

Italian 232: Italian Culture II

Rutgers University

Monday and Thursday

11:30 – 12:50 PM

AB 4400

Professor Carmela Scala

Department of Italian

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Learning Goals:

This course is an introductory survey of Italian culture from the Renaissance to today. Students will be asked to think critically about what constitutes national culture, while placing Italy in a transnational and/or global context. By the end of the semester, students will have a general understanding of a number of significant Italian cultural objects—from the literary and fine arts to the sciences—and will be able to situate them in their relevant historical and theoretical contexts. Taught in English; no knowledge of Italian required.

Departmental Goal II: Cultural Proficiency

Core Curriculum Learning Goals (AH, o and p)

This course satisfies the Learning Goals for Art and Humanities o and p:

At the end of the course students will be able to:

- o. Examine critically theoretical issues concerning the nature of reality, human experience, knowledge, value, and the cultural production related to the topics addressed.
- p. Analyze arts and literatures in themselves and in relation to specific histories, values, languages, cultures, and technologies

Academic Integrity Policy:

All students are responsible for completing their own work, and for citing any secondary sources consulted. Cheating, fabrication (lying), plagiarism, and failure to participate in group projects are considered violations of academic integrity. Any violation will be grounds for immediate failure and will result in disciplinary measures (a meeting with the Professor, Chair of the Department, Undergraduate Advisor, and the Dean).

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers>.

Class etiquette and requirements:

- ✓ **NO cellphone allowed during class and especially during quizzes and exams.**
- ✓ **NO laptop allowed in class. (I will share my power points on Canvas or you can take notes the old-fashioned way ☺)**
- ✓ **During the exams you MUST leave one seat empty between you and your 'neighbor'.**
- ✓ **Bathroom breaks are allowed during the exams however you MUST leave your cellphones on the podium.**

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all class meetings. If you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me. **Regular, punctual attendance is required.** No more than **three absences** are allowed; use them wisely, for health and other serious issues. **Having more than three absences, arriving to class late, failure to do the readings or participate in discussion, and engaging in behavior that is distracting to the rest of the class are grounds for a significantly lower mark in class participation.**

Accommodations Policy:

In case students with disabilities should require any assistance and would like to request accommodations, they must do so during the first week of class. Students should follow the procedures outlined at: <http://disabilityservices.rutgers.edu/request.html>

Course requirements:

ACTIVE Class Participation (Attendance /Punctuality and Discussions)	30%
Midterm Exam:	20%
End of Term Test:	20%
Final Project:	20%

Required texts:

All readings are posted to Sakai. Since there is no textbook for this course, students are REQUIRED to print out all readings and bring them to class. Students are encouraged to invest in a new toner cartridge for their printers and/or place sufficient funds on a print or copy card.

All readings, assignments, and dates are subject to change. It is your responsibility to stay informed about any changes to the syllabus.

Thursday January 23	<u>Introduction to Course</u>
Monday January 27	<u>Introduction to Cultural Studies</u> 1/ Jonathan Culler, "Literature and Cultural Studies." <i>Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction</i> , 43-55. 2/ Roland Barthes, "Toys" and "Wine and Milk." <i>Mythologies</i> , 53-55; 58-61. 3/ John Dickie, "Imagined Italies" 4/ Wikipedia: List of English Words of Italian Origin
Thursday January 30	<u>Rinabissane Art</u> Michelangelo, <i>David; The Sistine Chapel</i> Leonardo Da Vinci, <i>Vitruvian Man; Mona Lisa</i> 1/ View high-resolution images of assigned works on Sakai. 2/ John Berger, <i>Ways of Seeing</i> , 7-33
Monday February 3	<u>Renaissance Architecture and Perspective</u>

