



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

ITALIAN PROGRAMME ITAL 207 ITALY THROUGH FILM 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures and tutorial/discussion class

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays 11.00am - 11.50am in vZ (von Zedlitz) 509

Film screenings

Mondays 5.10pm in HM (Hugh Mackenzie) LT104

Screenings of films are held outside class times (see Course Programme and Contents). Please note that mobile phones 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.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator and Senior Lecturer:

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School Office hours: 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday

Contact Person for Māori and Pasifika Students: Dr Carolina Miranda
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School Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/slc

Communication of additional information

The Italian noticeboard is in the corridor outside the rooms VZ614 and VZ615. Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students either via class, noticeboards, Blackboard, or email.

Prescription

This course presents key themes in contemporary Italian society through a study of selected films and related primary and secondary sources. It offers an overview of the history of one of the world's greatest national cinema traditions and asks students to assess critically how Italian cinema represents Italian society and culture and contributes to definitions of "Italian-ness". Locating the films in the context of Italy's rich cultural heritage, it provides insights into questions of cultural identity and relates them to important aspects of Italy's visual, narrative and poetic traditions. Films are in Italian with English subtitles.

Course content

The course will examine definitions of "Italian-ness" and what it includes or excludes by addressing the following themes: the idea of Italy, post-WWII Italy, women and Italian identity, modernisation and alienation, Italy and the myth of America, conflicted memories of fascism, terrorism, the Church, immigration, mafias and crime, masculinity and beauty. In addition, we will consider how issues such as centre vs periphery, *Paese vs paese* and language vs dialect inflect these themes.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

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

Objectives: Students who pass this course should be able to:

- (i) demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of a number of significant 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.

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.
- (v)

Teaching format

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 (viewed 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.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students are required to do the following, unless specific exemptions have been agreed to:

1. submit an outline and bibliography for each essay by the due dates (2 April and 24 April)
2. submit the two written essays by the due dates (24 April and 29 May);
3. 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;
4. post responses each week to the Blackboard discussion questions by the Sunday before discussion class;
5. sit the final written test;
6. attend at least 80% of the tutorial/seminar classes.

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 16 hours per week, including the 3 contact hours – i.e., in the case of ITAL 207, 13 hours of private study outside class time (including film viewing, reading, and discussion/assignment preparation). This adds up to a rough total of 200 hours, including 24 hours of lectures, 11 hours of tutorial/seminar classes and 30 hours of film viewing over the trimester. Of the remaining 135 hours, approximately 55 hours (about 5 hrs per week) should be spent on reading and review (both general and test-specific), with the remaining 80 hours devoted to individual assessment items (see below). Please note that some students will find they need to do more than this, especially if they are aiming to achieve high grades.

Assessment

ITAL 207 is 100% internally assessed.

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Essay 1 outline and bibliography (2-3 pages; at least 4 hours)	2.5%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	2 April 4pm
2	Essay 1 (1,500 words; at least 22 hours)	30%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	24 April 4pm
3	Essay 2 outline and bibliography (2-3 pages; at least 4 hours)	2.5%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	16 May 4 pm
4	Essay 2 (1,500 words; at least 22 hours)	30%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	30 May 4pm
5	Seminar contributions: discussion questions and leadership (at least 4 hours preparation)	5%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Sign up for a slot
6	Online discussion group (at least half an hour a week)	5%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Each week by Sunday 5pm
7	Test (at least 20 hours of specific test preparation)	25%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	3 June in class

Submission and return of work

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 School of Languages and Cultures (SLC) office on the 6th floor of Von Zedlitz (vZ610). Assignments are to be handed into the Italian assignment slot located to the left of the SLC Office (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 Office (vZ610) between the hours of 10am and 2pm each day. A Student ID card will need to be shown to collect work.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

The due dates for the assignments given in the Course Programme must be adhered to. Although extensions will be considered on the grounds of exceptional personal circumstances or workload pressure (such as having three or four major pieces of work due in a short period with insufficient time over the trimester to adequately manage them), the Course Coordinator must always be contacted before the due dates if there is a problem.

