

**St. Jerome's University at the University of Waterloo**  
**Department of Italian and French Studies**  
**ITALST 291 – Italian Culture and Civilization I (The Medieval and Renaissance periods)**  
**Fall 2018**

**Instructor:** Dr. Roberta Cauchi-Santoro

**Lecture schedule:** Mondays and Wednesdays 11 30-12 50 pm

**Location:** SJ 2 2002

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**Office:** SH 2112 (SH Sweeney Hall)

**Office Hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays – 10 30am -11 30am or by appointment

**Course description:**

This course broadly explores the Italian Medieval and Renaissance culture and civilization with particular reference to gender and sexual culture as conceived in the literature written in Italian at this time. The themes of sexual identity and gender in Italian Medieval and Renaissance cultures will be specifically explored through the notion of comedy and humour, central to Italian Medieval and Renaissance culture/s.

**Course Goals and Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- A. Understand the fundamental terms and concepts that mark the development of the late Medieval and Renaissance periods in Italy.
- B. Develop a framework that will enable reflection on the literature, particularly comedy, produced in the Italian peninsula from the late Medieval period to the Renaissance.
- C. Assess critically key themes used in reference to Italian Medieval and Renaissance cultures.
- D. Articulate informed arguments about the development of the Italian Medieval and Renaissance periods.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Required texts:** Required texts will be made available through course reserves. Other texts will be made available on LEARN. There will also be “strongly recommended” texts for further reading.

**Grade distribution:**

45% Essays (First essay is worth 20% and second essay is worth 25% of the mark)  
15% Attendance & participation  
20% Midterm Test  
20% Final Test

**Important Information**

**Essays (45%):**

Essays are meant to be an opportunity for students to reflect on class lectures/readings by providing opinions, reactions, thoughts, ideas, and questions related to issues discussed in class (or stemming from issues related to such ideas) and further researched by students. Essays will be submitted approximately every five weeks and are worth 20% (the first) and 25% (the second) for a total of 45% of your final grade. It is paramount to build on the feedback obtained in the first essay to write a better and more convincing second essay. Important information about the University of Waterloo Writing Centre has been posted on announcements (LEARN) and it is advisable to use all the help available on campus to work on improving your writing. This is a course which is meant to strengthen the student's overall writing skills.

**Format:** **An outline of the structure that essays should take will be posted on LEARN at the beginning of the course.** The essays have been clearly scheduled in the course syllabus (September 26<sup>th</sup>, October 24<sup>th</sup>). They must be typed & **DOUBLE SPACED** using Times New Roman (12pt.) font. These essays should be **A MINIMUM** of 5 and a **MAXIMUM** of 6 pages long. Students are asked to submit a hard copy of their work on the due date.

Grading will be based on the following criteria:

- **Evidence of critical thinking,**
- **Logical organization of thoughts**
- **Clarity of ideas,**
- **Grammar, spelling and vocabulary**
- **Evidence of further research carried out by the student.**

**Readings:**

Each week, specific readings (consult course outline below) are scheduled in the syllabus for discussion in class. **Students are expected to have read the texts carefully PRIOR to class and to come prepared with reflections, reactions to/questions about the readings.** Most readings are available on COURSE RESERVES while a few additional readings will be posted a week ahead on LEARN.

**Atten. & Participation (15%):** Active participation in class constitutes an integral part of the course. Engagement with the material in the form of reflection, questions and comments is not only encouraged but is expected of all students. In-class group work will be an integral part of lessons and **group class work/ pair work will also be graded.**

**Midterm Test (20%)**

The midterm exam is scheduled for October 15th. The exam lasts one hour and 20 minutes and consists of a series of short answer questions

**Final Test (20%)**

The final in-class test is scheduled for the last day of classes for this course, which falls on Thursday November 28th. The test lasts one hour and twenty minutes. The final test will consist of a series of short and long answer questions and a synoptic essay. This exam will only test the student's knowledge of the material covered after the midterm test.

**Correspondence:**

Students are expected to utilize email appropriately. This implies that appropriate language should be used at all times.

**Students are also expected to stay abreast of communication about the course through LEARN.** I will post slides (both prior and subsequent to lessons), links, announcements, recommended readings etc. to the course page on LEARN and therefore students are expected to login on a regular basis.

If you have urgent questions concerning the course, please email me at [rcauchis@uoguelph.ca](mailto:rcauchis@uoguelph.ca)/[rcauchis@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:rcauchis@uwaterloo.ca).

**Important note on PLAGIARISM:**

According to the University's Policy 71 (Student Discipline), plagiarism is defined as "...the act of presenting the ideas, words, or other intellectual property of another as one's own. The use of other people's work must be properly acknowledged and referenced in all written material....Use of [source material]

without complete and unambiguous acknowledgement...is an offence under this policy."

According to UW's Office of Academic Integrity, here are some (though not all) of the types of plagiarism that constitute an academic offence:

- Word-for-word use of part or all of any written work (print or electronic) without quotation marks and/or without citation of the source (footnotes, endnotes, or parenthetical citations) and/or without a complete bibliography.
- Word-for-word use of text spans (phrases, sentences, paragraphs, longer segments) patched together from two or more sources without quotation marks and/or without citation of the source and/or without a complete bibliography.
- Word-for-word use of primary source materials without quotation marks and/or without citation of the source and/or without a complete bibliography.
- Word-for-word use of source materials with some text enclosed by quotation marks and provided with citations, but with other text not identified as quoted, and/or not cited, and/or without a complete bibliography.
- Combination of word-for-word use of sources with close paraphrases of source texts, with accurate use of quotation marks and citations (note or parenthetical) to identify word-for-word use, but without citations to identify paraphrases and summaries, and/or without a complete bibliography.
- **Completely paraphrased material** without complete citations and/or without a complete bibliography.
- Giving a citation for only the first or last sentence in a paragraph, even though the rest of the paragraph also contains material in need of direct attribution.

