

Italian Undergraduate Courses - Spring 2014

ROIT 10101 / 10102 / 10110 FIRST-LEVEL ITALIAN

ROIT 10101 and 10102, Beginning Italian I & II, are the standard first-year language sequence, 4 credits per semester, meeting three hours per week plus one day online. ROIT 10110, Intensive Beginning Italian, is a computer enhanced 6 credit course, combining traditional classroom time and online instruction, to attain the result of ROIT 10101 and 10102 in one semester. It involves independent work by students, a portion of which will be performed online on the textbook Sentieri Vista Higher Learning Supersite. Part of the work will be done in class with your instructor (MWF) and part will be done online on Tuesdays and Thursdays by reading, listening, completing exercises, posting writing assignments and recording your speech on the Supersite. There are two instructors assigned to this course. One will be present in class on MWF, and the other will be following your progress online during the T-Th sessions. With the sequence ROIT 10110 - 20215, you can reach upper level culture and literature courses in one year.

LLRO 13186-02 DANTE'S INFERNO: INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE (UNIVERSITY SEMINAR)

TR 12:30-1:45

T. Cachey Jr.

According to an eminent critic, "Understanding in the Inferno is a process that might be characterized as hyperbolic doubt systematically applied to the values of contemporary society." This may explain the strong revival of interest in the poem that we have witnessed in recent times. In this course we will read and discuss in detail the Inferno as well as important "minor" works leading up to the *Divine Comedy* including the *Vita nuova* (New Life), the *Convivio* (The Banquet), and the *De vulgari eloquentia* (On vernacular eloquence). We will especially focus on major episodes of the *Inferno* in the light of recent scholarship and in relation to current debates in the humanities. The course satisfies the literature requirement. It will be offered in English (but we will read the Inferno in a facing-page translation). For further info: tcachey@nd.edu.

ROIT 20201 / 20215 / 27500 SECOND-LEVEL ITALIAN

ROIT 20201 and 27500, Intermediate Italian I and II, are the standard second-year language sequence, 3 credits per semester, meeting three hours per week, and incorporating more advanced language skills with cultural topics. ROIT 20215, Intensive Intermediate Italian, is a 6 credit course, meeting 5 days per week, and attaining the result of ROIT 20201 and 27500 in one semester. With the sequence ROIT 10110 - 20215, you can reach upper level culture and literature courses in one year.

ROIT 20300-01 LET'S TALK ITALIAN I

W 3:30-4:30

L. Francalanci

This mini-course in Italian offers both informal and structured conversation practice. Conversation on Italian politics, society, and culture will be based on authentic materials. This course meets one hour per week for group discussions on contemporary issues and with guest speakers. Conducted in Italian. Recommended for students returning from Italy and for students who have completed the 10000 level of Italian. Meant to accompany another Italian course within the year.

ROIT 21205-01 PRE-STUDY ABROAD

W 5:00-6:15

A. Blad

This one-credit course begins the week after spring break; it is designed for students planning to spend a semester or a year abroad in Notre Dame's study abroad programs in Rome or Bologna, Italy. By means of a carefully planned program of film viewings, lectures, discussions and internet guided tours organized by Notre Dame's Italian Studies faculty, students will be provided with an advanced introduction to the history and topography of Rome/Bologna, Italian lifestyle(s), pop music and youth cultures, service learning, sport and internship opportunities, as well as cultural events, including opera theatre and music concerts. The Italian Studies faculty will also assist students in assessing their linguistic and cultural competency in Italian, and in fashioning individualized learning goals for their study abroad experience.

CSEM 23102 ON HUMOUR: UNDERSTANDING ITALY (COLLEGE SEMINAR)

MW 3:30-4:45

J. Welle

This College Seminar explores questions of humor, laughter, and comedy through a rich variety of classical and modern texts. We begin with examples of Greek and Roman comedy, and then examine *Commedia dell'arte*, an improvisational form of theatre originating in Italy that was influential throughout Europe for over two centuries. We encounter Shakespeare and Goldoni and analyze their relationship to both classical comedy and to *Commedia dell'arte*. Having traced the contours of ancient comedy and the roots of modern comedy, we turn to twentieth-century thinkers and writers such as Freud, Bergson and Pirandello, mining their reflections on jokes, laughter and humor, respectively. Pirandello's tragic-comic vision is explored through short stories, a modernist novel, and a masterpiece of modern theatre, "Six Characters in Search of an Author." Next, one of the most influential and beloved genres in the history of cinema, "comedy Italian style," sheds light on changing gender roles in the post-WWII period. Dramatist and comedian, Dario Fo, who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1997, brings the course full circle as he carries the tradition of the *Commedia dell'arte* into the late twentieth century. Students will be evaluated on their preparation for and participation in class discussions, on leading class discussions, on oral presentations, and on short writing assignments. To further develop skills of speaking and oral presentation, the course will also incorporate aspects of "Readers Theatre" as students will learn to read sections from the various plays out loud in class with dramatic effect.

