

ITA2222A

Made in Italy

Western University

Instructor: Dr. Pietro Pirani

Communication with the professor:

I will communicate important information to the entire class via the Newsfeed located on the course OWL page. Additionally, I will use e-mail for course updates, and where necessary, I will communicate with you individually through Western e-mail (ppirani2@uwo.ca). All e-mail will be checked daily, and a response will be given within 24 hours.

You can also reach me on Zoom. Given the course's nature, I will not hold regular "office hours" on Zoom, but please send me an e-mail if you would like to arrange a Zoom meeting.

Course Overview

Historically, Italians have contributed extensively to our shared world heritage. Italians created the first universities, law and medical schools, banks, and public libraries; taught diplomacy and manners to Europe; mapped the moon (in 1651); split the atom; produced the first modern satires and sonnets; invented the telephone, battery, the barometer, the radio, and the thermometer; and gave to the world the eternal gift of music.

This course will build on this tradition and explore what makes Italy unique on the global scene in the 21st century. By looking at Italy's achievements in sectors such as fashion, food, philosophy, sport, and business, to name a few, this course will introduce students to the icons of Italian culture and industry and explore their broad international appeal.

NOTE: Taught in English.

Student Evaluation

Assessment	Weighting	Due Date
Online Discussion (OLPA)	60% (12% each x 5 discussions)	Unit 1, Unit 2, Unit 3, Unit 4, Unit 5
Take-Home Final Exam	40%	June 21 st , 2021

Detailed instructions for each assignment with accompanying rubrics will be available on the OWL site in May.

Course Materials

- All readings for the course will be available electronically through OWL.

Grade Distribution

1. On-line discussion (60%)

Sixty per cent of your final mark will be assessed from **class participation** in **on-line group discussions**. You will be asked to respond to a series of questions based on course material on five occasions. The purpose of these discussions is to familiarize you with the critical themes and concepts from each lesson. Discussions are about more than exchanging information; they require you to extend current thinking, introduce alternatives, and facilitate new understandings for yourselves and your group members. You should expect that the rest of the

group has read the articles/chapters and build on that shared knowledge. A person who merely summarizes the readings will receive a lower grade. A person who analyzes and applies the readings will receive a higher grade.

- ❖ **Group discussion activity:** Each discussion comes with two questions, and you are required to answer one of the two. Your answer must be at least five, seven sentences. After the first round, in which all the group members have answered the questions, the second phase begins. All group members must reply to the comments that have been expressed by addressing at least one comment of one student in the group. To summarize, by the end of each discussion, you must respond to one question and reply at least to one of the other students in your group.
- I will be looking for three features in your answers and replies:
 - Clarity: Does your response analyze the themes and concepts clearly and concisely? Is the material placed in a framework that helps me and the other students understand the authors' arguments?
 - Creativity: Are the examples recent and relevant?
 - Correctness: How well did you understand the concepts and themes? Did you include the most essential elements?
- **Guidelines and schedule:** The group discussions will be held during Unit 1, Unit 2, Unit 3, Unit 4, and Unit 5. You must make your contribution according to the schedule, and you must participate in both discussions. You can access each discussion from the "Forums" tab of OWL.
 - **Please note:**
 - Questions discussed in each unit are the same for all students.
 - This course will require the electronic submission of assignments through the plagiarism detection service Turnitin (<http://www.turnitin.com>).
- **Deadline:** On the week of the discussion, your original posts must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Day 4, and you have to respond to your group members by 11:59 p.m. Day 7.
 - **NOTE:** Day 4: Wednesday; Day 7: Saturday

2. Final Take-Home Exam

The take-home final exam will be available to you on June 8th. For the exam, you will choose **two essay questions** out of a list of **10**, which draw on all the topics and readings you have encountered throughout the course. You are expected to write in total 1500-2000 words. You are to upload the final exam into the appropriate dropbox in OWL. Please include a separate cover page, **including your name, student number, course number and title, and instructor's name**. There will be a late penalty of 2% or 0.5 of a mark out of 30 per day (including Saturday and Sunday). **No examinations will be accepted more than one week late.**

- **Please note:** This course will require electronic submission of assignments through the plagiarism detection service Turnitin (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Common statement for all MLL courses on academic accommodation, academic offenses, support services:

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Modern Languages and Literatures courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>.

It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

Missed Assignments:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical or non-medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation.

Please refer to the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> and download a Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca>

Students who found themselves in emotional/mental distress are encouraged to refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of confidential options about how to obtain help.

E-mails:

While your instructors and TAs will do their best to reply within a reasonable timeframe during weekdays to your e-mails, make sure that the answer to your questions is not already contained in your syllabus. This will save lots of time and concerns.