

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
CSU Virtual International Program

ITL 340 - CINEMA ITALIANO
Italian Cinema

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

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

Spring Semester VIP 2020

Professor: Nicola Benedettini

nico.benedettini@gmail.com

MONDAY 6:15-7:15 ON LINE through March 27

On line 7:15 - 8:15 pm starting March 30

Office hours: to be announced or by appointment

Course Description

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.

CSU GE category D3 or D5

General Course Requirements

You are responsible for the weekly readings, the information given to you in class, on handouts **and via email**. Part of your grade will be determined by regular attendance, participation in class discussions and active engagement in all activities of this course. ***Make sure to check your email on a regular basis for updates and additional information.***

Required Books

"Italian Cinema from Neorealism to the Present" di Peter Bondanella.

The book is on reserve in the library.

Learning Objectives

Students will know:

- the most significant directors and films of Italian cinema, beginning from the post-war period until today
- the most important moments in Italian history, from the post-war period until today, with a particular emphasis on contemporary Italy.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course the students will be able to:

- critically analyze a film by focusing on its content, its cultural context and its realization
- understand the society in which the film was created and produced
- compare cinematic language versus language used by other media

Grades and Exams

Your grade will be determined by the following assignments:

- Midterm 20%
- Paper 30%
- Final 30%
- Class participation 20%

100-94	A
93-90	A-
89-88	B+
87-83	B
82-80	B-
79-77	C+
76-73	C
72-69	C-
68-67	D+
66-63	D
62-60	D-
59 and below	F

The + and - symbols will be used for grading (except for A+). Specific information about the paper, exams and other projects will be given to you during the semester.

A Student performance has been outstanding and indicates an exceptional degree of academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

B Student performance has been at a high level and indicates solid academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

C Student performance has been adequate and indicates satisfactory academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

D Student performance has been less than adequate and indicates deficiencies in meeting the learning outcomes and/or course requirements

F Student performance has been unacceptable and indicates a failure to meet the learning outcomes and/or course requirements

Class Code of Conduct

Activities unrelated to the course (including private conversations, emailing, text messaging, reading, web surfing, etc.) are not permitted during class time. **Please turn off or put all electronic devices on silent mode prior to the beginning of the class.**

Academic Dishonesty Will Not Be Tolerated.

Any form of plagiarism or cheating may result in a failing final grade in the course and might be reported to IP and your campus. You are better off spending your time studying for the class. If you have questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please refer to the student handbook and catalog of your campus and also ask me and/ or the Resident Director for more information.

Attendance

For on-line classes, the teacher will track attendance through the Canvas portal.

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Important: Exams

You must attend all exams and quizzes as scheduled. Make-up exams are given only for valid reasons. Please check your academic calendar **BEFORE** you book trips, flights and hotels.

Copyright and Privacy Laws

No portion of the texts, films, videos, and other material used in this course can be reproduced in any format including scanning, electronic downloading or sharing of files.

In addition, no portion of class lectures, discussions, and activities can be reproduced and used in any format, including electronic, without the written consent of the instructor and/or guest speakers.

Changes- Important

Information contained in this syllabus, including the class calendar, other than that mandated by the University, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Class Calendar

1 Lesson - 24/February Post-war Italy: Neorealism's objectivity
Film: "Ladri di biciclette" (1948) - V.De Sica

2 Lesson - 02/March Italy in the '50s: the "Commedia all'italiana"
Film: "I soliti ignoti" (1958) - M.Monicelli

09/March **Suspension of CSUIP program for 1 week**

3 Lesson - 16/March Italy in the '60s: the "Golden age" of Italian Cinema: Federico Fellini's symbolism
Film: "La dolce vita" (1960) - F.Fellini

4 Lesson - 23/March Italy in the '60s
Film: "Rocco e i suoi fratelli" (1960) - L.Visconti

5 Lesson - 30/March Relationship between Cinema and Society: Napoli and Gomorra
Film: "Gomorra" (2006) - M. Garrone

6 Lesson - 06/ April The crisis of the '70s
Film: "Romanzo criminale" (2005) - Placido

13 April **NATIONAL HOLIDAY: EASTER MONDAY**

Make-up class for class cancelled
On April 13: time to be announced
7 Lesson - Friday, 17/April

Italy between the '80s and '90s: the social, political and cultural revolution
Film: "Lamerica" (1994) - G.Amelio

8 Lesson - 20/ April **MID - TERM EXAM**

9 Lesson - 27/April

Contemporary Italy: the new look of the emerging filmmakers
Film: "La febbre" (2005) - A. d'Alatri

10 Lesson - 04/May

Contemporary Italy: the new look of the emerging filmmakers
Film: "La grande bellezza" (2013) - Paolo Sorrentino

11 Lesson - 11/May

Contemporary Italy: the new look of the emerging filmmakers
Film: "L'ultimo bacio" (2001) - G.Muccino

12 Lesson - 18/May

Contemporary Italy: emerging filmmakers
Film: "Perfetti sconosciuti" (2016) - Paolo Genovese

13 Lesson - 26-29/May

FINAL EXAM - to be announced