Western University

Department of Languages and Cultures

Winter 2023

Italian 3338G

Books on the Big Screen

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**This syllabus is provisional and subject to change**

**Instructor**

Luca Pocci ([lpocci@uwo.ca](mailto:lpocci@uwo.ca))

University College, UC 4307

Office Hours: TBA

Class Time and Location: Monday 2:30-3:30 & Wednesday 2:30-4:30, UC 2110

**Course Content and Aims**

An introduction to the films of some of the best-known Italian directors and to the narrative works that inspired them, this course explores the diverse modalities in which the literary sphere and the cinematic one intersect. Students will become familiar with the various stages of the political and socio-economic history of Italy described in the films/books under examination. We will compare and contrast the novels with their cinematic versions while discussing questions of authorship, adaptation, intermediality, and genres. The course is taught in Italian. Reading of the

English translations of a selection of literary works is required. Excerpts chosen by the instructor will be read in Italian. Special attention will be given

to the building of a pertinent Italian vocabulary.

**Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, students are expected

-to be familiar with important contemporary novelists and film directors

-to possess an understanding of crucial periods of Italian history

-to have improved oral and written communication skills in Italian

-to be able to discuss theoretical approaches to questions of authorship, adaptation, intermediality, and reception

-to recognize and contrast features specific to the cinematic and literary genres

-to have developed the ability to do autonomous research.

# Course evaluation

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| a) Midterm | 20 % |
| b) Group Presentation | 20 % |
| c) Essay (topic chosen in consultation with the instructor) | 30 % |
| d) 2 Quizzes | 20% |
| e) Participation | 10% |

Please note: There will be no final exam