

School of Asian & European Languages & Cultures
Italian Programme

ITAL 306: DANTE'S *INFERNO*
Course Outline: 2007

1 COURSE TITLE, COURSE CODE, YEAR

This is the course description and timetable for ITAL 306 (CRN 7525), for the year 2007. The course is worth 24 points and runs for the second trimester. Please read through this material carefully in the first week of the course, and refer to it regularly.

2 STAFF

The Italian Programme of the School of Asian and European Languages and Cultures (SAELC) is located on the 5th and 6th floors of the Von Zedlitz (VZ) Building, Kelburn Parade.

Staff offices in the Italian Programme are as follows:

VZ601	Claudia Bernardi	Italian Programme Director	ph. 463 5646
VZ602	Dr Sarah Hill	Lecturer (<i>on leave until February 2008</i>)	ph. 463 5298
VZ504	Dr Marco Sonzogni	Lecturer	ph. 463 6284
VZ607	Palmiro Sportoletti	Italian Government Lector	ph. 463 5974
VZ607	Sibilla Papparatti	Senior Tutor	ph. 463 5974
VZ610	Nina Cuccurullo	Administrator (<i>Nina's hours are 8.15 to 4.15 Monday to Friday</i>).	ph. 463 5293
VZ705	<u>SAELC Liaison for Students with Disabilities</u> Dr Andre Barke		ph. 463 6467
VZ514	<u>SAELC Liaison for Maori and Pacific Students</u> Dr Keren Smith		ph. 463 5798

The Course Co-ordinator and Lecturer for ITAL 306 is Claudia Bernardi. She is available for consultation at times indicated on her office door.

The Italian noticeboard is in the on the fifth floor of Von Zedlitz (VZ). Important information is posted on it, so please check it regularly.

3 ITAL 306 CLASSES

Lectures and seminars are held at the following times:

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 4.10-5 pm in Von Zedlitz (VZ) 509

For a detailed schedule of lectures and seminars see the Course Timetable (Section 16).

Please also note that cellphones and pagers should be switched off for the duration of all classes.

4 ITAL 306 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

ITAL 306 is a one trimester 24-point course for 300-level students of Italian.

Aims of the course

1. to introduce students to one of the most famous authors of Italian European literature, Dante Alighieri;
2. to encourage students' reading of the Dante's *Divina Commedia* in relation to the author's life and works and within the historical, social and political context of his time;
3. to provide students with a firm grasp of structure and themes of the *Inferno*;
4. to guide students through a detailed analysis of selected cantos;
5. to offer students some historical perspective on the development of the Italian language;
6. to encourage students' development of critical and analytical skills in relation to literary texts.

Objectives - upon completing the course successfully students will be able to:

- (i) show a general knowledge of Dante's life, works and times;
- (ii) demonstrate a knowledge of Dante's *Inferno*;
- (iii) translate into English passages selected from the set cantos;
- (iv) paraphrase from medieval Italian into modern Italian passages from the set cantos;
- (v) demonstrate a contextual knowledge of the biblical, classical, mythological and historical figures and events referred to in the set cantos;
- (vi) appreciate and comment on the ideas, themes and style of the set cantos and of *Inferno* in general;
- (vii) develop a critical discussion of literary issues, both in spoken and written form.

5 TEXTS

Dante Alighieri, *The Divine Comedy of Dante Alighieri. Vol. 1. Inferno*, edited and translated by Robert M. Durling, with introduction and notes by Ronald L. Martinez and Robert M. Durling (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996).

6 ASSESSMENT

Assessment for ITAL 306 is a combination of in-term assessment (60%) and a final 3-hour examination (40%), as follows:

- (i) 2 (2000-word) essays (20% each);
- (ii) 1 seminar presentation (20%);
- (iii) 1 final three-hour written examination (40%).

The relevant dates for assessed work are detailed in the Course Timetable (Section 16).

7 RELATION OF ASSESSMENT TO OBJECTIVES

The essays and seminar presentation relate to objectives (i), (ii), (v), (vi) and (vii), as specified in Section 4 (ITAL 306 Aims and Objectives). The final written examination relates to all seven objectives.

