Social Activism in Italy: Anti-Mafia & Anti-Corruption Movements (1 cr)

Rome. Sicily.

Instructor: Elena Fossa in Collaboration with LIBERA

The last decades in Italy have seen the birth of a vigorous “cultural revolution against the mafia,” a grassroots movement led by a network of youth and non-profit organizations across the country. This 3-week traveling course will investigate this revolution firsthand by studying and working directly with associations involved in bringing about social change in Italy. Through service-learning activities, workshops and instruction from professionals in the field, students will study various forms of resistance to organized crime and corruption in Italy with the objective of reflecting on issues of social justice and encouraging civil responsibility in the fight against criminal violence. Together with their instructors, students will travel to Sicily to participate in a service-learning camp organized by LIBERA, an organization which promotes social engagement and helps with the process of repurposing of properties confiscated from the mafia, during which students will help to restore and repurpose properties that have been confiscated from the mafia in Palermo. Working together with activists and volunteers will give students the unique opportunity to engage with the local context while providing them reflective educational experience in civic participation. The course will be organized in collaboration with LIBERA (Non Profit Organization) and Addiopizzo (“goodbye Pizzo”) Travel.

Application Deadline: MARCH 1, 2020

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