

## **Fall 2016 - Italian Undergraduate Courses**

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

### **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 / 20202 / 20215 – 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 – Let's Talk Italian I**

**W 3:30-4:30pm**

**Patrick Vivirito**

This is a one-credit conversation course meant to accompany your regular classroom study of Italian language, literature, and culture. It will not review grammar, but allow you the opportunity to practice your Italian with other language students while considering specific aspects of Italian culture. There will be no written work. The instructor may send articles or assign brief research assignment or vocabulary preparation prior to class to facilitate discussion.

### **CSEM 23101 - On Humor: Understanding Italy**

**MW 2-3:15**

**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 proceed to 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 a major twentieth-century thinker on humor: Luigi Pirandello. Pirandello's tragic-comic vision is explored through short stories and a masterpiece of modern theatre, "Six Characters in Search of an Author." Next, we analyze a series of Italian film comedies discussing them in the historical context of Italy over the second half of the twentieth century.

Throughout this trajectory, our primary focus will be on the nature of humor and comic forms as expressed in classical comedy from Ancient Greece and Rome up to contemporary film comedies; our secondary focus will be on why comedy from the ancient classical inheritance through the *Commedia dell'arte* to contemporary film comedy provides a key to understanding Italy both as an heir to an ancient civilization and as a lively modern country.

Students will be evaluated on their preparation for and participation in class discussions, on leading class discussions, on oral presentations, and on a final exam. 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 30207 – Survey of Italian Renaissance Art**

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

**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. Taught in English; counts as an Italian Studies course for the Majors and Minor. CROSSLIST ARHI 30310

### **ROIT 30310 – Passage to Italy**

**TR 11:00am-12:15pm & MW 3:30-4:45pm**

**A. Leone, 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. In short, the course should give you the tools to make your own passage into the rich, enchanting, beautiful world of Italy. Taught in Italian; counts as a Lit-Culture course for the major. Prerequisite: 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 – Medieval /Renaissance Literature and Culture**

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

**C. Moevs**

This course helps you to understand and interpret 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 in an informed and sensitive way 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 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. Taught in Italian; 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 – Dante’s Divine Comedy: The Christian Universe as Poetry**

**TR 12:30-1:45pm**

**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 principally concentrate on providing readings of individual cantos. (The course is 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 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 (the three-volume—*Inferno*, *Purgatorio*, *Paradiso*—paperback edition is published by Anchor Books, an imprint of Random House). Counts as an Italian Studies course for the Major or Minor. Cross list with MI 40565/MI 60552, LLRO 40114.

**ROIT 40733 – Italo Calvino: Dal neorealismo al postmodernismo**

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

**M. McLaughlin**

Italo Calvino (1923-85) was Italy’s finest twentieth-century novelist. His works have been translated into over 45 languages in 60 different countries, and some of these (such as *Il barone rampante* and *Le città invisibili*) have become cult or classic works in the English-speaking world. This course highlights the constant variety and innovation in Calvino’s output, starting with his early neorealist work, *Il sentiero dei nidi di ragno* (1947), before exploring his fantasy trilogy *I nostri antenati* (1960), and then moving on to his most famous postmodern works, *Le città invisibili* (1972) and *Se una notte d’inverno un viaggiatore* (1979). The course will be taught in Italian. Counts as a Lit-Culture course for the Major or Minor. NOTE: ALMOST ANY COURSE IN THE UNIVERSITY OR FROM ABROAD WHOSE CONTENT IS AT LEAST HALF ON AN ITALIAN SUBJECT (INCLUDING CLASSICS, ART HISTORY, HISTORY, MUSIC, POLITICS, ETC....) MAY

COUNT AS AN ITALIAN STUDIES COURSE (A COURSE IN ENGLISH ON AN ITALIAN SUBJECT) TOWARD A MAJOR OR MINOR. IT NEED NOT HAVE AN ROIT CROSSLIST. BUT IF IT DOES NOT HAVE AN ROIT CROSSLIST YOU MUST HAVE IT APPROVED BY YOUR ADVISER TO COUNT FOR A MAJOR OR MINOR.