<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class code</th>
<th>ITAL-UA 9283</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instructor Details</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Name:</strong> Alessandro Raveggi</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NYUHome Email Address:</strong> <a href="mailto:alessandro.raveggi@nyu.edu">alessandro.raveggi@nyu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Office Hours:</strong> TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Villa Ulivi Office Location:</strong> TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>For fieldtrips refer to the email with trip instructions and trip assistant’s cell phone number</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Class Details</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Semester:</strong> SPRING 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Full Course Title:</strong> Other Worlds. Travel Literature in Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Meeting Days and Times:</strong> Wednesdays, 10:30-1:15 pm</td>
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<td><strong>Classroom Location:</strong> TBA</td>
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<td><strong>Prerequisites</strong></td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Class Description</strong></td>
<td>This course, taught in English, will focus on the representation of travel experience in Modern Italian Literature and its related media, especially 20\textsuperscript{th} Century Cinema, Modernist and Futurist Art, underground comics, and the way they intersect with each other. Its aim is to offer the student a new pattern in the succession of tendencies, movements and mass cultures, with a broader perspective, spanning from the 19th Century Post-Unification Italian culture and literature (Manzoni) to the 1980s “cult” writers and cartoonists and literary groups from the 1990s and 2000s (Tondelli, Ammanniti, Pazienza). With this pattern the student will be introduced to the dynamics of journey in the Italian culture and literature: not only a spatial journey abroad (in America with Calvino, The Orient with Tabucchi, Africa with Pasolini and Celati) or inland (especially the South of Carlo Levi), but also intellectually, politically and spiritually speaking: a path between the Wars (with Malaparte and Levi), the economic Boom, the Generation of ‘68 and ‘77, a psychedelic trip in New Age trends, and the so called Pulp Generation or Young Cannibals. To foster the student’s feedback one Site-visit will be proposed (at the new Museo del Novecento of Firenze) and a special Field Trip will be scheduled in Rome to meet the Roman Literary World (Writers, Publishers and Translators).</td>
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<td>With these topics and authors, the student will be engaged in a different history of Italian literature and culture, using also her or his knowledge in the Florentine context.</td>
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</table>
The student will be required to present in class the results of his or her **Final Research Paper**, to vividly participate in class and to write **2 written assignments**.

**Desired Outcomes**

- Have improved their ability to think critically, engage in complex reasoning and express their thoughts clearly through their written work
- Have improved their understanding of the methodologies of Modern Italian Literature and Culture in its relationship with cinema, comics and the arts
- Have mastered a basic understanding of how to research questions in Modern Italian Literature
- Recognize works by the principal protagonists of the Modern Italian Literature, Cinema and the Arts and understand why they are significant for the History of Italian Culture

**Assessment Components**

- **Attendance and Participation**: 10%
- **Written Assignments***: 25%
- **Midterm Exam**: 20%
- **Presentation in class**: 15%
- **Final Paper (7-8 pages)**: 30%

*Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.*

*Written Assignments from these options:*
- Interviews with editors, writers and translators during the Field Trip in Rome (visiting Minimum Fax publisher and meeting a contemporary author)
- Storytelling and posting on Twitter of Calvino’s *Invisible cities* (In collaboration with TwLetteratura - [http://www.twletteratura.org/](http://www.twletteratura.org/) (2nd Assignment)
- Reaction papers on topics, site-visits and other activities at NYU Florence or off-campus
- Learning Contracts in Italian (previously discussed with the Instructor)

**Assessment Expectations**

- **Grade A**: The student makes excellent use of empirical and theoretical material and offers structured arguments in his/her work. The student writes comprehensive essays/exam questions and his/her work shows strong evidence of critical thought and extensive reading.

