

BOSTON UNIVERSITY STUDY ABROAD PADUA

COURSE	CAS LI 354 CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN LITERATURE
COURSE LANGUAGE	Italian
INSTRUCTOR	
INSTRUCTOR EMAIL	
OFFICE HOURS	weekly
COURSE SCHEDULE	Twice a week, two hours per appointment
COURSE VALUE	4 CREDITS
LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate increased proficiency in Italian language from elementary to advanced level. 2. Demonstrate knowledge of Italian culture with respect to three of the following areas: history, politics, economics, religion, literature, film and the arts. 3. Develop an awareness of cultural difference and an understanding of culture's role in shaping beliefs and practices. 4. Develop new perspectives on one's own culture and an ability to think critically about one's own values and beliefs.
COURSE DESCRIPTION	<p>The course introduces students to examples of the main authors of contemporary Italian literature, starting from the period following the end of the Second World War until today. In this time frame, narrative and poetry focus on the representation of the post-war situation, the industrial development, the identity crisis of Italian cities and their inhabitants, the emerging social problems, the female condition and new postmodernist ideas. The course will follow some geographical coordinates that will allow the students to acquire knowledge of the major literary authors and movements and set them in their geo-historical context. The students will familiarize themselves with some of the most important voices of the contemporary Italian panorama, such as Pasolini, Buzzati, Calvino, Ortese or Morante. Genres include short stories, novels, and poetry, but also documentaries and films.</p> <p>Required on-site classes will provide students with the opportunity to contextualize readings in their historical setting and therefore better understand style, language and motif. On-site classes at Villa dei Vescovi where Buzzati set his short stories.</p> <p>Meetings with some contemporary authors will offer the students with the unique opportunity to gain first-hand experience on literary pieces.</p>
LEARNING STATEMENT	In addition to the normal schedule of 2 class appointments of two hours (one hour=fifty minutes), the course will require a minimum of 8 hours per week of out-of-class preparation to complete the readings with a dictionary, do the literary criticism on blackboard, and to prepare for written and oral assignments.
TEACHING METHODOLOGY	Lessons will be based on class interaction, reflection on texts, and oral presentations done by students to facilitate the analysis of literary works. Various textual typologies will be taken into account, including poetry, short stories, and novels, as well as documentaries and films produced by the authors studied or in cooperation with them.
COURSE MATERIALS (books and/or copy pack)	Course pack with an introduction to the authors and biographical information, extracts from works by main authors.