ROIT 30300-01 LET'S TALK ITALIAN II

R 3:30-4:30

L. Francalanci

This is a one-credit course meant to accompany your regular classroom study of Italian language, literature, and culture. It will not review grammar, but will allow you extensive opportunity to orally practice what you learn in your other courses. There will be no written work assessed, but *you must prepare and reflect on the materials for discussion each week before coming to class*. You must come ready and eager to talk!

This course is meant to engage you also intellectually and culturally, which is inseparable from mastering a new language. It will be based on authentic materials that engage and interest you (by definition, because you will be gathering them!). "Authentic materials" are those whose original intended audience is native well-educated speakers of the language. They include journalism (newspapers, journals, magazines in print or online, broadcasts, etc...), literary texts from the past or present, literary criticism, scholarly work, films, documentaries, music and lyrics, TV shows, blogs, satire, comedy and humour, etc.... We will be exchanging ideas (and perhaps arguing) on real content, from whatever realm of Italian culture, life, and society. Thus, topics may include questions from sociology, economics, politics, history, art, music, literature, film, religion, pop culture, current events, etc..... Since our discussions will be based (at least in part) on listening, reading, thinking, and analyzing ideas and materials, our talking should foster more sophisticated modes of expression as well as critical and abstract thinking skills. From the exercise of gathering materials for discussion, you will

also immerse yourself in Italian life, issues, questions, online sources, etc.... For students who have completed the 20000 level of Italian, or ROIT 20300.

ROIT 30310-01/02 PASSAGE TO ITALY

TR 11:00-12:15 / MW 2:00-3:15

C. Moevs / V. Montemaggi

In this fifth-semester course you will survey the rich panorama of Italian culture from the origins to the present, and learn to analyze and understand works drawn from the major literary and artistic genres (lyric poetry, prose, theatre, epic, novel, film, opera, contemporary song, as well as art and architecture). At the same time you will review and consolidate your grasp of the Italian language at an advanced level. Taught in Italian; counts as a Lit-Culture course for the major. Pre-requisite: ROIT 27500 or 20215 or equivalent. Strongly recommended for majors and supplementary majors. LANG - College Language Req, LIT - Univ.Req. Literature, MESE - European Studies Course.

ROIT 30502 / HIST 30502 MODERN ITALY

TR 12:30-1:45

P. Podemski

When Napoleon Bonaparte entered Italy, he found it a diverse collection of peoples and regions - what one statesman would describe a few decades later as a "purely geographical expression." The triumph of the 19th century "Risorgimento," with its mythic leaders like Mazzini, Garibaldi and Cavour, meant the new Kingdom of Italy was created in 1861, yet as one of the Founding Fathers proclaimed, "Italians still remained to be made." Liberals, Fascists, Communists and Christian Democrats alike continually attempted to make Italians and forge them into a modern nation-state. Their methods ranged from education and industrialization to corruption and terror. Resistance took a variety of forms, too, from guerilla warfare to mafia activity and organized terrorism. This course will offer a general survey of these crucial - and controversial - political, social and economic developments, covering the period from the Risorgimento through the Fascist regime to the fall of the First Republic in the 1990s, with special emphasis on US involvement and the role of the Holy See/Vatican in modern Italian history. Taught in English; counts as an Italian Studies course for the major.

ROIT 30721-01 MODERN ITALIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

MW 12:30-1:45

J. Welle

This course provides a survey of major literary authors, literary genres, as well as examples of contributions to theatre and film, from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century. Writers, poets and playwrights to be treated include Goldoni, Foscolo, Leopardi, Verga, Serao, D'Annunzio, Pirandello, Gozzano, Vivanti, Deledda, Marinetti, and Ungaretti. Historical and cultural issues to be treated include Italian Unification, the emergence of female readers and writers, Italian writers and modernization, the beginnings of cinema and its relations with theatre, popular culture and media; WWI and the onset of fascism. Requirements include participation in class discussions, frequent short writing and oral assignments, a number of brief papers and oral reports, as well as midterm and final exams. Taught in Italian; counts as a Lit-Culture course for the major. Required for majors and supplementary majors in the Literature and Culture concentration; either this course or ROIT 30711 is required for majors in the Italian Studies concentration. IBCL - IBC Liberal Arts, LIT - Univ.Req. Literature.

ROIT 30830-01 / ARHI 30313 ART OF THE HIGH RENAISSANCE IN FLORENCE AND ROME**MW 11:00-12:15****R. Coleman**

Leonardo, Michelangelo, Bramante, and Raphael provide the basis for a study of one of the most impressive periods of artistic activity in Italy - the High Renaissance in Florence and Rome. It was Leonardo da Vinci's revolutionary example that imposed extraordinary artistic and intellectual changes on an entire generation of painters, sculptors, and architects. Ludovico Sforza, Duke of Milan, the new Republic of Florence, and the imperial papacy of Julius II recognized that the genius of Leonardo, Bramante, Michelangelo, Raphael, and others could be brought into the service of the State. Under Julius, the Papal State became the supreme state in Italy, and for the first time in centuries, the papacy ranked as a great European power. With the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, St. Peter's (redesigned on a colossal scale by Bramante), the Vatican Palace (its city facade and Belvedere by Bramante, and papal apartments decorated by Raphael), and the Papal tomb (designed by Michelangelo), Rome, for the first time since the time of the Caesars, became the center of Western art.

