

UC 11863 12F

CBM003 ADD/CHANGE FORM

APPROVED APR 24 2013

Undergraduate Council
 New Course Course Change
 Core Category: Lang/Phil/Culture Effective Fall 2014

or
 Graduate/Professional Studies Council
 New Course Course Change
 Effective Fall 2013

1. Department: MCL College: CLASS
 2. Faculty Contact Person: Alessandro Carrera Telephone: 3-3069 Email: acarrera@uh.edu

3. Course Information on New/Revised course:
 • Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
ITAL / 3308 / Italian Heritage
 • Instructional Area / Course Number / Short Course Title (30 characters max.)
ITAL / 3308 / Italian Heritage
 • SCH: 3.00 Level: SO CIP Code: 1609020001 Lect Hrs: 3 Lab Hrs: 0

RECEIVED OCT 12 2012

4. Justification for adding/changing course: To meet core curriculum requirements
 5. Was the proposed/revised course previously offered as a special topics course? Yes No
 If Yes, please complete:

- Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title:
 ___ / ___ / ___
 • Course ID: ___ Effective Date (currently active row): ___

6. Authorized Degree Program(s): B.A. Italian Studies
 • Does this course affect major/minor requirements in the College/Department? Yes No
 • Does this course affect major/minor requirements in other Colleges/Departments? Yes No
 • Can the course be repeated for credit? Yes No (if yes, include in course description)

7. Grade Option: Letter (A, B, C ...) Instruction Type: lecture ONLY (Note: Lect/Lab info. must match item 3, above.)

8. If this form involves a change to an existing course, please obtain the following information from the course inventory: Instructional Area / Course Number / Long Course Title
ITAL / 3308 / Italian Heritage
 • Course ID: 46427 Effective Date (currently active row): 20108

9. Proposed Catalog Description: (If there are no prerequisites, type in "none".)
 Cr: 3. (3.0). Prerequisites: ENG 1304 Description (30 words max.): Italian American Experience in literature, cinema, visual arts, and music. Taught in English

10. Dean's Signature: _____ Date: 10/9/12
 Print/Type Name: Sarah Fishman

REQUEST FOR COURSES IN THE CORE CURRICULUM

Originating Department or College: MCL

Person Making Request: Alessandro Carrera

Telephone: 3-3069

Email: acarrera@uh.edu

Dean's Signature: _____

Date: September 10, 2012

Course Number and Title: ITAL 3308—Italian Heritage

Please attach in separate documents:

Completed CBM003 Add/Change Form with Catalog Description

Syllabus

List the student learning outcomes for the course (Statements of what students will know and be able to do as a result of taking this course. See appended hints for constructing these statements):

- Students will be able to acquire knowledge and understanding of the rich contribution the Italian American Community has provided to the diverse cultural landscape in the USA. - Students will be able to enter in a dialectic relationship with behavior, ideas, and values of an immigrant group as expressed through literature, cinema, the visual arts, and music. - Students will be able to engage in critical analysis of the role Italian Americans play in the common enterprise of American Culture. - Students will be able to improve their writing skills by becoming familiar with the peculiar elements of Italian-American literature and film and by acquiring the skills necessary for an analytical reading of literary and cinematic works.

Component Area for which the course is being proposed (check one):

Communication

American History

Mathematics

Government/Political

Science

Language, Philosophy, & Culture

Social & Behavioral Science

Creative Arts

Component Area Option

Life & Physical Sciences

Competency areas addressed by the course (refer to appended chart for competencies that are required and optional in each component area):

X Critical Thinking

Teamwork

X Communication Skills

X Social Responsibility

Empirical & Quantitative Skills

X Personal Responsibility

Because we will be assessing student learning outcomes across multiple core courses, assessments assigned in your course must include assessments of the core competencies. For each competency checked above, indicate the specific course assignment(s) which, when completed by students, will provide evidence of the competency. Provide detailed information, such as copies of the paper or project assignment, copies of individual test items, etc. A single assignment may be used to provide data for multiple competencies.

Critical Thinking:

Students will be asked to react to cultural artifacts often produced within a community that at least in its initial stage has tried to preserve values sometimes different from the mainstream. Students will have to analyze, assess, and evaluate the role that tradition, exposure to a new reality, and cultural innovation play in the formation of an Italian American culture.

