
ADVOCACY FOR ITALIAN & ITALIAN PROGRAMS

1) COME SIAMO ARRIVATI QUI? DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE STORIES OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND STRUGGLES TO ESTABLISH ITALIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS IN THE USA'S EDUCATION SYSTEM. (Round Table)

Organizer: Rosy Nigro (rgn1@cml.msstate.edu), Mississippi State University

As educators, we are devoted to offering outstanding academic programs in Italian language, literature, and culture to prepare our students for professions in the international field where strong skills in Italian studies are an asset for their professional achievement. However, it has been a rocky road for some of us to achieve this goal. Varying missions and motivations across public and private colleges, limited teaching resources, and funding opportunities are just some of the factors impacting the ability of educators to offer Italian language programs across America's dynamic rural and urban landscape. The purpose of this roundtable is to give each participant equal standing in a discussion aimed at exploring challenges faced by Italian language educators to create and implement Italian programs in the American university system, and the successful steps taken to overcome these challenges. This round table aims to lead new educators having an opportunity to learn from the experiences from others to better navigate through the issues discussed. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to rgn1@cml.msstate.edu by December 9, 2022.

2) LA FORMAZIONE DEL DOCENTE DI ITALIANO A STUDENTI STRANIERI (Panel)

Organizer: Giuseppe Maugeri (giuseppe.maugeri@uniurb.it), Urbino University; Graziano Serragiotto, Ca' Foscari University in Venice

Il panel si inserisce entro un processo di internazionalizzazione della ricerca e della didattica dell'italiano a stranieri nel contesto nordamericano investito da un trend negativo di studenti, programmi scolastici e universitari. Arrendersi al declino dei numeri significa non considerare quanto buoni docenti e amministratori possono fare per 'invertire la rotta' e quanto lo sviluppo della competenza linguistica in LS/L2 (e in italiano) possa rappresentare un volano per l'intera formazione culturale dello studente. Il panel intende mettere in contatto persone che operano nell'italianistica globale da prospettive complementari e confrontare modelli e metodi per rafforzare un'azione di sistema. Sono incoraggiate pertanto proposte di intervento che attengono alle seguenti aree strategiche e contemporanee della didattica delle lingue moderne: come fare rete tra soggetti formatori in Italia e all'estero metodologie didattiche innovative, originali in presenza e online la formazione di docenti e studenti in L2 in Italia e all'estero la valutazione delle competenze e la spendibilità nel mercato del lavoro l'uso in classe delle nuove tecnologie a scuola e nelle università: problemi e prospettive. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to giuseppe.maugeri@uniurb.it by December 9, 2022.

CINEMA & MEDIA STUDIES

3) SPECTRAL LANDSCAPES IN ITALIAN CINEMA OF THE PAST AND THE PRESENT (Panel)

Organizer: Glen Bonnici (glen.bonnici@um.edu.mt), University of Malta; Gloria Lauri Lucente (gloria.lauri-lucente@um.edu.mt), University of Malta

For this panel we seek papers that explore spectral landscapes in Italian cinema through a selection of films from a broad historical bracket. In the first paper that we already propose, “Hauntologies in Cinematic Works of Mourning: Francesco Munzi’s ‘Anime nere’ and Abel Ferrara’s ‘The Funeral’”, Gloria Lauri-Lucente will read Francesco Munzi’s and Ferrara’s films as “works of mourning” through the trope of “hauntologie”, as defined Jacques Derrida in “Spectres of Marx”. Lucente will unearth the subtle ties between Munzi’s Ferrara’s films before focusing more specifically on the remote village of Africo, the space in which the Carbone brothers in “Anime nere” are confronted by a haunting intergenerational trauma that can (possibly) be exorcised only through the dissolution of the family. In the second paper, “Spectral Insularity: Giuseppe Tornatore’s ‘La migliore offerta’ and ‘La corrispondenza’”, Glen Bonnici will discuss how the physical and abstract landscapes depicted in these films link insular spectral spaces to Tornatore’s signature metareferential discourse. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to glen.bonnici@um.edu.mt and gloria.lauri-lucente@um.edu.mt by December 9, 2022.

4) GENDERING THE CINEMA OF THE SOUTH (Panel)

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com), University of Arkansas

La questione meridionale has been a topic of both political and academic discussion for more than 100 years. Some scholars maintain that Southern Italy is dominated in old-world, traditional, patriarchal values, while others including Gabriella Gribaudi in her piece entitled “Images of the South” (in *Italian Cultural Studies: An Introduction*) argues that the South is rather matriarchal in nature.

Using this concept as a springboard for the panel, the session aims to open a discussion on contemporary cinematic images of the South from a gendered perspective. Some topics include the following:

- Differences between gender in Southern and Northern films
- Is the South more patriarchal or matriarchal? Or can we even use this terminology in today’s society?
- What is the role of woman in Southern Italian cinema of the last ten years? Has anything changed?
- How does travel/public space vs private space/work influence gender in society?
- How does the recent wave of migration to Southern Italy register with gender concepts?
- Are their homosexuals, lesbians, transvestites, and transgendered people in Southern Italian film? How are they seen on screen?

Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to rcalabretta@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.

