

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO
Department of World Languages & Literatures
Spring 2017

COURSE TITLE

ITALIAN 131 The Italian Renaissance and Its Influence on Western Civilization
Context and Trends: From Petrarch to Michelangelo, Leonardo, and the Poetesse (Women Poets)

Fulfills Italian Minor Requirement 130-131

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: ITAL 131. **The Italian Renaissance and Its Influence on Western Civilization.** Taught in English, explores the phenomenon of the Italian Renaissance in its literary, artistic, religious, social, historical, scientific, and economic aspects through the analysis of the period's major works, and through films, slides, lectures and discussions. The issues to be emphasized are the uniqueness of the Italian contribution to new ideas and values, and their influence on Western Civilization. The students will learn to recognize the sources and the effects of the Italian Renaissance within the integrated context of Western culture and various fields of knowledge. **Graded:** Graded Student. **Units:** 3.0

COURSE DESCRIPTION: ITAL 131 selects distinct areas of focus in the vast and rich array of Renaissance Art and Literature. Among the particular and unique phenomena to be explored, from Petrarch to Michelangelo and Leonardo, will be the Italian Women Writers of the Renaissance, the *poetesse*.

COURSE HOURS: Lecture: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 1:30-2:45 PM

COURSE LOCATION: Mariposa 2032

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Professor Barbara Carle

OFFICE HOURS: Mariposa 2057, T R 5:20-6:20, W 2:30-3:30
and by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTS: A few texts will be available from my webpage in PDF format.

The following books may be purchased at the bookstore.

- *The Italian Renaissance Reader*, Julia Conaway Bondanella and Mark Musa, Meridian, \$18.00
ISBN 978-0-452-01013-0 **Required**
- *Women Poets of the Italian Renaissance Courty Ladies & Courtesans*, Edited by Laura Anna Stortoni, Translated by Laura Anna Stortoni and Mary Prentice Lillie, Italica Press, New York,
\$20.00 ISBN 0-934977-43-7 **Required**
- RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND SITES

- *Lyric Poetry by Women of the Italian Renaissance*, Virginia Cox, John Hopkins University Press,
ISBN 978-1-4214-0888-0 Recommended but NOT Required

- *University of Chicago Website: Italian Women Writers* (link also available from Carle's webpage)
http://artflx.uchicago.edu/cgi-bin/efts/textdbs/iww/authoridx.pl?auth_portrait=1

OTHER RECOMMENDED TEXTS: A good Italian dictionary. Free Online Treccani:

<http://www.treccani.it/>

A good Italian English Dictionary Hoepli Inglese or Sansoni inglese (less complete but available as app)

Other good dictionaries Devoto Oli, Zingarelli, Garzanti. A good English Dictionary. Many are available online and in the library.

PREREQUISITES: NONE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Identify diverse foreign artists and authors who have been viewed, read, and discussed in class and a sampling of their works. Identify different genres of poetry and literary forms and therefore demonstrate comprehension of aesthetic/cultural values and historical periods. Appreciate the uniqueness of the Italian contribution to new ideas and values, and their influence on Western Civilization. Answering questionnaires, a midterm, and a final will help to accomplish this objective.

GRADING BREAKDOWN:

- 10% Regular attendance (100 points)
- 10% Participation in class and group discussions, readings (100 points)
- 30 % Written work (questionnaires on readings=300 points possible)
- 50 % Midterm, Final (500 points)

A 1000-900 points

B 899- 800 points

C 799-700 points

D 699-600 points

F 599 and below

*****ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Regular attendance is essential to succeed in this class. More than three unexcused absences WILL affect your final grade. **If you are late more than three times this will count as one absence.**

*****REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1) Your grades will be based on your attendance, participation, questionnaires, a midterm/paper/essay, and a final test and or paper.
- 2) Please be punctual and remain in class during the entire class period. Leaving class before the end of the hour is disruptive. If you are late for than three times this will count as one absence.
- 3) No Cell phones allowed in class. No food or drink, coffee or water is allowed. Please turn off cell phones for entire class period.
- 4) Allow 24 up to 48 hours for replies for e-mail queries. Expect written work

to be corrected within one week, or sooner.

