Office hours
By appointment or simply open door policy
Email: lastrucci@gonzaga.edu

Pre-requisite
Two years of Italian

Textbook
Selections from
ITALIAN THROUGH FILM – THE CLASSICS, A. Borra, C. Pausini, Yale University Press
ITALIAN THROUGH FILM A. Borra, C. Pausini, Yale University Press
HANDOUTS

Course description
This course uses primarily Italian films to help students improve language proficiency and deepen their understanding of Italian history and culture. Italian cinema closely reflects national culture and most films are chosen for their focus on one or more aspects of Italian society. A broad range of films will be shown. Preparation for viewing includes background reading, thematic discussions and vocabulary building exercises based on key words and expressions of each film; related grammar instructions will be based on the specific needs of the class. The course will be taught in Italian and is designed specifically for advanced students.

Course objectives
The objectives of this course are:
- to define, refine and improve writing and speaking skills in Italian.
- to give students a clear comprehension of Italian culture through the tendencies of Italian cinema, focusing on the Italian filmmakers of the last decades and concentrating on some of the most significant authors.
**Requirements**
For every film, students are required to prepare a written review which includes basic information (director, cast, plot summary, etc.) along with a personal reaction and analysis of individual scenes. In class, students will be asked to comment on important scenes from the film and relationship between characters.

**Quizzes and Exams**
Two quizzes and a final project
As a final project, students will choose from the following:
1) Presentation and review of a film not shown during the semester, with specific reference to its social and historical context. Viewing and discussion of one of the film's key scenes.
2) Presentation regarding one aspect of Italian culture, quoting films related to it
3) Presentation of a short film written and produced by the student/s

**Grading system**
Quizzes : 20%
Film reviews : 30%
Final project: 30%
Class participation : 20%

**Grading Scale**

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94 – 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 93</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84 – 86</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>80–83</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>74 – 76</td>
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<td>C-</td>
<td>70 – 73</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>65 – 66</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>67–69</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77–79</td>
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**Absences**
According with the general rules of Gonzaga in Florence program.
The students will be responsible for all explanations and work missed. Active participation in class is as integral and indispensable as regular attendance.
Further suggested readings

Bertellini Giorgio THE CINEMA OF ITALY Wallflower Press, London 2004

Brunetta Gian Pietro CENT'ANNI DI CINEMA ITALIANO, Laterza, Bari 2004

Sitney, P. Adams VITAL CRISES IN ITALIAN CINEMA, University of Texas Press, Austin 1995

Wood Mary P. ITALIAN CINEMA, Berg, Oxford 2005