	<p>Available on Blackboard: literary criticism and information on literary period; additional bibliographical material for final papers, appendix with glossary of literary terms and rhetorical figures.</p> <p>An introductory book on contemporary Italian literature: Alberto Casadei, <i>Il Novecento</i>, Il Mulino, Bologna 2005, available at the BUSA Padua library.</p> <p>The novel <i>Un altare per la madre</i> by Ferdinando Camon will be read in its entirety and will be purchased by the students.</p> <p>Documentaries as indicated.</p>
BIBLIOGRAPHY	<p><u>The Course Pack contains extracts from the following books:</u></p> <p><i>Narrative and poetry:</i> Dino Buzzati, <i>I misteri d'Italia</i>, Mondadori, Milano 2002. Italo Calvino, <i>Le città invisibili</i>, Mondadori, Milano 2005. Ferdinando Camon, <i>Un altare per la madre</i>, Garzanti, Milano 1978. Elsa Morante, <i>L'isola di Arturo</i>, Einaudi, Torino 2005. Anna Maria Ortese, <i>Il mare non bagna Napoli</i>, Adelphi, Milano 2008. Pier Paolo Pasolini, <i>Teorema</i>, Garzanti, Milano 1994. Cesare Pavese, <i>La luna e i falò</i>, Newton Compton, Roma 2010. Sebastiano Vassalli, <i>La morte di Marx</i>, Einaudi, Torino 2006. Sebastiano Vassalli e Giovanni Tesio, <i>Un nulla pieno di storie</i>, Interlinea, Novara 2010. Andrea Zanzotto, in <i>Poeti Italiani del novecento</i> a cura di Pier Vincenzo Mengaldo, Mondadori, Milano 2005.</p> <p><i>History of Literature/Poetry:</i> Alberto Casadei, <i>Il Novecento</i>, Il Mulino, Bologna 2005. Giulio Ferroni, <i>Letteratura Italiana contemporanea</i>, Mondadori, Milano, 2007. <i>Poeti Italiani del Novecento</i>, a cura di Pier Vincenzo Mengaldo, Mondadori, Milano 2005.</p> <p><i>Literary Criticism in Blackboard:</i> Alessandro Baldacci, <i>Andrea Zanzotto. La passione della poesia</i>, Liguori editore, Napoli 2010, pp. 1-15. Mario Barenghi, <i>Calvino</i>, Il Mulino, Bologna 2009, pp. 81-87. Andrea Bernardelli e Remo Ceserani, <i>Il testo narrativo. Istruzioni per la lettura e l'interpretazione</i>, Il Mulino, Bologna 2005, pp. 74-82. Sandro Bernardi, "Pasolini e l'uso dell'allegoria in <i>Teorema</i>", in <i>Studi Novecenteschi</i>, Vol. 31, No. 67/68 (giugno · dicembre 2004), pp. 109-119. Pierina Borrani Castiglione, "Dino Buzzati", <i>Italica</i>, Vol. 34, No. 4 (Dic., 1957), pp. 195-201. Italo Calvino, <i>Una pietra sopra</i>, Mondadori, Milano 1998, pp.195-200. Alberto Casadei, "La letteratura nell'età postmoderna" in <i>Il Novecento</i>, Il Mulino, Bologna 2005, pp. 131-139. Elisabetta Convento, "Il mondo sommerso e salvifico di <i>Un altare per la madre</i> di Camon" in <i>Tematiche del Sottosuolo</i>, RIVISTA DI STUDI ITALIANI RIVISTA DI STUDI ITALIANI, Anno XXXVI, n. 2 Agosto 2018. http://www.rivistadistudiitaliani.it/articolo.php?id=2291 Elisabetta Convento, "Il paradosso del materno in <i>Interno familiare</i> di Anna Maria Ortese", in <i>La Letteratura Italiana e il concetto di maternità</i>, Edizioni Ca' Foscari, Venezia 2015, pp. 9-15., http://edizionicafoscarini.unive.it/media/pdf/book/978-88-6969-064-8/978-88-6969-064-8.pdf</p>

	<p>Derek Duncan, "Naming the Narrator in <i>la Luna e i Falò</i>", <i>The Modern Language Review</i>, Vol. 86, No. 3 (Jul., 1991), pp. 592-60.</p> <p>Giulio Ferroni, <i>Letteratura italiana contemporanea, 1945-2007</i>, Mondadori, Milano 2007, pp. 3-8; pp. 41-42; pp. 105-109, pp-279-281.</p> <p>Cesare Garboli, Introduzione a <i>L'Isola di Arturo</i>, pp. V-XVIII.</p> <p>Luisa Guj, "Illusion and Literature in Morante's <i>L'Isola di Arturo</i>", in <i>Italica</i>, Vol. 65, No. 2 (Summer, 1988), pp.144-153.</p> <p>Gabriella Imperatori, "Ferdinando Camon" in <i>Profondo Nord</i>, Edizioni Nord-Est, Padova 1988, pp.189-214.</p> <p>John Welle, "From Babel to Pentecost: The Poetry of Andrea Zanzotto", in <i>World Literature Today</i>, Vol. 58, No. 3, Varia Issue (Summer, 1984), pp. 377-380.</p> <p>Silvia Zangrandi, "Premessa" in <i>Cose dell'altro mondo. Percorsi nella letteratura fantastica italiana del Novecento</i>, ArchetipoLibri, Bologna 2011.</p> <p><u>Documentaries/films</u></p> <p>"Ritratti: Andrea Zanzotto" di Carlo Mazzacurati e Marco Paolini, 2000.</p> <p>"Teorema" di Pier Paolo Pasolini, 1968.</p>
AIMS OF THE COURSE	<p>The main purpose of the course is to provide students with tools to comprehend main authors and works of contemporary Italian literature in their social and cultural contexts.</p> <p>Present key critical questions for reading texts of contemporary literature in general.</p> <p>Improve reading, analysis and writing about contemporary poetry and prose in Italian.</p> <p>Develop independent and creative approach to texts through assignments, on-site classes, and guest lectures.</p> <p>Improve understanding of cultural diversity through reading Italian literature.</p>
COURSE ASSIGNMENTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Careful reading (with dictionary) and comprehension of texts included in the syllabus <u>before</u> each class. 2. Active participation in class discussion and preparation of questions for meetings with guest speakers. 3. Reading of the novel <i>Un altare per la madre</i> by Camon. 4. Students will take turns presenting authors in class. They will introduce the biography of each author, the time period, and will present some of the main points highlighted by the literary criticism included in the course reader. They will discuss their own view of the author and of the text. They will lead the discussion on the reading of the day by preparing questions for the class. The calendar of oral presentations will be prepared in class during the first lessons. Students will individually meet the professor to discuss the results of their class presentation. 5. A written midterm exam with open questions. 6. Four travelogues based on questions prepared by professor. 3 will be written and one will be an oral and visual report. 7. A final paper based on the novel <i>Un altare per la madre</i>. The student will prepare a detailed outline (see example provided by professor), which will include a bibliography. A draft of the paper will be given to the professor for suggestions. The paper, in Italian, will be <i>at least</i> 8 pages long: it is recommended that students use the library resources of the University of Padua.
GRADING CRITERIA	Attendance, class participation: 10 %