5) PIER PAOLO PASOLINI: RETRO-READING PASOLINI (Panel)

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com) University of Arkansas

This session seeks submissions on any re-reading of Pier Paolo Pasolini's opus or an exploration of an under-studied aspect. Even after almost 50 years following his untimely death, much of Pasolini's works have yet to be thoroughly examined. This panel aims to study under-represented texts of any type as well as re-visiting Pasolini classics through new theoretical perspectives. Comparative pieces dialoguing with Pasolini's works and others are also welcome. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to rcalabretta@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.

6) VISIBILITY AND REPRESENTATIONS OF TRANSGENDER AND NON-BINARY IDENTITIES IN ITALIAN CINEMA, VISUAL CULTURE, AND LITERATURE (Panel)

Organizer: Elisabetta D'Amanda (Rochester Institute of Technology), Sara Galli (University of Toronto), and Federica Santini (Kennesaw State University) for the AATI Gender and Women's Studies Collective.

This panel aims to explore the multi-faceted representations of transgender and non-binary identities in Italian cinema, visual arts, and literature. We welcome papers that explore the work that has been done and, at the same time, propose new strategies for inclusive representations, as well as analyses of past and current biases and stereotypes that pervade Italian movies, media representations, and beyond. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to exdgla@rit.edu by December 9, 2022.

CULTURAL STUDIES

7) LA "NARRATIVA" DELLA CANZONE POP ITALIANA: IDENTITÀ, TESTI, PRATICHE MUSICALI (Panel)

Organizer: Gaspare Antonio Trapani (ergogaspares@hotmail.com), University of Lisbon

Nonostante la canzone pop sia troppo spesso snobisticamente definita "canzonetta", per l'enorme impatto e potenzialità che questa ha nella vita quotidiana, si presenta come un vero proprio strumento di lettura del contemporaneo. Non a caso, il critico musicale Gino Castaldo sottolinea: «Da chiunque venga immaginata, una canzone prende vita solo quando dalla bocca del cantante discende in mezzo alla gente, quando viene amata, usata, sgualcita, imbrattata di realtà, reinventata nei rigagnoli delle mille occasioni quotidiane e dalla potenza del sentimento collettivo». Le canzoni, infatti, sostiene Lorenzo Coveri, fungono «da "traduttori culturali", in grado di filtrare esperienze letterarie e novità linguistiche e di trasmetterle al pubblico di massa, [...e sono] sempre più specchio, sempre meno modello, della complessa realtà linguistica e culturale dell'Italia di oggi». Questo panel si propone di dibattere, pertanto, temi, istanze, obiettivi aventi come corpus di riferimento le canzoni pop delle/degli artiste italiane/i come specchio dell'evoluzione sociali e dei costumi italiani. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to ergogaspares@hotmail.com by December 9, 2022.

8) REPRESENTATIONS OF FOOD IN ITALIAN NARRATIVES (Panel)

Organizer: Danila Cannamela (dcanname@colby.edu) Colby College

Food is embedded in our everyday life. It sustains all living beings and embraces different realities of lived experiences across time and space. It also reveals the fragility and the impermanence of bodies and organisms; it reinforces or challenges our privilege(s) (or lack thereof); it becomes weaponized in warfare; it questions our relationship to nature, land, and sovereignty; it mirrors systemic inequalities. By exploring the complex nature of food, this panel seeks to critically assess the social, cultural, environmental, and political relationships that we have with food. We invite contributions that explore food from diverse critical perspectives and through different media. Possible topics include but are not limited to: representations of food in literature and the visual arts; cultural and historical investigations of cookbooks, recipes, and ingredients; explorations of Sicilian food and/or Italian regional foods; mapping of cross-cultural intersections vehiculated by food; environmental and socio-political analysis of discourses about food. Please, send a 150-200-words abstract and a short bio by Monday, December 5, 2022 to Danila Cannamela (dcanname@colby.edu) and Davida Gavioli (dgavioli@bowdoin.edu)

9) SICILIA OSCURA E PERTURBANTE: SULLE TRACCE DEL FANTASTICO SICILIANO (Panel)

Organizers: Daniela Bombara (daniela.bombara63@gmail.com), Independent Scholar; Fabrizio Foni (fabrizio.foni@um.edu.mt), Università di Malta Ellen Patat (ellenpatat@gmail.com) Università degli Studi di Milano

Si può parlare di un fantastico siciliano? Al di là del verismo, indagando la cultura dell'isola si assiste "all'emersione di un continente notturno, nebbioso, inquietante" (Ferlita 2010). Il fantastico siciliano rielabora finemente una ricca tradizione folklorica che mostra una perturbante contiguità fra vivi e creature dell'oltremondo (Pitrè, 1889), indagata anche come esempio di determinate situazioni sociali; il soprannaturale isolano esplora inoltre i luoghi "oscuramente labirintici dell'inconscio" (Verdirame, 1990), o dimostra "le aporie e le assurdità del reale" (Morreale, 2000). Questo panel intende proporre una ricognizione nel corpus del fantastico siciliano dall'Ottocento ad oggi, elaborando inedite linee di ricerca che esulino dal soprannaturale degli scrittori più noti, quali Capuana e Pirandello, includendo anche le rappresentazioni della Sicilia fantastica da parte di autori non autoctoni. Spunti di indagine: – Temi e radici folkloriche del fantastico siciliano – Declinazioni femminili – Fantastico di sovversione – Cinema, teatro, fumetto, videogiochi – Lo sguardo 'lontano' dei non-siciliani sul fantastico isolano – Fantastico/fantastici: confronto con il soprannaturale italiano ed europeo. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to fantasticosiciliano@gmail.com, by December 9, 2022.

