

Spring 2016 - Italian Graduate Courses

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

ROIT 63011 – Introduction to Advanced Studies in Italian

TBA

A two-semester course, meeting one hour a week, co-taught by all the Italian T&R faculty. The course will ensure a solid foundation in the precise analysis of literary texts and other cultural artifacts in the context of Italian Studies, including a survey of metrics, rhetorical figures, narrative techniques, and film analysis. It will also provide an introduction to key terms and forms of critical and literary theory, and develop the skills necessary to pursue advanced independent research projects, including familiarity with bibliographic resources and research methods. During the course of the year students will also review a university-level manual/anthology of Italian literature. Required in their first year of all Master's and Doctoral candidates specializing in Italian. Passing the final exam of this course is a prerequisite for continuing studies in Italian.

ROIT 63091 – Italy Past and Present: Literary Standards, National Identity, Regional Diversity

TR 2:00-3:15

M. Zaccarello

The remarkable continuity of literary Italian derives from its adoption of an early standard, the 14th century Tuscan used by Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio, a standard subsequently confirmed by Renaissance grammarians and by the Vocabolario of the Crusca (1612). But Italy's late unification and low level of literacy made the unification of spoken Italian far more recent and problematic, resulting in a socially and regionally diverse array of contemporary varieties of Italian. This course will explore the main historical reasons for this diversity and complexity. The widening gap between the lofty literary language and regional dialects -- which often acquired distinguished literary traditions -- will be explored through reading textual samples in the original.

ROIT 63116 – 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 Nova, 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. Graduate students enrolled in Dante II read more broadly in the secondary literature, and write a graduate seminar paper.

ROIT 63752 – Vico. In Theory.

M 3:30-6:15

S. Ferri

"All the giants of criticism," Jules Michelet declared, "are already contained, with room to spare, in the little pandemonium of the *Scienza nuova*." This course explores the reception of Giambattista Vico's work in literary theory and cultural criticism. Vico's works will be read in conjunction with those of major theorists of the twentieth and twenty-first century, such as Michelet, Auerbach, Horkheimer, Lévi-Strauss, Berlin, White, Said, and Brennan. The course is taught in English and all works will be read in translation.