ITA 3403 From the Venetian mask to La Commedia dell’Arte

Days and Time (tentative) Tuesday and Thursday 2:00pm-3:15pm in GC 286

Prof. Magda Novelli Pearson Tel. 348-2915 e-mail: pearsonm@fiu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30pm-1:45pm and 3:30pm-4:30pm in DM 4th floor room 495C.


Additional materials: Il viaggio di Capitan Fracassa DVD. La Locandiera (The Mistress of the Inn) DVD. Fotocopie distribuite in classe. La Mandragola DVD.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course encourage students to explore the fascinating world of the Italian masks and costumes traditions that led to the theater of Goldoni and the Commedia dell’Arte and its recognized use of theater as a tool to make social and political comments. This course is for students who have completed four terms of Italian and/or have a good command of the language. This course aims at improving and perfecting the students’ speaking, listening, reading and writing skills, as well as their knowledge of some of Italy’s theatre traditions of the XVII and XVIII century. Students will be exposed to a selection of specific texts (songs, poems, and passages from literary works) in the original language.
Moreover to develop the comprehension an the conversational skills students will be required to watch twice a month movies about the Art of Commedia, discuss and analyze them in class. **Teaching will be in the target language.**

You can’t study theater without doing it! 😊 So be prepared for another adventure in the Italian world ….yes, you will act!!!!

**Grading:**

**Two Exams………..30%**  
**Final Performance*………….30%**  
**Homework, Participation, Attendance**………….40%

*During the semester the students will prepare for a final show where they will perform live and in front of a public (not a crowd!) some scenes from Italian contemporary and classic plays.

**Homework, Participation, Attendance:**  
Regular attendance is mandatory. Students may be absent from class 3 times with no penalties. 2 points will be deducted per absence from the final grade for all other absences.  
Tardiness: For every 3 times you arrive late or leave early, it will count as 1 absence.  
It is your responsibility to be in class on the day of an exam. **NO make-ups are allowed unless you have a legitimate written excuse signed and dated from a reliable source regarding a personal or family emergency: i.e., doctor, hospital, accident report, family death notice, and/or court appearance.** An excuse from home is not acceptable.

**Quizzes and Final Exam:** Exams will be given on the day and hour scheduled in the Course Calendar. There will be no make-ups without a documented valid reason.

**Extra-credit Policy:** Each student may receive up to 5 points on the final course grade by choosing two out of three of the following assignments:

1) Going at least 6 times to the Language Lab (SIPA 240) for a minimum of 30 minutes and practice with the Italian Tutor;  
2) Watch at least 2 Italian movies during the International Film Festival (month of March);  
3) Participate in at least 3 activities organized by the FIU Italian Club; Meetings are not considered activities.

**Classroom Policies:**

1) **Cell phone, beepers and computers must be turned off before entering the classroom:**  
2) Students are expected to conduct themselves properly with respect for the instructor, other students and themselves.
3) If you have to be absent, contact a classmate to share notes about what you missed in class.

Grading scales:

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<td>C+</td>
<td>79-77</td>
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**Tentative Course Calendar**

**I Sessione:** Durata 4 settimane. In questa sessione si parlerà dell’origine e della storia della maschera e del teatro dai greci antichi al Medioevo.

**Week 1**

**Martedì-Tuesday**

La funzione della maschera

**Giovedì - Thursday**

Eschilo ed il teatro greco

**Week 2**

**Martedì**

Il cristianesimo e le funzioni liturgiche

**Giovedì**

L’italiano volgare dei giullari, mimi e menestrelli

**Week 3**

**Martedì**

La lingua dei mimi: il Gramelot
Giovedì

I cantari italiani e le gesta dei paladini

**Week 4**
**Martedì**

Visione del video di Dario Fo “La fame dello Zanni”

Giovedì

**I esame**

**II Sessione**: In questa sessione della durata di 6 settimane si parla’ del teatro da Macchiavelli a Goldoni

**Week 5**
**Martedì**

Introduzione all’opera di Macchiavelli “La Mandragola”

Giovedì

Visione film italiano “La Mandragola”

**Week 6**
**Martedì**

La denuncia sociale e politica messaggio della Mandragola.

Giovedì

Dalla maschera al “carattere”

**Week 7**
**Martedì**

Il concetto di “leggerezza” della Commedia dell’Arte

Giovedì

Il Carnevale di Venezia

**Week 8**
**Martedì**

Dal “canovaccio” al testo scritto
Giovedì
Visione film “Il viaggio di Capitan Fracassa”

Week 9
Martedì
Il teatro Goldoniano

Giovedì
Dalla Commedia dell’arte alla Commedia Italiana

Week 10
Martedì
Visione film “La locandiera”

Giovedì
Il esame

Week 11
Martedì
Arlecchino, Pantalone e Colombina e gli altri

Giovedì
Il teatro goldoniano nel “Servitore dei due padroni”

Week 12
Martedì
Carlo Gozzi e il teatro fantastico

Giovedì
Dalla Turandot di Gozzi a quella di Puccini

Week 13
Martedì
Teatro e circo similitudini e differenze
Giovedì

Thanksgiving

**Week 14**

Martedì

Le nuove maschere della Commedia all’Italiana: Roberto Benigni e Massimo Troisi

Giovedì

Visione film “Non ci resta che piangere”

**Week 15**

Martedì

Prove generali per lo Show finale

Giovedì

Continuano le prove

**Week 16**

FINAL SHOW e Arrivederci alla prossima 😊