	<p>1/ Leon Battista Alberti, <i>On Painting</i> (Book 1) 2/ Tom Meuller, "Brunelleschi's Dome." <i>National Geographic</i> <i>I have a conference this day so you will do the following: Participate in a Forum Discussion to talk about the readings.</i> <i>Complete and Assignment on Sakai related to the readings</i></p>
Thursday February 6	<p><u>The Medici, Modern Banking, and Art Patronage</u></p> <p>1/ Tim Parks, <i>Medici Money</i> (selections) 2/ Loren Partridge, <i>Art of Renaissance Florence</i> (1400-1600) (selections)</p>
Monday February 10	<p><u>Exploration and the "New World"</u></p> <p>1/ John Allen, "From Cabot to Cartier: The Early Exploration of North America, 1497-1543" 2/ Christopher Columbus, Extracts from Journal 3/ Columbus, Letter to Europe (1493) 4/ Columbus, Letter to the King and Queen of Spain (1494)</p>
Thursday February 13	<p><u>Italian Cuisine and the "New World"</u></p> <p>1/ John Mariani, "A Plate of Soup Surrounded by Too Many Spoons." <i>How Italian Food Conquered the World</i>, 5-26.</p>
Monday February 17	<p><u>Commedia dell'arte</u></p> <p>1/ Jennifer Meagher, "Commedia dell'arte." <i>Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History</i>. New York: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2000-. http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/comm/hd_comm.htm (July 2007) 2/ Carlo Goldoni, <i>The Servant of Two Masters</i></p>
Thursday February 20	<p><u>Baroque Sculpture: Bernini's Rome</u></p> <p>1/ Rudolph Wittkower, <i>Art and Architecture in Italy, Vol 2</i>. (selections)</p> <p>2/ Explore Web resource: http://berninisrome.com/Berninis_Rome/Maps.html#2</p>
Monday February 24	<p><u>Opera, The Risorgimento, and Italian Unification</u></p> <p>1/ Christopher Duggan, "Italy United," <i>A Concise History of Italy</i>, 117-143.</p>
Thursday February 27	<p><u>Post-Unification Italian Literature</u></p> <p>1/ Carlo Collodi, <i>Pinocchio</i> (selections)</p>
Monday March 2	<p><u>Emigration</u></p> <p>1/ Leonardo Sciascia, "The Long Crossing"; "The American Aunt" <u>Film Screening:</u> Emanuele Crialesi, Nuovomondo (2007)</p>
Thursday March 5	<p><u>Film Screening:</u> Emanuele Crialesi, Nuovomondo (2007)</p>
Monday March 9	<p>1/ F.T. Marinetti, "The Futurist Manifesto" 2/ Roberta Smith, "In Thrall to Machines, War and a More Manly Future." <i>New York Times</i></p>

	3/ Abigail Tucker, "How Futurist Art Inspired the Design of a BMW." <i>Smithsonian Magazine</i>
Thursday March 12	Midterm Exam
Monday 16-March22	<i>SPRING RECESS</i>
Monday March 23	Futurismo 1/ F.T. Marinetti, "The Futurist Manifesto" 2/ Roberta Smith, "In Thrall to Machines, War and a More Manly Future." <i>New York Times</i>
Thursday March 26	1/ David Forgacs and Stephen Gundle, "Civil Society and Organized Leisure." <i>Mass Culture and Italian Society from Fascism to the Cold War</i> , 233-270.
Monday March 30	<u>World War II</u> 1/ Elsa Morante, <i>History</i> (selections) 2/ Reading Guide for <i>History</i>
Thursday April 2	<u>Postwar Cinema: Neorealism</u> 1/ Cesare Zavattini, "Some Ideas on the Cinema"
Monday April 6	<u>The Economic Miracle: The FIAT 500</u> 1/ <i>Fiat 500: The Autobiography</i> (selections)
Thursday April 9	<u>Hot Autumn: 1968</u> 1/ Luisa Passerini, "One 1968." <i>Autobiography of a Generation</i> (61-100)
Monday April 13	Film screening: <i>The Best of Youth</i> (1966-1977), Part 1
Thursday April 16	<u>Italian Fashion</u> 1/ Roberto Saviano, <i>Gomorra</i> (selections)
Monday April 20	<u>Glocal Food Pathways: Slow Food</u> 1/ Slow Food Manifesto 2/ Explore Slow Food Website http://www.slowfood.com/
Thursday April 23	<u>Riding the NYC Subway with Massimo Vignelli</u> 1/ Massimo Vignelli, <i>The Subway and The City</i> 2/ Interview with Massimo Vignelli: http://www.eyemagazine.com/feature/article/reputations-massimo-vignelli
Monday April 27	<u>Multiracial Italy</u> 1/ Igiaba Scego, "Sausages" Film Screening (Selctions) : Gustav Hofer and Luca Ragazzi, <i>Italy Love It or Leave It</i> (2011)
Thursday April 30	Final Project Presentations

Monday May 4	Final Project Presentations & Review
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FINAL TEST DATE TBD