

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
WINTER 2021

COURSE TITLE: HUMN*2020
Crime and Criminals in Italian Cinema (0.5cr)
Instructor: Professor Sandra Parmegiani
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LECTURES: Tuesday, Thursday 11:30AM - 12:50PM

Virtual Office Hours: Wednesday 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 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. Students will not be required to take part in the live classes, but synchronous participation is encouraged. Weekly virtual office hours will allow students to consult with the instructor and the Teaching Assistant, to assess their learning experience and to discuss specific aspects of Italian film and culture.

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

Method of evaluation:

Weekly Quizzes (Top Hat App required)	30%
Quizzes will open on Sunday and will close on Monday evening	
Comparative Critical Analysis: Video Assignments (15% x 2)	30%
#1 due on February 25	
#2 due on April 1st	
Interpretative claim and research question	20%
Draft due on March 11 (5%)	
Final version due on March 25 (15%)	
Final essay	20%

This course has no Final Exam

Late assignments

Late assignments will be penalized with a 10% reduction of the assignment’s grade within a 7 days delay. After 7 days the assignment’s grade will be reduced by 50%.

Please make sure to read the section **When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement on page 4.**

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 **BEFORE THE ASSIGNMENT IS DUE, NOT AFTER.**

University Statements

Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their 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. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

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 book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

Academic Integrity

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 encourages academic integrity. 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.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Recording of Materials

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

Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

Disclaimer

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

The University will not normally require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for fall 2020 or winter 2021 semester courses. However, requests for Academic Consideration may still require medical documentation as appropriate.