

Course: LS 819
Instructor: Sasha Colby
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Course Schedule: Zoom Seminars & Rome week
as scheduled in itinerary below

LS 819: Italy in the Ancient and Modern Imagination: Rome Food History Intensive

Leveraging some of the most popular aspects of recent GLS Italian travel study, this course will focus on the history, politics, economics, art-historical, religious and environmental contexts of Italian food history and food culture. The program will begin with 3 pre-departure Zoom seminars in April of 2025 and 3 Zoom seminars in September of 2025 to create a reading base, cohesive discussion group, and a refined sense of our own individual research topics. This preparation will culminate in an on-the-ground week in Rome October 1st to 8th, 2025. During our intensive and rigorous week in the field, we will participate in a wide variety of seminars, museum visits, historical walking tours, food tastings, and cooking workshops amplified by the knowledge of our Italian partners: food historian and restaurateur, Guido Farinelli, film and cultural critic Carolina Ciampaglia, archaeologist Mariella Mastrogiocomo, and art historians/museum guides specifically chosen to bring the vivid history of Rome to life.

Students will emerge with a detailed sense of Roman food and cultural history, a heightened feeling for the tensions between Italian tradition and modernity, and a profound understanding of the dinner plate as interdisciplinary nexus.

Reading List:

Butturini, Paula. *Keeping the Feast*. Riverhead Books, 2010.
Dickie, John. *Delizia: The Epic History of Italians and Their Food*. Atria, 2010.
James, Henry. *Daisy Miller*. Penguin, 2017.
Kirchwey, Karl, ed. *Poems of Rome*. Everyman's Library, 2018.
Marinetti, F.T. *The Futurist Cookbook*. Penguin, 2014.
Moyer-Nocchi, Karima. *Chewing the Fat: Italian Foodways from Fascism to Dolce Vita*. Medea, 2015.
Rimas, Andrew and Evan D.G. Fraser. *Empires of Food: Feast, Famine, and the Rise and Fall of Civilizations*. Atria Books, 2010.

Italian Films TBA

Excerpts and Short Readings available in Canvas Will include:

Igiaba Scego, "Sausages."

Excerpt from Dante, *The Inferno*

Translated excerpts from Guido Farinelli's books: *Ricotta: History, Legends, and Recipes* (2022) and *Subversives in the Tavern: History, Sites, and Recipes* (2024).

Walter Benjamin, "The Storyteller"