

2017 Capstone in Southern Italy-Syllabus

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Journaling - I want you to document your experience in southern Italy by reflecting upon this course, your own life experiences, other classes taken at UNI, our prep course materials and your developing future. Everyone's journal (buy a sturdy one) will be different but should include:

1. Your name and school e-mail address 2. Numbered pages, 3. A table of contents (days, sites, essays, etc.), 4. Labeled and titled drawings are great. 5. Include specific ideas, concepts and interpretations from our prep-course presentations, readings, podcasts, in addition to our in-country discussions where relevant. 6. Try to keep your answers in chronological order, rather than following the order they are listed in this document. 7. Summaries - Daily and after each major location (Rome, Trapani, Catania, Lipari) 8. Use your journal entries to complete the daily discovery **Highly recommended - Before you leave for Italy...**

1. Complete 1 through 3
2. At the beginning of the journal - Create short one to two page summaries of the prep-course activities (The handout I provide, might work too). This will make it much easier to recall information that needs to be included in your observations and summaries while in Italy! Historically this is the hardest part of the class...
3. At the end of the journal create a common/useful Italian words/phrases and important phone numbers.

Critically think about the questions in this document and daily discovery pages while actively participating in our Italian/Sicilian adventure. Do not fall behind, ask questions and write often. Your writing should include: specific/detailed daily observations, interpretations linking daily observations with prep-course work (readings and videos), as well as reflections from your personal life, education, and developing career. This class is not about memorizing dates, facts, or quotes... This class is about providing you irreplaceable experiences that may facilitate your development into unique, passionate, thoughtful, and engaged citizens. Each journal and daily discovery page should be unique to you! This class is not about what I think, it is about giving you a chance to summarize your education and develop your own sense of values and ideals.

Big picture questions – Address these big picture questions when appropriate in your daily discovery pages, daily and major location summaries...

- A. What role does the environment play in your quality of life (health, financial status, spirituality, daily needs)?
- B. Environments change over time at various rates, minutes to millions of years. What challenges do changing environments present to humanity? Can we learn something from the Earth's history to better prepare ourselves for such changes? What are some of the hurdles we as a human race face when it comes to living with environmental problems? Any ideas on how

we might train ourselves and others to surpass these hurdles? Why do some civilizations succeed and others fail? Can the destruction of a civilization be a product of individual or collective human choices?

C. The environment is not the only variable that determines whether a civilization succeeds or fails. What are the other variables? What are the interrelationships between these other variables and environment?

D. How can digital technologies improve or degrade your quality of life?

E. What wicked problems are associated with our Environment, Technology, and Society? How can you use your life and career to help our civilization work through them?

Grading (>90 = A, > 80 = B, > 70 = C)

1. Second day in Rome Monday May 15, [Journals - Structure/organization of journal/Prep-Course Summaries/Italian numbers/phrases etc.] (20 points)
2. May 20, Trapani/Western Sicily, (Daily Discovery Pages – Rome, (20 points)
3. Second day in Lipari May 28, [Daily Discovery Pages - Western Sicily and Catania (40 pts)
4. Last two days in Lipari, May 30, (Journals, Daily Discovery Pages Lipari) (40 points)
5. Participation, positive attitude, helpfulness, general awesomeness (40 points)
6. Quiz (s) 2 @ 10 (20 points) During trip = 180 pts

The final (60 points)

Typed and e-mailed to chad.heinzel@uni.edu , no later than a week after we return from Italy.

1. A. With respect to Environment, Technology and Society/Culture make a list of the aspects you liked and another of the aspects you did not like. B. Comparing our four Italian/Sicilian locations (Rome, Western Sicily, Catania, Lipari), what advantages and disadvantages does each location possess regarding environmental sustainability?
2. A. With respect to question one, compare and contrast how what it is like to live in your hometown versus southern Italy?
B. How can you use your developing career and life to make positive contributions to our civilization?
C. Predict what obstacles you will encounter while working towards your societal contributions.
D. How will you work to overcome the obstacles you mentioned in question C?
3. A. In detail describe the most meaningful class discussion you had during the trip to Italy. How has it influenced the way think about life?
B. After spending time with your family and friends discussing your experiences ask them which one did they enjoy hearing and have them state why they found it most interesting/meaningful.
C. Describe five ways you plan to use your UNI education and/or experiences from this course to create positive changes in your local environments...
D. What should define a successful civilization? A sustainable environment? A meaningful career? And your happiness?

Pre-Trip Reading and Listening – I recommend taking notes over these items, so that you can easily write about and discuss them in during our course abroad. You could also bring them along... All posted on our class website

1. Wicked Problem reading
2. Xavier Le Pinchon 'Fragility and the Evolution of Humanity' Podcast
3. Jared Diamond – 'Collapse' handout
4. Archaeology paper from Western Sicily
5. Climate Change Convincing, Science Friday Podcast