

ITAL 39.1 Course Outline as of Fall 2015

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: ITAL 39.1            Title: INTRO ITAL LITERATURE  
Full Title: Introduction To Italian Literature In Translation  
Last Reviewed: 3/9/2015

| Units   |      | Course Hours per Week |      | Nbr of Weeks | Course Hours Total |       |
|---------|------|-----------------------|------|--------------|--------------------|-------|
| Maximum | 3.00 | Lecture Scheduled     | 3.00 | 17.5         | Lecture Scheduled  | 52.50 |
| Minimum | 3.00 | Lab Scheduled         | 0    | 17.5         | Lab Scheduled      | 0     |
|         |      | Contact DHR           | 0    |              | Contact DHR        | 0     |
|         |      | Contact Total         | 3.00 |              | Contact Total      | 52.50 |
|         |      | Non-contact DHR       | 0    |              | Non-contact DHR    | 0     |

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable  
Grading:            Grade or P/NP  
Repeatability:    00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP  
Also Listed As:  
Formerly:        ITAL 80.1

**Catalog Description:**  
This chronological survey of Italian literature in English translation introduces the principal movements, authors, and representative works of Italian literature from the 13th through the 18th centuries. Focus is on major themes of Italy's early history, intellectual evolution, political development, and social phenomena as reflected in various works of prose, poetry, and drama. The class is conducted in English.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for ENGL 1A

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: This chronological survey of Italian literature in English translation introduces the principal movements, authors, and representative works of Italian literature from the early 13th through the 18th centuries. The class is conducted in English. (Grade or P/NP)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

|                      |                      |              |            |                   |                     |
|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>AS Degree:</b>    | <b>Area</b>          |              |            | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b>    |
|                      | E                    | Humanities   |            | Fall 2008         | Fall 2021           |
| <b>CSU GE:</b>       | E                    | Humanities   |            | Fall 1986         | Summer 2004         |
|                      | <b>Transfer Area</b> |              |            | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b>    |
|                      | C2                   | Humanities   |            | Fall 2008         | Fall 2021           |
|                      | C2                   | Humanities   |            | Fall 1986         | Summer 2004         |
| <b>IGETC:</b>        | <b>Transfer Area</b> |              |            | <b>Effective:</b> | <b>Inactive:</b>    |
|                      | 3B                   | Humanities   |            | Fall 2008         | Fall 2021           |
|                      | 3B                   | Humanities   |            | Fall 1981         | Summer 2004         |
| <b>CSU Transfer:</b> |                      | Transferable | Effective: | Fall 2008         | Inactive: Fall 2021 |
| <b>UC Transfer:</b>  |                      | Transferable | Effective: | Fall 2008         | Inactive: Fall 2021 |

### **CID:**

### **Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Students will be able to analyze the historic and cultural contexts of various representative works of Italian literature  
as well as identify both western and non-western elements within those works.
2. Students will be able to critique selected works of Italian literature, with emphasis on the authors, translators, and  
unique regional influences pertaining to the culture of the 13th through 18th centuries.

### **Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the historic and cultural contexts of various representative works of Italian literature, including both western  
and non-western elements.
2. Utilize the vocabulary and concepts of literary study, including terms specific to Italian literature and culture.
3. Analyze and evaluate selected Italian literature and criticism.
4. Analyze key characteristics of major Italian authors, styles, periods, and movements.
5. Evaluate works and authors with reference to the culture and readers of the 13th through 18th centuries.
6. Compare and contrast universal and uniquely Italian aspects of literature and culture, including ideas, values and  
arts/aesthetics.
7. Analyze the role of translation and the translator in selected Italian literary works.

8. Compare and contrast various renderings of the same literary work, and significance of identified differences,  
including perspectives of women and ethnic or other minorities.

## **Topics and Scope:**

### **I. Late Medieval and Early Modern Italian history**

- A. Late Medieval culture and political configuration of the Italian peninsula
- B. Origins and development of the literary and artistic Renaissance
- C. Rise of the late 15th-and early 16th-century court culture
- D. Baroque movement and Counter-Reformation impact on Italian culture, 16th and 17th centuries
- E. The Enlightenment and Italy, 18th century
- F. Italy's cultural, social, and political diversity, including influences exercised by other and/or occupying foreign powers
- G. Relevance to 21st century culture and readers
- H. Contributions and perspectives from social classes, gender