	<p>2 class presentations: 20%</p> <p>Midterm written exam: 25%</p> <p>4 Travelogues: 20% (5% each); (3 travelogues will be 2-page long - in Italian, Times New Roman 12, double spaced, margins 2cm; the fourth will be oral and visual)</p> <p>Final written minimum 8-page paper: 25% (in Italian, Times New Roman 12, double spaced, margins 2cm) + bibliography, minimum 2 texts.</p>
<p>BU POLICY</p>	<p>Attendance Students should note that attendance will be taken into account by faculty. Boston University Padua students are expected to attend each and every class session, tutorial, on-site class, internship work appointment, and activity required for the class as indicated in the syllabus. Any student with irregular class attendance may have his/her final grade penalized.</p> <p>Absences Unjustified absences from class, and any class related activity, will affect the students' participation grade, which will be lowered by one letter grade for each absence.</p> <p>Absence for Religious Reasons According to Chapter 151C of the General Laws, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, any student in an educational or vocational training institution, other than a religious or denominational educational or vocational training institution, who is unable, because of his or her religious beliefs, to attend classes or to participate in any examination, study, or work requirement on a particular day, shall be excused from any such examination or study or work requirement, and shall be provided with an opportunity to make up such examination, study, or work requirement that may have been missed because of such absence on any particular day; provided, however, that such makeup examinations or work shall not create an unreasonable burden upon such school. No fees of any kind shall be charged by the institution for making available to the said students such opportunity. No adverse or prejudicial effects shall result to students because of their availing themselves of the provisions of this section. Students who have questions about practicing their religion while abroad should contact Boston University Study Abroad.</p> <p>Lateness Students arriving more than 10 minutes after the posted class start time will be marked as late. Being late three times is equivalent to missing one class.</p> <p>Late Assignments Students are expected to turn in all course assignments on time as stated in each course syllabus. Late assignments will not be accepted and missed assignments will automatically be awarded an F. Please note that all coursework must be completed by the end of the program.</p> <p>Plagiarism Simply stated, plagiarism is taking another's work and presenting it as you own. Definitions of plagiarism frequently include terms such as 'theft' or 'steal'. Plagiarism is, in fact, intellectual theft. It is one of the most serious forms of academic misconduct. Plagiarism committed by a</p>

student will certainly result in course failure and may result in suspension or dismissal. For more details please see Boston University's Code of Student Responsibilities:

<http://www.bu.edu/lifebook/universitypolicies/policies-code.html>

Disability accommodations

If you are a student with a disability or believe you might have a disability that requires accommodations, please contact the Office for Disability Services (ODS) at 617-353- 3658 to coordinate any reasonable accommodation requests. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.bu.edu/disability>