

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

**ITAL 235: FROM FASCISM TO FORZA ITALIA:
A CULTURAL HISTORY OF ITALY**

TRIMESTER 1 2011

28 February to 2 July 2011

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

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 28 February to 3 June 2011

Mid-trimester break: 18 April to 1 May 2011

Study week: 6-10 June 2011

Examination/Assessment period: 10 June to 2 July 2011

Please note students should be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator
and Lecturer:** Dr Sarah Hill
Office: vZ602
Phone: 463 5298
Email: sarah.hill@vuw.ac.nz

Contact details of other staff in the Italian Programme are as follows:

Lecturers : Dr Claudia Bernardi (on Research and Study Leave trimester 1)
Office : vZ601
Phone : 463 5646
Email: claudia.bernardi@vuw.ac.nz

Dr Marco Sonzogni
Office: vZ4504
Phone: 463 6284
Email: marco.sonzogni@vuw.ac.nz

Italian Government Lector: Delia Benazzo
Office: vZ607
Phone: 463 5974
Email: delia.benazzo@vuw.ac.nz

Tutors: Federica Balducci
Office: vZ603
Phone: 463 6875
Email: federica.balducci@vuw.ac.nz

Francesca Calamita
Office: vZ603
Phone: 463 6875
Email: francesca.calamita@vuw.ac.nz

Administrators: Lydia Wisheart – 463 5293 lydia.wisheart@vuw.ac.nz
Lancy Knott – 463 5318 lancy.knott@vuw.ac.nz
Tessa Seemann – 463 5635 tessa.seemann@vuw.ac.nz
Office: vZ610
Office hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Contact Person for Maori & Pacific students & Students with Disabilities: Dr Ross Woods
Office: vZ507
Phone: 463 5098
Email: ross.woods@vuw.ac.nz

The Course Coordinator for ITAL 235 is Dr Sarah (Sally) Hill (Italian Programme). The lecturers for ITAL 235 are Dr Sally Hill and Dr Giacomo Lichtner (History Programme). They are available for student consultation at the times indicated on their office doors.

Class times and locations

Lectures

Mondays and Wednesdays from 2.10pm-3.00pm in HM (Hugh Mackenzie) 003

Tutorial/Seminar (Oral Classes)

Wednesdays from 12noon-12.50pm in vZ (von Zedlitz) 710

In addition from week 2 onward, screenings of films will be held outside class times (see Course Programme and Contents). Please note that cellular phones and pagers should be switched off for the duration of all classes and screenings.

Course delivery

This course is delivered through two lectures and one tutorial per week. Students are also expected to see the film assigned for each week at the scheduled screening (Wednesdays, 5-7pm, Main Library AV Suite) or in their own time. The lectures will provide students with an overview of twentieth-century Italian history and culture by covering a wide range of cultural products, from historiography to literary works, from films to comics, television programmes and music. The tutorials will focus on a more detailed analysis of the films and texts in the original language, and on developing discussion skills. The tutorials require students' active participation in group discussion and discussion leadership.

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.

Course content

ITAL 235 is a first trimester 20-point course for 200-level students of Italian, taught in conjunction with HIST 238. This course is designed to introduce students to the social, political and cultural history of Italy in the 20th Century. Between 1922 and 2000, Italy underwent dramatic transformations, from dictatorship to

democracy and from a backward rural economy to a modern industrial one. This course will not only provide a survey of Italian history and culture in the 20th Century, but also pay particular attention to the changes that have affected the lives of most Italians over that period. Key issues will include: the transition from fascism to democracy; the development of consumerism; Italy's place in the world economy; social mobility; immigration and emigration; women's changing role in society; the relationship between popular culture and political power. Students will be encouraged to analyse in depth the contradictions that still characterise Italian society and question the extent to which, in the Italian case, change contains and conceals continuity.