10) ITALY AND THE ORIENT (Panel)

Organizer: Irene Lottini (irene-lottini@uiowa.edu), U of Iowa

The scholarly debate on European Orientalism has spanned from analyses of its entanglement with Imperialism to remarks about the relevance of Orientalist studies in European culture. Mainly focused on British and French contexts, this debate has not fully explored the Italian reality. Yet, the Orient has been the object of fascination and discussion in modern and contemporary Italy. Through centuries, traders and travelers have witnessed cross-cultural encounters which have redesigned the East-West divide. Italian culture has received inspiration from the East and has contributed to create images of the Orient. Eastern goods have been proposed as symbols of luxury, opulence, prestige, and power. As exotic motifs, Oriental elements have populated Italian literary, figurative and performing arts. This panel wants to discuss the relationship between Italy and the East by exploring how the Orient has been portrayed and investigated in Italian culture.

Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to irene-lottini@uiowa.edu by December 9, 2022.

11) DECIPHERING DISALVO BETWEEN BAGHERIA AND BOCA RATON (Panel)

Organizer: Domenica Diraviam (ddirviam@fau.edu), Broward College

The art of Tom DiSalvo inhabits a liminal space that links his cultural experiences as a hybrid ethnic and a self-taught (sometimes described “folk”) painter. In layers of art and text, DiSalvo, a native of Bagheria, pays homage to iconographic Italian Renaissance works, Byzantine mosaics, and local craftsmanship of his hometown as well as popular figures and themes of social justice that were the fabric of the American society in which he came of age. These visual characteristics intermingle with translations and unique interpretations of the verses of famed poets, musicians, and authors, enhancing the abstract visual aspect with an aural quality that recalls the Sicilian tradition of *cantastorie*. This presentation will explore Tom DiSalvo as an artist of in-betweenness. The structural components and details of his paintings including, outlines, colors, and texture of the impasto, and composition of stenciled text, demonstrate his bonds to the country in which he was raised, as well as to the land of his ancestors, and even the influences of other cultures that he adopted by consent. Through an analysis of his self-proclaimed *capolavoro*, *Eadem mutata risurgo*, and other paintings that are an expression of his personal identity (*Purgatorio XXVII* and *Reflections: The Red, White and the Blues*) participants will realize the blurred delineations and revised cultural paradigms of a newer emigrant experience, replacing the tropes of the hyphen and the melting pot with a richer and more complicated and elusive space of in-betweenness. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to ddirviam@fau.edu by December 9, 2022.

12) JEWISH CULTURE WITHIN THE ITALIAN LANDSCAPE (Panel)

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com), U of Arkansas

The Jewish community is one of the oldest communities/cultures present within the Italian peninsula, spanning as many as two thousand years, dating back to the pre-Christian Roman period. As such, Italian Jewish Identity has evolved in a unique manner, sharing diverse traditions related to religion, culture, history, and language while simultaneously remaining rather homogenous and often separate. In 2016, the Jewish Culture in Italy remembered the 500th Anniversary of the Jewish Ghetto in Venice and the 100th Anniversary of Giorgio Bassani's birth (inaugured the Centro studi bassaniani a Ferrara), one of Italy's most noted Jewish Italian authors.

This panel aims to explore any intersection(s) of Jewish and Italian identity. Some themes include, but are not limited to the following:

- Artistic blendings/mixings/etc.
- Jews enlisting in the Fascist party
- Jews of the Mediterranean
- Regionalism Judaism in Italy
- Jewish Italian writers/writings
- The underground
- Racial Laws in Italy
- Screening Jewish Italian Culture
- The Venetian Ghetto
- Giorgio Bassani
- Primo Levi
- Intersections between Italian Jewry and that of other countries

Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to rcalabretta@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.

13) SOLO QUESTIONI DI LINGUA? CONSIDERAZIONI SUL CONTATTO LINGUISTICO DI IERI E DI OGGI. (Round Table)

Organizer: Salvatore Bancheri (salvatore.bancheri@utoronto.ca), University of Toronto

La tavola rotonda presenta le linee di ricerca e i primi risultati del progetto *Italiane* and its new developments: from endangered to a global language (2022-2025) finanziato dal Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) che sviluppa una ricostruzione storica e identitaria dell'*Italiane* come lingua creata dalle prime comunità di emigrati italiani in Ontario. L'*Italiane* ha avuto considerazioni socio-linguistiche alterne, ma ha nei fatti consentito ad ingenti gruppi di emigrati italiani prevalentemente dialettofoni e con scarse competenze alfabetiche di sostenere un processo comunicativo in un paese anglofono e allo stesso tempo è stato un fattore che ha consentito contribuito alla creazione di un gruppo sociale e politico omogeneo che avesse una lingua come forma identitaria e di coesione. A partire dai riferimenti del progetto SSHRC, la tavola rotonda incoraggia proposte di intervento in cui sia preso in esame il fenomeno migratorio, sia di immigrazione che di emigrazione, il contatto linguistico e il code mixing ad esso risultante come conseguenze di rapporti che nascono sul piano delle lingue o in esso trovano la loro prima manifestazione), ma si spostano subito sul piano civile dei rapporti tra persone. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to salvatore.bancheri@utoronto.ca by December 9, 2022.