Cross lists: ARHI 30313/60313 / ROIT 63830. Taught in English; counts as an Italian Studies course for the major.

ROIT 40116 DANTE II**TR 2:00-3:15****C. Moevs**

Dante's *Comedy* is one of the supreme masterpieces of Western literature. It is also an extraordinary synthesis of the entire Western cultural and philosophical tradition that produced it, a radical experiment in poetics and poetic technique, and a profound exploration of Christian spirituality. Many students find that it is through reading Dante that the profound depths of the Catholic vision of reality first come to life for them, in all their subtlety, beauty, radical challenge, and life-changing power. Dante I and Dante II (ROIT 40115 and 40116) are a close, discussion-based study over two semesters, of the entire *Comedy*, in its cultural (historical, literary, artistic, philosophical) context. Dante I covers the works that precede the *Comedy*, and the *Inferno*. Dante II will focus on the *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*, along with the *Monarchia*. These are separate courses and can be taken individually, or in either order, although they do form an integrated sequence. (ROIT 40114, Dante's Divine Comedy, is a lecture-based introduction to the entire poem emphasizing the *Inferno*, and a good substitute for Dante I.) Lectures and discussion are in English; the text will be read in a facing-page translation (so previous acquaintance with Italian or a Romance language is useful, but not necessary). Again, having taken ROIT 40114 or 40115 is useful for this course, but not necessary. Counts for IBC Liberal Arts, LIT - University requirement Literature, MESE - European Studies course. Counts as an Italian Studies course for the major. Cross lists: LLRO 40116, MI 40553.

ROIT 40548 ITALIAN CINEMA: REALITIES OF HISTORY**TR 12:30-1:45****Z. Baranski**

This course explores the construction and development of the Italian cinematic realist tradition from the silent era to the early 1970s, although its primary focus is on the period 1934-1966, which stretches from the appearance of Blasetti's openly fascist "historical" reconstruction, *La vecchia guardia*, to Pasolini's eccentric exercise in left-wing commitment, *Uccellacci e uccellini*, with its mix of expressionist and hyper-realist techniques. At the centre of this period are found some of Italy's most highly regarded films made by directors, such as Vittorio DeSica, Roberto Rossellini, and Luchino Visconti, who belonged to the neo-realist movement (1945-53). These filmmakers rejected escapist cinema and tried to make films that examined the contemporary experiences of ordinary Italians. As well as analyzing the films in themselves, the course examines the formal and ideological continuities and differences between neo-realist films and their silent and fascist predecessors. In a similar way, it analyzes neo-realism's impact on later filmmakers, such as Federico Fellini, Pietro Germi, Pier Paolo Pasolini, Gillo Pontecorvo, Dino Risi, and Francesco Rosi, who attempted to

develop new versions of cinematic realism. Finally, the course aims to locate the films in their historical and cultural contexts and to address theoretical issues arising from the concept of "realism." Taught in English; counts as an Italian Studies course for the Major. Cross lists: LLRO 40548, FTT 40249.

ROIT 42116 DANTE II ITALIAN DISCUSSION GROUP

M 5:00-6:00

L. Francalanci

This one-credit section accompanies ROIT 40116, Dante II. It meets one hour a week (at a mutually agreed time) to read and discuss in Italian passages of the Italian text of the *Comedy*. Requirements include faithful attendance, careful preparation of the passages, and participation in the discussion, but minimal or no written work and no exam.

ROIT 53000 ITALIAN SEMINAR: THE FANTASTIC IN ITALIAN

MW 11:00-12:15

S. Ferri

The literature of the fantastic blurs the boundaries between reality and the imagination. From vampires to doppelgängers, from automata to ghosts, Italian literature has a rich and interesting tradition in the genre. This course will explore the development of fantastic fiction in Italy between the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. We will read a series of short stories designed to both entertain and intrigue readers, and we will examine them both as literature and as lenses into the Italian culture and imagination. Reading the Italian fantastic tradition alongside writers like Poe and Hoffmann, you will be able to make connections with what you have learned in previous courses and gain a deeper understanding of the Italian culture from a broad international perspective. The course will immerse you in the topic and encourage you to compare our present context with that of the authors. You will pursue a topic or angle that excites you and present it both orally and in a capstone paper. The course is taught in Italian. Prerequisite: at least two 3-credit courses taught in Italian at the 30000 or 40000 level. Counts as a Lit-Culture course for the major; required for the Lit-Culture Major or Supplementary Major.