SAMPLES OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Assignment: reading of a chapter from *Vita* by Melania Mazzucco (to be distributed by the Prof.). The chapter is entitled: *Good for Father*.

Written assignment due on Tuesday, January 26th: an analysis of the film and the reading assignment.

Assignment: Reading of The Fortunate Pilgrim Part One: Chapters 1 through 7.

Assignment: Reading Part II of The Fortunate Pilgrim: Chapters 8-16.

Assignment: Read *Christ in Concrete*: Chapter I *Geremio*; Chapter II *Job*; Chapter III *Tenement*. Class discussion of reading assignment.

Assignment: Finish reading novel: Chapter IV: *Fiesta*; Chapter V: *Annunziata*
Class Reading and Discussion of Joseph Tusiani's Poems from *Gente Mia* (1978).

Assignment: Reading of the Play "*The Rose Tattoo*"

Distribution of the Mid-Term Take-Home Essay Exam.

Discussion of Chazz Palmentieri and "*A Bronx Tale*" directed by Robert De Niro. (1993)

Assignment: Reading "*Ask the Dust*" by John Fante (1939).

Chapter 1-11, pp. 5-90.

Assignment: Finish the novel: *Ask The Dust*.

Chapter 12 through chapter 19.

Discussion of the novel: *Ask The Dust*.

Assignment: Reading: *Umbertina*: Prologue and Part I.

***Umbertina 1860-1940*. pp. 1-147.**

Assignment: Part II. *Umbertina*. Marguerite 1927-1973.
pp. 147-283.

Nota Bene: Final Paper: Today (April 13th) is the distribution of the short stories for the Final Paper required for the course.

The short stories are to be read, summarized and analyzed.

Italian Studies majors or minors will read, summarize and analyze their short stories in Italian.

Communication Skills:

By means of the above writing sample, response papers, mid-term essay, final exam, and class discussions, students will be able to provide a clear, understandable, well articulated and well-written analysis and synthesis of the cultural products that have been offered to their attention. Papers will have to show use of evidence, clear distinction between primary and secondary sources, depth and originality of insights well-structured organization of ideas expressed in clear and concise syntax. In the same assignments as above, students will demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively.

Empirical & Quantitative Skills:

N/A

Teamwork:

N/A

Social Responsibility:

By being exposed to a segment of American culture that has been in and out of mainstream, going all the way from marginalization and stereotyping to wide acceptance (and maybe a more insidious stereotyping at work), students will be able to evaluate the contribution that different communities have given to the cultural landscape of the U.S., and be more alert to the social role of cultural differences. In the same assignments as above, students will explore issues of social responsibility.

Personal Responsibility:

In their papers, students will learn how to introduce and discuss cultural references they may or may be not familiar with. They will learn how to develop empathy with a community but also a critical distance from the ways immigrant communities choose to represent themselves, or the ways mainstream culture chooses to represent them. The cultural flexibility they will acquire will also develop their ethical competency. In the same assignments as above, students will explore issues of personal responsibility.

Will the syllabus vary across multiple section of the course? Yes No

If yes, list the assignments that will be constant across sections:

Click here to enter text.

Inclusion in the core is contingent upon the course being offered and taught at least once every other academic year. Courses will be reviewed for renewal every 5 years.

The department understands that instructors will be expected to provide student work and to participate in university-wide assessments of student work. This could include, but may not be limited to, designing instruments

such as rubrics, and scoring work by students in this or other courses. In addition, instructors of core courses may be asked to include brief assessment activities in their course.

Dept. Signature: _____

**Italian Heritage
Italian 3308
Complete Syllabus**

*The Italian American Experience in Literature,
Cinema, Visual Arts and Music*

Taught in English

Prof. Alessandro Carrera
611 AH
(713) 743-3069

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to acquire knowledge and understanding of the rich contribution the Italian American Community has provided to the diverse cultural landscape in the USA.
- Students will be able to enter in a dialectic relationship with behavior, ideas, and values of an immigrant group as expressed through literature, cinema, the visual arts, and music.
- Students will be able to engage in critical analysis of the role Italian Americans play in the common enterprise of American Culture.
- Students will be able to improve their writing skills by becoming familiar with the peculiar elements of Italian-American literature and film and by acquiring the skills necessary for an analytical reading of literary and cinematic works.