CURRENT ISSUES IN THE L2 CLASSROOM

14) INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT. UN PARAGONE TRA STATI UNITI E IN EUROPA. (Round Table)

Organizer: Annalisa Mosca (ammosca@yahoo.com), Purdue University

This roundtable invites a discussion about the worldwide relevance of developing Intercultural Competence *and ways to assess it*. The lead presenter will begin by introducing and comparing the two rubrics most relevant for Italian teachers, the *AAC&U Intercultural Competence VALUE Rubric*, a common reference point in the USA and the *Rubrica di Valutazione Intercultura* which accompanies the CEFR/QCER. The discussion will then open to other participants and the audience to exchange ideas about integrating intercultural learning as well as using these rubrics in the classroom. Presentations in Italian or English are welcome. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to ammosca@yahoo.com by December 9, 2022.

15) TEACHING ITALIAN IN THE ERA OF GOOGLE TRANSLATE (Panel)

Organizer: Elena Daniele (edaniele@tulane.edu) Tulane University

Google Translate has quickly perfected in the past two years or so; and it is here to stay. Students of Italian at any level of proficiency are now so used to relying on the aid of various translation software, that what used to be traditional take-home writing assignments in Italian must now be completely reconsidered. This panel explores ways in which teachers of Italian can help students make appropriate use of this new technology at each stage of their process of language acquisition. We welcome papers that explore pedagogical ways in which to make the use of Google Translate in the Italian classroom intentional, meaningful, and purposeful, as opposed to its current (predominantly unethical) use, which is so widespread and unchecked today. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to edaniele@tulane.edu by December 9, 2022.

16) REVOLUTIONIZE, INNOVATE, TRANSGRESS: KEEPING ITALIAN STUDIES RELEVANT IN 2023 (Round Table)

Organizer: Nicola Salmaso (nsalmaso@iu.edu), Indiana University at Bloomington; Colleen Ryan, Indiana University at Bloomington.

The last five years have proved to be particularly challenging for language and culture instructors in meeting undergraduate students where they are in terms of their goals and aspirations, and in terms of their emotional, intellectual, and physical well-being. Especially during the pandemic, students' needs have evolved at a rapid pace that was difficult to foresee and accommodate. Some of these changes, which may be more permanent than temporary, continue to challenge us today and urge us to conceive our programs and curricula in ever more relevant, career-directed ways. In making Italian Studies "relevant" today, how do we repurpose more traditional topics and materials? How do we choose new content, theories, and pedagogical practices? How do our modalities of instruction and learning goals change? This round table seeks contributions on curricular innovations aimed at rejuvenating approaches, content, and learning goals of more traditionally organized language and culture courses. Please send abstracts (150-200 words) to Colleen Ryan (ryancm@indiana.edu) and Nicolò Salmaso (nsalmaso@iu.edu), by December 9, 2022.

17) NEW PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES AND METHODOLOGY IN THE INCLUSIVE ITALIAN L2 CLASSROOM (Panel)

Organizer: Elisabetta D’Amanda, Rochester Institute of Technology; Sara Galli, University of Toronto; Federica Santini, Kennesaw State University; and Mohammad Jamali, University of Toronto for the AATI Gender and Women’s Studies Collective.

This session explores equity for and inclusion of differently-abled persons in the Italian L2 classroom, as well as those that address the systemic failures of traditional methodologies for this community. Some possible topics include: Teaching Italian in the differently-abled L2 classroom, Language Acquisition for students with learning disabilities, Dealing Covid PTSD in the Italian (L2) Classroom, Universal Design in the Italian (L2) Classroom, Challenging Inequities and Inaccessibility in Italy, Resources for L2 Students differently-abled, Resources for L2 Educators differently-abled, DEI for differently-abled persons, Creating an equitable L2 Italian Classroom for all students: tips, and techniques, Dealing with textbooks that lack representation of differently-abled people. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to exdgla@rit.edu by December 9, 2022.

18) CREATING NEW PATHWAYS: STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE GENDER EQUITY IN THE ITALIAN CLASSROOM (Round Table)

Organizer: Elisabetta D’Amanda, Rochester Institute of Technology; Carmen De Lorenzo (Michigan State University); Sara Galli, University of Toronto; Federica Santini, Kennesaw State University; and Mohammad Jamali, University of Toronto for the AATI Gender and Women’s Studies Collective.

Following new D.E.I. (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) committees in teaching institutions, instructors should make their classrooms more inclusive. Educators are invited to embrace diversity and seek to create safe spaces for all. In this regards, inclusive practices and non-binary thinking are essential aspect to promote dialogue and to create a welcoming environment. This can be a challenge with a language like Italian since it has grammar based on a binary system. Can we go beyond these limitations? What strategies can be used in Italian classrooms to give a voice to every person? Participants will present strategies and hands-on activities during this round table to promote gender equity and inclusiveness. The discussion’s outcomes will include take-home examples for every school grade and level of proficiency. Presenters are invited to share in-class activities (oral and written), strategies, language inclusive in courses’ syllabi, and real life experiences. The presentation will be followed by a discussion during which we would like to invite colleagues to reflect on these new teaching perspectives. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to exdgla@rit.edu by December 9, 2022.

