

Disclaimer: This is an indicative syllabus only and may be subject to changes. The final and official syllabus will be distributed by the Instructor during the first day of class.

The American University of Rome

Film Program

Department or degree program mission statement, student learning objectives, as appropriate

Course Title: Italian Cinema Past and Present
Course Number: FLM 316
Credits & hours: 3 credits
Pre/Co-Requisites: ENG 202

Course description

This course develops an appreciation of Italian cinema from its birth to the present focusing on movements, trends, relevant and recurring themes and visual features. While students are provided with an understanding of the role played by cinema in Italian society they are also encouraged to look at film as a universal language capable of crossing geographic boundaries. The relationship between Italian cinema and other film movements will also be studied.

Required Textbook (subject to change)

- Bondanella, Peter. A History of Italian Cinema
ISBN: 9781441160690
- Hand out material given in class

Recommended Readings and DVDs (subject to change)

A list of relevant readings and DVDs will be provided during the course.

Entry Fees

Students must pay their own entrance fees when required.

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss Italian film history, including major movements and the people who shaped them
2. Recognize the relationship between Italian film and Italian culture
3. Discuss Italian cinema's relationship to other movements in cinema history

Course Learning Activities

- Quizzes and exams will cover lecture material, assigned readings, and film/film clip screenings. Two quizzes and two exams will be held during the semester. Pop quizzes will be held only in cases of low participation in class discussions. (Course Objectives 1, 2, 3)

Assessment tools

Class participation	10%
Quizzes	20%
Mid-term Exam	30%
Final Exam	40%

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Reading
Week 1	Introduction to the course. THE ORIGINS Screening: <i>CABIRIA</i> , (1914) by Giovanni Pastrone CINEMA OF THE REGIME Screening: <i>LA CORONA DI FERRO</i> (1941) by Alessandro Blasetti	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 2	NEOREALISM Screening: <i>ROME OPEN CITY</i> (1945) by Roberto Rossellini <i>UMBERTO D</i> (1952) by Vittorio De Sica	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 3	THE AUTEUR YEARS Screening: <i>LA DOLCE VITA</i> (1960) by Federico Fellini Excerpts from <i>L'AVVENTURA</i> (1960) by Michelangelo Antonioni <i>ACCATONE</i> (1961) by Pier Paolo Pasolini	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 4	SWORD AND SANDAL – The “peplum” film genre Screening: <i>HERCULES IN THE HAUNTED WORLD</i> (1961) by Mario Bava <i>IL COLOSSO DI RODI</i> (1961) by Sergio Leone	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 5	THE ITALIAN WESTERN – The American West revisited Screening: <i>A FISTFUL OF DOLLARS</i> (1964) by Sergio Leone <i>THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY</i> (1966) by Sergio Leone	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 6	HORROR ITALIAN STYLE Screening: <i>DEEP RED</i> (1975) by Dario Argento <i>NON SI SEVIZIA UN PAPERINO</i> (1972) by Lucio Fulci	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 7	MIDTERM EXAM ITALIAN STYLE COMEDY Screening: <i>We All Loved Each Other So Much</i> (1973) by Ettore Scola	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 8	POLIZIOTTESCHI- Italian crime cinema Screening: <i>Milan, caliber 9</i> (1972) by Fernando di Leo <i>Wipe out!</i> (1973) by Fernando di Leo	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 9	POLITICAL CINEMA and political manifestoes Screening: <i>Investigation of a Citizen above Suspicion</i> (1970) by Elio Petri	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 10	SOCIAL CINEMA Screening: <i>Travolti da un insolito destino nell'azzurro mare d'agosto</i> (1974) by Lina Wertmüller.	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 11	NEW AUTEURS (part 1) Screening: <i>Mediterraneo</i> (1991) by Gabriele Salvatorres <i>Gomorra</i> (2008) by Matteo Garrone	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 12	NEW AUTEURS (part 2) Screening: <i>La grande bellezza</i> (1997) by Paolo Sorrentino	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 13	A NEW KIND OF REALISM (part 3) Screening: <i>Le fate ignoranti</i> (2001) by Ferzan Ozpetek Final review	Handouts + Powerpoints
Week 14	FINAL EXAM	

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In keeping with AUR's mission to prepare students to live and work across cultures, the University places a high value on classroom experience. As a result attendance is expected in all classes and attendance records are maintained. The University's attendance policy is as follows:

1.0. Minimum Attendance Requirement: Students must attend a minimum of 70% of a course in order to be eligible to be considered for a passing grade.