- **Grade B**: The candidate shows a good understanding of the problem and has demonstrated the ability to formulate and execute a coherent research strategy

- **Grade C**: The work is acceptable and shows a basic grasp of the research problem. However, the work fails to organize findings coherently and is in need of improvement

- **Grade D**: The work passes because some relevant points are made. However, there may be a problem of poor definition, lack of critical awareness, poor research

- **Grade F**: The work shows that the research problem is not understood; there is little or no critical awareness and the research is clearly negligible.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade conversion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A=94-100</td>
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<td>A-=90-93</td>
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<td>B+=87-89</td>
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<td>D=65-66</td>
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<td>F=below 65</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Policy</th>
<th>Please refer to Assessment Expectations and the policy on late submission of work</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance:</td>
<td>Attendance is expected and required of all students. Any absences will negatively impact upon your course grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absences:</td>
<td>In case of absence, regardless of the reason, the student is responsible for completing missed assignments, getting notes and making up missed work in a timely manner based upon a schedule that is mutually agreed upon between the faculty member and the student</td>
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</table>

**Attendance Policy**

**Absence Due to Illness**
- If you are sick, please see a doctor (contact the OSL for information).
- Only a medical certificate from a local medical professional will be accepted to justify an absence due to illness.
- Within 24 hours of your return to class you must bring this note to the Office of Academic Support, located on the ground floor of Villa Ulivi. We will review the medical certificate and we will notify your faculty via email about your justified absence due to illness.
- Absences for short term illness without a medical certificate are not justified and count as unjustified absences. We will not accept a student email or telephone call regarding an absence due to illness. We will not notify your faculty about these absences.
- The Office of Student Life, when assisting you in cases of severe or extended illness, will coordinate with the Office of Academic Support to properly record your absences.

**Due to Religious Observance**
- Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the holiday only and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday.
- Students must notify their professor and the Office of Academic Support in writing via email one week in advance before being absent for this purpose.

**Due to a class conflict with a program sponsored lecture, event, or activity**
- All students are entitled to miss one class period without any penalty to their grade in order to attend a lecture, event or activity that is sponsored by NYU Florence or La Pietra Dialogues, Acton Miscellany or the Graduate Lecture series.
| **Late Submission of Work** | - Students must notify their professor and the Office of Academic Support in writing via email one week in advance before being absent for this purpose  
- All course work must be submitted on time, in class on the date specified on the syllabus.
- To request an extension on a deadline for an assignment, students must speak to the professor one week prior to the due date
- To receive an incomplete for a course at the end of the semester, two weeks before final exams, both the student and the faculty member must meet with the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs to review the request and if granted, they must both sign an Incomplete Contract detailing the terms for completing missing coursework. |
| **Plagiarism Policy** | PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN ANY FORM: The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. 
In the event of suspected or confirmed cases of plagiarism, The faculty member will consult first with the Assistant Director for Academic Affairs as definitions and procedures vary from school to school. Please consult the “Academic Guidelines for Success” distributed on your USB key at Check-in and on the NYU Florence Global Wiki. 
For a detailed description of some possible forms of plagiarism and cheating please consult the Community Compact that you signed at Orientation, a copy of which is on the above mentioned Wiki and USB key. |
| **Required Text(s)** | - Course Pack (Copyright Free - available on NYU Classes or at Villa Ulivi Library)  
| **Supplemental Texts(s)** (not required to purchase as copies are in NYU-L Library or available on line) | *The Cambridge History of Italian Literature*, eds. P. Brand and L. Pertile, Cambridge UP 1996; (CHIL)  
*The Cambridge Companion to Modern Italian Culture*, eds. Z. Baranski; R. West, Cambridge UP, 2001; (CCMIC)  
*The Italian Cinema Book*, ed. P. Bondanella, Palgrave, 2014 (ICB)  
More online resources at:  
http://guides.nyu.edu/friendly.php?s=moditaly  
http://guides.nyu.edu/friendly.php?s=\ItalianStudies  
http://guides.nyu.edu/Florence |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1</th>
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<th>Session 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>INDEPENDENCE</strong></td>
<td><strong>February 5</strong> (Make up Class on Friday)</td>
<td><strong>MISEDUCATION</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Independence Uprising of Italy. Introduction to the course.</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Miseducation of a New Italian Youth. Re-reading and Re-writing <em>Pinocchio</em> and Collodi</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Alessandro Manzoni and <em>The Betrothed</em></td>
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<td>- Collodi and the Myth of Youth</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- The influence of <em>The Adventure of Pinocchio</em> in the Italian culture and worldwide.</td>
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<td>SUGGESTED READINGS:</td>
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<td>R. West, “The Persistent Puppet: Pinocchio's Afterlife in Twentieth-Century Fiction and Film”, [available online], <em>Forum Italicum</em>, 2006 Spring; 40 (1), pp. 103-17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Session 3 | **GOING SOUTHWARD**  
The Reluctant South of Italian “Verismo”  
- Giovanni Verga: *The House by the Medlar Tree* and other Sicilian stories.  

