

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

ITAL 207 ITALY THROUGH FILM

TRIMESTER 1 2012
5 March to 4 July 2012

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 5 March to 8 June 2012

Mid-trimester break: 6–22 April 2012

Study week: 11–15 June 2012

Examination/Assessment Period: 15 June to 4 July 2012

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:

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Reception Hours: 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday

**Contact Person for Maori
& Pasifika Students:**

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Students with Disabilities:**

Dr Carolina Miranda

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Class times and locations

Lectures

There is one two-hour lecture per week, held at the following time:

Monday 1.10pm - 3.00pm in vZ (von Zedlitz) 509

Tutorial/Discussion class

Wednesday 1.10pm - 2.00pm in vZ (von Zedlitz) 509

Film screenings

Monday 4.10pm - 6.30pm in vZ (von Zedlitz) 003

Screenings of films are 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. Students who are unable to attend screenings must arrange to view the films in their own time at the Language Learning Centre on level 0 of the von Zedlitz building in time to prepare for the discussion classes.

Course delivery

This course is delivered through one two-hour lecture and one discussion class per week. Students are also expected to see the films assigned for each week, either at the scheduled screening or in their own time. The lectures will present different periods and aspects of contemporary Italian society through a study of selected films, focussing in particular on the question of Italian identity or identities and on issues of inclusion and exclusion. The discussion classes will focus on a more detailed critical analysis of the films (in the original language) and secondary sources, and on the development of discussion skills. The discussion classes 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 via class, noticeboards, Blackboard, or email.

Course prescription

This course presents different periods and aspects of contemporary Italian society through a study of selected films, accompanied by a range of related non-fictional material. Films and most texts are in Italian.

Course content

The course will examine definitions of "Italian-ness" by addressing the following themes: the idea of Italy, mythologies of WWII, the Resistance and post-fascism, women and Italian identity, modernisation and alienation, Italy and the myth of America, conflicted memories of fascism, terrorism, the Church, immigration, the mafia and crime, sexuality and gender, and representations of disability. In addition, we will consider how questions of centre vs periphery, *Paese vs paese* and language vs dialect inflect these themes.

Learning objectives

ITAL 207 is a one-semester, 20-point course for 200-level students of Italian.

Aims:

- (i) to introduce key themes in contemporary Italian society and culture through Italian cinema;
- (ii) to provide an overview of the history of Italian film in relation to these themes;
- (iii) to assess critically the relationship between Italian cinema and notions of what Italian identity includes or excludes;
- (iv) to extend students' ability to understand and analyse Italian films and secondary sources.

Objectives: Upon completing the course successfully, students should be able to:

- (i) demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of a number of significant twentieth-century Italian films;

- (ii) demonstrate a good understanding of the ways in which these films are embedded in their culture and society and how they reflect and/or challenge notions of “Italianness”;
- (iii) analyse the films from a variety of critical perspectives;
- (iv) select and organise relevant information from different sources, in both Italian and English;
- (v) effectively present information and arguments related to the contents of the course in both oral 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 one trimester, 20-point course should work on average 13 hours per week, including the 3 contact hours – i.e., in the case of ITAL 207, 10 hours of private study outside class time (including film viewing, reading, and discussion preparation).

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.

Assessment requirements

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

ITAL207 will be assessed on the basis of:

- Two 1500-word essays, worth 30% each, due by 5 pm on **Monday 23 April** and **Wednesday 30 May**
- Seminar contributions: discussion leading (worth 5%) and online discussion group contributions (worth 5%)
- One final written test (worth 30%)

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

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 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 assignments.

Please note that no work for assessment will be accepted after 15 June.

Mandatory course requirements

In order to pass in the course ITAL 207, students are required to do the following, unless specific exemptions have been agreed to:

- I. submit the two written essays by the due dates (23 April and 30 May);
- II. create and post one set of discussion questions on Blackboard and lead the related seminar discussion (including writing up and submitting the discussion summary) on a date agreed with the lecturer;
- III. post responses each week to the Blackboard discussion questions by the Tuesday before discussion class;
- IV. sit the final written test;
- V. 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. 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.

