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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