19) LET’S BE MORE INCLUSIVE! HOW? THE CASE OF THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE, DEVELOPMENTS AND CHALLENGES (Panel)

Organizer: Elisabetta D’Amanda, Rochester Institute of Technology; Carmen De Lorenzo (Michigan State University); Sara Galli, University of Toronto; Federica Santini, Kennesaw State University; and Mohammad Jamali, University of Toronto for the AATI Gender and Women’s Studies Collective.

In 2019, Italian Minister Laura Boldrini sent a letter to the Parliament’s members to invite them to use the feminine form when referring to their female colleagues. That request started a lively discussion that in these years has been involving politics, academia, and social media, going beyond the linguistic matter. In recent years, institutions have pushed their educators to be more inclusive in their teaching practices. What are the steps that have been taken until now? How has the Italian language changed?

In this panel, we are proposing a reflection on the history of the inclusive Italian language and how it has been embraced in the language classroom. We are looking for proposal that will illustrate how the inclusiveness question has been approached, its origins, its evolution, and its possible future. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to exdgla@rit.edu by December 9, 2022.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

20) Forgotten Women: Examining the Lack of Female Presences and Voices in the Canons of the Italian Arts from the Creative to the Literary and the Performative. (Panel)

Organizer: M. Marina Melita (marina.melita@marist.edu), Marist College

Though women make up 51% of humankind, their presence in Italian literature, film, theatre, and music, is often erased from history for many reasons, such as a lack of documentation, a concerted effort to "not remember," or the simple devaluing of their works. This panel aims to bring women in Italian Arts and Literature to the forefront, focusing on the common themes, contributions, public perception, and legacies of those who have been overshadowed and/or forgotten by the march of time. In addition to bringing these women and their works *into the light*, we will discuss the impacts of these new voices into the classroom, whether in a grammar, literature, or cultural course, and how we can use them to expand the knowledge base in a given field without necessarily "canceling" more commonly used texts, art works, films, etc. Scholars working on "forgotten women" in any field of Italian are encouraged to submit a 250-word abstract and a short bio (75 words), along with any technological needs, by December 9, 2022 to marina.melita@marist.edu.

21) UNGENDERING ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE: PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES (Round Table)

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com), University of Arkansas

For at least the last five years, L2/WL scholars and pedagogues have attempted to discuss the difficulty and inequity of gender in language. Within the AATI, colleagues have been presenting on the topic in various formats: in-person, online, workshops, keynote addresses, and even published articles. Vero Gheno has been the most active in the field to date, however, there have been others even before her who have attempted to address this situation. Additionally, colleagues in other Western European languages are facing similar issues.

This roundtable aims to place *all* colleagues of Italian (e/o other Romance Languages) together to explore practical methods of ungendering Italian. Each participant will have 10 minutes to explain one didactic unit, project, or activity they have used and share it with the group. Part of the presentation should include benefits and challenges, as well as difficulties faced in enacted it. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to rcalabretta@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.



22) QUEERING ITALIAN STUDIES

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com). University of Arkansas

The focus on gender in Italian Studies has come to the forefront within the last five years both in Italy and North America. Whether it is rereading older texts or taking into account the newly highlighted life of the contemporary LGBTQIAA+ society in Italy, more and diverse attention has been afforded this thematic/cultural field.

Some possible themes to consider include the following:

- Intersections and/or Contradictions of Queer Theory (Anglophone vs. Italian)
- Gendering the Body
- Queering Italian Daily Life (talk shows, reality tv shows, Gay Pride, etc.)
- Intersex in Italy
- Queering Italian Art
- Representations of LGBTQI in Literature/Film/Media

Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to rcalabretta@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.

23) ITALIAN COLONIALISM and ITS CONTEMPORARY HERITAGE CONVERSATION WITH THE AFRO ITALIAN AUTHOR FRED KUWORNU (Round Table)

Organizer: Elisabetta D'Amanda, Rochester Institute of Technology; Sara Galli, University of Toronto; Federica Santini, Kennesaw State University; and Mohammad Jamali, University of Toronto for the AATI Gender and Women's Studies Collective.

This round table is geared to focus on the under explored history of Italian colonialism and to make light of how this reality, while under our eyes, is rarely discussed in our society. We aim to broach the subject engaging interactively with the audience and bring forth the contemporary impact of this portion of scarcely represented history. We will provide some excerpt from the new film of the author plus other current visual resources to elicit reflections on how this topic has not been included in the Italian Studies canon. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to exdgla@rit.edu by December 9, 2022.

GRADUATE STUDENT PANELS

24) PRESIDENTIAL PANELS I: GRADUATE STUDIES RESEARCH – MEDIEVAL, RENAISSANCE, AND EARLY MODERN STUDIES (Graduate Student Preparation Panel/Workshop)

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com), University of Arkansas; M. Marina Melita (marina.melita@marist.edu), Marist College

This panel is intended for graduate students who are not ABD or working on their dissertation at the time of the conference. Students are invited to submit an abstract in any area of Medieval, Renaissance, and Early Modern Italian / Italian Studies. NB. This call is not limited only to literature. We encourage papers with fresh or innovative perspectives on traditional works or themes that also reflect/use critical and contemporary theories. Submissions in English or Italian are welcome. Please send title, 250-word abstract, a brief bio (75 words) including your affiliation, and technological needs to marina.melita@marist.edu, by December 8, 2022.