Required readings from the Course Reader  
excerpt from  
G. Verga, *Cavalleria Rusticana*  
> *The House by the Medlar Tree*  

**Screening and discussion (excerpts):**  
L. Visconti, “La terra trema” (1948) |
|---|---|
| Session 4 | **ASSAULT**  
Italian and Florentine Futurism  
- Futurism and Colonialism in literature and other media. Marinetti’s colonialist *Mafarka The Futurist*  
- Modernists in Florence, with arts and cinema references.  

Required readings from the Course Reader  
excerpt from  
T. Marinetti, *The Futurist Manifesto*  
> *Mafarka the Futurist*  

**Screening and discussion (excerpts)**  
| Session 5 | **SITE VISIT:**  
*Museo del Novecento, Florence + A Off-Campus Class and a Tour through the Literary and Historical Cafés in Florence*  

Required readings from the Course Reader:  
*Texts from the Florentine Modernism and Futurism* |
| Session 6 | **NEOREALISM / “AMERICANISM”**  
Pavese, Levi and Calvino  
- Carlo Levi and the Neorealist Italian  

**SUGGESTED READINGS:**  
G. Carsaniga, “Literary Realism in Italy”, *CCIN*, pp. 61-74  

**SUGGESTED READINGS:**  
“Poetry and the Avant-garde”, “Philosophy and literature from Croce to Gramsci” and “The novel”, *CHIL*, pp. 491-530.  

**SUGGESTED READINGS:**  
“Neo-realism”, *CHIL*, pp. 535-552 |
### Session 7  
**March 7**

**MIDTERM EXAM**  
(Brief essays and short answers)

→ Final Paper Topic due

### Session 8  
**March 21**

**BATTLEFIELDS**  
**Correspondences from the Horror:**  
Curzio Malaparte and Primo Levi  
- Curzio Malaparte and his War experience in *Kaputt*  
- Americans in Naples: *The Skin*.  
- The Holocaust Tragedy for an Italian Survivor: Primo Levi’s *If this is a man*

Required reading  
C. Malaparte, *Kaputt*

Required readings from the Course Reader  
excerpts from:  
C. Malaparte, *The Skin*  
P. Levi, *If This is a Man*

### Session 9  
**March 28**

**GENDER UTOPIA**

### SUGGESTED READINGS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Suggested Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| April 4 | | **Women’s Islands and Gender Utopias. Ortese and Morante**  
- *The Iguana* by Anna Maria Ortese  
- *Arturo’s Island* by Elsa Morante  
Required readings from the Course Reader excerpts from:  
A. M. Ortese, *The Iguana*  
“The Late 1950s and The 1960s”, *CCHIL*, pp. 559-580. |  |
| | ➔ Presentations by the students start (1 h) | | | |
| Session 10 | April 11 | **POSTMODERN TOURS**  
In the Labyrinth of History. Calvino and the Italian Postmodernity  
- Italo Calvino’s *Invisible Cities*  
- Paolo Volponi and the Italian Televised Post-Culture  
Required reading  
I. Calvino, *Invisible Cities*  
Required readings from the Course Reader excerpts from:  
P. Volponi, *Last Act in Urbino* | SUGGESTED READINGS:  
P. Bondanella, “Italo Calvino and Umberto Eco”, *CCIN*, p. 168-181  
“The 1970s”, *CCHIL*, pp. 581-598 |  |
| | ➔ Presentations by the students continue (30’) | | | |
| Session 11 | April 18 | **LITERARY CINEMA**  
Fellini and Pasolini  
With screening and debate on Fellini’s *8½*  
Required readings from the Course Reader excerpts from  
P. P. Pasolini, *Petrolio*  
Screening and discussion (excerpts):  
F. Fellini, *8½* (1963) | SUGGESTED READINGS:  
| | | **NEW EXOTICISMS**  
Contemporary Italian writers in India and Africa  
- *Indian Nocturne* and Antonio Tabucchi.  
- Gianni Celati’s *Adventures in Africa.*  
Screening and discussion (excerpts):  
F. Fellini, *8½* (1963) | SUGGESTED READINGS:  
| | | | | |

