# History of the Italian Film Industry

## Prof. Roberto Della Torre

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The aim of the course is to provide students with the means of understanding the history of the Italian film industry, from its origins to the present day, particularly in terms of language, aesthetics and production. At the end of the course, students will be able to understand the main problems, historical phases, most representative authors and key films in the history of Italian cinema.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Based on the viewing of several film clips, lectures will explore topics connected with the most influential film schools and theories, and analyse the production systems, leading film directors and developments in expressive form of Italian cinema from the second post-war period to today.

***READING LIST***

M. Command, A. Sainati, *Storia del cinema italiano,* Pearson, Milano, 2022.

R. Della Torre (edited by), *Uomini, donne e immaginari. Radiografie del cinema italiano*, EDUCatt, Milan, 2018 (six essays of your choice).

R. Della Torre (edited by), *Fuori circuito. Altre forme di produzione del cinema italiano*, EDUCatt, Milan, 2021 (six essays of your choice).

Other materials essential for exam preparation (essays, sequences, documentaries, feature films and short films) will be made available on the university Blackboard platform during the course.

Students must watch at least ten of the following films as an integral part of their exam preparation:

L’inferno (Francesco Bertolini-Giuseppe de Liguoro-Adolfo Padovan, Italia, 1911)

1860 (Alessandro Blasetti, Italia, 1934)

Darò un milione (Mario Camerini, Italia, 1935)

Ossessione (Luchino Visconti, 1943)

Roma città aperta (Roberto Rossellini, 1945)

Ladri di biciclette (Vittorio De Sica, 1948)

I vitelloni (Federico Fellini, 1952)

La grande guerra (Mario Monicelli, 1959)

Rocco e i suoi fratelli (Luchino Visconti,1960)

La notte (Michelangelo Antonioni, 1961)

Mamma Roma (Pier Paolo Pasolini, 1962)

Per un pugno di dollari (Sergio Leone, 1964)

Indagine su un cittadino al di sopra di ogni sospetto (Elio Petri, 1970)

Marrakesh Express (Gabriele Salvatores, 1989)

Caro diario (Nanni Moretti, 1993)

L’amore molesto (Mario Martone, 1995)

L’uomo in più (Paolo Sorrentino, 2001)

L’imbalsamatore (Matteo Garrone, 2002)

Sacro Gra (Gianfranco Rosi, 2013)

Indivisibili (Edoardo De Angelis, 2016)

Favolacce (Damiano D’Innocenzo, Fabio D’Innocenzo, 2020)

The titles of further films students much watch in preparation for the exam will be communicated during the course and published on the lecturer’s webpage.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures. Individual study.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

As a result of the implementation of the new provisions concerning the teaching activity after the end of the state of emergency, it will be necessary to return to a more traditional assessment method.

Provided that the final assessment will be the same for both attending and non-attending students, it will consist in the following steps:

a) the writing of a text based on the critical analysis of a film approved by the lecturer, to be submitted in digital format at least three weeks before the official exam date;

b) an optional written test consisting in open-ended questions on the general course (G.P. Brunetta, *Guida alla storia del cinema italiano (1905-2003),* Einaudi, Turin, 2003, p. IX-XXV; p. 3-303). Further information on dates and classes will be made available on the virtual page of the course. No registration will be required. Students will simply have to reach the lecture room and show their badge.

c) final oral exam. The students who pass the written exam will be tested orally on 12 essays of their choice taken from the textbooks R. Della Torre (edited by), *Uomini, donne e immaginari. Radiografie del cinema italiano*, EDUCatt, Milan, 2018 (6 essays of their choice) and R. Della Torre (edited by), *Fuori circuito. Altre forme di produzione del cinema italiano*, EDUCatt, Milan, 2021 (6 essays of their choice), and the films. The students who do not take/pass the written test will have to take the oral exam on the whole course content.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

As this is an introductory course, there are no prerequisites in terms of content. However, students should be interested in and curious about the subject.

*In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.*

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.