

## COURSE DETAIL

### CONTEMPORARY LITERARY CULTURES

**Country**

Italy

**Host Institution**

University of Bologna

**Program(s)**

University of Bologna

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Comparative Literature

**UCEAP Course Number**

152

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

CONTEMPORARY LITERARY CULTURES

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

CONTEMP LIT CUL

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

12.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

8.00

## Course Description

This course is part of the Laurea Magistrale degree program and is intended for advanced level students. Enrollment is by permission of the instructor. Art and literature can be seen weaving around each other, influencing one and another, and being used as a tool to teach students about liberal arts and humanity; this course explores various ways in which words and images have interacted and shaped Italian culture in the 20th and 21st centuries. It is divided into two modules.

**Module 1: Literature and Visual Culture** explores the relations between the Italian novel and comic strip fiction between the 20th and 21st centuries, highlighting the fundamental role played by comics in the personal formation and creative activity of some writers. Tracing the development and diffusion of comic strip fiction in Italy starting from the second half of the 20th century, this module focuses in particular on how much the experience of comic strip readers influenced the narrative and non-fiction production of Italo Calvino and Umberto Eco, shaping their imagery and writing methods. The module analyzes and discusses interpretations of comic book characters and serial stories, as well as the different ways in which comics are incorporated into their texts.

**Module 2: Literature and the Arts** provides students with themes and areas for in-depth study: 1) the interaction between literature and photography; 2) the issue of the gaze in literature; 3) iconology, the *visual turn* and the *pictorial turn*; 4) literature and visual arts facing the crisis of modernity and postmodernity. In particular, the course delves into these specific forms of interaction between literature and photography: 1) the photographer as a character; 2) photography as a theme in literature; 3) photography as a way of writing or the role of photographic gaze in literature; 4) phototexts. At the end of the course, students are able to develop a general vision of the relationships between Italian Literature and other Arts, from the nineteenth century to nowadays, with a focus on painting. Students acquire knowledge on the most relevant works of literature which interact with images and they will be capable of analyzing

critical, theoretical, and literary texts regarding visual arts.

**Language(s) of Instruction**

English

**Host Institution Course Number**

92957

**Host Institution Course Title**

CONTEMPORARY LITERARY CULTURES

**Host Institution Course Details**

<https://www.unibo.it/en/study/phd-professional-masters-specialisation-schools-a...>

**Host Institution Campus**

BOLOGNA

**Host Institution Faculty****Host Institution Degree**

LM in ITALIAN STUDIES, EUROPEAN LITERARY CULTURES, AND LINGUISTICS

**Host Institution Department**

CLASSICAL PHILOLOGY AND ITALIAN STUDIES

**Course Last Reviewed**

2024-2025

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