25) PRESIDENTIAL PANELS II: GRADUATE STUDIES RESEARCH – MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY STUDIES (Graduate Student Preparation Panel/Workshop)

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com), University of Arkansas; M. Marina Melita (marina.melita@marist.edu), Marist College

This panel is intended for graduate students who are not ABD or working on their dissertation, at the time of the conference. Students are invited to submit an abstract in any area of Modern and Contemporary Italian / Italian Studies, including but not limited to literature, film/media studies, and visual studies. We are especially interested in papers focused on new and/or critical issues such as Afroitalianità, DEI, LGBTQ+, Marginalized & Non-traditional voices, and digital humanities in Italian studies. Submissions in English or Italian are welcome. Please send title, 250-word abstract, a brief bio (75 words) including your affiliation, and technological needs to marina.melita@marist.edu, by December 8, 2022.

26) PRESIDENTIAL PANEL 3: DISSERTATIONS IN PROGRESS (Graduate Student Preparation Panel/Workshop)

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com), University of Arkansas; M. Marina Melita (marina.melita@marist.edu), Marist College

This workshop is open only to graduate students who are ABD and in the process of writing their dissertations on any topic in the fields of Italian, Italian Studies, or the Italian Diaspora. Other related topics/fields will be considered as well. During the workshop, accepted students will receive feedback from respondents and other attendees. This workshop will be hands-on and depending on the number of submissions may be a double session. The goal is to help graduate students continue advancing on and further refining their dissertations. This workshop is a welcome and ideal opportunity for graduate students to work with a scholar in their field, as well as beyond their home institution. Submissions in English or Italian are welcome, but presentations and excerpts should be in the language in which you are required to write your dissertation. Please send a title, 250-word abstract, which includes theories and methodologies used in your research, and a brief bio (75 words) including your affiliation to marina.melita@marist.edu, by December 8, 2022.

LITERARY STUDIES - ALL

27) LA «VOCE ANTICA DE' NOSTRI». LETTURE, TRADUZIONI E RISCRIITTURE DEI CLASSICI ANTICHI DALL'OTTOCENTO AD OGGI (Panel)

Organizer: Patrizia Landi (patrizia.landi@iulm.it) IULM Milano

Il panel si propone di ragionare sulla vitalità dell'antico nella letteratura dei secoli XIX-XXI. Nell'ampio orizzonte cronologico, compreso fra classicismo primo-ottocentesco (Monti, Foscolo, Leopardi, Keats, Shelley,...) e contemporaneità (si pensi al recentissimo "De rerum natura" di Milo De Angelis), si sollecitano interventi che riflettano tanto su interpretazioni, discussioni/polemiche e traduzioni, quanto su riscritture (per esempio la rilettura nel moderno di personaggi femminili quali Medea, Antigone, Didone o Cassandra), trasposizioni (musicali, artistiche, teatrali e/o cinematografiche, come nel caso di Pasolini e Testori), o più libere forme di rielaborazione, secondo una tendenza che in questa direzione accomuna, solo per fare qualche esempio, il Pascoli dei "Poemi conviviali", il Pavese dei "Dialoghi con Leucò" o la Yourcenar di "Memorie di Adriano". Le possibili, ma non vincolanti, linee di ricerca:

- Traduzioni di classici greco-latini nelle lingue europee;
- Riscritture/riletture moderno-contemporanee di personaggi, temi, motivi, ...
- Rapporti, consonanze, corrispondenze, ... tra testi antichi e moderno-contemporanei;
- Eredità metriche, stilistiche, formali;
- Ricezione del classico nella contemporaneità.

Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to patrizia.landi@iulm.it by December 9, 2022.

28) LA TEMATICHE ETICO-MORALI DI PIRANDELLO (Panel)

Organizer: Sandra Dugo (sdugo26@gmail.com), UdS Roma Tor Vergata

Si propone la rilettura delle opere di Pirandello analizzando i testi dal punto di vista etico e morale. Le novelle i romanzi e le commedie hanno in comune riflettere sulla coscienza morale, come l'attribuzione della paternità in "Liola" e "O di uno o di nessuno". È lecito accettare la paternità del nascituro dopo lo stupro subito dalla moglie in "L'Innesto"? Pirandello proponeva temi morali discussi negli anni 1890-1936: i rapporti tra i coniugi e la loro responsabilità nelle situazioni familiari; la colpa vissuta nelle scelte permesse o non consentite dalla società; il ruolo della Legge e dei tribunali nei reati commessi per tradimento; la liceità di abbandonare l'ordine sacerdotale, per aver perso la fede, non consentita dalla morale sociale. Si propone la rilettura secondo la prospettiva morale, analizzando alcune connessioni con Henri-Louis Bergson, per quanto riguarda la scelta irrazionalistica, o con Schopenhauer se pensiamo alla visione del mondo esistenziale; o analizzando il conflitto irrazionale tra gli esseri umani, pensando a un legame con George Bernard Shaw, solo per citarne alcuni. Sono gradite altre proposte di rilettura di testi diversi da quelli citati, alla luce dell'etica morale del comportamento umano. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to sdugo26@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.

