



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

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

**TRIMESTER 2 2016**

**Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 11 July to 13 November 2016

**Teaching dates:** 11 July to 16 October 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 22 August to 4 September 2016

**Last assessment item due:** 27 October

**Study period:** 17–20 October 2016

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 21 October to 12 November 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds).

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)).

**Class times and locations**

**Lectures**

Tuesdays 1.10pm – 2.00pm in EA (Easterfield) LT206

Thursdays 1.10pm - 2.00pm in MY (Murphy) LT101

**Tutorial/discussion class**

Tuesdays 2.10 – 3.00pm in VZ (Von Zedlitz) 515

**Names and contact details**

**Course Coordinator  
and Lecturer:**

Dr Sally Hill  
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**Contact Person for Māori and Pasifika Students:** Dr Nicola Gilmour  
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**School Website:** [www.victoria.ac.nz/slc](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/slc)

The Course Coordinator and lecturer for ITAL 235 is Dr Sally Hill (Italian Programme). She is available for student consultation at the times indicated on her office door.

### Prescription

This course introduces students to the history of Italy from the rise of Fascism until the end of the "First Republic" and the rise of media mogul Silvio Berlusconi's "Forza Italia party", paying particular attention to the history of popular culture, including film, literature, popular song and television

### 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 200-level course. 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.

### Course learning objectives (CLOs)

#### Aims

1. to explain key concepts of Italian history, culture, politics and society;
2. to employ cultural sources alongside historical and historiographical sources;
3. to engage critically with the role of popular culture in key issues of modern Italian history and society;
4. to extend students' ability to understand a variety of Italian texts (fiction, poetry, theatre, and cinema);
5. 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:

1. demonstrate a good knowledge and understanding of contemporary Italian history and culture;
2. analyse these subjects from a variety of critical perspectives;
3. select and organise relevant information from different sources;
4. discuss the relevance of particular cultural and historical texts;
5. effectively present information and arguments related to the contents of the course in both oral and written form.

## Teaching format

This course is delivered through two one-hour lectures and one discussion class per week. Students are also expected to see assigned films in their own time. The lectures will present different periods and aspects of Italian society and culture since Unification. The discussion classes will focus on a more detailed critical analysis of the primary and secondary sources, and on the development of discussion skills. The discussion classes require students' active participation in group discussion and discussion leadership and preparation through the online discussion forum.

## 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. Overall, for a 20-point course, 200 hours are expected. 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.

## 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:

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Two 1500-word essays, worth 30% each	60%	1-5	18 Aug & 27 Oct
2 Seminar contributions: discussion leading and online questions (5%) + weekly online responses (5%)	10%	1-5	Weeks 2-11
3 1 final test	30%	1-5	11 Oct

Please note that the specific assessment workload estimates given above may vary and are based on a student who also completes an additional 60 hours of reading and revision and 36 hours of written, oral and aural practice over the course of the trimester.

## Submission and return of work

All assignments must include a cover sheet available from the SLC Office on the sixth floor of von Zedlitz (vZ610) or on Blackboard. Assignments 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 each day. 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 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.

### **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.

### **Set 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.

### **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:
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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. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the VUWSA website: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz).

### **Student feedback**

Feedback for this course has been very positive, with no significant changes requested, but the discussion class format has been refined to encourage further the development of critical thinking skills.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

### **Italian Society, student facilities**

All students are welcome to join the students' Italian Society and to participate in the cultural and social events organised.

### **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](http://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](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)

- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## Course Programme

### Lecture and tutorial/discussion class programme

Lecture	Date	Topic	Tests/Assessments/Film
1a.	<b>12 July</b>	Introduction to the Course: Recurrent Themes in Contemporary Italian History <b>No tutorial/discussion class in week 1</b>	Film: Blasetti, <i>1860</i>
1b.	14 July	Making Italy and Making Italians: 1861-1918	
2a.	<b>19 July</b>	Fascism and Imperialism	Film: <i>Una giornata particolare</i>
Tut 1	19 July	<i>Il Risorgimento and Blasetti's 1860</i>	
2b.	21 July	Italian Society and Culture Under Fascism	
3a.	<b>26 July</b>	The Cult of Mussolini and its Postwar Legacy	Film: <i>L'uomo che verrà</i>
Tut 2	26 July	<i>Society and Culture under Fascism: Una giornata particolare</i>	
3b.	28 July	War and Literature: Amato, Pavese and Levi	
4a.	<b>2 August</b>	Civil War, National Unity: Italy, 1943-'48	Film: <i>Roma città aperta</i>
Tut 3	2 August	<i>Amato, Pavese, Levi and L'uomo che verrà</i>	
4b.	4 August	New Approaches to Reality: Italian Neo-Realism	
5a.	<b>9 August</b>	Italy in the 1950s and the 'Economic Miracle'	Film: <i>Il federale</i>
Tut 4	9 August	<i>Neo-realism: Roma città aperta</i>	
5b.	11 August	Remembering Fascism in 1950s and early 1960s Cinema	
6a.	<b>16 August</b>	The Americanization of Italian Culture	Film: <i>La dolce vita</i>
Tut 5	16 August	<i>Remembering fascism: Il federale</i>	
6b.	18 August	La dolce vita? Cinema and the 'Economic Miracle'	<b>18 August: Essay 1 due, 5pm</b>
<b>MID-TRIMESTER BREAK [22 August – 4 September]</b>			
7a.	<b>6 September</b>	1968	Film: <i>La ricotta</i>
Tut 6	6 September	<i>La dolce vita</i>	
7b.	8 September	Diagnosing Cultural Crisis: Pier Paolo Pasolini (Dr Hill)	
8a.	<b>13 September</b>	A modern society? Italy in the 1970s	Film: <i>Vogliamo anche le rose</i>
Tut 7	13 September	<i>Cultural Crisis: Pier Pasolo Pasolini, Il PCI ai giovani and La ricotta</i>	
8b.	15 September	<i>Italian Women in a Changing Society</i>	
9a.	<b>20 September</b>	Resistance and Revolution: Bernardo Bertolucci and the Sessantottini	Film: <i>Strategia del ragno</i>

Tut 8	20 September	Franca Rame and Alina Marazzi: Italian Feminism(s)	
9b.	22 September	Democracy Under Threat: 1970s Society and Terrorism	
10a.	<b>27 September</b>	Dario Fo's <i>Accidental Death of an Anarchist</i>	Film: <i>Caro diario</i>
Tut 9	27 September	<i>The Sins of the Fathers: Bernardo Bertolucci and</i>	Strategia del ragno
10b.	29 September	The 1980s: From the Corruption Scandals to the Rise of Berlusconi	
11a.	<b>4 October</b>	Political Comedy in the 'Second Republic': Nanni Moretti	
Tut 10	4 October	Nanni Moretti: <i>Caro diario</i>	
11b.	6 October	Conclusion: Continuity and Change	
<b>12a.</b>	<b>11 October</b>	FINAL TEST	<b><u>11 October Final Written Test</u></b> <b><u>27 October: Essay 2 due, 5pm</u></b>

### Tutorial/Discussion Programme

You must sign up on Blackboard to post online discussion questions and lead a tutorial discussion (worth 5% of final mark) by the end of the first week. Students will also be expected to submit answers to the questions posted online each week discussion by the Sunday before the discussion class. Your answers 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 on one of the 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 the online discussion forum on Blackboard. Other members of class will be expected to post a response by the Sunday before class (at the latest) and come to class prepared to discuss the questions. Students are required to familiarise themselves with all the prescribed readings (available via Blackboard), but discussion will focus specifically on the texts/films selected by the discussion leader.

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### FILMS

All films will be available for viewing in the Language Learning Centre (VZ level 0). Group screenings may also be arranged.

Week	Director	Film
Week 1	Alessandro Blasetti	<i>1860</i> (1934)
Week 2	Ettore Scola	<i>Una giornata particolare</i> ( <i>A Special Day</i> ; 1977)
Week 3	Giorgio Diritti	<i>L'uomo che verrà</i> ( <i>The Man Who Will Come</i> ; 2009)
Week 4	Roberto Rossellini	<i>Roma città aperta</i> ( <i>Rome Open City</i> ; 1945)
Week 5	Luciano Salce	<i>Il federale</i> ( <i>The Fascist</i> ; 1961)
Week 6	Federico Fellini	<i>La dolce vita</i> (1960)
Week 7	Pier Paolo Pasolini	<i>La ricotta</i> (1963)
Week 8	Alina Marazzi	<i>Vogliamo anche le rose</i> ( <i>We Want Roses Too</i> ; 2007)
Week 9	Bernardo Bertolucci	<i>Strategia del ragno</i> ( <i>The Spider's Stratagem</i> ; 1970)
Week 10	Nanni Moretti	<i>Caro diario</i> ( <i>Dear Diary</i> ; 1993)