5) No late work will be accepted after May 20, 2017 unless proper medical documentation is offered.

----→ **Italian** Minors: You will read two works in Italian by the *poetesse*, Petrarca and Michelangelo. You need to see Prof.ssa Carle to discuss specific guidelines and work. You will be required to write periodic summaries in Italian on your readings.

CSUS POLICY REGARDING ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students are responsible for:

1. Understanding the rules that preserve academic honesty and abiding by them at all times. This includes learning and following particular rules associated with specific classes, exams, and course assignments. Ignorance of these rules is not a defense to a charge of academic dishonesty.
2. Understanding what cheating and plagiarism are and taking steps to avoid them. Students are expected to do this whether working individually or as part of a group.
3. Not taking credit for academic work not their own.
4. Not knowingly encouraging or making possible cheating or plagiarism by others.

Reasonable Accommodation Policy: If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD). For more information please visit the SSWD website (<http://www.csus.edu/sswd/>). They are located in Lassen Hall 1008 and can be contacted by phone at (916) 278-6955 (Voice) (916) 278-7239 (TDD only) or via email at sswd@csus.edu. Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours.

FINAL PAPER: On the last day of class you will be expected to hand in a 5 to 8 page textual analysis. You should choose one text from Italian Renaissance and closely read, comment, explain, and analyze it. Your paper should be organized, coherent, and structured. These will be graded. No revisions will be possible.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

*This syllabus will be updated and modified in its online form if necessary--
depending upon the pace and needs of the class.
Please consult online syllabus periodically even after you have printed this one.*

Week 1 January 24-26

- Tuesday: Introduction to the Italian Renaissance: The Italian Renaissance Reader, Intro ix-xviii
- Thursday: Francesco Petrarca, "Letter to Posterity," 4-11, 22-36

Week 2 January 31-February 2

- T Leonardo Da Vinci, 185-198
- R Leonardo

Week 3 February 7-9

- T Baldassar Castiglione From *Il libro del Cortegiano* *The Book of the Courtier* 199-257
- R Castiglione

Week 4 Feb. 14-16

- T Niccolò Machiavelli from *Il principe* *The Prince*, 259-297
- R Machiavelli

Week 5 Feb. 21-23

- T Francesco Guicciardini, from the *Ricordi*, 299-305
- R Guicciardini

Week 6 February 28-March 2

- T Francesco Petrarca, from the *Rime sparse*: 22-54
- R Petrarca

Week 7 March 7-9

- T Michelangelo Buonarroti, From the *Rime*, Poems 375 - 382
- R Michelangelo

MIDTERM TEST DUE

Week 8 March 20-24 **SPRING BREAK NO CLASS**

Week 9 March 28-30

- T *Women Poets of the Italian Renaissance Courtly Ladies & Courtesans*, Intro ix-xxviii
- R *Women Poets of the Italian Renaissance Courtly Ladies & Courtesans*, 3-20

Week 10 April 4-6

- T *Women Poets of the Italian Renaissance Courtly Ladies & Courtesans*, Veronica Gambarà pp-23-38
- R Veronica Gambarà

Week 11 April 11-13

- T Vittoria Colonna, 54-60
- R Vittoria Colonna

Week 12 April 18-20

- T Tullia D'Aragona, 81-90
- R Tullia D'Aragona
(also recommended by Tullia D'Aragona: *Dialogue on the Infinity of Love*, edited and translated by Rinaldina Russell and Bruce Merry)

Week 13 April 25-27

- T Chiara Matraini, 93-102
- R Isabella di Morra, 114-122

Week 14 May 2-4

- T Gaspara Stampa, 134-156
- R Gaspara Stampa

Week 15 May 9-11

- T Veronica Franco, 174- 204
- R Veronica Franco

-Final exam based on all readings, Date and place to be announced

-Final paper due by May 20, 2017, Should be submitted in person or via e-mail or left under my office door in 2057 Mariposa Hall