.

The Italian City-States

So while the Holy Roman Empire was playing a stabilising role, especially in Northern and Central Europe, Italy during the Renaissance period was not a unified state but rather a collection of small states and city-states, each with its own ruler. The most notable were:

- ▶ The Visconti and the Sforza families in Milan
- ▶ The Doge in Venice
- ▶ The Gonzaga in Mantua
- ▶ The Doria family in Genoa
- ▶ The Este family in Ferrara
- ▶ The Medici family in Florence
- ▶ The Pope in Rome and the Papal States
 - the Pope ruled as a religious leader and as a monarch over the biggest part of central Italy

Foreign Influence on the Italian Peninsula

- To be added to the political and territorial fragmentation, foreign occupation was a constant in during this period of Italian history.



- Especially as of the early fourteenth century both the papacy and the Holy Roman Empire turned their attention away from Italy. The emperors concentrated on German affairs while the popes met increasing resistance as they were trying to assert their authority in Europe.

- It is also notable that for much of the fourteenth century the papacy was situated outside Italy, at Avignon, in southern France, creating a weakening situation for the papal authority.

- Simultaneous with the weakening of papal and imperial authority great intellectual changes took place in Italy. An intellectual revival, stimulated in part by the freer atmosphere of the cities and in part by the rediscovery of ancient Greek and Latin writings, gave rise to the humanist attitudes and ideas that formed the basis of what we now call the Italian Renaissance.

The constant conflicts between the cities created competition for each to architecturally, culturally and politically be better than each other.

The 'Signori' and the Birth of the Italian Renaissance

The signori in the 15th century ruled over cities as dictators, which brought about a significant change.

In the same period, many among the communal governments of the city-states fell under the rule of dictators known as "signori", who established hereditary rules. As noted before, the leading families at the time were, among others the Sforza in Milan, the Este in Ferrara, and the Medici in Florence. Although these families and their hereditary rulers subverted the political institutions of the communes, the signori (who became known as princes – principi –, with royal titles) were instrumental in advancing the cultural and civic life of Renaissance Italy, because they were using their power, their money and abilities to attract the best to the cities.

The Medici

To give just one meaningful example, under the patronage of the Medici Florence became one of the most magnificent and celebrated artistic and intellectual centres in Europe. During the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, Italian ideas and style influenced all of Europe.



Compulsory readings

Martines, L., (1988) "The Ascent of Communes", in *Power and Imagination: City-States in Renaissance Italy*, Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 7-21.

The Ascent of Communes

- Political chaos in Italy in the 11-12th century with authority being overturned
- Antipope Gregory VIII was led into Rome sitting backwards on a camel in disgrace
- 11th century kings, popes, bishops and feudal lords were murdered, physically assaulted or driven away
- Alrico bishop of Asti was cut down in full battle gear
- Power shifted from weak kings to feudal magnates to local magnates then cities
- With the end of the Carolingian kings, Italy turned to German kings who ruled over Germany, Italic Kingdom (upper Italy) and the Holy Roman Empire