ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

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 2020

Instructor: Dr. Roberta Cauchi-Santoro

(Optional) Lecture schedule: Mondays and Wednesdays 9- 9 40 am through webex link posted below and on LEARN announcements (under CONTENT tab "Instructions to webex lectures"). The first 40-minute introductory lecture is on Wednesday 9th September at 9am. All lectures will be recorded and mp4 recording files will be made available the same day as the lecture. The recordings will be labelled by lecture number and date as lectures are numbered and dated on the schedule below—(Go to Course Schedule). Please remember that every Monday you should check the Beginning-of-the-Week LEARN announcement which lists what is scheduled for the rest of the week.

Instructions to connect to Webex lectures:
Topic: ITALST 291 - F2020
Host: Roberta Cauchi-Santoro
Date: Every Monday, Wednesday, from Wednesday, September 9, 2020 to Wednesday, December 2, 2020
Time: 9:00 am, Eastern Daylight Time (New York, GMT-04:00)
Session number: 172 448 0771
Session password: kbKJzsAf367

To join the training session
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1. Go to https://uwaterloo.webex.com/uwaterloo/k2/j.php?MTID=t8760e93cca3476f2882b1f42b7b83c4b
2. Enter your name and email address.
3. Enter the session password: kbKJzsAf367
4. Click "Join Now".
5. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen.
To view in other time zones or languages, please click the link
https://uwaterloo.webex.com/uwaterloo/k2/j.php?MTID=t1498de2e9e947f9cf97d8242ef

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To join the session by phone only

Use VoIP only

For assistance

You can contact Roberta Cauchi-Santoro at:
rcauchis@uwaterloo.ca

Email: rcauchis@uwaterloo.ca

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 9 40 am through webex link above (please book an appointment beforehand)

Course description:

This course broadly explores the Italian late Medieval and Renaissance periods (1280s-1600). Particular reference will be made to the gender and sexual culture as conceived in the literature written in the nascent Italian language at this time. The course also focuses on the history, urge for exploration, politics, art and architecture and music that mark these epochs. Attention will also be given to the late Medieval and Renaissance presentation of the human body through the dramatic/theatrical arts, specifically the emerging erudite comedy and its humour.

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, art and architecture produced in the Italian peninsula from the late medieval period to the Renaissance.

C.   Assess critically key themes used with reference to Italian medieval and Renaissance cultures.

D.   Articulate informed arguments about the development of the Italian medieval and Renaissance periods in relation to the literature, history, politics, music, art and architecture that mark these periods.

Prerequisites: None

Required texts:

-Machiavelli, Niccolò. *The Prince*. Trans. William K. Marriott. UK: William Collins, 2018 (any paperback or used version of Machiavelli's *The Prince* will do. The Waterloo Bookstore has copies for 5 dollars)

Other required texts will be made available through course reserves or they will be made available on LEARN. There will also be "strongly recommended" or suggested videos to watch for background information.

Grade distribution:

30% Essay to be uploaded to the essay dropbox by 11:59pm of November 11th
10% Participation in weekly discussion points
35% Take-home Midterm Test on Monday October 7th 2020 (time window: 24 hours)
25% Take-home Final Test on Monday December 7th 2020 (time window: 24 hours)

Important Information

Essay (30%):   The Essay is 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. Important information about the University of Waterloo Writing Centre will be posted on announcements (LEARN) and it is advisable to use all the virtual 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. The essay is scheduled for November 11th.

Format: **An outline of the structure that essays should take as well as a detailed rubric will be posted on LEARN (content) at the beginning of the course**. The essays must be typed & **DOUBLE SPACED** using Times New Roman (12pt.) font. The essay should be **A MINIMUM** of 5 and a **MAXIMUM** of 8 pages long.

Grading will be based on the following criteria (consult rubric for further details):
- Evidence of critical thinking,
- Logical organization of thoughts
- Clarity of ideas,

- Grammar, spelling and vocabulary
- Evidence of further research carried out by the student and adherence to MLA style guide.

