“The Fascists have taken over the government in Italy by a coup d’état. If they are able to stay in power, this is a historical event which has not only unpredictable consequences for Italy but for Europe also”. These words were written by the German diplomat Harry Graf Kessler on 29 October 1922 one day after Benito Mussolini’s ‘March on Rome’. Kessler was proven right: With Mussolini began the triumphal march of Fascism and the history of the ‘Fascist Challenges’ in Europe. The course will focus on the study of national and transnational cultures of Fascism and fascist networks in Europe, the range and consistency of their ideology, their internal cohesion, their potential for violence and destruction as well as their ideas about the future.

**Topics:** Hitler’s Germany; Mussolini’s Italy; Spanish Civil War; Fascist movements in Western and Eastern Europe; Fascist Culture and Sport; Fascist International; Racism and Anti-Semitism; Fascist Wars; Representation and Cult – The Fascist Leader; The ‘new men’ and the ‘new women’ and more.

Instructor: Tobias Hof
Hamilton Hall, Rm 509
tobi@email.unc.edu