Learning objectives

Aims

- (i) to explain key concepts of Italian history, culture, politics and society;
- (ii) to employ cultural sources alongside historical and historiographical sources;
- (iii) to engage critically with the role of popular culture in key issues of modern Italian history and society;
- (iv) to extend students' ability to understand a variety of Italian texts (fiction, poetry, theatre, and cinema);
- (v) to teach students basic 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 good knowledge and understanding of contemporary Italian history and culture;
- (ii) analyse these subjects from a variety of critical perspectives;
- (iii) select and organise relevant information from different sources, in both Italian and English;
- (iv) discuss the relevance of particular cultural and historical texts;
- (v) effectively present information and arguments related to the contents of the course in both oral and written form.

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 one trimester, 20-point course should work on average 13 hours per week, including the 3 contact hours – i.e., in the case of ITAL235, 10 hours of private study outside class time.

Readings

Essential texts: Course Readings will be provided via Blackboard. Students can print them for use in class or bring them with them on a laptop or other device.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 7 February to 11 March 2011, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of VicBooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from VicBooks on Level 3 of the Student Union Building. Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

The essays, seminar contributions and final written test relate to all five objectives specified in section under Aims and Objectives

ITAL235 will be assessed on the basis of:

- Two 1500-word essays, worth 30% each, due by 5 pm on 8 April and 3 June
- Seminar contributions: discussion leading + tutorial summaries, worth 5% each
- 1 final test (worth 30%)

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

Penalties

The due dates for the essays given in the Course Timetable must be adhered to. Although work may be accepted late in special circumstances, the Course Coordinator 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 essays.

Please note that no work for assessment will be accepted after 10 June.

Mandatory course requirements

In order to complete ITAL235, students are required to do the following, unless specific exemptions have been agreed to:

- I. submit the two written essays by the due dates (8 April and 3 June);
- II. post questions and lead a seminar discussion on a date agreed with the lecturer, post responses to the questions before class and hand in a one-page written summary of each discussion by the following Monday;
- III. sit the final written test;
- IV. attend at least 80% of the tutorial/seminar classes

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

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 available from 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.

Tests and impairments

Test dates given in the course timetable must be adhered to. You should always sit a test if humanly possible, obtaining a medical certificate if you wish to claim impairment. If you sit a test but believe your performance has been radically affected by some medical or other factor, inform the Course Coordinator immediately. If you fail the test you may be able to claim impairment. If you are unable to sit a test for severe medical, personal or family reasons, you should do everything possible to notify the Course Coordinator, if necessary through an Administrator, before the test, or to get a friend or family member to do so on your behalf. Only in cases of severe illness or other exceptionally difficult circumstances, which must normally be documented, can the Programme consider allowing students to sit a test at a different time from that indicated.

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.

Language Learning Centre (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) is Victoria's technology-rich, multimedia centre supporting independent language learning and teaching. At the Language Learning Centre you can:

- study at a time that suits you
- select the materials or activities that you find interesting
- meet your needs: match your level and learning style

Access a variety of multimedia language resources at the LLC: everything from print, audio materials, foreign language TV and DVDs to comprehensive computer software. The LLC provides access to your digital course material on a server. Drop by the centre to find out more about our services (Level 0 von Zedlitz Building).

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>

Where to find more detailed information

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspz (See Section C) .

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor(Academic) at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