Readings: Each week, specific readings (consult course outline below) are scheduled in the syllabus. Please read the scheduled readings PRIOR to class (except for the first lesson). Most readings are available on <u>COURSE RESERVES</u> while other readings will be posted weeks ahead on LEARN or are part of the required textbook. Videos assigned are invaluable as background information in order to facilitate contextualization of readings.

NB. Please bear in mind that with libraries temporarily closed, providing access to readings has been challenging since not all readings are available as e-texts and thus the quality of some copies of readings might not be optimal.

<u>Participation on the Discussion Board (10%)</u>:

Active participation in weekly discussions constitutes an integral part of the course. Since we will have little time for discussion in the bi-weekly 40-minute lecture presentations, the discussion will continue on the weekly threads. The mark will be based on the quality of the weekly contributions and the level of engagement in discussions and thus reflection, questions and comments are not only encouraged but expected of all students.

<u>Midterm Test (35%)</u>   The midterm test is scheduled for October 7th. Students have 24 hours to complete and upload the test to the midterm test dropbox. The test consists of a series of short answer questions. A mock midterm test will be uploaded 2 weeks before.

<u>Final Test (25%)</u>   The final test is scheduled for the last day of classes for this course, which falls on Monday, December 7th. Students have 24 hours to complete the test and upload to the final test dropbox before 11 59pm of December 7th. The final test will consist of a series of short answer questions. A mock final test will be uploaded two weeks before. <u>This test will only assess the student's knowledge of the material covered after the midterm test.</u>

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

Students are expected to stay abreast of communication about the course through LEARN. Every Monday, I will post the weekly beginning-of-the-week announcement (on LEARN announcements) which specifies what work to complete for that specific week. On Monday, starting Monday 14th September, the weekly discussion topic also opens and remains open for the rest of the week. On Mondays and Wednesdays I will post the lecture recordings. Other readings, narrated slides, links, other announcements, and recommended video clips will be posted in the labelled lesson folders. Students are thus expected to login on a regular basis.

If you have questions concerning the course, please put your question in the Q&A on the discussion board. If your matter is urgent or personal, please email me at **rcauchis@uwaterloo.ca and I will get back within 24-48 hours**.

Important note on PLAGIARISM during COVID 19:

During COVID 19 the issue of plagiarism has become increasingly pressing. Please understand the various forms that plagiarism may take and that it is a very serious academic offence.

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 parenthetic citations) and/or without a complete 'works cited' section.
- 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 parenthetic) to identify word-for-word use, but without citations to identify paraphrases and summaries, and/or without a complete 'works cited'.
- **Completely paraphrased material** without complete citations and/or without a complete 'works cited'.
- 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 works cited page** constitutes only one part of the fulfilment of the requirement for complete and unambiguous acknowledgement of sources. A very large proportion of plagiarized essays do have perfectly or nearly adequate works cited pages. 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

Week	Topics	Description of topic covered and reading	**Readings for the week and where to find them**
Week 1 **Lesson 1: September 9th**	Introduction to the course.	• Introductory Presentation: The Medieval period in the Italian peninsula	Chandler and Molinaro Chapter 3 "Italy in the Middle Ages" by Aldo Scaglione (available on LEARN. You do not need to read this before the first lesson.) Watch video "From the Roman Empire to the Middle Ages" on LEARN)

