

**Spring 2015**  
**ITALIAN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**



**UNDERGRADUATE COURSES**

**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.

**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.

**ROIT 27500-01/02: INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN II**

**MWF 11:30-12:20/12:50-1:40**

**P. Bocchia/L. Valterza**

An advanced, fourth-semester content-driven language course is designed to further the student's conversational skills as well as grasp of a wide variety of styles and registers in Italian. Spoken and written Italian will be practiced through various classroom activities and assignments. Readings include a wide array of literary and nonliterary texts (newspapers and magazines, short fiction, and so on). The context of the course will

offer to students numerous possibilities for debating and negotiating their personal views which will guide the development and refinement of oral and written proficiency. The course will also include a variety of creative presentations, role-plays, and other collaborative assignments. Prerequisites: three semesters of Italian. This course counts as a 200-level course toward the Italian major or minor.

**ROIT 30300-01 LET'S TALK ITALIAN ADVANCED**

**R 3:30-4:30**

**L. Francalanci**

This mini-course in Italian meets one hour per week for group discussions on varied contemporary issues in Italian culture, society, and politics. Conducted in Italian. Recommended for students in their third or fourth year of Italian who have completed four or five semesters of Italian, or who have completed ROIT 20300.

**ROIT 30310-01/02: PASSAGE TO ITALY**

**TR 11:00-12:15 / MW 11:00-12:15**

**J. Welle / S. Ferri**

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 30535-01: ROME, THE ETERNAL CITY**

**TR 2:00-3:15**

**R. Glass**

No city in the world has an urban fabric so rich in historical layers and dense in historic monuments as Rome. As the heart of the ancient Roman Empire, a major Christian pilgrimage destination, the seat of the papacy, and the capital of the modern nation of Italy, Rome has been the site of extraordinary urban development and artistic patronage for more than two millennia. This course surveys the topography and urbanism of Rome from its ancient origins to the present. We will examine the built environment in the largest sense of the term: architecture and urban planning in particular, but also other art forms that played a role in the defining the identity of the city, such as sculpture, painting, and mosaic. Crosslisted with ARHI 30535 and ARHI 60535.

**ROIT 30620-01: SURVEY OF ITALIAN BAROQUE ART: FROM CARAVAGGIO TO GUARINI**

**MW 2:00-3:15**

**R. Coleman**

This course surveys Italian painting, sculpture, and architecture of the 17th and 18th centuries, a period that also witnessed the foundation and suppression of the Jesuit Order, the Counter-Reformation, absolute monarchy, and democratic nations. Thus, the course begins with the "new Rome" of Pope Sixtus V, which attracted pilgrims and artists from all over Europe, and ends with the early years of the Enlightenment. From northern Italy came Caravaggio and the Carracci, artists who were responsible for creating a new style based upon High Renaissance principles and a new kind of naturalism derived from the study of life. There was Bernini, whose architectural and sculptural monuments almost single-handedly gave Rome its Baroque character. Other artists and architects of this era under discussion include such diverse personalities as Borromini, Guarini, Algardi, Artemisia Gentileschi, and the great ceiling painters Pietro da Cortona, Baciccio, Pozzo, and Tiepolo. Cross-list with 30350.

**ROIT 30721-01 MODERN ITALIAN LITERATURE & CULTURE**

**MW 9:30-10:45**

**J.Welle**

Conducted in Italian, 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 written and oral assignments, a number of brief papers and oral reports, as well as midterm and final exams.

**ROIT 40116-01: DANTE II**

**TR 2:00-3:15**

### **C. Moevs**

Dante's *Comedy* is one of the supreme poetic achievements in Western literature. It is a probing 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. Dante I and Dante II are an in-depth study, over two semesters, of the entire *Comedy*, in its historical, philosophical and literary context. Dante I focuses on the *Inferno* and the works that precede the *Comedy* (*Vita Nuova*, *Convivio*, *De vulgari eloquentia*); Dante II focuses on the *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*, along with the *Monarchia*. Lectures and discussion in English; the text will be read in the original with facing-page translation (acquaintance with Latin or a Romance language is therefore helpful, but not necessary). Counts as an Italian Studies course. Students may take one semester or both, in either order. Students with Italian will have the option of also enrolling in a one-credit pass/fail Languages Across the Curriculum section, which will meet one hour per week to read and discuss selected passages or cantos in Italian. NOTE: Dante I and II are distinct from the one-semester lecture course ROIT 40114, Dante's Divine Comedy: The Christian Universe as Poetry. LIT - Univ.Req. Literature. Crosslisted with LLRO 40116, ROIT 63116, MI 40553, MI 60553, and LIT 73665.

