



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES**

**ITALIAN PROGRAMME
ITAL 407 SPECIAL TOPIC: DANTE
30 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Trimester dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due:

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.

Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator
and Lecturer:**

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School Office Hours: 9.00am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday

**Contact Person for Māori
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The Course Coordinator and Lecturer for ITAL 407 is Dr Claudia Bernardi is available for student consultation on Monday 2-3pm and on Wednesday 1-2pm. Alternative times can be arranged by phone or email.

Class times and locations

Lectures and seminar

Mondays 11.00am – 11.50am in VZ (von Zedlitz) 509

Wednesdays 11.00am – 12.50pm in VZ (von Zedlitz) 506

Cell phones should be switched off for the duration of all classes.

Communication of additional information

The Italian noticeboard is in the corridor outside rooms vZ613 and vZ615. Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students either via class, noticeboards, Blackboard, or email.

Course prescription

This course presents Dante's writings, with a focus on the Divine Comedy, a masterpiece of world literature. A close reading of *Inferno* will be discussed in relation to Dante's work in general, his historical context, and his contribution to the development of Italian language and literature.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. show a good knowledge of Dante's life, works and times; demonstrate a superior knowledge of Dante's *Inferno*;
2. translate into English passages selected from the set cantos; paraphrase from medieval Italian into modern Italian passages from the set cantos;
3. demonstrate a contextual knowledge of the biblical, classical, mythological and historical figures and events referred to in the set cantos;
4. appreciate and comment critically on the ideas, themes and style of the set cantos and of *Inferno* in general, in both spoken and written form.

Teaching format

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

Mandatory course requirements (MCRs)

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

- i. submit the two written essays by due dates in order to demonstrate their ability to comment critically in written form on ideas, themes and style of Dante's *Inferno* ;
- ii. do a seminar presentation on a date agreed with the lecturer in order to demonstrate their ability to illustrate and comment in spoken form on ideas, themes and style of Dante's *Inferno*;
- iii. sit the two in-class tests in order to demonstrate knowledge of Dante's *Inferno*, as well as of his life, work and times.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

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 30-point course should work a total of 300 hours on this course. This means an average 25 hours per week, including the 3 contact hours – i.e., in the case of ITAL 407, *22 hours of private study outside class time*. Please note that some students will find they need to do more than this, especially if they are aiming to achieve high grades.

Assessment requirements

Assessment for ITAL407 is as follows:

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 2 (2000-word) essays, in English or Italian.	20% each	1, 3, 4	10 September, 4pm 16 October, 4pm
2 20-minute seminar presentation, in English or Italian.	20%	1, 2, 3, 4	Date to be agreed with the lecturer
3 2 in-class tests (50 minutes each).	20% each	1, 2, 3	19 August, 11-12-50 14 October, 11-12.50

Submission and return of work

All essays must include a cover sheet available from the SLC Office on the sixth floor of von Zedlitz (vZ610). Essays are to be handed into the Italian assignment box located to the left of the SLC Office (vZ610).

Corrected work can be collected from the SLC Office (vZ610) between the hours of 10am-2pm. You will need to show your student ID card to collect work from the office. 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.

Extensions and 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.

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.

Set texts

The Divine Comedy of Dante Alighieri. Vol. 1. Inferno, Dante Alighieri, 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 textbooks and student notes can be purchased from Vic Books, Ground Floor Easterfield Building, Kelburn Parade. They can also be ordered online at www.vicbooks.co.nz. Orders and enquiries can be emailed to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first week, 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 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. Students may wish to write the Class Rep's name and details below:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Student feedback from past years has been carefully reviewed and any resulting changes to the course, as well as other opportunities for improvement, will be discussed with students in the first week of lectures. For example, students have expressed their opinion that both Italian and English be used in the teaching, and that they be given the opportunity to present their seminars and write their essays in either language. This feedback will be implemented this year.

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

Language Learning Centre (LLC) Level 0, von Zedlitz Building

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	Date	Time	Lecture/Seminar	Topic
1	13 July	11-12	Lecture 1	Introduzione al corso
	15 July	11-12	Lecture 2	Dante: vita e opere
2	20 July	11-1	Lecture 1	Canto 1
	22 July	11-12	Lecture 2	Canto 1
3	27 July	11-12	Lecture 1	Canto 2
	29 July	11-12	Lecture 1	Canto 2
		12-1	<i>Seminar 1</i>	
4	3 Aug	11-12	Lecture 1	Canto 3
	5 Aug	11-12	Lecture 2	Canto 4
		12-1	<i>Seminar 2</i>	
5	10 Aug	11-12	Lecture 1	Canto 5
	12 Aug	11-12	Lecture 2	Canto 5
		12-1	<i>Seminar 3</i>	
6	17 Aug	11-12	Lecture 1:	Revision
	19 Aug	11-1	FIRST IN-CLASS TEST	

MID-TRIMESTER BREAK 24 AUGUST 2015 - 6 SEPTEMBER 2015

7	7 Sept	11-12	Lecture 1	Canto 10
	9 Sept	11-12	Lecture 2	Canto 13
Essay 1 due on Thursday 10 September, 4pm				
8	14 Sept	11-12	Lecture 1	Canto 15
	16 Sept	11-12	Lecture 2	Canto 15
		12-1	<i>Seminar 4</i>	
9	21 Sept	11-12	Lecture 1	Canto 17
	30 Sept	11-12	Lecture 2	Canto 17
		12-1	<i>Seminar 5</i>	
10	28 Sept	11-12	Lecture 1	Canto 19
	30 Sept	11-12	Lecture 2	Canto 19
11	5 Oct	11-1	Lectures 1	Canto 21
	7 Oct	11-1	Lecture 2	Canto 26
		12-1	<i>Seminar 6</i>	
12	12 Oct	11-12	Lecture 1	Revision
	14 Oct	11-1	SECOND IN-CLASS TEST	
Essay 2 due on Friday 16 October, 4pm				