ITAL 250C Italian Literature in Translation: Italian Theater

Course Description: What is theater in the Italian social and cultural context? What role did it play in the cultural life of the nation? How did theatrical text, space and performance change over time? This course seeks some answers to these questions by providing a historical introduction to Italian theater. We will explore the history of Italian theater from the 16th to the 20th century. We will combine a traditional approach to canonical texts of the Italian theatrical tradition with an interdisciplinary slant aimed at comparing literary and visual texts. The syllabus includes fictional, non-fictional, musical, and visual texts. Plays by Machiavelli, Da Ponte, Goldoni, Mascagni, Pirandello, Natalia Ginzburg, and Dario Fo will be read, discussed, analyzed, and performed both from a literary and a performative stance.

Tuesday & Thursday 3:30 – 4:45 | Social Sciences Room 222
Taught in English | Meets Tier II Humanities Requirement
Counts toward Majors and Minors in Italian and Italian Studies

PLAYS
Niccolò Machiavelli. La Mandragola / The Mandrake (1524)
Carlo Goldoni. La Locandiera / The Mistress of the Inn (1753)
Lorenzo Da Ponte. Don Giovanni (1787)
Giovanni Verga. Cavalleria Rusticana / Rustic Chivalry (1880)
Luigi Pirandello. Sei personaggi in cerca d’autore / Six Characters in Search of an Author (1921)
Natalia Ginzburg. Ti ho sposato per allegria / I Married You To Cheer Myself Up (1964)
Dario Fo. Morte accidentale di un anarchico / Accidental Death of an Anarchist (1970)

FILMS
La Mandragola (Alberto Lattuada, 1965)
Don Giovanni (Joseph Losey, 1979)
La Locandiera (Giancarlo Cobelli, 1986)
Godfather Part III (Francis Ford Coppola, 1990)
Six Characters in Search of an Author (Stacy Keach, 1976)
Ti ho sposato per allegria (Luciano Salce, 1967)
Morte accidentale di un anarchico (Dario Fo, 1987)

Letizia Belloccio earned a PhD in Comparative Studies from the University of Siena, Italy, in 2007 and a PhD in Italian from Rutgers University in 2014. Her research interests include 19-20 century Italian Literature and Theatre, Film Studies, Adaptations and Intermediality. She edited the book Finestre (Firenze: Le Monnier, 2006) and published articles on Film and Theater.

Modern Languages 549
COH-fandi@email.arizona.edu
(520) 621-7349