8 PRESENTATION OF ASSIGNMENTS

Tidy presentation of assignments is essential. Work may be typed or neatly handwritten. Crossings-out indicate that a piece of work is still at draft stage. Allow space for correction: leave a 4-centimetre margin and write on alternate lines. Do not write in pencil.

All assignments must include a cover sheet available from the SAELC Reception on the sixth floor of Von Zedlitz (VZ 610). Assignments are to be handed into the Italian assignment slot located to the left of the SAELC Reception area (VZ 610). Corrected work will be handed out in class. If you do not collect your work in class, you will be able to collect it from the SAELC Reception (VZ 610). All work not collected will be destroyed three months after the date of the final written test.

9 PENALTIES

The due dates for the essays given in the Course Timetable (Section 16) *must* be adhered to. Although work may be accepted late in special circumstances, the Course Co-ordinator should always be contacted on or before the due dates if there is a problem.

The penalty for work presented late without prior approval is a 5% deduction per day. In addition, please note that up to a maximum of 5% may be deducted for poorly presented essays (see Section 8).

10 STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities in examinations and other assessment procedures. See the Course Co-

ordinator if you have any special requirements or requests. For the room and telephone number of the Co-ordinator for Students with Disabilities in the School of Asian and European Languages and Cultures, see Section 2 above.

11 WORKLOAD

The Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Committee on Workloads and Assessment has laid down guidelines as to the number of hours per week which students are expected to devote to a course in order to maintain satisfactory progress.

Students enrolling in a 300-level, one trimester, 24-point course should work on average 18 hours per week, including the 3 contact hours – i.e., in the case of ITAL 306, *15 hours of private study outside class time*.

12 MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to complete ITAL 306, students are required to do the following, unless specific exemptions have been agreed to:

- (i) submit the two essays by due dates;
- (ii) submit the seminar presentation on a date agreed with the lecturer;
- (iii) sit the final written examination.

To pass ITAL 306 students must meet the mandatory course requirements and achieve at least an average C over all assessment. Students who gain at least 50% of the course marks, but fail the course due to not satisfying a mandatory course requirement, will receive a K grade. Students who gain less than 50% will receive a D or an E grade, whether or not they have completed the mandatory course requirements.

The relation of grades to percentages, for any work and for the course as a whole, is as follows: A+ (85-100%), A (80-84%), A- (75-79%), B+ (70-74%), B (65-69%), B- (60-64%), C+ (55-59%), C (50-54%), D (40-49%), E (0-39%).

13 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND STUDENT EVALUATIONS

In the second week of lectures, staff will facilitate the election of a class representative for each lecture group. Student reps are a valuable means of communication between teaching staff and students. In addition students can approach any member of staff individually to talk about the courses as a whole, any particular aspect of it, or their own individual progress.

At the end of the course students may be asked to fill out questionnaires prepared by the University's Teaching and Development Centre. These questionnaires relate either to the course, or to an individual lecturer's contribution. They are an important part of the University's accountability process, and the results are helpful in the University's attempts to maintain and raise the standards of the education it offers.

14 ITALIAN CLUB, STUDENT FACILITIES

All students of Italian are encouraged to join the students' Italian Club and to participate in the cultural and social events organised.

The Italian seminar room for tutorials and small classes is usually Von Zedlitz (VZ) 509. This room may be booked through the Administrator for Italian Club activities when not in use for teaching by the Italian Programme or other Departments.

Room Von Zedlitz (VZ) 603 is a library and club room open to all students of Italian. A noticeboard for Italian Students' Club activities is inside the room. Italian newspapers and magazines are available in the room, along with a number of Italian books. You are welcome to consult materials from the library, but please do not take them away.

15 LANGUAGE LEARNING CENTRE (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) on floor 0 of the Von Zedlitz (VZ) building holds a large collection of audiotapes, videotapes, audio-CDs, DVDs and CD-Rom for all languages including Italian.

The collection also holds recordings and a computer programme on Dante's *Inferno*. You are encouraged to access these materials by contacting the staff of the Language Learning Centre (LLC).