29) PER UNO STUDIO CONSAPEVOLE: INDAGINI SU METODOLOGIE E APPROCCI DIVERSIFICATI AI CAPOLAVORI DEL VERISMO TRA I BANCHI, A CASA, SUL WEB. (Panel)

Organizer: Ninna Maria Lucia Martines (mrt.nml98@gmail.com), Università degli Studi di Catania; Anna Rita Martines, Università degli Studi Catania; Andrea Manganaro, Università degli Studi Catania

Una questione nota all'attenzione del corpo docenti in ambito scolastico e accademico riguarda la diversificazione degli approcci all'insegnamento e allo studio della letteratura in funzione del target di studenti e studiosi interessati, ovvero del loro grado di istruzione e delle risorse fruibili. È ormai considerato un cliché il fatto che le risorse cartacee o multimediali disponibili debbano essere sottoposte al vaglio attento di esperti nel settore, che possano orientare uno studio consapevole della materia, e che la stessa attendibilità non possa essere garantita dal web, laddove l'utente non sia in possesso di una capacità di giudizio critico delle fonti più affidabili. Un'indicazione di questo tipo risulta spesso inconciliabile rispetto al proposito degli strumenti in open access di imporsi come mezzo di conoscenza per un pubblico di massa. Alla luce del dibattito che ne consegue, il panel intende instaurare un confronto tra approcci e metodologie di insegnamento e di studio, tramite case studies riferiti nello specifico alla narrativa verista, diversificati in funzione del contesto di erogazione dell'insegnamento e di acquisizione delle competenze, facendone emergere punti di forza, criticità e potenziali soluzioni. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to mrt.nml98@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.

30) Italian Dialects and the Genesis of a Genre (Panel)

Organizer: Jason Collins (jasmcnny@hotmail.com), University of Tennessee Knoxville

The Italian literary canon is one arguably rich with genres. Italy itself has been an originator of genre throughout its history from the sonnet to verismo. Writers who elect dialect, however, are frequently lumped together inviting the distinction of genre. Indeed, there are entire collections dedicated to dialect as a genre such as Giacinto Spagnoletti and Cesare Vivaldi's *Poesia dialettale dal Rinascimento a oggi*. The title would indicate dialect poetry is a genre, but its pages are filled with works by Trilussa, a fabulist, Giuseppe Gioachino Belli, a sonneteer, Delio Tessa a surrealist writer, and many others whose works fit within the lines of demarcation that indicate a genre. The aggregation 'dialect literature' proves arbitrary as a genre and only serves didactic purposes. As a genre, it amounts to an othering, an expulsion from the Italian literary canon. This panel aims to explore dialect's relation to genre and how the choice of dialect instead of standard Italian complements a genre. Possible topics could include translations in dialect, dialect in the novel, dialect theater, dialect cinema, Surrealism and Postmodernism in dialect, various poetic genres expressed in dialect, dialect narrative Dialect in journalism. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to jasmcnny@hotmail.com by December 9, 2022.

31) New Publications in Italian Studies (Roundtable)

Organizer: Ryan Calabretta-Sajder (rcalabretta@gmail.com) University of Arkansas

This roundtable aims to provide space to authors of recent manuscripts relating to any aspect of Italian Studies. Each presenter will have 15 minutes to share an overview about his/her/their book. A Q&A session will follow. Please send a brief overview of the book (150 words) along with a brief biography and technology requests to rcalabretta@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.

32) THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN ART AND LITERATURE IN REPRESENTING SICILY (Panel)

Organizer: Nicola Di Nino (nicola.dinino@uab.cat), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

When Elio Vittorini reprinted his *Conversazione in Sicilia* in 1953, enriching it with photographs, he recovered that fundamental dialogue between art and literature already attempted by Verga. As known, the *verista* portrayed, in numerous shots taken between 1887 and 1902, his fellow citizens who were the protagonists of his works. In this panel we do not want to limit ourselves to the study of works settled in Sicily where the dialogue between art and literature is explicit, but we also want to study those in which the ekphrasis occurs without the support of the image. The goal is to discuss how the dialogue with art affects the representation of the Sicilian setting and how ekphrasis affects the hermeneutics of the text. Contributions are invited from colleagues with expertise in literature and visual arts. If interested, please send a title, an abstract of 200-250 words, a brief biography in English or Italian, and requests for audio-visual equipment to: nicola.dinino@uab.cat, by December 9, 2022.

33) QUEER LITERATURE IN ITALIAN COURSES (Panel)

Organizer: Elisabetta D'Amanda, Rochester Institute of Technology; Sara Galli, University of Toronto; Federica Santini, Kennesaw State University; and Mohammad Jamali, University of Toronto for the AATI Gender and Women's Studies Collective.

As Porpora Marcasciano said during an interview on the Italian newspaper *La Repubblica* “Il movimento gay [...] non ha riflettuto abbastanza sulla propria storia, non ha avuto la capacità di storicizzarla, di dare letture proprie della Storia, e di rivendicare il nostro contributo con orgoglio. La nostra storia invece è importante per non farci neutralizzare.” There has been a growing interest in gender studies in the Italian academic field in the last decade. Such attention has led to the (re)discovery of new authors and books that can enrich the Italian curriculum. Furthermore, the importance of including LGBTQIA+ authors is an essential step towards making Italian courses more inclusive. This panel aims to explore queer Italian literature to give space to those voices still kept outside the literary canon and to help teachers of all levels familiarize themselves with a new branch of Italian studies. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to exdgla@rit.edu by December 9, 2022.

