



ACCF MSIC 310 ITALIAN CINEMA

Course	Italian Cinema
Teacher	Franco Fiesoli
Semester	Spring semester: January - May 2022

Course Description	<p>The course gives the students an overview of Italian Cinema, its genres, movements, from the silent era to the present. The focus is primarily about Italian cinema as an art form, with the director paying a key role. Students will be introduced to the world and ideas of famous film directors such as Rossellini, De Sica, Visconti, Fellini, Antonioni, Leone, Bertolucci. Films will be deeply analysed and compared in their own stylistic, technical and conceptual aspects. Particular attention will be given to Neorealism, a cinematic era that had a worldwide influence and still persists in today's movies.</p> <p>Films made in Italy have always been characterised by a close link to Italian literature and current social problems. Historical periods such as Fascism, the economic boom, political protests and their impact on Italian society and culture will be taken into consideration. Italian film genres, such as <i>comedy Italian style</i>, <i>spaghetti western</i>, <i>peplum</i>, <i>poliziesco</i> will be also introduced and analyzed. Special emphasis will be also given to contemporary films in order to understand current issues of Italian society and culture.</p>
Learning Objectives and Outcomes	<p>At the end of the course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate their understanding of a historical overview of Italian Cinema, its themes and genres, cultural and social background.• Recognize the typical characteristics of Italian Cinema, with an understanding of the important social and artistic role cinema has played in Italian society.• Identify different styles, ideas and techniques of Italian Cinema.• View films in an active, critical way, with an understanding of the director's ideas and style.
Student Assessment	<p>10% Class Participation 15% Home Assignments 15% Individual critique 20% Midterm written exam 20% Final written exam 20% Individual paper and oral presentation</p>
Evaluation Scale	<p>99-100= A+, 93-98= A, 90-92= A-, 88-89= B+, 83-87= B, 80-82= B-, 78-79= C+, 73-77= C, 70-72= C-, 68-69= D+, 63-67= D, 60-62= D-, 0-59= F</p> <p><i>The Italian grading system is based on a maximum of 30 points with 18/30 as the lowest passing grade. In case of excellence 30 cum laude may be awarded.</i></p>

Bibliography, Webography, Filmography	<p>Course textbook BONDANELLA P., PACCHIONI F., <i>A History of Italian Cinema</i>, New York – London: Bloomsbury 2017</p> <p>Resouces: Bayman, L. (ed.), <i>Directory of World Cinema: Italy</i>, Intellect, Bristol, 2011 Bertellini, G. (ed.), <i>The Cinema Of Italy</i>, Wallflower Press, London, 2004 Bondanella P., <i>The Italian cinema book</i>, British film Institute 2014 Brunetta G.B., <i>The History of Italian Cinema: A Guide to Italian Film from Its Origins to the Twenty-first Century</i>, Princeton University Press 2005 Celli, M. Cottino-Jones, <i>A new guide to Italian cinema</i>, Palgrave Macmillan, NY, 2007 Lehman P. – Luhr W. <i>Thinking about Movies; Watching, Questioning, Enjoying</i>, Blackwell, Malden – Oxford 2003 Marcia L., <i>Italian Film</i>, Cambridge University press 2000 Marcus M., <i>Italian Film in the Light of Neorealism</i>, Princeton University press 1986 Millicent M. , <i>After Fellini</i>, John Hopkins, NY 2002 Sorlin P., <i>Italian National Cinema 1896-1996</i>, Routledge, London New York 1996 WitcomWagstaff, Christopher, <i>Italian Neorealist Cinema: An Aesthetic Approach</i>, University of Toronto press, Toronto, 2007 Wood, Mary P, <i>Italian Cinema</i>, Berg, Oxford, 2005</p>
Week 1	Introduction to the course The silent era
Week 2	Italian Cinema under the Fascism Costume dramas and <i>White telephone</i> comedies
Week 3	The masters of neorealism: ROSSELLINI
Week 4	Exploring the boundaries of Neorealism. DE SICA - VISCONTI
Week 5	The break with Neorealism. The cinema of the Reconstruction.
Week 6	Film genres: the Peplum and <i>Commedia all' italiana</i>
Week 7	MID TERM WRITTEN EXAM: Handing in of the Individual Critique
Week 8	Film genre. Sergio Leone and Spaghetti westerns Italian crime fiction. The Italian Giallo and Horror films
Week 9	The mature Auteurs: New dimensions in film narrative. Visconti, Fellini, Antonioni
Week 10	Neorealism legacy. The political film

Week 11	1970s Myth and Marx: Pasolini and Bertolucci
Week 12	Italian cinema in the 1980s and 1990s . Crisis and new media
Week 13	Contemporary Italian cinema. Film production and market.
Week 14	TERM PAPER DUE Handing-in of the personal paper . Oral presentation
Week 15	FINAL WRITTEN EXAM