Course Title	Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature: The Italian Novella
Instructor	Simonetta Duretto
Semester/Term	Spring, Fall
Course Description	This is an introductory course in Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature that has its main focus on Renaissance short tales (novelle), which will be read as a way to explore the societies and cultural environment in which they were born. After a first part dedicated to Dante Alighieri (Divine Comedy) and Francesco Petrarca, the subject of the course will be short tales written by some of the most important prose writers of all times, including Giovanni Boccaccio, Lorenzo il Magnifico, Niccolo' Machiavelli, Giorgio Vasari, Benvenuto Cellini and Masuccio Salernitano.
Course Requirements	**Textbooks** 1. *Course Reader* 2. Dante Alighieri, *The Portable Dante,* ed. and transl. M. Musa, N.Y. Penguin, 2003 3. J.Conaway, Bondanella, Musa, *The Italian Renaissance Reader*, Meridian, 1987 4. L. Martines, *An Italian Renaissance Sextet: Six Tales in Historical Context*, transl. By Murtha Baca, N.Y., Marsilio, 1994. 5. *Romeo and Juliet before Shakespeare: Four early stories of star-crossed love, by Masuccio Salernitano, Luigi da Porto, Matteo Bandello and Pierre Boaistuau*, ed. N. Prunster, Toronto: Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, 2000. **Grading Scale** (grading scale table below) **Assignments** (assignments table below)

Grading Scale

Grading Scale	Percentages
A	90-100%
B	%
C	%
D	%
F	%

Assignments

Course Requirements	Percentages
1. Participation in class discussions	20%
2. Papers	15 %
3. Midterm	20%
4. Final examination	25 %

	5. Oral Presentations	20%
	Total	100%

Learning Outcomes	**Learning Outcome**
	● The approach of the course is interdisciplinary, as it aims not only to give the students a solid knowledge of early modern Italian Literature, but also to stimulate critical thinking and sensibility to all the humanities, including the visual arts.
	● The student will have the advantage of some of the infinite cultural possibilities offered by the city, as visits to some of the ancient manuscript libraries of Florence and to their collections of precious antique books, that will be planned.
	● The result is a student that will acquire a good knowledge in writing papers on literary texts or on scholarly articles, in order to exercise the reading comprehension and improve academic writing.

Course Outline	**Session**	**Topic**
	Session 1	Introduction to the course: Dante, his life and works.
	Session 2	The Divina Commedia (Inferno)
	Session 3	Purgatory and Paradise
	Session 4	Introduction to Petrarch, his life and works
	Session 5	Petrarch, a selection from his Canzoniere.
	Session 6	Boccaccio, introduction to his life and works. The Decameron.
	Session 7	Review and Midterm
	Session 8	Boccaccio, Decameron.
	Session 9	The Renaissance: Pico della Mirandola, Antonio Manetti and Giovanni Gherardo da Prato.
	Session 10	Lorenzo de' Medici, Machiavelli, Bandello.
	Session 11	Vasari and Cellini
	Session 12	Shakespeare and the Italian Renaissance (1st part)
	Session 13	Shakespeare and the Ital. Ren. (2nd part). Review.
	Session 14	Final Exam.

Other Policies	**Expectations** Before coming to class, always prepare and cover the assigned readings for the week. **Attendance/Participation** <u>Attendance is required as well as active participation.</u> **Course Policies** For e-mail communications, students must use their Arcadia University e-mail account. Students are responsible for any information provided by e-mail or through Intranet postings. **Plagiarism** Representation of another's work or ideas as one's own in academic submissions is plagiarism, and is cause for disciplinary action. *Cheating* is actual or attempted use of resources not authorized by the instructor(s) for academic submissions. Students caught cheating in this course will receive a failing grade. *Fabrication* is the falsification or creation of data, research or resources to support academic submissions, and cause for disciplinary action. **Late or Missed Assignments** Will not be accepted for grading. **Students with Disabilities** Persons with documented disabilities requiring accommodations to meet the expectations of this course should disclose this information while enrolling into the program, and before leaving the United States so that appropriate arrangements can be made.