### **II. Late Medieval and Early Modern Italian culture and literature**

- A. Distinct literary eras, their components and relative chronology
- B. Literary genres and their influence
- C. Historical and cultural context of major authors and their works, and social, political and artistic trends of each period; including authorial motivation, and the content and style of his or her works
- D. Significant biographical details of each author.
- E. Key characteristics of major Italian authors, styles, periods and movements
- F. The "Problem of Language" and the evolution of "Standard Italian"
- G. Universal and uniquely Italian aspects of literature and culture, including ideas, values, and arts and aesthetics.
- H. Relevance to 21st-century culture and readers
- I. Comparison of different artistic expressions that reflect similar sociological, religious, ethnic, gender-based, or cultural events and themes
- J. The Italian intellectual's service to power, and his/her response to Italy's political and social fragmentation and exogenous influences
- K. Roles of social class, religion, gender and ethnicities

### **III. Understanding and appreciating literature**

- A. Basic terminology of literary analysis
- B. How to read actively and critically, including:
  - 1) following and summarizing a plot line
  - 2) identifying and summarizing the major features of the works
  - 3) recognizing the choices an author has made in shaping a work
  - 4) recognizing the effects of those choices on the reader
- C. The role of translation (the Italian adage "traduttore, traditore") and comparing translations
- D. Representative authors include, but are not limited to Saint Francis of Assisi, Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Alberti, Poliziano, Castiglione, Lorenzo de' Medici, Michelangelo, Cellini, Leonardo da Vinci, Vittoria Colonna, Ariosto, Guicciardini, Machiavelli, Aretino, Vasari, Campanella, Galileo, Tasso, Goldoni, Foscolo, Parini, and Alfieri

### **IV. Writing about literature**

- A. Formulating ideas about the reading
- B. Gathering evidence from works to support ideas
- C. Gathering evidence from critical sources to support ideas
- D. Testing the textual and critical evidence against other available evidence

- E. Presenting and supporting ideas persuasively
- F. Avoiding plagiarism

### Assignment:

1. Weekly readings of literary works and textbooks, approximately 90 to 120 pages a week.
2. In-class discussions and student evaluations of assigned readings.
3. Regular written assignments of varying lengths, which may include passage analysis, research papers, essays, reading journals.
4. Periodic progress-analysis tests. These tests will cover all major components of the course, and there will be at least one per literary work. Each test will measure the student's mastery of factual content, both of assigned materials and of subjects presented in instructor's lectures, and will provide an opportunity to display student's analytical skills and personal evaluation of the works under study.
5. Mid-term and final examinations.
6. Oral participation in in-class discussions.
7. Optional: Special projects and student presentations may be assigned.

### Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Term papers, Passage analysis, reading journals, essays

Writing  
30 - 40%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, True/false, Matching items, Completion, Essay exams

Exams  
50 - 60%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Oral participation in in-class discussions and optional projects

Other Category  
10 - 15%

### **Representative Textbooks and Materials:**

Complete English-language or dual-language texts, or anthologies, of major representative works of Italian literature from the 13th through the 18th centuries.

Texts may include, but need not be limited to:

Francis and Clare: The Complete Works. Paulist Press, 1982 (classic)

The Divine Comedy of Dante Alighieri. Ed. and trans. Robert M. Durling. Oxford UPR, 1996 (classic)

Petrarch's Lyric Poems, Robert M. Durling. Harvard UPR, 1976 (classic)

The Italian Renaissance Reader. Ed. Julia Conway Bondanella and Mark Musa. Meridian. (classic)

The Book of the Courtier. Baldassare Castiglione. Trans. C. Singleton. Anchor, 1959 (classic)

The Prince. Niccolo Machiavelli. Trans Geo. Bull. Penguin Books, 2005 (classic)

Selected Letters of Aretino. Trans Geo. Bull. Penguin Books, 1977 (classic)

Autobiography. Benvenuto Cellini. Trans. Geo. Bull. Penguin Books, 1999 (classic)

Tasso's Dialogues. Trans. Carnes Lord & Dain Trafton. UCPR 1982 (classic)

The City of the Sun. Tommaso Campanella. Trans Daniel Danno. UCPR. 1981 (classic)

Poems From Italy. William Jay Smith, Dan Gioia, eds. New Rivers Press. 1996 (classic)

Cambridge History of Italian Literature. Peter Brand, Lino Pertile. eds. 1996 (classic)

Medieval Callings. Ed. Jacques Le Goff. Chicago UPR. 1987 (classic)

Renaissance Characters. ed. Eugenio Garin. Chicago UPR. 1991 (classic)

The Day: A Poem. Giuseppe Parni. Hyperion Library of World Literature, 1978. (classic)

The Comedies of Carlo Goldoni. Hyperion Library of World Literature, 1978 (classic)

Tragedies. Vittorio Alfieri. Greenwood Press, 1970. (classic)

"Dei Sepolcri" and "Ultime Litter di Jacopo Ortis." Ugo Foscolo. Ed. Christina Giacometti and Maurizio Falghera. Multilingual Books and Tapes, 1998. (classic)