

WESTERN UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES  
Winter 2018-2019

**Italian 2242G/CLC 2131B**  
***Rome: The Eternal City***

Instructor: Luca Pocci ([lpocci@uwo.ca](mailto:lpocci@uwo.ca)), UC 4307  
Office hours: TBA  
Classes: Wednesday, 2:30-4:30pm



**Course Content and Aims**

All roads lead to Rome! So, let's go! Let's take a virtual tour of the only city in the world that has been blessed with the privilege of being called eternal. In this course you will discover the unique cultural wonders of Rome, by immersing yourself in its 3000 years of history and in a unique urban landscape, where the presence of a majestic past provides the exciting background for the hustle and bustle typical of a modern-day metropolis. During your journey, you will learn how to identify and appreciate the stylistic features of architectural must-sees (including the Colosseum, the Pantheon, Saint Peter's) and artistic masterpieces (Michelangelo's frescoes in the Sistine Chapel, Raphael's *School of Athens*, Bernini's Baroque sculptures, among others). While exploring myths of origins (the stories of Aeneas and of Romulus and Remus) you will relive the sense of marvel at the breathtaking sights offered by the eternal city emerging from the descriptions of illustrious foreign writers

(Goethe, Stendhal, and others). You will familiarize yourself with Rome as a dazzling setting for the big screen by being exposed to a variety of cinematic representations of its cityscape; from the films of prominent Italian directors such as Fellini, Pasolini, Sorrentino to American romantic comedies - the 1953 Hollywood classic *Roman Holiday* and Woody Allen's 2012 *To Rome with Love*. Finally, you will end your journey by acquainting yourself with some aspects of Roman popular culture - cuisine, sport, lifestyle - so that next time you are in Rome you can really do as the Romans do.

***The course is taught in English. Coursework in part in Italian for Italian program students only.***

### **Learning outcomes**

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

- Engage in visual interpretations of the social and urban space through films and other media
- Identify in the synchronic texture of the city the traces of its diachronic development and apply this methodology to examine the complexity of the Italian urban landscape
- Use different media and genres to reconstruct the history of Rome from Latin Antiquity to the present
- Participate in class discussions (both individually and by engaging constructively in group work) with a growing degree of familiarity, competence and sophistication

### **Texts**

- A Reader prepared by the instructor will be available at the Western bookstore;
- *Rome. Art and Archaeology*. Ed. by Andrea Augenti. Riverside Book Co: 2000.
- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von. *Italian Journey: 1786-1788*. Trans. W. H Auden and Elizabeth Mayer. Penguin, 1962. Print.

### **Marking Scheme**

Active Participation 10%  
Midterm 25%  
Presentation 15%  
Take home essay 20%  
Final exam 30%

**Participation and Preparation:** students are expected to maintain regular attendance and to participate actively. Participation is assessed on the basis of day-to-day preparation and contribution to group work and in-class discussions. All assignments must be completed before coming to class.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Antirequisite:** None

**Please note:** You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites (or have special permission from your Dean to waive the prerequisite)

and that you have not course. If you are not you may be removed it will be deleted from you will receive no These decisions can not

### **Absenteeism**

Students seeking accommodation on missed tests, exams, components and/or to the Academic home Faculty and

Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

### **UWO's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:**

<https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm>

[https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical accommodations link for OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf)

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies (which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in the department's courses) are available [here](#). It is your responsibility to understand these policies, and thus ignorance thereof cannot be used as grounds for appeal.



taken an antirequisite eligible for the course, from it at any time, and your record. In addition, adjustment to your fees. be appealed.

academic medical grounds for any participation assignments must apply Counseling office of their provide documentation.