



SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

ITALIAN PROGRAMME ITAL 407 SPECIAL TOPIC: DANTE'S *INFERNO*

TRIMESTER 2 2011
11 July to 12 November 2011

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

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 11 July to 14 October 2011

Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2011

Study week: 17–21 October 2011

Examination/Assessment period: 21 October to 12 November 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 Claudia Bernardi
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School Administrator: Nina Cuccurullo
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Reception Hours: 9.00am-4.00pm

Contact Person for Maori & Pacific Island Students & Students with Disabilities: Dr Ross Woods
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The Course Coordinator and Lecturer for ITAL 407 is Dr Claudia Bernardi. The tutorials are also taught by Claudia Bernardi. Dr Bernardi's office hours are on Monday 12noon-1pm and Thursday 1-2pm, or by appointment.

Class times and locations

Lectures/ Seminar

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 2.10pm-3.00pm in vZ (von Zedlitz) 509

For a detailed schedule of lectures and seminars see the Course Programme.

Please also note that cellular phones and pagers should be switched off for the duration of all classes and tutorials.

Course delivery

This course is delivered through three lectures per week and seminars scheduled in the course programme.

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 Prescription

This course presents the first part of Dante's *Divine Comedy*, one of the most influential works of world literature, setting it in its late medieval context and discovering its powerful connections with Italian poetry, language, art and life today.

Learning objectives

The objectives of the course are as follows. Upon completing the course successfully you will be able to:

- (i) show a general knowledge of Dante's life, works and times;
- (ii) demonstrate a knowledge of Dante's *Inferno*;
- (iii) translate into English passages selected from the set cantos;
- (iv) paraphrase from medieval Italian into modern Italian passages from the set cantos; demonstrate a contextual knowledge of the biblical, classical, mythological and historical figures and events referred to in the set cantos;
- (v) appreciate and comment on the ideas, themes and style of the set cantos and of *Inferno* in general;
- (vi) develop a critical discussion of literary issues, both in spoken and written form.

Expected workload

The University Assessment Handbook 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 second trimester 400-level 30-point course should work on average 20 hours per week including contact hours - i.e., in the case of ITAL 407, 17 hours of private study outside class time.

Readings

Essential texts: Dante Alighieri, *The Divine Comedy of Dante Alighieri. Vol. 1. Inferno*, edited and translated by Robert M. Durling, with introduction and notes by Ronald L. Martinez and Robert M. Durling (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996).

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 4 to 22 July 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 4 of the Student Union Building.

You 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 nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available. Opening hours for vicbooks 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

Assessment for ITAL 407 is a combination of in-term assessment (60%) and a final 3-hour examination (40%), as follows:

- (i) 2 (2500-word) essays (20% each), of which at least one must be written in Italian;
- (ii) 1 seminar presentation (20%);
- (iii) 1 final three-hour written examination (40%).

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

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 21 October 2011.

Mandatory course requirements

In order to pass ITAL 407, students are required to do the following, unless specific exemptions have been agreed to:

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

Presentation of assignments

Tidy presentation of assignments 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 assignments must include a cover sheet available from the SLC Reception on the sixth floor of von Zedlitz (vZ610). Assignments are to be handed into the Italian assignment box located to the left of the SLC Reception area (vZ610). Corrected work will be handed out in class. If you do not collect your work in class, you will be able to collect it from the SLC Reception (vZ 610). All work not collected will be destroyed three months after the date of the final written test.

Please make sure to always keep a copy of any assignment you hand in.

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. Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of school to discuss how your courses are going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have.

Language Learning Centre (LLC)

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

At the LLC you can practise and extend your language learning. You can:

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

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: detailed instructions are in Blackboard on the LLC content page. Drop by the centre to find out more about our services, or check the website. LLC, Level 0 von Zedlitz Building, www.victoria.ac.nz/llc/

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.aspx (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/avcademic.

Course Programme

Week	Day	Lectures and Seminars	
1	11 July	Lecture 1:	Introduzione al corso
	13 July	Lecture 2:	Dante: vita e opere
2	18 July	Lecture 1:	Canto 1
	20 July	Lecture 2:	Canto 1 (continua)
	21 July	Library seminar: Library Seminar Room (RB307) -Level 3	
3	25 July	Lecture 1:	Canto 2
	27 July	Lecture 2:	Canto 2 (continua)
	28 July	Seminar 1	
4	1 August	Lecture 1:	Canto 3
	3 August	Lecture 2:	Canto 4
	4 August	Seminar 2	
5	8 August	Lecture 1:	Canto 5
	10 August	Lecture 2:	Canto 5 (continua)
	11 August	Seminar 3	
6	15 August	Lecture 1:	Canto 10
	17 August	Lecture 2:	Canto 10 (continua)
	18 August	Seminar 4	
MID-TRIMESTER BREAK (22 AUGUST 2011 - 4 SEPTEMBER 2011)			
7	5 September	Lecture 1:	Canto 13
	7 September	Lecture 2:	Canto 13 (continua)
Essay 1 due on Friday 9 September, 5 pm			
8	12 September	Lecture 1:	Canto 15
	14 September	Lecture 2:	Canto 15 (continua)
	15 September	Seminar 5	
9	19 September	Lecture 1:	Canto 17
	21 September	Lecture 2:	Canto 17 (continua)
	22 September	Seminar 6	
10	26 September	Lecture 1:	Canto 19
	28 September	Lecture 2:	Canto 19 (continua)
11	3 October	Lecture 1:	Canto 21
	5 October	Lecture 2:	Canto 21 (continua)
	6 October	Revision seminar	Exam preparation
12	10 October	Lecture 1:	Canto 26
	12 October	Lecture 2:	Canto 26 (continua)

Essay 2 due on Friday 14 October, 5 pm

FINAL WRITTEN EXAMINATION (40%) to be held during the
Examination period: 21 October to 12 November.

Date and time to be advised.