UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

WINTER 2022

COURSE TITLE: HUMN\*2020

Crime and Criminals in Italian Cinema (0.5cr)

Instructor: Professor Sandra Parmegiani

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**LECTURES**: Tuesday, Thursday 10:00am - 11:20am

**Virtual Office Hours**: Monday 2:00pm-3:00pm and by appointment.

**Calendar Description**:

This course explores the representation of criminality in Italian cinema through genres such as noir, thriller, and ‘cop movies’ from the postwar period to the present. It examines the collusion between crime, politics, and society, the homegrown Italian terrorism of the 1970s, and post-millennial representations of the connections between mafia and other criminal activities.

**Detailed Description**:

Crime and criminal behavior have been dominant themes in Italian film since the 1940s. This course investigates multiple manifestations of criminality in a variety of film genres: from the Italian noir of Luchino Visconti and Michelangelo Antonioni to the dark comedy of Lina Wertmüller, and Liliana Cavani’s psychological and pathological post-Holocaust drama. Sergio Leone’s “Spaghetti-Western” offers an incarnation of the criminal mind in a uniquely Italian cinematic genre, while the representation of organized crime, mafia, and the collusion between criminal organizations, politics, and society informs the works of film-makers from the 1980s to the present (such as Matteo Garrone, Paolo Sorrentino, Michele Placido). The course explores also the homegrown Italian terrorism of the 1970s and the ideology that informed and galvanized its members.

WARNING: some films display nudity, full frontal nudity, violence (including sexual violence), and strong language.

**Learning Outcomes**:

Students will:

1. Contextualize films within specific Italian socio-political and cultural environments.
2. Conduct analysis in relation to genre, film movements, gender, national and ethnic identities.
3. Use technical and critical vocabulary with which to discuss film in general.
4. Apply knowledge about a series of critical and theoretical approaches to film.
5. Contextualize films as cultural products within a historical, ideological and aesthetic context and appreciate their importance relative to other cultural productions.
6. Develop critical and creative thinking, analytical skills and intercultural communicative competencies.

**Prerequisites**: none

It is your responsibility to watch the films that constitute the primary material for this

course. Film-specific readings are assigned on a weekly basis during the semester.

Top Hat will be used for the completion of online assignments (weekly quizzes on films and readings).

**Method of Presentation**:

The course will be offered synchronously and classes will be recorded and posted online. No quiz or test will be assigned synchronously.

If we’ll be going back to in-person teaching, the course will be offered in class on Tuesday and in remote synchronous format on Thursday. Thursday classes (ONLY!) will be recorded and posted online. Weekly virtual office hours will allow students to consult with the instructor, to assess their learning experience and to discuss specific aspects of Italian film and culture.

**Make sure to have your University of Guelph Zoom Account up and running Follow these instructions to set it up:** <https://opened.uoguelph.ca/instructor-resources/zoom-for-students>

**Method of evaluation**:

1. Weekly Quizzes (Top Hat App required) – 10 best out of 11. Quizzes 30%

will open on Monday at 9:00am and will close on Tuesday at 9:00am

1. Comparative Critical Analysis: Video Assignments (15% x 2) 30%

#1 due on February 25

#2 due on April 1st

1. Research question 15%

Draft due on March 11 (5%)

Final version due on March 25 (10%)

1. Final essay 25%

Due on April 12

**Late submissions will be carry a penalty of 3% per day.**

**This course has no Final Exam**

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for [Academic Consideration](https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-consideration-appeals-petitions/).

Drop Date

Courses that are one semester long must be dropped by the end of the last day of classes; two-semester courses must be dropped by the last day of classes in the second semester. The regulations and procedures for [Dropping Courses](https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/dropping-courses/) are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Copies of Out-Of-Class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs.  To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS).  Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required, however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

More information: [www.uoguelph.ca/sas](http://www.uoguelph.ca/sas)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.  University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct.  Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The [Academic Misconduct Policy](https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-misconduct/) is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The [Academic Calendars](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/index.cfm?index) are the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via Courselink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

COVID-19 Safety Protocols

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

* <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>
* <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, that these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.