The following novels are required to be purchased for the course:

(They have been ordered from the University Bookstore)

1. *The Fortunate Pilgrim* by Mario Puzo
2. *Christ in Concrete* by Pietro di Donato
3. *Ask the Dust* by John Fante
4. *Umbertina* by Helen Barolini
5. *The Rose Tattoo* by Tennessee Williams

In addition:

A chapter from the novel *Vita* by Melania Mazzucco (**Good for Father**). To be distributed by the instructor.

1. We will be listening and reading the libretto of the opera by Gian Carlo Menotti: **The Saint of Bleecker Street**.
2. We will view the film and read the sceneyplay by Chazz Palmentieri: **The Bronx Tale**.
3. **Other films we will be viewing are:**
Good Morning Babylon directed by Paolo and Vittorio Taviani. (1987)
Christ in Concrete directed by Edward Dmytryk.
Ask the Dust directed by Robert Towne. (2006)
The Rose Tattoo directed by Daniel Mann.

Episodes from *The Fortunate Pilgrim* directed by Stuart Cooper.
Big Night directed by Stanley Tucci. (1996)
Moonstruck directed by Norman Jewison. (1987)
Sacco and Vanzetti directed by Peter Miller. (2006)

Because this is a core curriculum course substantial writing is required (a minimum of 3,000 words). The Mid-Term Exam will be returned with an evaluation of grammar, style and content.

***** As a courtesy to the instructor and the students in the course cell phone use is not permitted in class. Thank you for your attention to this matter.**

- **Enrollment Caps:** Any class the student is enrolled in after the 12th class day, even if the student subsequently drops the class, counts as an attempted class.
- **University of Houston's Academic Honesty Policy:** The Academic Honesty Policy can be found on pp. 59-60 of the Undergraduate Studies Catalog 2005-2007. The Provost's webpage has Academic Honesty information at http://www.uh.edu/provost/stu/stu_syllabsuppl.html
Plagiarism in this class will not be tolerated.
Translation aids will not be tolerated.

N.B. *All papers will be submitted to Turnitin by the Professor.**

All DVDs viewed in class will be available in the Language Acquisition Center 311AH. They will be put on reserve for Italian 3308 once they have been viewed in class.

Attendance is mandatory. More than three absences, if not substantially motivated, will put the student at risk of being dropped. Students are expected to bring the textbook required to class. Students are expected to answer questions about the text and participate in the discussion. **Papers must be turned in on time.**

Evaluation and Grading:

Class Participation and attendance:	10%
Analyses of novels, films viewed etc.	40%
Mid Term Take-Home Exam:	15%
Written Final Exam:	20%
Final Paper (1000 words minimum):	15%

Italian Studies Students who wish to count this course as major or minor credit must do their Papers in Italian.

For the Final Paper: The Professor will distribute short stories to be read and analyzed (in English). The Italian Studies Students will read and analyze short stories in Italian.

Exam Dates

Mid-Term Take Home Exam: Distributed on March 9th. **Due on March 23rd.** (hard copies only). No late acceptance. Typed and double spaced.

Final Paper: Stories distributed on April 13th. Paper due at Final Exam. Typed and double spaced, hard copies only, no late acceptance.

Written Final Exam in 301AH: Tuesday, May 11th from 2-5

Weekly Syllabus:

Nota Bene: All films that we have viewed in class are available in the Language Acquisition Center. You may view them there once we have viewed them in class. **Language Acquisition Center is in 311AH.** They are reserved for Italian 3308.

1. 1st week:

Introduction to the course (lecture)

Viewing of Film: *The Golden Door* directed by Emanuele Crialesi

Assignment: reading of a chapter from *Vita* by Melania Mazzucco (to be distributed by the Prof.). The chapter is entitled: *Good for Father*.

Written assignment due on Tuesday, January 26th: an analysis of the film and the reading assignment.

2. 2nd week:

Introduction: *The Fortunate Pilgrim* by Mario Puzo.

Viewing: "Little Italy" (60 minute documentary)

Class Lecture: The author: Mario Puzo.

