



**Faculty of Arts**

**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

ITAL 305

Introduction to Textual Analysis: Italian through Film, Visual Culture and Short Stories

Winter 2019

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Dr. Eleonora Buonocore

**OFFICE LOCATION:** CH C320

**OFFICE HOURS:** M–W 11 am to 12 pm or by appointment

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 403 220 4424

**E-MAIL :** eleonora.buonocore@ucalgary.ca

**DESCRIPTION**

This course aims to introduce the students to the techniques necessary to analyze a written text, a film or a video, as well as to deepen their knowledge of contemporary Italian culture by familiarizing them with different cultural artefacts: an entire feature film "Pane e Tulipani", several short stories, on-line videos and a play by Dario Fo, "Non tutti i ladri vengono per nuocere."

The course will also include a linguistic component. The goal of this class is to review the most important grammatical and syntactical structures in Italian, and to understand how to use them while creating analytical and creative essays on a text. In order to do so, the students will use the book by Nicoletta Tinozzi, "Pane e Tulipani," which guides the analysis of Soldini's film and introduces both contemporary Italian cultural topics and reviews necessary vocabulary and grammar. The students will be encouraged to work on their writing skills by producing different genres of writing from creative writing, to short analytical essays and compositions. Discussion in class will be important for developing critical thinking and communication.



**OBJECTIVES**

This course aims to prepare the students:

- to understand complex grammatical and syntactical structures in Italian, and to have the basic skills to decode various media, including radio, TV, film, theatre and short stories.
- to read and understand the main points of authentic Italian short stories, theatre piece or a screenplay. Begin to understand longer literary pieces.
- to discuss the main cultural issues in Italy, to explain the differences with their own culture, and to summarize orally the main ideas in a film, a theatre piece or a short story. The students will also be able to act out pieces of theatre or theatrical improvisation in the target language.
- to write both reflective essays on the cultural material we will have seen or read in class, as well as creative writing pieces using the models studied in class.
- to reach a higher level of cultural understanding regarding contemporary, and will have a basic knowledge of the main Italian historical events and institutional changes post WWII.
- to reflect on their own process of learning a foreign language, and understand their personal learning style and their personal learning strategy, thus becoming ready to continue their path towards the study of Italian literature.



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**OUTCOMES**

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

- present orally an original monologue based on their creative writing process and their reflections on the visual media presented in class
- create a short story involving credible characters of their creation
- put together a series of scenes, first in writing and then acting them out to produce an original performance
- to debate in depth on Italian cultural topics, responding to questions and objections.
- to master the basic tools necessary to analyze visual media, and prose texts, understand the mechanisms of storytelling and character creation, thus beginning to recognize underlying themes in a film or a short story
- to produce a longer reflective essay on a text encountered during the course.

**DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES**

Active Class Participation 10%  
3 writing assignments (3 at 10% each) = 30%  
2 exams (1 at 20% and 1 at 10%) = 30%  
1 In-class oral presentation 5%  
1 group video or podcast 5%  
Final paper 20%

**GRADING SCALE**

A+ = 100-96 A= 95-91 A- =90-86  
B+ = 85-81 B =80-76 B- =75-71  
C+ = 70-67 C= 66-62 C- =61-58  
D+ = 57-54 D= 53-50 F =49%-0%

The official grading system (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) will be applied for the calculation of the final mark

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

- 1) Nicoletta Tinozzi, *EF Film Study Program: Pane e tulipani*, Italian Film Study, Ed. Farinelli, 2008.
- 2) Dario Fo, *Non tutti i ladri vengono per nuocere*, any edition (link available on D2L) [https://is.muni.cz/el/1421/podzim2006/IJOB722/non\\_tutti\\_i\\_ladri\\_FO.pdf](https://is.muni.cz/el/1421/podzim2006/IJOB722/non_tutti_i_ladri_FO.pdf)
- 3) other short stories available on pdf on D2L

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND MATERIALS**

- . *Prego! An invitation to Italian, 8th edition*. Package available at the U of C bookstore (Includes Workbook and Lab Manual)
- . Any good Italian dictionary, for instance *The Oxford College Italian Dictionary*.

**COURSE NOTES**

The coursework will consist of film and reading assignments as well as preparing for conversation, reviewing grammatical structure and then practicing writing and communicative activities: seminar discussions with the instructor and among students will be in Italian.



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- Regular attendance is strongly recommended.
- Active participation is warmly encouraged. Active participation is defined as coming to class prepared and ready to give active and positive contributions in Italian to class interactions and tutorial sessions. Lack of attendance or of participation will adversely affect your overall performance and will have a negative impact on your final grade. The instructor should be informed of any reasons for prolonged absence.
- Attendance to co-curricular events is encouraged in order to have more occasions to practice your language skills, and can help make up absences for your participation grade as well as be counted as extra-credit (when you submit a write-up describing the event you participated to).
- Students are strongly encouraged to communicate consistently on the target language and to attend IL CIRCOLINO (CHC 318) to practice Italian.
- There will be three Espresso Talks – or Coffee Hours this semesters, students are required to attend at least 1 Espresso Talk as part of their participation grade.
- Attendance at all tests and examinations is mandatory. Missed tests, assignments and examinations will be given a grade of F. A student who is absent from a test for legitimate reasons must inform the instructor immediately and an alternative course of action may be considered.
- Tutorials will start the week of January 14.
- Assignments: throughout the term students will write 3 creative writing pieces of 500/600 words each: one will be a monologue from the point of view of a character in the film *Pane e Tulipani*, one will be a short story on a topic of choice among those discussed in class, and the last one will be a group assignment, to create two or three theatrical scenes, proposing a different finale for the film "*Pane e Tulipani*".
- Written exams: they will evaluate students' knowledge of Italian culture, their understanding of the material presented in class, as well as their competency with particular grammatical structures we have reviewed. There could also be a writing component either of creative writing or a reflection on the cultural material examined.
- There will be no final examination.
- Research paper: the paper will deal extensively with a cultural theme discussed in class or with a text we read or a film we screened. The topic will be agreed with the instructor in advance. The paper will have an approximate length of 5 pages, in Italian.

#### **Late assignments and missed tests policy:**

- Missed tests and missed assignments will be counted as 0 and will contribute to the calculation of the final mark. For late assignments there will be a penalization for each day of delay.
- Electronic submission of assignments: Assignments will be submitted in paper copy to the teacher, double spaced, printed and stapled by the due deadline. (In case this is not possible word/pdf format via email to [eleonora.buonocore@ucalgary.ca](mailto:eleonora.buonocore@ucalgary.ca) can be accepted).
- The Department's drop-box, located in the foyer area of the third floor in Craigie Hall between blocks D and C, is available for depositing assignments and course work. The material placed in the drop-box will be collected and date-stamped at the beginning and at the end of the working day.



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#### ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

#### ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

#### EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

#### FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?



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The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate).

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

#### **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

#### **SAFEWALK**

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

#### **STUDENT UNION INFORMATION**

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

#### **WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.