Western Arts&Humanities

Department of Languages and Cultures
ITA2215G

Course outline 2020-2021

Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: https://www.uwo.ca/health/.

1. Technical Requirements:

Stable internet connection

Laptop or computer

Working microphone

Working webcam

2. Course Overview and Important Dates:

Delivery Mode	Dates	Time
Online	Monday and Wednesday	**M 3:30-5:30 W. 3:30-4:30**

*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 4

Classes Start	Reading Weeks	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 9	November 2 - 8	December 9	December 10	December 11 – 22
January 11	February 13 - 21	April 12	April 13	April 14– 30

*November 30, 2020: Last day to drop a full course and full-year half course without penalty

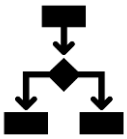
3. Contact Information

Instructor(s) or Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information
Luca Pocci	lpocci@uwo.ca

4. Course Description and Design

This course focuses on Italian identity as a plural and ever-changing process, as a work in progress resulting from the interplay of cultural diversity and collective identification. We will explore the dynamics of inclusion and exclusion that have characterized and continue to characterize the relationship with the country of origin of Italian emigrants, and the sense of national belonging of so-called "hyphenated Italians", both outside Italy (in particular, Italian-Canadians and Italian-Americans) and inside (the sons and daughters of immigrants to Italy). By examining these dynamics we will reflect on how emigrants and "hyphenated Italians" have contributed to problematize and transform the nation's self-representation. At the same time, special attention will be given to the age-old debate on Italian identit(ies), a debate which we will retrace historically, from its beginning in medieval times to the present. To this end we will consider the idea of Italy constructed by some of the greatest figures from the past (Marco Polo, Dante, Petrarca, Leopardi, Pasolini) and by a number of contemporary pop artists, mainly singers and rappers.

Pre-or Corequisite(s): Italian 2200 or 2250W/X or permission of the department



Mode	Dates	Time	Frequency
Virtual synchronous	M/W	3:30-4:30	Weekly
Virtual asynchronous	M	4:30-5:30	Weekly

☒ Asynchronous pre-work must be completed prior to synchronous sessions

☒ Attendance at synchronous sessions is required

☒ Missed work should be completed within 24 hours

All course material will be posted to OWL: http://owl.uwo.ca. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click here.

5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- understand key aspects of Italian and Italian-Canadian culture in a historical perspective
- research autonomously a number of topics related to the culture and history of the Italian people
- communicate in written and spoken Italian with enhanced proficiency
- engage with a broad array of text types

6. Course Content

Detailed instructions for activities and assignments can be found in the class schedule posted on OWL.

Week 1	Jan. 11 & 13	Presentazione del corso **Italiani nel mondo**: Marco Polo, *Il Milione*
Week 2	Jan. 18 & 20	**Italiani nel mondo:** Marco Polo, *Il Milione*
Week 3	Jan. 25 & 27	**Italiani nel mondo:** l'emigrazione italiana
Week 4	Feb. 1 & 3	**Italiani nel mondo:** l'emigrazione negli Stati Uniti
Week 5	Feb. 8 & 10	**Italiani nel mondo:** l'emigrazione in Canada
Week 6	Feb. 15-21	**SPRING READING WEEK**
Week 7	Feb. 22 & 24	**L'identità italiana:** l'Italia letteraria
Week 8	Mar. 1 & 3	**Gli scrittori e l'Italia:** Dante
Week 9	Mar. 8 & 10	**Gli scrittori e l'Italia:** Petrarca, Machiavelli
Week 10	Mar. 15 & 17	**Gli scrittori e l'Italia**: Leopardi, Pasolini
Week	Mar. 22 & 24	**L'Italia nelle canzoni**: cantautori e rappers
Week 11	Mar. 29 & 31	**L'Italia nelle canzoni**: cantautori e rappers
Week 12 Week 13	Apr. 5 & 7 Apr. 12	**L'Italia di oggi** Conclusione del corso

7. Online Participation and Engagement

☒ Students are expected to participate and engage with content as much as possible

