**BELOIT COLLEGE FLORENCE PROGRAM/ACM, ASSOCIATED COLLEGES OF THE MIDWEST – SPRING 2014 ITALIAN CINEMA**

**Masterworks from Neorealism to the Present**

**Course Description**

This course examines the historical, social and cultural roots of Italian Cinema, starting with the silent movies (*Cabiria*, 1913), and traces its development from Neorealism to the present. The course covers leading directors such as: Antonioni, Bertolucci, De Santis, De Sica, Fellini, Giordana, Leone, Moretti, Muccino, Pasolini, Placido, Rossellini, Sorrentino, Tornatore, and Visconti. The course also offers an outline of main genres in Italian Cinema: drama, melodrama, comedy, spaghetti western, and peplum (sandal movie).

**Goals of the Course**

The main purposes of this course are: (1) to introduce students to major Italian movies from Neorealism to the present; (2) to examine some of the basic principles of film criticism; (3) to show how Italian history is described by Italian directors.

**Course Contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Preliminary Class: Silent Era and Fascist Cinema. The beginning of Neorealism: <em>Ossessione</em> (Visconti, 1942), viewing and discussion.</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Realism and the comedy: <em>Divorzio all’italiana</em> (Germi, 1962), viewing and discussion; <em>Il sorpasso</em> (Risi, 1962), <em>I mostri</em></td>
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(Risi, 1963), *Matrimonio all’italiana* (De sica, 1964).


**Textbooks**


**Course Requirements**

Readings, class discussions. Students will be required to take a Midterm Exam and a Final Exam. Students are expected to go to classes prepared in order to participate actively in class discussions. Every week students watch one movie, as above, out of class, and this movie is discussed in the first class of the week.

**Method of Evaluation**

Class attendance (questions, comments, etc.): 25%
Midterm Exam: 25%
Final Exam: 50%

Dr Stefano Socci
Florence, February 2013