Course Programme

Lecture Programme

Lecture	Date	Topic	Tests/Assessments
1.	28 February	Introduction to the Course (Dr Hill and Dr Lichtner)	
2.	2 March	Making Italy and Making Italians: 1861-1918 (Dr Lichtner)	
3.	7 March	Fascism I: Origins and Rise of the Movement (Dr Lichtner)	
4.	9 March	Italian Culture Under Fascism (Dr Hill)	
5.	14 March	Fascism II: Life and Fall of the Regime (Dr Lichtner)	
6.	16 March	War and Literature: Amato, Pavese and Levi (Dr Hill)	
7.	21 March	Civil War, National Unity: Italy, 1943-'48 (Dr Lichtner)	
8.	23 March	New Approaches to Reality: Italian Neo-Realism (Dr Hill)	
9.	28 March	USA-DC-Vatican: The Status Quo of the 1950s (Dr Lichtner)	
10.	30 March	The Americanization of Italian Culture (Dr Hill)	
11.	4 April	The Economic Miracle: 1958-1963 (Dr Lichtner)	
12.	6 April	La dolce vita? Cinema and the "Economic Miracle" (Dr Hill)	
			<u>8 April: Essay 1 due, 5pm</u>
13.	11 April	1968 (Dr Lichtner)	
14.	13 April	Pasolini (Dr Hill)	
MID-TRIMESTER BREAK [18 APRIL – 1 MAY]			
15.	2 May	A modern society? Italy in the 1970s (Dr Lichtner)	
16.	4 May	Italian Feminism: Franca Rame (Dr Hill)	
17.	9 May	Democracy Under Threat (Dr Lichtner)	
18.	11 May	Counter-Culture: Dario Fo's <i>Accidental Death of an Anarchist</i> (Dr Hill)	
19.	16 May	The End of the First Republic (Dr Lichtner)	
20.	18 May	Political Comedy After the Cold War: Nanni Moretti (Dr Hill)	
21.	23 May	A Second Republic? The Rise and Fall (and Rise?) of Silvio Berlusconi (Dr Lichtner)	
22.	25 May	Conclusion: Continuity and Change (Dr Hill and Dr Lichtner)	
23.	30 May	Last class	<u>Final Written Test</u>
			<u>3 June: Essay 2 due, 5pm</u>

Tutorial/Seminar Programme

You must sign up to lead a seminar discussion (worth 5% of final mark) by the end of the first week. Sign-up sheets will be posted on the Italian Programme Noticeboard on the 5th floor of the von Zedlitz (vZ) building. Students will also be expected to submit a brief summary of each week's discussion by Monday of the following week. Your summaries will be worth 5% of your final mark.

Discussion of Readings/Screenings

Each week from week 2 on at least one member of class will be expected to lead the discussion (in English or Italian) on one of the Italian texts or films. S/he will go through the readings and prepare a series of

discussion questions, which will be circulated to all class members the week before class via Blackboard. Other members of class will be expected to post a response by the day before class (at the latest) and come to class prepared to discuss the questions.

Students will be required to familiarise themselves with all the prescribed readings (available for download from Blackboard), but discussion will focus specifically on the Italian texts.

WEEK ONE: Meeting with Italian librarian Tony Quinn (VZ001)

WEEK TWO: Il Risorgimento

WEEK THREE: Blasetti's 1860 and Culture under Fascism

WEEK FOUR: Literature and Fascism, Literature and War

WEEK FIVE: Neorealism and the Transition to Democracy

WEEK SIX: Cultural responses to the consumer society

WEEK SEVEN: Fellini and *La dolce vita*

WEEK EIGHT: 1968 and Pier Paolo Pasolini

WEEK NINE: Italian Society in the 1970s: Feminism and Franca Rame

WEEK TEN: Threats to Democracy; *Morte accidentale di un anarchico*

WEEK ELEVEN: Revision Class (Wednesday 25 May) - ESSAY DUE FRIDAY 27 MAY

WEEK TWELVE: No Tutorial

PROJECTION OF FILMS

All films studied in this course will be available for private viewing in the Audio Visual Suite of the main Victoria University Library (level 9). Some are also available in the Language Learning Centre (VZ level 0). Screenings of the films are scheduled for the following dates on Wednesdays 3.30-5.30 pm, Main Library AV Suite [from week 2].

Date	Director	Film
Wednesday 9 March	Alessandro Blasetti	<i>1860</i> (1934)
Wednesday 16 March	Roberto Rossellini	<i>Roma città aperta</i> (1945)
Wednesday 23 March	Vittorio De Sica	<i>Ladri di biciclette</i> (1947)
Wednesday 30 March	Steno	<i>Un americano a Roma</i> (1954)
Wednesday 6 April	Federico Fellini	<i>La dolce vita</i> (1960)
Wednesday 13 April	Pier Paolo Pasolini	<i>La ricotta</i> (1963)
Wednesday 4 May	Marco Tullio Giordana	<i>I cento passi</i> (2000)
Wednesday 11 May	A. Horrocks & G. Richards	Dario Fo's <i>Accidental Death of an Anarchist</i> (1983)
Wednesday 18 May	Nanni Moretti	<i>Caro diario</i> (1993)
Wednesday 25 May	Paolo Sorrentino	<i>Il divo</i> (2008)