8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

PLEASE NOTE: THIS COURSE WILL NOT HAVE A FINAL EXAM

Assessment	Format	Weighting	Due Date
Writing Assignment 1	Instructions on OWL	18%	See class schedule
Writing Assignment 2	Instructions on OWL	18%	See class schedule
Writing Assignment 3	Instructions on OWL	18%	See class schedule
Essay Project Presentation	Instructions on OWL	13%	See class schedule
Essay	Instructions on OWL	25%	See class schedule
Discussion and Participation	Instructions on OWL	8%	See class schedule

☒ All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified

☒ Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)

☒ After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days

Click here for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed evaluations:

☒ Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 5%/day including weekend

☒ Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report

☒ An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class; the weight of a missed test will be transferred to an upcoming assignment to be decided by the instructor

8. Communication:

☒ Students should check the OWL site every 24 hours

☒ Updates will be provided on the OWL announcements as needed

☒ Students must email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using OWL “messages” only for regular course business

☒ Emails will be monitored regularly; students will receive a response within 48 hours

☒ This course will use Zoom for discussions

☒ This course may use the OWL forum for discussions

9. Office Hours:

☒ Office hours will be held remotely using Zoom

10. Resources

☒ The course material will be available in Owl ("Course Readings" tool) and through the instructor. Please note: there is no required textbook for this course.

11. Professionalism & Privacy:

Western students are expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

☒ Students are expected to follow online etiquette expectations provided on OWL

☒ All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared

☒ Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission

☒ Permitted recordings are not to be distributed

☒ Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments

☒ All recorded sessions will remain within the course site or unlisted if streamed

12. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
5. Connect with others. Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

13. Western Academic Policies and Statements

Absence from Course Commitments

Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences

In the interest of the health and safety of students and health care providers, you are no longer required to seek a medical note for absences this term. If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness you should use the Illness

Reporting Tool. This tool takes the place of the need to submit a medical note and the Self-Reported Absence System formally used by undergraduate students.

You are required to self-report every day that you are ill and unable to complete course commitments. Details about when you should submit missed work, the format of the missed work can be found in the Section 7. Evaluation above. Students should communicate promptly with their instructor and use this tool with integrity.

Accommodation for Religious Holidays

The policy on Accommodation for Religious Holidays can be viewed here.

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found here.

Academic Offenses

"Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed here to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts here.

Turnitin and other similarity review software

All assignments will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. Students will be able to view their results before the final submission. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western University and Turnitin.com.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

Online Etiquette
To ensure the best experience for both you and your classmates, please honour the following rules of etiquette:

- please "arrive" to class on time
- please use your computer and/or laptop if possible (as opposed to a cell phone or tablet)
- ensure that you are in a private location to protect the confidentiality of discussions in the event that a class discussion deals with sensitive or personal material

- to minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone for the entire class until you are invited to speak, unless directed otherwise
- [suggested for classes larger than 30 students] In order to give us optimum bandwidth and web quality, please turn off your video camera for the entire class unless you are invited to speak
- please be prepared to turn your video camera off at the instructor's request if the internet connection becomes unstable
- unless invited by your instructor, do **not** share your screen in the meeting

The course instructor will act as moderator for the class and will deal with any questions from participants. To participate please consider the following:

- if you wish to speak, use the "raise hand" function and wait for the instructor to acknowledge you before beginning your comment or question
- remember to unmute your microphone and turn on your video camera before speaking
- self-identify when speaking.
- remember to mute your mic and turn off your video camera after speaking (unless directed otherwise)

General considerations of "netiquette":

- Keep in mind the different cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the students in the course.
- Be courteous toward the instructor, your colleagues, and authors whose work you are discussing.
- Be respectful of the diversity of viewpoints that you will encounter in the class and in your readings. The exchange of diverse ideas and opinions is part of the scholarly environment. "Flaming" is never appropriate.
- Be professional and scholarly in all online postings. Cite the ideas of others appropriately.

Note that disruptive behaviour of any type during online classes, including inappropriate use of the chat function, is unacceptable. Students found guilty of Zoom-bombing a class or of other serious online offenses may be subject to disciplinary measures under the Code of Student Conduct.

14. Support Services

Students who are in emotional distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

The following links provide information about support services at Western University.

Registrarial Services

Academic Counselling (Arts and Humanities)

Student Development Services

Student Health Services

Services Provided by USC

Appeal Procedures