### **ROIT 40506-01 POST-WAR ITALIAN CINEMA, MEMORY, TRAUMA, IDENTITIES**

**TR: 11:00-12:15**

#### **F. Pitassio**

This course explores post – WWII Italian cinema, considered the heyday of neorealism, a phenomenon whose masterworks (Rome open City, Bicycle Thieves, The Earth Trembles) have been widely discussed, but whose boundaries are less certain, revealing ambiguous cultural and political attitudes towards national history and identity. Taught in English, the course will examine post-war Italian film production from three main perspectives: - National and cultural identity, as articulated through film genres, film style, mode of production, institutional policies, narratives; neorealism, usually considered as an eminent Italian phenomenon, will be also looked at from a transnational perspective, and compared to similar European film productions. – Memory, as defined through the reference to recent totalitarian past, the realities of brutal warfare, the Shoah, and mass deportation. The issue of memory refers also to the cultural heritage of interwar avant-garde practices. Fiction and documentary filmmaking will be considered, as they both deal with issues of memory. – Trauma, as the way Italian culture and national film production faced the painful reality of popular support to fascism, military defeat, civil war, often neglecting its analysis, but becoming obsessed with its images. In addition to post-war film production, the course will also take into account photography and literature, as they partook in defining neorealist culture and interacted with filmmaking. Crosslisted with LLRO 40506, ROIT 40506, and FTT 40255.

### **ROIT 42116-01: DANTE II LAC 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 43341-01: SEMINAR IN ITALIAN DRAWINGS**

**MW 11:00-12:15**

#### **R. Coleman**

This seminar is devoted to the study of Italian Renaissance and Baroque drawings in The Snite Museum of Art. The course will introduce the student to the world of special collections where particular care is given to the conservation of works on paper, and where instruction is given in the appropriate ways to study drawings. We will examine papers of different colors, trace the origin and manufacture of paper by means of watermarks, and recognize different types of inks and chalks in order to appreciate the role which the physical object plays in understanding it as an historical and aesthetic work of art. Discussion will also center on the purpose and types of drawings. In fact, the acknowledgment of drawing as fundamental to the creative process, and appreciation of its status as an independent aesthetic endeavor, have their origins in the Italian Renaissance. By the 17th century, drawings of all types had come to be fully appreciated and collected by artists and connoisseurs alike. Each student will be required to research one or two drawings in the Snite collection, and the seminar will conclude with an exhibition (with accompanying catalogue) in The Snite Museum. Crosslisted with ROIT 43341 and ARHI 43341.

### **ROIT 53000-01 ITALIAN SEMINAR: FANTASTIC IN ITALIAN LITERATURE**

**MW: 2:00-3:15**

#### **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.

## Spring 2015 ITALIAN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### GRADUATE COURSES

#### **ROIT 63011-01: INTRODUCTION TO ADVANCED STUDIES IN ITALIAN**

**TBA**

**C. Moevs/ J. Welle**

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.

#### **LLRO 63111-01 HUMANITY AND DIVINITY IN THE WORKS OF DANTE ALIGHIERI**

**M 3:30-6:15**

**V. Montemaggi**

In this course, we will explore the intersection of literary and theological concerns pervading Dante's writings. We will consider the significance of Dante's understanding of the relationship between humanity and divinity both as presented in individual works and as evolving throughout his life, and beyond. The first half of the semester will be dedicated to the *Commedia*. In the second half of the semester we will study Dante's other works and will reflect on the importance of Dante for contemporary Italian culture, especially through engagement with works by Primo Levi and Roberto Benigni. The course will be conducted in English. Students in the Italian program will be required to work with Italian texts in the original. Crosslisted with ROIT 63111, MI 63555, and LIT 73258.

#### **ROIT 63116-01 DANTE II**

**TR 2:00-3:15**

**C. Moevs**

Dante I and Dante II are an in-depth study, over two semesters, of the entire Comedy, in its historical, philosophical and literary context, with selected readings from the minor works (e.g., *Vita Nuova*, *Convivio*, *De vulgari eloquentia*). Dante I focuses on the *Inferno* and the minor works; Dante II focuses on the *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*. Lectures and discussion in English; the text will be read in the original with facing-page translation. Students may take one semester or both, in either order. Crosslisted with LLRO 40116, ROIT 40116, ROIT 63116, MI 40553, MI 60553, and LIT 73665.

#### **ROIT 63540-01 RENAISSANCE ITALIAN THEATRE**

**T 3:30-6:15**

**C. Moevs**

A study of Italian Renaissance theatre in all its dimensions (literary, cultural, social, technical, philosophical, political) from the birth of modern theatre in the late Middle Ages to the birth of *commedia dell'arte* and opera. Crosslisted with LIT 73257 and MI 63551.