<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Framing Italy: Film Studies &amp; Filmmaking in Rome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Code</td>
<td>ROMA FS1 239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Cinema, History, Culture, Fine Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester/Term</td>
<td>☒ Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ J-Term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Description:**

This course aims to analyze Italian Cinema (both past and present), with emphasis on political, social, cultural and artistic issues. At the same time, the course provides the foundational elements to produce documentary and fiction videos.

Cinema, television and video are tremendous tools to understand Italy and investigate its beauty (see the Oscar winner *The Great Beauty*). Through analysis of Italian movies, students reflect on the Italian “mise en scène” and propose their own style. The class focuses on the three main phases of movie making (writing, shooting and post-production), with an eye on production and fundraising. Students will write, shoot and edit a video as a final work.

**Course Requirements:**

**Required Text**

Reading Pack (purchased through Arcadia; Cost To Be Determined):

A selection of chapters from the following books:


**Additional Readings and Resources**

Articles and movies are available from the instructor on the course Canvas site through Arcadia University.

A filmography to better understand the history of Italian Film will also be available through Arcadia.
## Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Homework (Journals, Pictures, Videos)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mid-Term Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. In-Class Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Final Video Product</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Attendance & Participation:
Student participation is assessed on the basis of their engagement with class discussions, creative thinking and willingness to share ideas with the group.

### Homework (Journals, Pictures, Videos):
“Journals” are a form of film reviews, commenting originally (i.e. finding a personal key) on each film seen in class. Pictures and videos are production experiments students make during the semester.

### Mid-Term Paper:
The Mid-Term is an essay assignment which develops a topic given by the Professor based on lectures and class discussions.

### In-Class Presentation:
The In-Class Presentation is a brief oral report of a topic proposed by the student (e.g. analysis of a sequence, presentation of a film unseen in class, or an important topic chosen by a student or a group of students).

### Final Video Product:
The final video product is an edited short movie (either documentary or fiction film) to be submitted by the last class of the course.

### Learning Outcomes and/or Expected Student Competencies and Assessment Measures:
On completion of the course, students should be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Course Requirement that will be used to assess the student’s achievement of this outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Express complex reasoning clearly through both written work and their video products.</td>
<td>Homework (Journals, Pictures, Videos); Mid-Term Paper; Final Video Product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain the historical development of the methodologies of the film industry.</td>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation; Homework (Journals, Pictures, Videos); Mid-Term Paper;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpret and present Italian society through script writing and digital tools.</td>
<td>In-Class Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilize video equipment to produce a polished short film.</td>
<td>Attendance &amp; Participation; Homework (Journals, Pictures, Videos); Final Video Product</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Course Outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Session 1** | Lecture: The Italian Film history in relation to Italian history and society. A brief history of the “Neorealism”. Sequences from: *My Voyage to Italy* by Martin Scorsese.  
Workshop: The docent will give some basic elements of cinematic “grammar” (shots, lenses, camera movements).  
Homework: *The Great Beauty* by Paolo Sorrentino |
| **Session 2** | Discussion in class about *The Great Beauty*  
Lecture: Sorrentino’s mise en scene.  
Workshop: The “one-shot sequence”. Theory and practice. The students will experience the long take.  
Homework: *La dolce vita* by Federico Fellini |
| **Session 3** | Lecture: *La dolce Vita* and 8 1/2. Fellini’s style.  
Homework: The students will make some pictures with their cell phones or cameras, showing their capacity of “framing”. |
| **Session 4** | Lecture: The Italian film genres. The “spaghetti western”. Sequences from: *A Fistful of Dollars* by Sergio Leone.  
Workshop: Discussion in class about the picture shot by the students during the week. The students propose the topic of a video to be prepared as a final work. The professor proposes a topic for the Midterm paper to be written at home.  
Homework: *One Upon a Time* by Sergio Leone  
Midterm paper (3000 words) |
| Session 5 | The students will submit the Midterm paper.  
Workshop: Elements of production and fund raising.  
Homework: *Fuocoammare* by Gianfranco Rosi. |
|---|---|
| Session 6 | Lecture: The new Italian documentary.  
Workshop: Making a documentary.  
Homework: The students will work on a short documentary. |
| Session 7 | Lecture: the immigration issue between reality and fiction.  
Workshop: The students will edit some materials, with the help of an experienced editor.  
Homework: *Terraferma* by Emanuele Crialese |
| Session 8 | Lecture: Italian Cinema of the 2000s. Sequences from *Call Me by Your Name* by Luca Guadagnino.  
Workshop: Discussion about the final videos. Elaboration of the scripts.  
Homework: *Il sorpasso* by Dino Risi. |
| Session 9 | Lecture: The Comedy Italian Style of the 60s and 70s.  
Workshop: Elaboration of the scripts and locations.  
Homework: The students will work on a script for the finals. |
| Session 10 | Lecture: The new Italian comedy of the 2000s. Sequences from *Smetto quando voglio* by Sidney Sibilia.  
Workshop: Using the cameras. Experimenting the camera equipment with the help of a cameraman.  
Homework: *Corpo celeste* by Alice Rohrwacher |
| Session 11 | Lecture: The gender topic. Women directors and talents in Italy.  
Workshop: Shooting the final products.  
Homework: The students will shoot their final products. |
### Session 12

**Lecture:** Combining theory and practice. The experience of the docent as scholar and director. Sequences from: *La donna della luna* and *Three Days of Anarchy* by Vito Zagario

**Workshop:** Editing the final products.

**Homework:** Editing and post-producing the final videos.

### Other Policies:

**Expectations**
Professional behavior is expected of all students. This includes preparation for classes, on-time attendance at classes, attendance at all group sessions and appropriate participation in the form of attentiveness and contributions to the course. Respect for the academic process is the major guiding principle for professional behavior and extends to all communications, including e-mail.

**Attendance/Participation**
Prompt attendance, full preparation, and active participation in class discussions are expected from every student in every class session.

**Course Policies**
For e-mail communications, students must use their Arcadia University email account. Students are responsible for any information provided by e-mail or through Intranet postings.

**Plagiarism**
Representation of another's work or ideas as one's own in academic submissions is plagiarism, and is cause for disciplinary action. *Cheating* is actual or attempted use of resources not authorized by the instructor(s) for academic submissions. Students caught cheating in this course will receive a failing grade. *Fabrication* is the falsification or creation of data, research or resources to support academic submissions, and cause for disciplinary action.

**Late or Missed Assignments**
Will not be accepted for grading.

**Students with Disabilities**
Persons with documented disabilities requiring accommodations to meet the expectations of this course should disclose this information while enrolling into the program, and before leaving the United States so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Title IX Statement**
Arcadia University is committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office for Civil
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisites:</th>
<th>None.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country and Program Connection:</strong></td>
<td>Cinema, television and media are tremendous tools to understand Italy and investigate its beauty (see the Oscar winner The Great Beauty). The film industry in Rome is florid, and we can count on professionals and schools that can help with guest lectures and practical experience. In addition, Arcadia University has an agreement with University of Rome 3, which has a department dedicated to Film and Media Studies and has a lab with technical tools (cameras and editing facilities). In the Spring semester, Arcadia students can attend the Italian course “Forma e stile del cinema” (“Film Form and Style”, by prof. Zagario); some Italian students are allowed to attend the Arcadia class and collaborate on the final film products.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>