Acts of public violence against individuals or groups were recurrent in 20th-century Italy and its colonies. The course examines four cases: colonial massacres 1911-39, massacres and executions on Italian soil 1944-45, domestic terrorism 1969-1982, and two waves of mafia killings in the 1980s and 1990s. The focus in each case is on violence as communication and on the inscription or erasure of these violent acts in Italy’s collective memory.