

# ITAL 402 Italian Literature and Culture from Realism to Modernism

School of Languages & Cultures

Trimester 1 & 2 2009

30 Points

Please read through this material very carefully in the first week of the course, and refer to it regularly.

## STAFF

The Italian Programme of the School of Languages and Cultures (SLC) is located on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Floors of the Von Zedlitz (VZ) Building, Kelburn Parade. Staff Offices in the Italian Section are as follows:

VZ601	Dr. Claudia Bernardi claudia.bernardi@vuw.ac.nz	Lecturer	ph. 463 5646
VZ602	Dr Sarah (Sally) Hill sarah.hill@vuw.ac.nz	Senior Lecturer	ph. 463 5298
VZ504	Dr Marco Sonzogni marco.sonzogni@vuw.ac.nz	Programme Director & Senior Lecturer	ph. 463 6284
VZ607	Palmiro Sportoletti palmiro.sportoletti@vuw.ac.nz	Italian Government Lector	ph. 463 5974
VZ607	Sibilla Papparatti sibilla.paparatti@vuw.ac.nz	Tutor	ph. 463 5974
VZ610	Nina Cuccurullo (Nina is available from 8.15am to 4.15pm, Monday to Friday) nina.cuccurullo@vuw.ac.nz	Administrator	ph. 463 5293
SLC Co-ordinator for Students with Disabilities VZ613	Dr Richard Millington richard.millington@vuw.ac.nz		ph. 463 5976
SLC Co-ordinator for Maori and Pacific Students VZ613	Dr Richard Millington richard.millington@vuw.ac.nz		ph. 463 5976

The Course Co-ordinator and Lecturer for ITAL402 is Dr Marco Sonzogni. Marco is available for consultation on academic or administrative matters relating to the course on Monday and Tuesday 2pm-3pm. Alternative times can be arranged by phone or email.

## TRIMESTER DATES

The teaching dates for the first trimester are from Monday 2 March 2009 and ends on Friday 5 June 2009 with a mid-trimester break from Friday 10 April until Sunday 26 April. The second trimester starts on Monday 13 July and finishes on Friday 16 October with a mid-trimester break from Monday 24 August to Sunday 6 September. The study/examination period is from Monday 19 October to Saturday 14 November 2009.

## CLASS TIMES AND LOCATION

### Lecture

The two-hour class is held on Monday, 10.00am – 11.50am in VZ (Von Zedlitz) 504. Cellular phones and pagers should be switched off for the duration of all classes.

## COURSE CONTENT

ITAL402 is an advanced course in literary and cultural studies, examining a range of works by significant Italian cultural figures of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

ITAL402 is a full year, 30-point course for 400-level students of Italian. The course covers the most important aspects of Italian literature and culture in one of the most fertile, challenging, époque-making and innovating period: the 'transition' from Realism to Modernism, as reflected—in particular—in the works of Alessandro Manzoni, Giovanni Verga, Italo Svevo and Luigi Pirandello.

### Aims

The aims of this course are:

1. to enable students to gain a comprehensive knowledge of Italian literature and culture from Realism to Modernism through the lens of the texts studied in the course;
2. to extend students' ability to understand the textual and meta-textual dynamics of novel-writing and theatre-writing;
3. to enable students to expand their critical theory and textual analysis skills and encourage them to express themselves critically (both orally and in writing) about the texts studied in the course.

### Objectives

Upon completing the course successfully students will be able to:

- i. demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of Italian literature and culture from Realism to Modernism;
- ii. demonstrate a detailed knowledge of the texts studied in the course;
- iii. understand and comment, in both literary and linguistic terms, selected passages from the texts studied in the course.

## COURSE DELIVERY

This course is delivered through a lecture and tutorial a week. These are delivered together in a two-hour session in which we will explore issues of literary theory, linguistics, cultural studies and literary translation.

## EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Committee on Workloads and Assessment has laid down guidelines as to the number of hours per week which students are expected to devote to a course in order to maintain satisfactory progress. Students enrolling in a 400-level, full year, 30-point course should work on average 12 hours per week, including the 2 contact hours—i.e., in the case of ITAL402, 10 hours of private study outside class time.

## TEXTS

There are four set texts, available from Vicbooks, Student Union Building (other edition will also be accepted):

Alessandro Manzoni, *I promessi sposi*

Giovanni Verga, *I Malavoglia*

Italo Svevo, *La coscienza di Zeno*

Luigi Pirandello, *Sei personaggi in cerca d'autore*

## ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Assessment for ITAL402 is a combination of in-term assessment (60%) and a final three-hour examination (40%), as follows:

- i. 2 (1,500 word) essays (20% each);
- ii. 2 seminar presentation (10%);
- iii. 1 final three-hour written examination (40%).

The relevant dates for assessed work are detailed in the Course Programme.

## MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order complete ITAL402; students are required to do the following, unless specific exemptions have been agreed to:

- i. submit the two written essays by due dates;
- ii. do two seminar presentations on a date agreed with the lecturer;
- iii. sit the final written examination.