Penalties

The penalty for work presented late without prior approval is a 5% deduction per day (taking each individual piece of assessment as 100%). 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 12 June.

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 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 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.

Set texts

Course Readings are provided via Blackboard. Students can print them for use in class or bring them with them on a laptop or other device.

Recommended reading

Peter Bondanella, *A History of Italian Cinema* (London and New York: Continuum, 2011). Additional recommended reading is provided via Blackboard.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how the course is going and to raise any

concerns or suggestions that they may have. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the VUWSA website: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Student feedback

Response to feedback for this course, including any changes introduced as a result, will be discussed in class or delivered via Blackboard.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Language Learning Centre (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) is the University's technology-rich, multimedia centre supporting language learning.

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

- Find materials to support your language studies, including dictionaries, textbooks and graded readers.
- Study independently using language learning software, audio material and DVDs.
- Find a welcoming environment with services and events, and onsite assistance and support for languages
- Become a Language Buddy or find a conversation group.

Visit the LLC on Level 0, von Zedlitz Building and take a look at our website www.victoria.ac.nz/llc.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Course programme				
Week	Starting	Lecture	Film	Assessment
1	2 March	Ideas of Italy	<i>Il gattopardo</i>	8 March: Blackboard response
2	9 March	The Post-War Landscape	<i>Ladri di biciclette</i>	15 March: Blackboard response
3	16 March	Mothers of Italy: Women and Italian Identity	<i>Mamma Roma</i>	22 March: Blackboard response
4	26 March	Modernity, Celebrity and Alienation	<i>La dolce vita</i>	29 March: Blackboard response
5	30 March	Italy and the Myth of America	<i>C'era una volta il West</i>	2 April: Essay 1 outline due 19 April: Blackboard response
MID TRIMESTER BREAK: 3 APRIL – 19 APRIL				
6	20 April	Italy's Conflicted Memories	<i>1900</i>	24 April: Essay 1 due, 4 pm
7	28 April	Terrorism	<i>Buongiorno, notte</i>	3 May: Blackboard response
8.	4 May	Religion	<i>Habemus papam</i>	10 May: Blackboard response
9.	11 May	Immigration	<i>Io sono Li</i>	15 May: Essay 2 outline due 17 May: Blackboard response
10.	18 May	Mafias and Crime	<i>Gomorra</i>	24 May: Blackboard response
11.	25 May	Masculinity, Beauty and Decline	<i>La grande bellezza</i>	31 May: Blackboard response 29 May Essay 2 due, 4 pm
12.	1 June 2 June 3 June	Queen's Birthday – no class Revision class	Final Test	3 June: Final In- Class Test

Film Screenings:

All films will be shown on Mondays in HM (Hugh Mackenzie) LT104 at 5.10pm. 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.

2 March	Luchino Visconti	<i>Il gattopardo</i> (1963, 187 min.)
9 March	Vittorio De Sica	<i>Ladri di biciclette</i> (1948, 93 min.)
16 March	Pier Paolo Pasolini	<i>Mamma Roma</i> (1962, 110 min.)
23 March	Federico Fellini	<i>La dolce vita</i> (1960, 174 min.)
30 March	Sergio Leone	<i>C'era una volta il West</i> (1968, 159 min.)
20 April	Bernardo Bertolucci	<i>1900</i> (1976, 317 min.)
Tues 28 April	Marco Bellocchio	<i>Buongiorno, notte</i> (2003, 105 min.)
4 May	Nanni Moretti	<i>Habemus papam</i> (2011, 102 min.)
11 May	Andrea Segre	<i>Io sono Li</i> (2011, 100 min.)
18 May	Matteo Garrone	<i>Gomorra</i> (2008, 137 min.)
25 May	Paolo Sorrentino	<i>La grande bellezza</i> (2013, 142 min.)

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