**IT/HUMA 1751 6.0 ITALIAN CULTURE: THE GREAT IDEAS AND THE MASTERWORKS**

**This course is taught fully online/remote for the entire academic year. No in-person classes will be held.**

All lectures taught by Prof. John Picchione ([johnp@yorku.ca](mailto:johnp@yorku.ca)). Tutorials led by Prof. John Picchione, Prof. Kevin Reynolds ([reynol15@yorku.ca](mailto:reynol15@yorku.ca)), Prof. Samia Abdel Tawwab ([abdeltaw@yorku.ca)](mailto:abdeltaw@yorku.ca)).

This course will take you on an extraordinary journey through Italian culture, from the Middle Ages to modern times: literary and artistic works, political and philosophical movements, scientific discoveries, and social changes. The focus is on the role played by Italian writers, thinkers, artists, and scientists in shaping the values and belief systems at the heart of the cultural heritage of the Western world.

The course is taught in English; texts are read in translation; no knowledge of Italian is needed. Each week, a lecture introduces topics and authors to be examined in the tutorials.

**Schedule**

Lecture: Tuesday, 12:30-2:20. Tutorials: Tuesday, 4:30-6:20; Wednesday, 10:30-12:20 and 4:30—6:20; Thursdays, 12:30-2:20.

**Required Texts**

Dante, *Inferno*, trans. A. Esolen (The Modern Library, 2005); G. Boccaccio, *The Decameron*, trans. G. H. McWilliam (Penguin, 2003, 2nd edition); G. Pico della Mirandola, *Oration on the Dignity of Man*, trans. R. Caponigri (Gateway, 1999); N. Machiavelli, *The Prince*, trans. P. Bondanella (Oxford UP, 2008);F. Guicciardini*, Maxims and Reflections*, trans. M. Domandi (U of Pennsylvania, 1992); T. Campanella, *The City of the Sun,* trans. D. Donno (U of California P, 1991); C. Beccaria, *On Crimes and Punishments and other Writings*, ed. R. Bellamy (Cambridge UP, 1995); C. Goldoni, *Mirandol*ina (course kit); G. Leopardi, selections from *A Leopardi Reader* (course kit); H. Hearder, *Italy: A Short History* (Cambridge UP, 2001, 2nd edition).

**Evaluation**

Two Critical Response Papers (one per term); two exams (one per term); class participation.

**Course delivery and technology**

The platforms that will be used in this course are Zoom and Moodle. Students will interact with the course materials, the course director/tutorial instructors, as well as with one another.

Technical support: for Moodle visit <https://lthelp.yorku.ca/95440-student-faq>; for Zoom visit https://yorku.zoom.us/; for academic integrity visit https://spark.library.yorku.ca/academic-integrity-what-is-academic-integrity/