Italian 421
Italy in Literature and Cinema from 1860 to the Present

Week I

Week II
   Jan. 15   HOLIDAY - Martin Luther King Day
   Jan. 18   1900 (Novecento) continuation - The Leopard by Lampedusa, chapter 1.

Week III
   Jan. 25   L'unità d'Italia: 1860 (lecture) - Leopard Chap. 2
   Jan. 27   1860 by Blasetti (1934) 81' - Leop. Chap. 3

Week IV
   Feb. 1    The “historical right” - Leop. Chap.4
   Feb. 3    Tree of the Wooden Clogs by Olmi (1978) 175 (L'albero degli zoccoli) - Leop. Chap. 5

Week V  Feb. 8    The “left” in power - Leop. Chap.6
                Feb.10  The Organizer (I compagni) by Monicelli (1963) 128 - Leop. Chap. 7

Week VI  Feb. 15  The “fin de siècle” crisis - Leop. Chap. 8
                Feb. 17  The Great War (La grande guerra) by Monicelli (1959) 129' - Leop. conclusion

Week VII  Feb. 22  The era of Giolitti - If a Winter Night a Traveller...by Calvino, Chap. 1
                Feb. 24  Love and Anarchy (Film d'amore e d'anarchia) by Wertmuller (1973) 125' - Calvino, Chap. 2

Week VIII  Mar. 1  World War and post-war - Calvino, Chap. 3
               Mar. 3  Big Deal on Madonna Street (I soliti ignoti) by Monicelli (1958) 111 - Calvino, Chap. 4

Week IX  Mar. 8  Fascism and Resistance - Calvino, Chap.5 - MID-TERM
               Mar. 10  We all loved each other so much (C'eravamo tanto amati) b

Week X  Mar. 15, 17  SPRING BREAK - HOLIDAY

Week XI  Mar. 22  Democracy: the 1st Republic - Calvino, Chap. 7 -
               Mar. 24  Seduced and Abandoned (Sedotta e abbandonata) by Germi (1963) 125' - Calvino, Chap. 8

Week XII  Mar. 29  The economic boom, center and center-left policy - Calvino, Chap.
Mar. 31  *The Seduction of Mimì (Mimi metallurgico)* by Wertmuller (1972) 105 - Calvino, Chap. 10

**Week XIII**  Apr. 5  Decadence of the 1st Republic - Calvino, Chap. 11
    Apr. 7  *Bread and Chocolate (Pane e cioccolata)* by Brusati (1974) 115 Calvino, Chap. 12

**Week XIV**  Apr. 12  *Lamerica* by Amelio (1994) 127 - Calvino conclusion

**Week XV**  Apr. 19  *Lamerica* continuation - The Ruin , 2nd 33 pages.
    Apr. 21  *Devil in the flesh (Il diavolo in corpo)* by Bellocchio (1986) 110 - The Ruin, last 33 pages.

**Week XVI**  Apr. 19  *Lamerica* continuation - The Ruin , 2nd 33 pages.
    Apr. 21  *Devil in the flesh (Il diavolo in corpo)* by Bellocchio (1986) 110 - The Ruin, last 33 pages.

**Week XVII**  Apr. 26  End of the 1st Republic - *The Ruin* conclusion
    Apr. 28  *La scorta* by Ricky Tognazzi (1993) 95

**Week XVII**  May 3  Review

**FINAL WEEK**  May 6-8 to May 10-11

Grade Distribution:
The final grade will be calculated as follows:
- Midterm  30%
- Final  30%
- Oral Report/ Written Report  30%
- Attendance  10%

Grade Scale
- A 90-100  C+ 76-79
- B+ 86-89  C 70-75
- B 80-85  D 60-69

Exams: will include the material covered in class.

Please note that Attendance at the screening is mandatory -- all the films are available for extra-viewing at the Audiovisual Center in Hodges Library in order to give you the opportunity to review the films before your class presentation or exams.
Midterm and Final: will include questions on the material covered in class. Books and articles are available at the Reserve Desk (Hodges Library) for consultation, see list handed by teacher.

Oral Presentation: students will choose a book or a film and they will base their report on (at least) two critical articles. The oral report has to be presented to the class but it also has to be written and handed in after the oral presentation: at least 4 pages typed with a biblio of the critical material used.

Attendance: to be active is essential in a class whose main object is critical discussion about literature and cinema. Good class participation requires regular attendance and actual involvement in all class activities and assignments.

Italian Majors and Minors: the students will be required to read some material in Italian.

Purpose of course: This course will present an overview of Italian culture, history and literature starting with the films that deal with the troublesome years of the Unification of Italy and then moving chronologically toward the major events of contemporary Italy: Worlds War I, Fascism, World War II, the economic boom of the 60’s, terrorism of the 70’s, Mafia, political corruption of the 80’s etc. At the same time, this course will focus on the literary works that contributed to throw a new light on many Italian events. The objective of the course is to investigate the literature produced in a specific historical moment and the films that later on revisited and recreated those moments in Italian history that shaped the future of the nation. We will also examine the most important literary and cinematic trends in pre-and post-war Italy.


Articles: At the Reserve Desk, in a file under my name, there are articles and other critical material on films and novels that must be read during the course.