Assignment: Reading of *The Fortunate Pilgrim Part One:* Chapters 1 through 7.

3. 3rd week:

Lecture: "The Novel of the Italian in America".

Viewing: Episode I of Mario Puzo's "The Fortunate Pilgrim".

Assignment: Reading Part II of *The Fortunate Pilgrim:* Chapters 8-16.

4th week:

Class Discussion of the assigned reading and the film.

Viewing: Episode II of "The Fortunate Pilgrim"

Assignment: Read chapters 16-26 (conclude the novel).

Nota Bene: Bring the novel *Christ in Concrete* to the next class.

5th week:

Viewing: Episode III of "*The Fortunate Pilgrim*".

Lecture: *Introduction to Pietro Di Donato and Christ in Concrete.*

Assignment: Read *Christ in Concrete*: Chapter I *Geremio*; Chapter II *Job*; Chapter III *Tenement*.

6th week:

Class discussion of reading assignment.

Viewing: *Christ in Concrete* film.

Assignment: Finish reading novel: Chapter IV: *Fiesta*; Chapter V: *Annunziata*

Nota Bene: Bring the play by Tennessee Williams "*The Rose Tattoo*" to the next class.

7th week:

Lecture: *Introduction to Tennessee Williams and The Rose Tattoo.*

Class Reading and Discussion of Joseph Tusiani's Poems from *Gente Mia* (1978). (copies to be distributed by the professor).

The Ballad of the Coliseum

The Day After the Feast

Song of the Bicentennial

Columbus Day in New York

Assignment: Reading of the Play "*The Rose Tattoo*"

8th week:

Distribution of the Mid-Term Take-Home Essay Exam.

No late acceptance. Hard copies only.

Viewing: Film: *The Rose Tattoo.*

9th week:

Mid-Term Exam due. No late acceptance.

Lecture: *Leaving Little Italy.*

Discussion of Chazz Palminteri and "*A Bronx Tale*" directed by Robert De Niro. (1993)

Viewing: Film: *A Bronx Tale.*

Assignment: Reading "*Ask the Dust*" by John Fante (1939).

Chapter 1-11, pp. 5-90.

10th Week:

Lecture: Who is **John Fante**? Introduction to *Arturo Bandini*. About the author. About the book.

Viewing film: *Good Morning Babylon* directed by Paolo and Vittorio Taviani. (1973).

Assignment: Finish the novel: *Ask The Dust*.

Chapter 12 through chapter 19.

11th Week:

Discussion of the novel: *Ask The Dust*.

Introduction to *Umbertina* by Helen Barolini.

Viewing Film: *Ask the Dust* directed by Robert Towne. (2006)

Assignment: Reading: *Umbertina*: Prologue and Part I.

Umbertina 1860-1940. pp. 1-147.

12th Week:

Lecture: Helen Barolini: *Her Place in Italian American Literature*. Who is *Umbertina*?

Lecture: *Hostility and Hangings: From New Orleans to Sacco and Vanzetti*.

Viewing Documentary: *Sacco and Vanzetti* directed by Peter Miller (2006)

Assignment: Part II. *Umbertina*. Marguerite 1927-1973.

pp. 147-283.

Nota Bene: Final Paper: Today is the distribution of the short stories for the Final Paper required for the course.

The short stories are to be read, summarized and analyzed.

Italian Studies majors or minors will read, summarize and analyze their short stories in Italian.

Due Date: Paper is due at the Written Final Exam. 750 word minimum. Typed and double-spaced. **Hard copies only**. No late acceptance.

13th Week:

Class discussion of *Umbertina*.

Lecture: *Pasta and Pizza: An Evolving Italian American Cuisine*.

Viewing Film: *Big Night* directed by Stanley Tucci. 1996

Assignment: *Umbertina*: Part III. Tina 1950--

pp. 283-424.

14th Week, Last Day of Class.

A Discussion of the Written Final Exam material.

Distribution of an Outline of Final Exam questions.

Viewing Final Film: *Moonstruck* directed by Norman Jewison. (1987).

A romantic comedy taking place in Brooklyn, New York. A fitting way to end our Italian Heritage course.

*****Written Final Exam:**

Individual Paper due.