1.1. Automatically Accepted Absences

Students will not be penalized for one absence from classes meeting once a week;
Students will not be penalized for three absences from classes meeting twice a week;
Students will not be penalized for four absences from classes meeting more than twice a week, as in the case of some intensive courses.

1.2. If further absences are recorded, grade penalties will be applied according to the Instructor's specific attendance policy, as stated in the syllabus, and following the institutional parameters given in the Note* below.

1.2.1. If the Instructor does not specify an attendance policy, there will be no grade penalty other than that attached to the minimum attendance requirement, and any penalized absences recorded above the basic 70% attendance requirement for the course will be invalidated.

1.3. During Summer sessions where courses are taught more intensively over a shorter period the following applies:

- Students will not be penalized for two absences from class.

2.0. Tolerated Absences

Certain categories of absence will not be penalized but they will be counted as an absence (for a 3-credit course meeting twice a week). These absences are:

- The Model United Nations (MUN);
- Permit to Stay,
- SG's "Ambassador Program" (Student Government initiative)
- Religious Holidays

The American University of Rome makes all reasonable efforts to accommodate students who must be absent from classes to observe religious holidays. (Please refer to the Provost's Office list of accepted absences for religious holidays)

Not attending a class due to the observance of a religious holiday will normally not be counted as an absence.

Students who will need to miss class in order to observe religious holidays must notify their Instructors by the end of the Add/Drop period (first week of classes), and must make prior arrangements with their Instructors to make up any work missed.

2.1. The list does NOT include academic field trips because these (including arrangements for travel) must not overlap with other classes.

3.0. Cases of prolonged absences caused by an emergency or a medical condition may require students to withdraw from some or all of their courses. Under such circumstances students should first consult their academic advisors.

*Note: No Instructor may penalize a student more than half a letter grade for each absence beyond the tolerated limit (e.g. from A- to B+).

Grade Point Average

A student's grade point average (GPA) is computed by multiplying the quality points achieved by the number of credits for each course. The result is then divided by the total number of credit hours taken. The Cumulative or Career Total Grade Point Average (CGPA) is the grade point average for all credit hours taken at the University and at approved study abroad programs. The GPA and CGPA are calculated by truncating after the second digit after the decimal point. Transfer credits have no effect on the CGPA at The American University of Rome.

Grades

Grades are posted on a secure area of the University's official website and are mailed to AUR degree students only upon written request. Grades are mailed to the various study abroad programs. Grades computed in the (GPA) reflect the following grade equivalents:

GRADE		GPA	
A	Excellent	4.00	94 – 100 points
A-		3.70	90 – 93.99 pts
B+	Very Good	3.30	87 – 89.99
B	Good	3.00	83 – 86.99
B-		2.70	80 – 82.99
C+		2.30	77 – 79.99
C	Satisfactory	2.00	73 – 76.99
C-	Less than Satisfactory	1.70	70 – 72.99
D	Poor	1.00	60 – 69.99
F	Failing	0.00	59.99 – 0
WU	Unofficial withdrawal counts as an F	0.00	
P	Applicable to development courses	0.00	
<i>Grades not computed into the grade point average are:</i>			
W	Withdrawal		
AUDIT (AU)	Only possible when the student registers for a course at the beginning of the semester as an audit student		
I	Incomplete work must be completed within the ensuing semester. Failure to do so results in automatically converting the I grade to the default grade, which is then computed into the grade point average		
P	Pass grade is applicable to courses as indicated in the catalog.		
WIP	Work in progress		