

## Fall 2015 - Italian Graduate Courses

*Subject to change. Please refer to InsideND for the most up-to-date, accurate information.*

### **ROIT 63010-01: INTRODUCTION TO ADVANCED STUDIES IN ITALIAN TBA**

**C. Moevs/ J. Welle/ Z. Baranski**

Required of all students enrolled in graduate studies in Italian. Co-taught by all members of the Italian faculty, this year-long course of one-hour weekly classes addresses topics such as research methods, different ways of analyzing a text and/or particular genres, a survey of Italian literature, presentation of research and general matters of professionalization, etc. It includes a comprehensive examination on Italian literary history in each semester.

### **ROIT 63952-01: PIER PAOLO PASOLINI: LIFE AS ART AND COMMITMENT T 3:30-6:15**

**Z. Baranski**

Pier Paolo Pasolini (1922-1975) is almost certainly Italy's major post-war intellectual and artist, whose work ranged widely across different media, literary forms and genres. In addition, for much of his career, Pasolini saw himself as engaging both with contemporary events and debates and with the preceding artistic and intellectual tradition. This hugely ambitious endeavour, beyond its clear public aims, also had complex private goals. Thus, Pasolini considered his oeuvre as a monument to himself. Commitment for Pasolini was both something energetically social and intimately personal. The course aims to assess Pasolini's complex, confusing and contradictory career in light both of post-war Italian culture and of major contemporary international cultural and political developments. In particular, the course will focus on a selection of his poetry, his narrative, critical, theoretical and "political" prose, and his cinema. Crosslisted LIT 73212

### **ROIT 63913: RELIGION AND LITERATURE: THE EXAMPLE OF PRIMO LEVI M 3:30-6:15**

**V. Montemaggi**

Taught in English, this course will explore the contribution that the coming together of literary and theological reflection can make to our thinking about meaning and truth. We will do this by reflecting on the relationship between theism and atheism, comedy and tragedy, Judaism and Christianity, religion and science, freedom and power, hope and death, violence and forgiveness, suffering and language, truth and friendship. Our primary focus of interpretation will be the work of Primo Levi and in particular his chapter 'The Canto of Ulysses', arguably one of the most significant texts of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and perhaps of all literature. In it, Levi addresses fundamental questions concerning the meaning and value of literature, and concerning the relationship between the interpretation of literature and reflection on human existence. In conversation with contemporary literary and theological studies, we will approach such questions through analysis of Levi's writings as a whole, and of texts that Levi's writings compellingly engage with: the Bible (especially Genesis and Job), *The Odyssey*, Dante's *Comedy*, Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. Throughout the course, we will be making use of materials held in the Rare Books and Special Collections Department of the Hesburgh Library,

especially those constituting the Primo Levi Collection. Crosslisted LIT 73539 and LLRO 63913.