

**ITL 340 ITALIAN CINEMA**

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

*Monday 19.00 – 21.45 in Aula Magna*

**Instructor: Nicola Benedettini**

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**Instructors are 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 2008-2009 (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:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Lesson – 21/February</b>	Post-war Italy: Neorealism's objectivity Film: “Ladri di biciclette” (1948) – V. De Sica
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson – 28/February</b>	Italy between the '50s and '60s: Federico Fellini's symbolism Film: “La dolce vita” (1960) - F. Fellini
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Lesson – 07/March</b>	Italy between the '50s and '60s: Pasolini's complaint Film: “Accattone” (1961) - P. Pasolini
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 14/March</b>	The social and cultural transformation between the '60s and '70s Film: “Indagine su un cittadino al di sopra di ogni sospetto” (1970) – E. Petri

**5<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 21/March**                      The crisis of the '70s  
Film: “Romanzo criminale” (2005) – M. Placido

**6<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 28/March**                      Italy between the '80s and '90s: the social  
revolution, political and cultural  
Film: “Lamerica” (1994) - G. Amelio

**7<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 04/April**                      **MIDTERM EXAM**

**8<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 11/April**                      Contemporary Italy: the new look of the  
emerging filmmakers  
Film: “Il Divo” (2001) – P. Sorrentino

**9<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 18/April**                      Contemporary Italy: the new look of the  
emerging filmmakers  
Film: “Gomorra” (2006) – M. Garrone

**22 April to 1 May**                      **SPRING BREAK**

**10<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 02/May**                      Contemporary Italy: the new look of the  
emerging filmmakers  
Film: “Generazione mille euro” (2008) - M.  
Venier

**11<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 09/May**                      Testimonials classroom of directors, actors,  
producers, critics, professionals.

**12<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 16/May**                      Testimonials classroom of directors, actors,  
producers, critics, professionals.

**13<sup>th</sup> Lesson – 23/May**                      **FINAL EXAM**