Week 2 **Lesson 2: September 14th**	The Medieval Period: Boccaccio's *Decameron* The delimited theocentric medieval world opens to an anthropocentric world of discoveries	• Readings: -Boccaccio, G. *Decameron*. 'Introduction'	Boccaccio *Decameron* 'Introduction' (Available on LEARN and a different version of the *Decameron* is available on Course Reserves) Watch video "Medieval Travels and the Pursuit of a New World" on LEARN)
Week 2 **Lesson 3: September 16th**	Boccaccio's *Decameron* Comic Sexual Festivity and Gender Dynamics	• Boccaccio's *Decameron*: Day V, Stories 1-5.	Boccaccio *Decameron* Day V Stories 1-5 (Available on LEARN and a different version of the *Decameron* is available on Course Reserves) Watch video "From the Late Middle Ages to Humanism" on LEARN)
Week 3 **Lesson 4 September 21st**	Boccaccio's *Decameron*: Women in Boccaccio	• Boccaccio's *Decameron*: Day V, Stories 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.	Boccaccio *Decameron* Day V Stories 6-10 (Available on LEARN and a different version of the *Decameron* is available on Course Reserves)

Week 3 **Lesson 5 September 23rd**	Sexual Culture in Medieval and Renaissance Italy	• Reading : Rocke, Michael *Forbidden Friendships*	Rocke reading (on Course Reserves and LEARN)
Week 4 **Lesson 6 September 28th**	Marriage in late medieval and Renaissance Italy Renaissance City: Florence *The Signoria*	• Gene Brucker *Giovanni and Lusanna* reading	Brucker reading (Course Reserves and LEARN)
Week 4 **Lesson 7 September 30th**	The Italian Renaissance: Art and Architecture	Renaissance Art and Architecture Chapter on Renaissance Art and Architecture from John D. Wright *The Renaissance: The Cultural Rebirth of Europe*, pp. 25-51.	Background Reading: Chandler and Molinaro chapter 4 "The Renaissance in Italy" by Olga Zorzi Pugliese (available on LEARN) Chapter on Renaissance Art and Architecture from John D. Wright *The Renaissance: The*

			Cultural Rebirth of Europe, pp. 25-51. (available on LEARN)
Week 5 **Lesson 8** **October 5th**	Renaissance Treatises: Treatises on Love	Tullia D'Aragona, *Dialogue on the Infinity of Love.*	D' Aragona reading (on Course Reserves)
Week 5 **Lesson 9** **October 7th**	**MIDTERM TEST**	Midterm test (35%) will be sent by email and uploaded to LEARN contents at 12:01 am of October 7th. The Completed test needs to be uploaded to the midterm dropbox by 11 59pm of Monday October 7th.	Test will be sent to your uwaterloo email and uploaded to Learn content (folder titled "midterm test")
October 12th-18th	**Thanksgiving and Fall Reading Week**	**Thanksgiving and Fall Reading Week**	**Thanksgiving and Fall Reading Week**
Week 7 **Lesson 10** **October 19th**	The Renaissance confluence of Christian and Pagan cultures	Italy in the Sixteenth Century The Venus and the Madonna in the Renaissance imaginary (presentation)	Reading: Italy in the sixteenth century by Richard Andrews (on Course Reserves)

Week 7 **Lesson 11** **October 21st**	The Latin Humanist Comedy: Introduction	Comedies from the Renaissance: Introduction	Introduction: "Playing the Renaissance" in *Five Comedies from the Italian Renaissance* by Giannetti and Ruggiero (on LEARN)
Week 8 **Lesson 12** **October 26th**	The Renaissance Comedy Renaissance Courts: Ferrara	Comedies from the Renaissance: Ludovico Ariosto *Lena*	Ariosto comedy *Lena* (on Course Reserves) Watch video "Renaissance Courts" on LEARN)
Week 8 **Lesson 13:** **October 28th**	One-Sex Body on the Renaissance Stage	Thomas Lacquer, *Making Sex.* Chapter Two	Lacquer reading (on Course Reserves)
Week 9 **Lesson14** **November 2nd**	The Renaissance *Uomo Universale*: Leonardo Da Vinci Renaissance cities: The Milan of the Sforza	Presentation on Leonardo da Vinci	Link to video to watch on LEARN)

