This course focuses primarily on the Italian mafia. The main text is John Dickie’s *Cosa Nostra: A History of the Sicilian Mafia* (that work does also explore some links to the US mafia). There are a series of supplemental readings, primarily short stories and fiction about the mafia. We also look at related areas of Italian “deep politics” (or Italy’s mysteries): Salvatore Giuliano, right and left wing terror and the strategy of tension, the Vatican banking scandal, and P2. Lecture and discussion are supplemented with assorted feature and documentary films. Students will complete a series of short written assignments and quizzes as well as “blue book” mid-term and final exams. The honors section will consist of four additional meetings (on Fridays 1:25-2:15), each one accompanied by an additional reading and short writing assignment.

*Carl Ipsen is professor of history at Indiana University where he has taught since 1994. He completed a Ph.D. in history and an MA in demography at the University of California and spent two years as a visiting professor at the Institute for Population Research in Rome. He has also done some teaching in Florence. He is a fellow of the American Academy in Rome and recipient of a Fulbright Award. His major publications include Dictating Demography: The Problem of Population in Fascist Italy* (*Cambridge 1996*) and *Italy in the Age of Pinocchio: Children and Danger in the Liberal Era* (*Palgrave Macmillan, 2006*). *He is currently writing a history of smoking in Italy.*