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 slot 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 (vZ610). All work not collected will be destroyed three months after the date of the final written test.

Tests and impairments

The dates of the tests given in the Course Programme 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 Co-ordinator 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 the 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.

Language Learning Centre (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) is Victoria's technology-rich, multimedia centre supporting 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
- study with resources that match your language level and learning style
- find a welcoming environment with services and events, and onsite assistance and support for languages

Access a variety of multimedia language resources at the LLC: everything from print, audio materials, foreign language TV and DVDs to language-learning software.

The LLC provides access to your digital course material on a server, and instructions are given during LLC orientations. The Blackboard site for most language courses has an LLC content-page for your reference, with web links, LLC Guides, resource lists, etc.

Drop by the centre to find out more, or visit 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 as well as 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/avcacademic.

Course programme

Week	Starting	Lecture	Film/Discussion	Assessment
1	5 March	Ideas of Italy	<i>Il gattopardo</i>	
2	12 March	Mythologies of WWII, the Resistance and post-fascism	<i>Paisà</i>	13 March: Blackboard response
3	19 March	Mothers of Italy: Women and Italian Identity	<i>Mamma Roma</i>	20 March: Blackboard response
4	26 March	Modernisation and Alienation	<i>L’eclisse</i>	27 March: Blackboard response
5	2 April	Italy and the Myth of America	<i>C’era una volta il West</i>	3 April: Blackboard response
MID-TRIMESTER BREAK: 6 APRIL – 22 APRIL				
6	23 April	Italy’s Conflicted Memories	<i>Amarcord</i> Anzac Day – no class	23 April: Essay 1 due, 5 pm
7	30 April	Terrorism	<i>Buongiorno, notte</i>	1 May: Blackboard response
8.	7 May	Religion	<i>Habemus papam</i>	8 May: Blackboard response

9.	14 May	Immigration	<i>L'assedio</i>	15 May: Blackboard response
10.	21 May	Mafia and Crime	<i>Le conseguenze dell'amore</i>	22 May: Blackboard response
11.	28 May	Sexuality and Gender	<i>Le fate ignoranti</i>	29 May: Blackboard response 30 May Essay 2 due, 5 pm
12.	4 June	Queen's Birthday – no class	Final Test	6 June: Final In- Class Test

Film Screenings:

All films will be shown on Mondays in vZ 003 (Language Learning Centre) from 4.10pm-6.30 pm. If you cannot attend, please be sure to book a time at the Language Learning Centre to see the films on your own in plenty of time to prepare for the discussion class and submit your responses to the questions on Blackboard.

5 March	Luchino Visconti	<i>Il gattopardo</i> (1963, 187 min.)
12 March	Roberto Rossellini	<i>Paisà</i> (1946, 120 min.)
19 March	Pier Paolo Pasolini	<i>Mamma Roma</i> (1962, 110 min.)
26 March	Michelangelo Antonioni	<i>L'eclisse</i> (1962, 121 min.)
2 April	Sergio Leone	<i>C'era una volta il West</i> (1968, 159 min.)
23 April	Federico Fellini	<i>Amarcord</i> (1973, 118 min.)
30 April	Marco Bellocchio	<i>Buongiorno, notte</i> (2003, 105 min.)
7 May	Nanni Moretti	<i>Habemus papam</i> (2011, 102 min.)
14 May	Bernardo Bertolucci	<i>L'assedio</i> (1998, 93 min.)
21 May	Paolo Sorrentino	<i>Le conseguenze dell'amore</i> (2004, 100 min.)
28 May	Ferzan Özpetek	<i>Le fate ignoranti</i> (2001, 106 min.)

A list of additional recommended films is provided with the reading list.