16 COURSE TIMETABLE

<i>Week</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Lectures and Seminars</i>
1	9 July	Lecture 1: <i>Introduzione al corso</i>
	11 July	Lecture 2: <i>Dante: vita e opere</i>
2	16 July	Lecture 1: <i>Canto 1</i>
	18 July	Lecture 2: <i>Canto 1 (continua)</i>
	19 July	Library seminar: Library Seminar Room – RB901
3	23 July	Lecture 1: <i>Canto 2</i>
	25 July	Lecture 2: <i>Canto 2 (continua)</i>
	26 July	Seminar 1
4	30 July	Lecture 1: <i>Canto 3</i>
	1 August	Lecture 2: <i>Canto 4</i>
	2 August	Seminar 2
5	6 August	Lecture 1: <i>Canto 5</i>
	8 August	Lecture 2: <i>Canto 5 (continua)</i>
	9 August	Seminar 3
6	13 August	Lecture 1: <i>Canto 10</i>
	15 August	Lecture 2: <i>Canto 10 (continua)</i>
	16 August	Seminar 4

Mid-trimester break

- 7 3 September Lecture 1: *Canto 13*
5 September Lecture 2: *Canto 13 (continua)*

Essay 1 due on Thursday 6 September, 5 pm

- 8 10 September Lecture 1: *Canto 15*
12 September Lecture 2: *Canto 15 (continua)*
13 September **Seminar 5**

- 9 17 September Lecture 1: *Canto 17*
19 September Lecture 2: *Canto 17 (continua)*
20 September **Seminar 6**

- 10 24 September Lecture 1: *Canto 19*
26 September Lecture 2: *Canto 19 (continua)*
27 September **Revision and exam preparation**

- 11 1 October Lecture 1: *Canto 21*
3 October Lecture 2: *Canto 21 (continua)*
4 October **Revision and exam preparation**

- 12 8 October Lecture 1: *Canto 26*
10 October Lecture 2: *Canto 26 (continua)*

Essay 2 due on Friday 11 October, 5 pm

Final written examination: date to be advised
Examination/Study period: 15 October-10 November

General University policies and statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hard copy or under 'About Victoria' on the VUW home page at www.victoria.ac.nz.

Student and staff conduct

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps are to be taken if there is a complaint. For information about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor or refer to the statute on the VUW policy website at: www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct

The Policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at: www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct

Academic grievances

If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned; class representatives may be able to help you in this. If you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean; VUWSA Education Coordinators are available to assist in this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievance Policy which is published on the VUW website at: www.victoria.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning,
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course,
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html

Students with Impairments (see Appendix 3 of the Assessment Handbook)

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities the same opportunity as other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or

recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the course coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively, you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss your individual needs and the available options and support on a confidential basis. DSS are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building: telephone: 463-6070 email: disability@vuw.ac.nz

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the School Office or DSS.

Student Support

Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. In the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences the support contacts are **Dr Allison Kirkman, Murphy Building, room 407** and **Dr Stuart Brock, Murphy Building, room 312**. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Māori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

Manaaki Pihipihinga Programme

This programme offers:

- Academic mentoring for all Māori & Pacific students at all levels of undergraduate study for the faculties of Commerce & Administration and Humanities & Social Sciences. Contact Manaaki-Pihipihinga-Programme@vuw.ac.nz or phone 463 6015 to register for Humanities & Social Science mentoring and 463 8977 to register for mentoring for Commerce and Administration courses
- Postgraduate support network for the above faculties, which links students into all of the post grad activities and workshops on campus and networking opportunities
- Pacific Support Coordinator who can assist Pacific students with transitional issues, disseminate useful information and provide any assistance needed to help students achieve. Contact; Pacific-Support-Coord@vuw.ac.nz or phone 463 5842.

Manaaki Pihipihinga is located at: 14 Kelburn Parade, back court yard, Room 109 D (for Humanities mentoring & some first year Commerce mentoring) or Room 210 level 2 west wing railway station Pipitea (commerce mentoring space). Māori Studies mentoring is done at the marae.

Student Services

In addition, the Student Services Group (email: student-services@vuw.ac.nz) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/

VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office (tel. 463-6983 or 463-6984, email at education@vuwsa.org.nz) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.