

Italy and Africa: History, Politics, Literature, Cinema & Media



Prof. Amara Lakhous
Tuesdays/Thursdays 12:30-1:45 pm

Geographically Italy and Africa are close, the distance between Sicily and Tunisia is only 90 miles, the length of the Strait of Sicily. However historically, socially, and politically, the real distance is much longer owing to extractive colonial histories, European politics that support African dictators and unequal development, the fear and exclusion of migrants, racism, war and violence, and other contemporary (and ancient) phenomena that have served to reinforce this false distance.

This course critically examines these questions about the history, present, and future of Italian (post)colonialism in both Africa and Italy. We will explore these different themes through various literary, cinematographic, and everyday narratives that bring the Africa-Italy connection into light.