In general: A **complete and accurate bibliography** constitutes only one part of the fulfilment of the requirement for complete and unambiguous acknowledgement of sources. A very large proportion of plagiarized papers do have perfectly or nearly adequate bibliographies. If the paper's reader has to go to (or hunt for), and has to look directly at, the text of the source in order to identify where the student's own thoughts and words end and the source's thoughts and words begin, then the paper is plagiarized.

### Course Schedule

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Readings/Viewings</u>	<u>Homework</u>

Lesson 1: September 10th	Introduction to the course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductory Presentation: The Medieval period in the Italian peninsula</li> </ul>	Chandler Chapter 3 (available on LEARN)
Lesson 2 September 12th	Sexual Culture in Renaissance Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading : Rocke, M. <i>Forbidden Friendships</i></li> </ul>	Rocke reading (Course Reserves)
Lesson 3: September 17th	The Medieval Period Boccaccio's <i>Decameron</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings: -Boccaccio, G. <i>Decameron</i>. 'Introduction' &amp; 'Day V, Story I- Day V, Story 2,3.</li> </ul>	Boccaccio Day V Stories 1-3 (Course Reserves)
Lesson 4 September 19th	Boccaccio's <i>Decameron</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boccaccio's <i>Decameron</i>: Day V, Story 4, 5 and 6.</li> </ul>	Boccaccio Day V Stories 4-6
Lesson 5 September 24th	Boccaccio's <i>Decameron</i>	Boccaccio's <i>Decameron</i> : Day V, Story 7, 8, 9 and 10.	Boccaccio Day V Stories 7-10.
Lesson 6 September 26th	The Italian Renaissance	Italy in the sixteenth century	<b>FIRST ESSAY (20%) DUE.</b> Chandler chapter 4 (available on LEARN)

Lesson 7 October 1st	The Renaissance Comedy	Tullia D'Aragona, <i>Dialogue on the Infinity of Love.</i>	D' Aragona reading (Course Reserves)
Lesson 8 October 3rd	The Renaissance Comedy	Comedies from the Renaissance: Ludovico Ariosto <i>Lena</i>	Ariosto comedy (Course Reserves)
Lesson 9 October 8 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> Lesson replaced on Oct 12th.	Study Days	Comedies from the Renaissance: Ludovico Ariosto <i>Lena</i>	Ariosto comedy
Lesson 10 October 15th	<b>Midterm Test</b>		
Lesson 11 October 17th	Thomas Lacquer, Making Sex. Lacquer reading (Course Reserves)		
Lesson 12 October 22nd	Tommaso Mezzo <i>The Epirote.</i> (Course Reserves)		
Lesson 13 October 24th	Five Comedies from the Italian Renaissance: <i>The Deceived.</i> (Course Reserves) <b>SECOND ESSAY DUE</b>		
Lesson 14 October 29th	Five Comedies from the Italian Renaissance: <i>The Deceived.</i>		

Lesson 15 October 31st	Marriage in the Renaissance-Drucker (Course Reserves)
Lesson 16 November 5th	Five Comedies from the Italian Renaissance: <i>The Mandrake Root</i>
Lesson 17 November 7th	Five Comedies from the Italian Renaissance: <i>The Mandrake Root</i>
Lesson 18 November 12th	Five Comedies from the Italian Renaissance: <i>The Master of the Horse</i>
Lesson 19 November 14th	Comedies from the Italian Renaissance: <i>The Master of the Horse</i>
Lesson 20 November 19th	Comedies from the Italian Renaissance: <i>The Venetian Comedy</i>
Lesson 21 November 21st	Comedies from the Italian Renaissance: <i>The Venetian Comedy</i>
Lesson 22 November 26th	<b>Review and Question time</b>
Lesson 23 November 28th	<b>Final in-class exam</b>

## Late Work

Any work submitted past the due date requires documentation in order not to be subject to the late work policy (please inform about any work to be submitted late and provide documentation in a timely manner). Work submitted late will be penalized 2% per day up to 7 days after due date. After 7 days, no work will be accepted.

## Electronic Device Policy

**Please note that the use of electronic devices should be exclusively for the enhancement of learning taking place during class. Any use of electronic devices that is unrelated to the lesson will negatively affect the student's participation mark.**

## Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend the bi-weekly lecture, to come prepared and to actively participate in the class discussion and activities. 15% of the mark is allotted to attendance and participation.

## Important Information

**Academic Integrity:** To maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Affiliated and Federated Institutions of Waterloo (AFIW) are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. See the [UWaterloo Academic Integrity](#) webpage [for more information](#).

**Discipline:** A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline](#). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [University of Waterloo Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. [Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances](#).

**Appeals:** A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals](#).

**Note for Students with Disabilities:** The [AccessAbility Services](#) office, located on the first floor of the Needles Hall extension (1401), collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the AS office at the beginning of each academic term.