To pass ITAL402 students must meet the mandatory course requirements and achieve at least an average C over all assessments. Students who gain at least 50% of the course marks, but fail the course due to not satisfying a mandatory course requirement, will receive a K grade. Students who gain less than 50% will receive a D or an E grade, whether or not they have completed the mandatory course requirements. The relation of grades to percentages, for any work and for the course as a whole, is as follows: A+ (85-100%), A (80-84%), A- (75-79%), B+ (70-74%), B (65-69%), B- (60-64%), C+ (55-59%), C (50-54%), D (40-49%), E (0-39%).

## PRESENTATION OF ESSAYS

Tidy presentation of essays is essential. Work may be typed or neatly handwritten. Crossings-out indicate that a piece of work is still at draft stage. Allow space for correction: leave a 4-centimetre margin and write on alternate lines. Do not write in pencil. All essays must include a cover sheet either supplied or available from the SLC Reception, Von

Zedlitz (VZ) 610. Essays are to be handed in to the Italian assignment slot located to the left of the SLC Reception area. Corrected work will be handed out in class. If you do not collect work in class, you will be able to collect it from SLC Reception. All work not collected will be destroyed 3 months after the date of the final written test.

## **PENALTIES**

The due dates for the assignments given in the Course Programme must be adhered to. Although work may be accepted late in special circumstances, the Course Co-ordinator should always be contacted on or before the due dates if there is a problem.

The penalty for work presented late without prior approval is a 5% deduction per day. In addition, please note that up to a maximum of 5% may be deducted for poorly presented assignments.

## **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND STUDENT EVALUATIONS**

In the second week of lectures, staff will facilitate the election of a class representative for each lecture group. Student reps are a valuable means of communication between teaching staff and students. In addition students can approach any member of staff individually to talk about the course as a whole, any particular aspect of it, or their own individual progress.

At the end of the course students may be asked to fill out questionnaires prepared by the University's Teaching and Development Centre. These questionnaires relate either to the course, or to an individual lecturer's contribution. They are an important part of the University's accountability process, and the results are helpful in the University's attempts to maintain and raise the standards of the education it offers.

## **COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The Italian noticeboard is in the corridor outside the rooms (VZ503 and VZ504). Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students either via class, noticeboards, Blackboard, or email.

## **ITALIAN CLUB, STUDENT FACILITIES**

All students of Italian are encouraged to join the students' Italian Club and to participate in the cultural and social events organised. Room Von Zedlitz VZ603 is a *library* where Italian books, newspapers and magazines are available for borrowing and consultation.

## **LANGUAGE LEARNING CENTRE**

The Language Learning Centre (Level 0, von Zedlitz Building) facilitates independent learning and supports the teaching of languages. The LLC is a friendly and supportive environment where you can immerse yourself in language and culture through access to a variety of multimedia language resources: everything from print, audio, DVDs, comprehensive computer software and access to live satellite TV in several languages.

Enjoy the freedom to choose and direct your own learning: you select the materials and activities that you find interesting, which help you meet your needs and suit your learning style. Make time to study at the LLC regularly and you will reap the rewards of higher academic success.

Come and visit the centre at any time for advice and assistance, and to study. It is open year-round, with extended hours during university trimesters.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>.

This website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates.

## COURSE PROGRAMME

1	2 March	Introduction to course and introduction to Manzoni
2	9 March	Manzoni
3	16 March	Manzoni
4	23 March	Manzoni
5	30 March	Manzoni
6	6 April	Revision of Manzoni and <i>I promessi sposi</i>

**MID-TRIMESTER BREAK 13 APRIL 2008 – 26 APRIL 2009**

7	27 April	Introduction to Verga	
8	4 May	Verga	
9	11 May	Verga	
10	18 May	Verga	
11	25 May	Verga	<b>ESSAY ONE DUE FRIDAY 29 MAY, 5PM</b>
12	1 June	Revision of Verga and <i>I Malavoglia</i>	

**MID-YEAR BREAK 8 JUNE 2009 – 12 JULY 2009**

1	13 July	Introduction Svevo	
2	20 July	Svevo	
3	27 July	Svevo	
4	3 August	Svevo	
5	10 August	Svevo	
6	17 August	Revision of Svevo and <i>La coscienza di Zeno</i>	

**MID-TRIMESTER BREAK 24 AUGUST 2009 – 6 SEPTEMBER 2009**

7	7 September	Introduction to Pirandello	
8	14 September	Pirandello	
9	21 September	Pirandello	<b>ESSAY TWO DUE FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER, 5PM</b>
10	28 September	Pirandello	
11	5 October	Revision of Pirandello and <i>Il Fu Mattia Pascal</i>	
12	12 October	Revision of course	

**FINAL 3-HOUR WRITTEN EXAMINATION to be held during the Examination Period**

**(19 OCTOBER 2009 - 14 NOVEMBER 2009: date to be advised)**

**Seminar Presentations**

There will be ongoing seminar presentations worth a total of 20% of final mark.

