DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL STUDIES
https://ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies

2020-2021 ITAL 340 B1: Italian Culture Through Music
(Winter Term)

Note: Remote Delivery

Instructor: William Anselmi

Office: REMOTE
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Personal Website: N/A
Course Website: N/A

Time: Tue./Thu.
14:00-15:20
Place: REMOTE

Office Hours: Thu. 15:30-16:30
or by appointment

Bachelor of Arts / Major in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:
https://www.ualberta.ca/modern-languages-and-cultural-studies/undergraduate-program-information/prospective-undergraduate-students

Course Prerequisite: ITAL 212 or consent of department
It is your responsibility as a student to ensure that you have the appropriate prerequisites
for the course.

Technology requirements (minimum):

Internet connection and computer with camera. It is your responsibility as a student to
ensure that you have the appropriate technology for the course.

Experiential Learning Component
☐ this course has a significant experiential learning component (15% or more of
the course grade)

Course-based Ethics Approval in place regarding all research projects that involve human
testing, questionnaires, etc.?
☐ Yes   Ⅹ No, not needed

Past or Representative Evaluative Course Material Available
☐ Exam registry – Students' Union
http://www.su.ualberta.ca/services/infolink/exam/
☐ See explanations below
☐ Document distributed in class
☐ Other (please specify)
Ⅹ NA

Course Description, Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

Ludovico Einaudi, Little Tonno, PFM, Milva - who are they and what do they have in common? Nothing comes to mind besides a possible nationality, right? Try again. Andrea Boccelli, Luciano Pavarotti, Il Volo, Laura Pausini? This time you got three out of four. And if you were familiar with South American music markets you probably got 4 out of 4. Yes, for this course in Italian and English is about Italy's music scene from the Fifties to the present day. You probably already know L. Einaudi as a composer. Remember the film *Intouchables*? Little Tonno (Little Tuna) - whose name mocks an Italian commercial Sixties singer, an Elvis clone: Little Tony - was part of the late Seventies' *demential rock* scene in Bologna. The mythical Premiata Forneria Marconi was one of Italy's best progressive rock bands. Milanese Milva is popular especially in Germany, not only for her music but also her work with Giorgio Streheler, her rendition of Bertold Brecht's work and Edith Piaf's songs. There's more to Italian music than flying (Il Volo) *"Volare"*, eh? And you don't have to fly to Italy to find out. The song *Nel blu dipinto di blu* in North America became the name of car, *Volare,* and that is the infinitive of the English *to fly*. Domenico Modugno's 1958 San Remo Festival performance illustrated this and was attacked by the Vatican's pompous clergy for sexual connotation. **This course, Ital 340**, by remote, in the commodious space of your home will offer a chronological and contextual history of Italian music genres (rock, folk, progressive, jazz indie, hip hop, world, *cantautorato*, comic). Specific singers and musicians will be featured. At the end of this course you will have a socio-cultural and critical understanding of the Italy of the last seventy years for example: the economic boom, the youth movement of *Movimento 77, gli anni di piombo*, as well as knowledge of Italian and other international artists. Through the comparatist approach of the course you'll meet Canadians like Leonard Cohen, Joni Mitchell, Americans like Bob Dylan and Janis Joplin. You'll have an understanding of the interplay of commercialism, "authenticity", identity-making mediatic mechanisms, cultural stereotypes, their economic exploitation and viability, the dominance of particular artists and genres in the world (the Anglo-American cultural empire). Furthermore, you'll realize that music has become an alternative channel of communication. And you thought it was all about Opera, like *Godfather III*?

Course Format: The objectives of this course will be learned from a combination of formal lectures, guest presentations, assigned readings and audiovisual materials.

Links (Previously **Text**s)

Given the present conditions and library access restrictions (obviously subject to change) there are no books, presently, to be indicated as prescribed; but rather a list of links for Italian and English texts (articles and books) is provided to be augmented as necessary as the course progresses. The recommended readings are indicated with an **R** while the others are for your consultation serving the purpose to direct you to further research.

https://www.italymagazine.com/featured-story/pop-question-how-did-italian-pop-music-flourish-1950s **R**

https://www.scuolissima.com/2012/11/Musica-italiana-storia.html **R**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBhHSeZ_JBg **R**

(*Made in Italy*) https://search.library.ualberta.ca/catalog/9145865 **R**

http://www.canzoneitaliana.it/le-origini-della-canzone-italiana

https://blogs.transparent.com/italian/la-musica-italiana-italian-music/

https://www.italiacanora.net/t513-storia-della-canzone-italiana

http://www.railibri.rai.it/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/9788893160674-2.pdf

Additional Course Fees
　　　　□ Yes　　　　X N

Important Dates: See Academic Schedule in current Calendar

First Day of Class: January 11, 2021
Add/Delete Date: January 22, 2021
50% Withdrawal Date: February 10, 2021
Winter Term Reading Week: February 16-19, 2021
Withdrawal Date: April 9, 2021
Last Day of Class: April 16, 2021

Components of Course Grade (see "Explanatory Notes"):

20%　　Song Translation (2) (from Italian to English) – **First week of March**.
30%　　Festival of Sanromolo (best 10 songs and why) (in Italian) – **Third week of February.**
30%　　Presentation Italian singer, group (in English or Italian) – **Week after winter break.**
20%　　Comparison Italian and English/American music scene (in English) - **End of term.**

Explanatory Notes on Assignments:

The **translation** component requires you to choose two (2) songs from our class work to be translated from Italian to English. Please consult before with your instructor as to your song

choices. Due date: March 15, 2021.

