

ITL 340 ITALIAN CINEMA

Taught in Italian. Written assignments and reading materials are in English

TUESDAY 18.30 – 21.15 in Aula Magna

Instructor: Nicola Benedettini

Contact e-mail: nico.benedettini@gmail.com – for further information

Instructor is available to meet with students during working hours, by appointment only.

**HOW THE CINEMA TELLS THE REALITY:
Italy, from post-war to the present day, through
some masterpieces of our cinema**

Through the presentation of some of the most remarkable Italian directors' films it will be possible to see the history of this country, from post war to present days.

The course offers ideas and thoughts for discussions on issues related to the relationship between cinema and history, society, habits and language. For those interested there will be new publications (essays, magazines), websites, contests and film festivals, cultural activities of various kinds related to the cinema.

Students are required to attend and participate in each lesson, as well as read selected chapters from the text "Italian Cinema from Neorealism to the Present" by Peter Bondanella.

GRADING: Final evaluation will take into consideration: class participation (20%), Midterm (20%), final examination (30%) and Paper (30%).

"3 – Hour" Attendance Policy 2013-2014 (for classes that meet once a week for 3 hours)

Attendance to all CSU courses is mandatory. One unexcused absence is allowed during the semester but more than one unexcused absence will lower your grade as follows (excused absences will be accepted for serious medical reasons or emergencies): **TWO** unexcused absences, lowers by 1.5 letter grades (i.e., B to C-); **THREE** unexcused absences, lowers by 3 letter grades (i.e., A to D). More than **THREE unexcused absences will result in failure of the course.**

In order not to disrupt the class, punctuality is required. Students are expected to be in class at the beginning of the class hour; any delay exceeding ten minutes will be considered an absence.

Dates of mid-term and final exams **can not** be changed for individual travel plans or personal needs. Students should take note of the dates and hours of the midterm and final exams and plan their trips after the last exam. It is important to inform friends and relatives about these exam dates so that no tickets are purchased for you that will interfere with these exam dates. Missing the midterm or the final exam will mean failure of the course.

During the academic year photocopies and other material may be distributed in class by the instructors. Students who were not in class are responsible for getting the material from their classmates and making their own photocopies.

Optional class policies:

-Use of the computer in class is restricted to oral presentations, unless previously approved by the professor.

-Eating is NOT allowed in class.

-Cellular phones must be turned off or placed on *silent mode* during class.

In order to attend the course students are required to have a sufficient knowledge of Italian.

Program:

1 Lesson – 25/February

Post-war Italy: Neorealism's objectivity
Film: "Ladri di biciclette" (1948) – V. De Sica

2 Lesson – 04/March

Italy in the '50s: the "Commedia all'italiana"
Film: "I soliti ignoti" (1958) – M.Monicelli

3 Lesson – 11/March

Italy in the '60s: the "Golden age" of Italian Cinema: Federico Fellini's symbolism
Film: "Otto e mezzo" (1963) – F.Fellini

4 Lesson – 18/March

The crisis of the '70s
Film: "Romanzo criminale" (2005) - M. Placido

- 5 Lesson – 25/March** Italy between the '80s and '90s: the social, political and cultural revolution
Film: "Lamerica" (1994) – G. Amelio
- 6 Lesson – 1/April** GUEST SPEAKER
Cinema and Literature
- 7 Lesson – 8/April** Contemporary Italy: the new look of the emerging filmmakers
Film: "Gomorra" (2006) – M. Garrone
- 8 Lesson – 15/April** **MIDTERM EXAM**
- 18/27 April** ***SPRING BREAK***
- 9 Lesson – 29/April** Contemporary Italy: the new look of the emerging filmmakers
Film: "Habemus Papam" (2011) – N. Moretti
- 10 Lesson – 6/May** Contemporary Italy: the new look of the emerging filmmakers
Film: "La grande bellezza" (2013) – Sorrentino
- 11 Lesson – 13/May** Contemporary Italy: LECTURE
- 12 Lesson – 20/May** GUEST SPEAKER
Cinema and Literature
- 13 Lesson – 26 - 29/May** **FINAL EXAM (to be announced)**