Modern Italian Culture: Italian American Experiences

Course ID and 6-digit Number: **ITAL 2522-401**

Course Description:

We will learn about the experiences, dreams, memories and politics of Italian emigration and immigration through a careful study of short stories, cinema and television, oral history archives, and the press. We will consider the ways different narrative styles reflect the historical realities of the times, and will take a critical analysis approach to the question of how public attitudes towards immigrants have shaped Italian national and diasporic sentiment.

During the first half of the semester we will work to perform digital ethnographies of Italian American businesses, organizations, or cultural institutions. We will used the critical inquiry skills that we develop through this research and use them to investigate historical and contemporary literary, cinematic, and mediatic representations of Italian Americans, so that we may better understand the relationships between cultural identity, lived experience, and media representation.

Class Structure for Fall 2022
- In-Person Sessions Planned
- Students will attend classes Mondays and Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 pm
- Students will complete out-of-class assignments as indicated by the instructor

Outline of Assignments & Assessments
- The majority of assignments will be short-term weekly writing or video submissions. (Expect 2 of these per week)
- The two larger assignments (the ethnography due in the middle of term, and the final paper due at the end of term) are the big projects around which all the smaller assignments are structured. These will be broken down into drafts and smaller parts so that not everything is due all at once.
- Grade Breakdown:
  - Ethnography: 20% (Data Collection Sheet 5%, Narrative 5%, Report 10%)
  - Presentation: 5%
  - Final Paper 20% (First Draft 5%, Peer Review 5%, Final Draft – 10%)
  - Blog Reading Responses: 5%
  - Journal Entries: 10%
  - Homework: 10%
  - Group Work: 10%
  - Participation: 15%

<u>Essential Course Policies</u>

- All reading materials will be made available on canvas.
- It is essential that students have regular access to the Internet.
- Access to Netflix and Amazon Prime recommended but not required.

Any student may consult with [Student Financial Services](#) to find out what support they are eligible to receive to cover course costs or other items that ensure their health, safety, and secure learning environment.

Students needing accommodations of any kind should let the instructor know as soon as they are able.