Festival of **Sanromolo** is, first of all, a double pun. It plays with the popular music Festival of Sanremo, which takes place every year for a number of days in February. It also plays with the names of Rome's mythical founding fathers Romolo and Remo. You are required for the imaginary Festival of Sanromolo to draw up a list of what you consider are the ten best songs (you can of course include songs beside the ones analyzed in class), giving a reason for each choice. The reason can be as brief as a one liner. Length: about 750 wds. Due: February 15, 2021.

The **presentation** can be in English, French, Italian, or Spanish because of the comparatist approach, and because Music knows no national or linguistic barriers. Presentations can be done with a partner, and will be no longer than 30 minutes including questions and answers. Ideally, it could be broken down into 20 minute talk/exposure, 10 minute discussion. Presentations will start after the winter break. Should you want to present earlier it's certainly admissible, simply consult with the instructor. Please establish a date by Jan. 25th, 2021.

The **comparison** will be submitted the April 16, 2021. Its length should be 1800 - 2000 words in English.

Required Notes:
> Policy about course outlines can be found in the Evaluation Procedures and Grading System of the University Calendar.

Student Responsibilities:

Academic Integrity:
> The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour and avoid any behaviour that could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

> All students should consult the Academic Integrity website. If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

> An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the Academic Discipline Process.

Language and Translation Courses:
> Students involved in language courses and translation courses should be aware that the use of on-line translation to complete assignments constitutes a form of

cheating as the student's own understanding and work is therefore not reflected. Also, students in language courses should be aware that, while seeking the advice of native or expert speakers is often helpful, excessive editorial and creative help in assignments is considered a form of cheating that violates the Code of Student Behaviour.

Learning and Working Environment:
> The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. The Department urges anyone who feels that this policy is being violated to:
> - Discuss the matter with the person whose behaviour is causing concern; or
> - If that discussion is unsatisfactory, or there is concern that direct discussion is inappropriate or threatening, discuss it with the Chair of the Department.
> For additional advice or assistance regarding this policy you may contact the Office of the Student Ombuds. Information about the University of Alberta Discrimination and Harassment Policy and Procedures is described in UAPPOL.

Sexual Violence Policy:
> It is the policy of the University of Alberta that sexual violence committed by any member of the University community is prohibited and constitutes misconduct. Resources and more information can be found at https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/sexual-violence

Territorial Statement:
> "The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community." (*from* the beginning of the Calendar).

Recording of Lectures:
> Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Attendance, Absences, and Missed Grade Components:
> Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course. In cases of potentially excusable absences due to illness or domestic affliction, notify your instructor by e-mail within two days. Regarding absences that may be excusable and procedures for addressing course components missed as a result, consult sections Attendance and Examinations of the University Calendar. Be aware that unexcused absences will result in partial or total loss of the grade for the "attendance and

participation" component(s) of a course, as well as for any assignments that are not handed-in or completed as a result.

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the Code of Student Behaviour.

In this course, attendance is compulsory.

Policy for Late Assignments:
Students who consult **in advance** with an instructor regarding contingencies preventing the timely completion of an assignment may, at the discretion of the instructor, be granted an extension just one time throughout the course with no penalty. However, if a second excuse will be granted for late assignments, half of the mark assigned for this particular work will be deducted. Otherwise, all assignments should be handed in on the stated deadline. Any assignment not handed-in in time or unexcused late assignments will not be given any marks. Late excuses will **not** be accepted for any reason.

Disclaimer:
Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:
The best all-purpose website for student services is: https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)
The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the Accessibility Resources webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)
The Academic Success Centre offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)
The Centre for Writers offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the Health and Wellness Support webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:
The Office of the Student Ombuds offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

Grading:
Assessment of the individual course components may be in the form of numerical marks or letter grades. The final letter grade will be based on "a combination of absolute achievement and relative performance in a class" (University Calendar, Evaluation Procedures and Grading System). The University Grading Procedure mandates that "a student's level of achievement of the goals/outcomes of a course, their grade, and the descriptor of that grade must be aligned" (https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/). The following guidelines have been adopted by the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies:

"MLCS Undergraduate Grading Scale"

Descriptor	Letter Grade	Grade Point Value	%
Excellent. A+, A or A- is earned by work which is superior in content and form and demonstrates an exceptional grasp of the subject matter. The grade of A+ designates work that far exceeds course expectations. Grades in the A range are normally achieved by a small number of students.	**A+**	4.0	**97-100**
	A	4.0	**93-96**
	A-	3.7	**90-92**
Good. B+, B or B- is earned by work that demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the course material and a good command of relevant skills. Grades in the B range are normally achieved by the largest number of students.	**B+**	3.3	**87-89**
	B	3.0	**83-86**
	B-	2.7	**80-82**
Satisfactory. C+, C or C- is earned by work that demonstrates an adequate grasp of the course material and relevant skills. Grades in the C range designate work that has met the basic requirements of the course.	**C+**	2.3	**77-79**
	C	2.0	**73-76**
	C-	1.7	**70-72**
Poor/Minimal Pass. D+ or D is earned by work that demonstrates minimal familiarity with the course material. Grades in the D range generally indicate insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the subject matter.	**D+**	1.3	**65-69**
	D	1.0	**60-64**
Failure.	**F**	0.0	**0-59**