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## Session 13
### May 2

### UNDERGROUND JOURNEYS
- **Cannibal Sketches and New Age-isms in the 80s and 90s.** Underground Comics and Literature.
  - Pier Vittorio Tondelli’s *Separate Rooms*
  - Andrea Pazienza and the Underground Movements of Comics and Video art
  - Aldo Nove and Niccolò Ammaniti

### Required readings from the Course Reader:
- excerpts from P. V. Tondelli, *Separate Rooms*
- excerpts from *Italian Pulp Fiction: The New Narrative*...

### Suggested readings:
- “The Authors”, in S. Castaldi, *Drawn and Dangerous Italian Comics of the 1970s and 1980s*, University Press of Mississippi, 2010, pp. 87-132 [available online]

### Presentations by the students continue (30’)

### FINAL PAPER DUE

## Session 14
### May 9

### Presentation by the students end

### Final Discussion on The Program

## Session 15
### FIELD TRIP: Field-trip to Rome

### TENTATIVE PROGRAM (TBC):
| Friday April 22 (TBC) | **Encountering Contemporary Italian Writers and Publishing Houses:** Minimum Fax Publisher and its Contemporary Italian Writers | 08:19 am – DEPARTURE from Santa Maria Novella Station, Florence  
09:50 am – ARRIVAL - Rome  
13:30 pm – Lunch break  
3:00 pm - Piazza del Popolo - Café and Interview a Contemporary Italian writer and translator (in English)  
5:50 pm - RETURN trip to Florence by train - Roma Termini |

| **Classroom Etiquette** | • Eating is not permitted in the classrooms. Bottled water is permitted.  
• Cell phones should be turned off during class time.  
• The use of personal laptops and other electronic handheld devices are prohibited in the classroom unless otherwise specified by the professor.  
• We recycle! So keep it green! Please dispose of trash in the clearly marked recycle bins located throughout the on campus buildings. |

| **Required Co-curricular Activities** | **SITE VISIT:**  
Museo del Novecento, Florence [http://www.museonovecento.it/en/](http://www.museonovecento.it/en/) (off-campus class); Literary cafés and cultural spots in Florence (off-campus class) – Caffè Giubbe Rosse & Todo Modo Bookshop  
**FIELD TRIP:**  
In Rome: “Encountering Contemporary Italian Writers and Publishing Houses”. Minimum Fax Publisher, Italian writers TBA.  
TBC Encounters with contemporary Italian and Florentine writers, Graduate Seminars at Villa La Pietra and La Pietra Dialogues conferences. |

| **Suggested Co-curricular Activities** | TBA |
Your Instructor

Alessandro Raveggi (Florence, 1980) is Adjunct Professor of Italian Studies at New York University, Florence. He received his BA/MA from Università di Firenze in 2004 and his PhD at Università di Bologna in 2008. He held a post-doctoral fellowship in Italian Studies at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México for two years. He also taught at The International Studies Institute at Palazzo Rucellai, Pepperdine University, Gonzaga University, Universidad Anahuac, UNAM and Istituto Italiano di Cultura in Mexico City. As a researcher, Professor Raveggi published several articles and chapters in books on Italo Calvino, Pier Paolo Pasolini, Carlo Levi, Carlo Collodi, literary theory, Paolo Volponi, postmodern fiction and the Latin-American novel. He wrote a monograph on Calvino and his cultural experience of America, "Calvino Americano. Identità e viaggio nel Nuovo Mondo", published in 2012 for Le Lettere. His last book explores the figure of the American author David Foster Wallace ("David Foster Wallace", Doppiozero 2014) and his forthcoming book "Il saggio in viaggio" (Mucchi) will trace a theory of the literary travelogue form in Modern Italian writers journeying through America, The East and Africa. Dr. Raveggi is also a novelist and a poet.  

http://about.me/alessandroraveggi - alessandro.raveggi@nyu.edu