

Fall 2015 - Italian Undergraduate Courses

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

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 / 20202: SECOND-LEVEL ITALIAN

ROIT 20201 and 20202, 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 20202 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

TBA

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 30207-01: ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ART

TR 2:00-3:15

R. Glass

This course provides an introduction to the art and architecture produced in Italy from around 1300 to the mid-sixteenth century. Studying some of Western art history's best known artists, such as Donatello, Botticelli, Leonardo, Michelangelo, Raphael, and Titian, we will explore the ways in which art was commissioned, made, and functioned in Renaissance Italy, and various approaches art historians have taken in interpreting its meaning. Topics will include artistic media and techniques; stylistic and iconographic analysis; humanism and renewed interest in the

legacy of classical antiquity; sacred images and spaces; patronage, identity, and the social functions of art; and the changing status of artists and the arts themselves. Crosslisted with ARHI 30310.

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. May be taken more than once.

ROIT 30310-01/02: PASSAGE TO ITALY

TR 3:30-4:45/TR 2:00-3:15

S. Ferri/ C. Moevs

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 30711-01: MEDIEVAL RENAISSANCE ITALIAN LITERATURE CULTURE

TR 11:00-12:15

C. MOEVS

Taught in Italian, this course helps you to understand the most important works of medieval and Renaissance Italian literature, painting, sculpture, architecture, and music, in their historical, social, and cultural context. We will analyze key texts from Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Machiavelli, and Ariosto, among others, and learn to appreciate key works of art and architecture by Duccio, Giotto, Ghiberti, Donatello, Brunelleschi, Alberti, Masaccio, Botticelli, Da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael, among others. We will seek to make the historical and social context come alive, especially in Florence, Rome, Milan, Urbino, and Venice, and focus on some of the most extraordinary personalities of an age of great personalities (e.g., Isabella d'Este, Federico da Montefeltro, Michelangelo, Pietro Aretino). The ultimate aim is to reflect on the great political, social, intellectual, cultural, and spiritual changes that occur between 1200 and 1550 in Italy, the epicenter of one of the most extraordinary periods of human accomplishment in world history, and on how those changes reflect a profound and shifting understanding of self, of the world, and of God. The course is taught in Italian, and also aims to help you speak, understand, and write Italian with more confidence, accuracy, and ease (we will spend a little time in each class reviewing and practicing more sophisticated structures in the language). Requirements include brief discussion forum entries, four brief analytical papers (2-3 pages each), a midterm, and a final. Counts as a Lit-Culture course; required for majors and supplementary majors in the Lit Culture concentration; this course or ROIT 30721 required for majors in the Italian Studies concentration. Cross-listed with MI 30577.

ROIT 40114-01: DANTE'S DIVINE COMEDY: THE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSE AS POETRY

TR 2:00-3:15

Z. Baranski

Dante is the greatest religious poet of Western culture, and his great epic poem, the *Divine Comedy*, offers a remarkable and original synthesis of his view of the fundamental relationship between God and humanity. The course offers an introduction to Dante's *Commedia* (the title of the poem is *Comedy* and not *Divine Comedy* as is commonly believed) by focusing on the first of its three parts, *Inferno*, while also paying significant attention to its other two parts, *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*. Classes will principally concentrate on providing readings of individual cantos. (The course will be divided into 4 introductory lectures, 12 classes on *Inferno*, 7 on *Purgatory*, and 6 on *Paradiso*.) At the same time, broader issues central to Dante's masterpiece will be discussed. In particular, attention will be paid to Dante's ties to classical and Christian culture, his political views, his ideas on language, his involvement in contemporary intellectual debates, his efforts to use poetry for ethical and religious ends, and his literary experimentation (including his perplexing choice of title for his masterpiece). The course is open to all second-, third-, and fourth-year students, and will be taught in English. Dante's poem, too, will be read in English translation, though students with a reading knowledge of Italian are encouraged to read it in both languages. The translation is that found in the annotated bilingual edition by Robert and Jean Hollander (Doubleday). Cross list with MI 40565/MI 60552, LLRO 40114, LIT 73262.

ROIT 40512-01: COMEDY, ITALIAN STYLE

MW 2:00-3:15

J. Welle

Taught in English, this course examines Italian film comedy, comic traditions in theatre and literature, and national identity. The popular film genre known as "comedy Italian style" is analyzed in its historical development in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s and is framed by earlier comic works as well as by subsequent films from the '80s and '90s to the present. We will analyze a long tradition of comic genius, stretching from the *Commedia dell'arte* and Goldoni's comedy of manners; from *The Adventures of Pinocchio* and Pirandello's writings on humor to the political farce of Nobel-prize winning playwright Dario Fo, and the antics of Roberto Benigni: a living comic tradition that continues to be a vital force of aesthetic pleasure and political commentary. Requirements include attendance at mandatory film screenings, participation in class discussions, oral presentations, a number of short papers, and midterm and final exams. Crosslisted with FTT 30231.

ROIT 40805-01: SEMINAR TOPICS IN RENAISSANCE ART

TR 11:00-12:15

R. Glass

Michelangelo Buonarroti (1475-1564) produced some of the most original sculpture, painting, and architecture of the Renaissance and was also an accomplished poet. This seminar provides an overview of his artistic and literary works and the methods scholars have used to understand them. Closer study of selected topics will be determined by the interests of the class. Students should be prepared to analyze and discuss challenging images and texts, to conduct independent research, and to produce an original project examining a problem or question arising from

Michelangelo's work. This project may take any number of creative forms depending on the particular interests and skills of the student. Crosslisted with ARHI 43305.

**ROIT 40913-01: LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, FRIENDSHIP: READING PRIMO LEVI
MW 12:30-1:45**

V. Montemaggi

Taught in Italian, this course will offer you the opportunity of continuing to develop your linguistic and literary skills by engaging with one of the most important texts of the Italian tradition, and perhaps of all time: Primo Levi's *Se questo è un uomo*. Throughout the course, we will read *Se questo è un uomo* together in its entirety, in Italian. This will give us the opportunity for detailed and advanced work with language, both written and oral. At the same time, we will address significant questions concerning the nature and value of literary interpretation. Through all of this we will be able to reflect, both in theory and in practice, on Levi's suggestion that the truth of human existence resides in friendship. Our reading of *Se questo è un uomo* will be accompanied by the study of other significant materials, in both Italian and English, by Levi and other authors, including essays, poetry, film. Moreover, 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.