Week 9 **Lesson 15** **November 4th**	Niccolo' Macchiavelli – Introduction Machiavelli the playwright	*The Mandrake Root-* Machiavelli	*The Mandrake Root* (on LEARN)
Week 9 Lesson 16 9th November	Niccolo' Macchiavelli *The Prince*	Renaissance Politics: *The Prince* (chapters 1-13)	*The Prince* (any paperback copy will do. Waterloo bookstore has copies for 5 dollars)
Week 10 **Lesson 17** **November 11**	Niccolo' Macchiavelli *The Prince* **ESSAY DUE**	Renaissance Politics: *The Prince* (chapters 14-26)	*The Prince* **ESSAY DUE**
Week 11 **Lesson 19** **November 18th**	Renaissance Music: The Birth of Melodrama	Presentation on the Birth of melodrama in Italy	Link to video to watch on LEARN
Week 12 **Lesson 20** **November 23rd**	Renaissance Satire: Pietro Aretino	The Renaissance Scoundrel: Introduction to Pietro Aretino	Pietro Aretino *The Master of the Horse* (on course reserves)
Week 12 Lesson 21 November 25th	Renaissance Satire: Pietro Aretino	The Renaissance Scoundrel: Pietro Aretino	Pietro Aretino *The Master of the Horse* (on course reserves)

Week 13 Lesson 22 November 30th	Renaissance Cities: Venice	Presentation on Renaissance Venice	<u>Link to video to watch on LEARN)</u> MOCK FINAL TEST uploaded
Week 13 Lesson 23 December 2nd	The Renaissance Epic Concluding Remarks and Q&A	Presentation on the Woman Warrior in the Renaissance Epic	Q&A
December 7th	FINAL TEST	FINAL TEST	Final Test will be sent on uwaterloo email at 12: 01 am of Dec 7th 2020. The completed test should be uploaded to the "Final Test" dropbox by 11 59pm of Dec 7th.

POLICY ON LATE WORK, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, AND MAKE-UP TESTS

Please make every effort to submit your work on time. If, for justifiable reasons, you cannot submit a particular assignment on time, kindly email me ahead of time and produce a Verification of Illness Form. If you have COVID 19 symptoms, the standard procedure established by the University of Waterloo will be followed.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The webex bi-weekly lectures are completely optional. MP4 Recordings will be made available same day as the lecture and thus you can consult the recording in your own time. The first webex lecture is on Wednesday 9th September at 9am and the last webex lecture is on Wednesday 2nd December. Lectures last 40minutes. There will be no webex lectures during Reading Week.

CORRESPONDENCE

Please remember to check the beginning-of-the-week announcement every Monday. For general questions about the course, use the discussion board Q&A. For other more specific or personal matters email me at <u>rcauchis@uwaterloo.ca</u>.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Academic Integrity: Please remember that during COVID 19 remote learning, issues of academic integrity remain paramount and instructors are being extra vigilant. In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. [Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.]

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, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/upload_file/PLCY_AOM_Student-Petitions-and-Grievances_20151211-SJUSCapproved.pdf. When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. [Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.] 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 instructor, 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, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Discipline_20131122-SJUSCapproved.pdf. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo Policy 71, Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties, check the Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm.

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, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Appeals_20131122-SJUSCapproved.pdf.

Note for students with disabilities: AccessAbility Services, located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, 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 AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term, www.uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/.

Intellectual Property:

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, and/or St. Jerome's University. Intellectual property includes items such as:
1. Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
2. Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
3 Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, mock tests, final exams); and
4. Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).
Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student's educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner's permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA, and/or St. Jerome's University for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository).
Permission from an instructor, TA, or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights.
Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).

Mental Health Support on campus and in the community

Please be aware that SJU offers help to students who need mental health support during the semester. Lindsay Thompson is the SJU Wellness Coordinator (Lindsay.thompson@uwaterloo.ca) and is available by email. The UWaterloo Faculty of Arts provides details on available support on its website.