



ITALIAN STUDIES FALL 2022 COURSES

ITAS 101 - Beginning Italian I

MTH 9:55am – 11:10am W 9:30am - 10:20am - Prof. Flavia Laviosa
MTH 2:20pm – 3:35pm W 2:30pm – 3:20pm - Prof. Daniela Bartalesi-Graf

This course employs the latest language teaching methodology to provide students with an interactive learning experience. Students will be introduced to the basics of the Italian language, as well as to contemporary Italy and its culture. In class, students will practice the four skills - speaking, listening, reading and writing - through a variety of activities.



ITAS 103 - INTENSIVE ELEMENTARY ITALIAN

MTH 3:45-5:00pm W 3:30-4:20pm - Prof. Daniela Bartalesi-Graf



This innovative course is designed for complete beginners who wish to advance fast in their language proficiency, and complete their language requirement in one year. Through the daily practice and reinforcement of all language skills, students will reach an intermediate level mastery of the Italian language and a basic understanding of modern Italian society in one semester, since this course is the equivalent of 101 & 102, and qualifies students for 201 or 203 (201 & 202 combined). ITAS103 employs the latest teaching technology tools to provide students with an interactive learning experience. Methods employed include in-class conversation and role-playing activities, as well as the latest technology in blended learning. No textbook necessary: the course employs an online platform that provides free access to all course materials (videos, readings, grammar charts, as well as self-corrected exercises and tests).

ITAS 104 FYS: THE CITIES OF ITALY: AN INTRODUCTION TO ITALIAN CULTURE (IN ENGLISH)

TF 11:20am – 12:35pm - Prof. Sergio Parussa



This seminar is dedicated to the representation of Italian cities in Italian literature, art, and cinema from the Middle Ages to the twenty-first century. By presenting cities as spatial narratives, we will introduce students to some of the most important moments in Italian history and will invite them to examine the representation of urban landscape as a privileged vantage point to understand Italian culture. The seminar is designed to introduce students to the field of Italian Studies and to provide them with a solid background in Italian history and culture. This course will be taught in English.

ITAS 201 - INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN I

MTH 11:20am – 12:35pm W 11:30am – 12:20pm - Prof. Flavia Laviosa



The aim of this courses is to develop students' fluency in spoken and written Italian. The reading of short stories, articles from Italian newspapers, and selected texts on Italian culture as well as the writing of compositions are used to promote critical and analytical skills. Listening is practiced through the viewing of Italian films. Both reading and listening activities are followed by in-class discussions.

ITAS 263/MER 263 - DANTE'S DIVINE COMEDY

TF 12:45pm – 2pm - Laura Ingallinella

The *Divine Comedy* (*Divina Commedia*) by Florentine poet **Dante Alighieri (1265-1321)** is considered one of the greatest masterpieces of world literature. Designed as a journey across the Christian afterlife, the *Divine Comedy* has redefined the global understanding of morality, political engagement, and the sacred across the centuries. In this course, we will read and discuss the *Divine Comedy* focusing on Dante's own dilemmas: what does it mean to love a person, one's community, or an idea? Is there a logic to human nature and the universe? How can we reconcile justice, curiosity, violence, and desire? And why should we care? Our discussion will be interdisciplinary and explore fields such as literature, history, ethics, and theology.

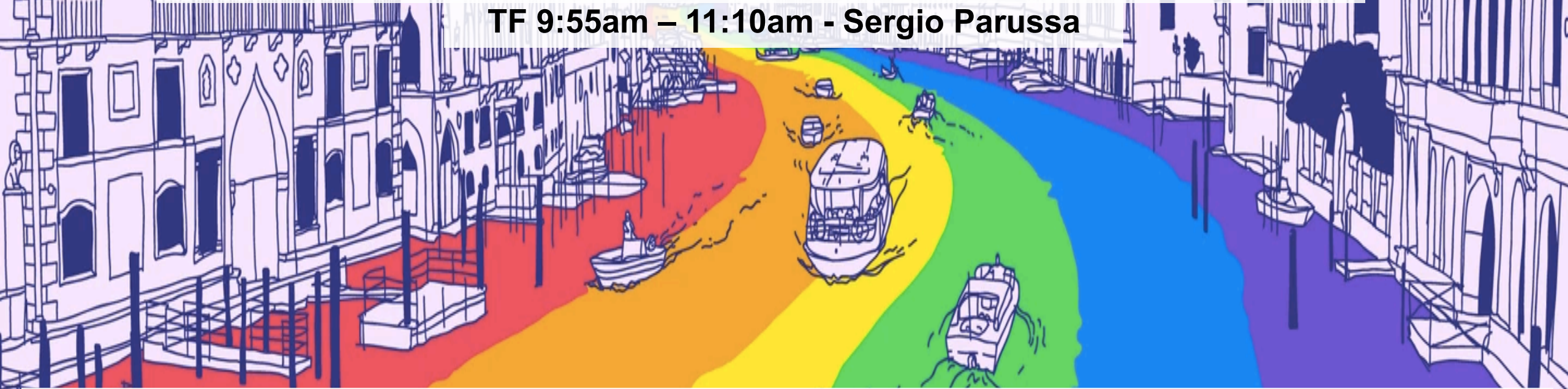
No previous knowledge of Italian Medieval Studies is required.



ITAS/PEAC 210 – QUEER ITALY

LGBTQ+ CULTURE IN ITALY FROM DANTE TO PASOLINI AND BEYOND

TF 9:55am – 11:10am - Sergio Parussa



Considered since the Renaissance as a homoerotic haven, Italy was for a long time the favorite destination of many gay writers in flight from the rigid sexual mores of their home countries. In Italy's warmer Mediterranean climate, rich and sensuous figurative arts, and ancient costumes, they found a culture that seemed more at ease with a nuanced idea of human sexuality. After all, Italy is the country that gave birth to famous artists who became icons of LGBTQ+ culture, such as the painter Caravaggio and the poet Pasolini, and that, unlike other Western nations, never had laws criminalizing homoeroticism. Today, paradoxically, Italy is the Western European country which is most lagging behind in passing legislation in support of LGBTQ+ rights. From the lack of a full legal recognition of gay marriage and adoption rights to the failure to approve a hate-crime bill for the protection of LGBTQ+ individuals, Italian society still shows great reluctance to grant full equal rights to LGBTQ Italians. With these historical contradictions in the background, this course will retrace the steps of the rich, complex, and often tortuous path of LGBTQ+ culture in Italy from the early representations of sodomy, during the Middle Ages and Renaissance, in works by Dante and Poliziano, to the shaping of a political and social discourse around homosexuality in literary texts by twentieth century writers, such as Saba, Bassani, Ginzburg, and Morante, to the emergence of a political debate on current LGBTQ+ issues, such as AIDS, homophobia, transgender and transexual rights, in works by contemporary artists, such as Tondelli, Bazzi, and Lavagna.