PEDAGOGY

34) “SEARCHING FOR ITALY” AND ITALIAN EXCELLENCE: TEACHING ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE USING AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PROSPECTIVE (Panel)

Organizer: Morena Svaldi (msvaldi@ntholyoke.edu), Mt. Holyoke

After a long period of disconnection and social isolation due to the recent pandemic, it is imperative to reconnect and reshape students' perspectives and intellectual curiosity for the field of Italian Studies. For example, the recent popularity in the United States of Stanley Tucci's documentaries *Searching for Italy*, shows an image of Italy as a country with an innate sense of creativity, aesthetics, and sophistication. It also offers the opportunity to discuss cultural values that go far beyond nutrition. This session aims to focus on how to inspire students' interests in Italian language and culture adopting in our courses an interdisciplinary prospective. This panel welcomes presentations that focus on Italian curriculum development, teaching materials and projects that link the study of Italian with other disciplines such as: design, fashion, food industry, sustainability, visual arts, architecture, nature, urban planning. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to msvaldi@ntholyoke.edu by December 9, 2022.

35) LEGGERE NON BASTA: LA LETTERATURA ITALIANA IN CLASSE (Panel)

Organizer: Marco Marino (marco.marino@santannainstitute.com), Sant'Anna Institute

L'insegnamento della letteratura italiana non si limita alla conoscenza dei classici. Una lezione di letteratura non può prescindere dal contenuto e dalla lingua del testo letterario, così come non può far a meno di tenere in considerazione il contesto-classe. La definizione di nuove pratiche didattico-divulgative per l'insegnamento della letteratura tenta di rispondere all'esigenza di avere a disposizione contenuti fruibili dai nativi digitali che siano anche funzionali all'obiettivo didattico. Il panel intende discutere gli approcci innovativi in seno alla didattica della letteratura, proponendo casi di studio specifici o esperienze in classe. Si prega di inviare le proposte di intervento, accompagnate da una breve nota biografica, a marco.marino@santannainstitute.com entro l'8 dicembre 2022. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to marco.marino@santannainstitute.com by December 9, 2022.

36) INTEGRATING STEAM IN THE ITALIAN CLASSROOM (Panel)

Organizer: Maria Luisa Di Stefano (marialuisadi@umass.edu) University of Massachusetts

This presentation includes fundamental principles and inquiry-based instructional strategies used in a K-12 classes and in university courses designed to prepare teachers with the collaboration of district leaders to implement STEAM-focused bilingual and dual-language content in developing programs, including the Italian class. This work will highlight exemplar projects and share students' work, and teachers' and district leaders' experiences in their implementation. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to marialuisadi@umass.edu by December 9, 2022

37) BEYOND THE CLASSROOM. L'ITALIANO NELLE SITUAZIONI REALI POST-UNIVERSITARIE. (Panel)

Organizer: Annalisa Mosca (ammosca@yahoo.com), Purdue University

The discrepancy between language study and communicative ability or proficiency was first mentioned in the MLA Report 2007. In world languages, course content as well as interpersonal communication evaluation follow ACTFL guidelines and QCER/CEFR framework. Proficiency or competence-based pedagogical best practices suggest teaching for meaning and communication instead of towards assessment. Nevertheless, at a certain point – especially after completing education– learners will be evaluated via one of the many language assessment tools for evaluating language proficiency (eg. AP, OPI, AAPPL, CELI and similar). Only small changes are necessary to both curriculum and classroom assessments to lead learners towards the desired interpersonal communicative competence levels evaluated according to these assessments. This session welcomes presentations that discuss integrating practical interpersonal communicative tasks directly inspired by the above assessments to better align language learning with the outcomes and guidelines established by ACTFL and QCER/CEFR, and with the interpersonal communication assessment tools based on these frameworks. Presentations in Italian or English are welcome. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to ammosca@yahoo.com by December 9, 2022.

38) INTERCULTURAL PEDAGOGY AND TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURE (Round Table)

Organizer: Lidia Radi (lradi@richmond.edu), University of Richmond

We invite proposals for a roundtable on Intercultural pedagogy and scholarship. This roundtable has two main goals. First, it aims to examine innovative pedagogical approaches to education through intercultural dialogue. It also welcomes scholarship that investigates the ways in which transnational literature fosters intercultural dialogue. For example, how does an interdisciplinary and intercultural reading of literary works produced by transnational authors (writing in Italian) allow a better understanding of other cultures, languages, and systems, both cultural and political? How does an intercultural approach help us foster a more inclusive notion of belonging? How does an intercultural perspective enable us to develop an ethical imagination? This roundtable aims to exchange pedagogical methods and scholarship that promote intercultural dialogue and build intercultural competence both in the classroom and the broader community. Please submit your paper proposals (250 words) and a short bio (100-150 words max) to Drs Dilina Beshiri (dilina_b@hotmail.com) and/or Lidia Radi (lradi@richmond.edu). Papers can be presented in English or in Italian. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to lradi@richmond.edu by December 9, 2022.

39) NEW CONCEPTS FOR ITALIAN COURSES. INNOVATIONS IN ADMINISTRATIVE AND CURRICULAR PATHWAYS, METHODS, TECHNOLOGIES, AND IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES.

(Panel)

Organizer: Tiziana Serafini (tserafin@nd.edu) University of Notre Dame; Angela Zagarella (zagarea@pdx.edu), Portland State University

This panel wants to discuss how we envision the teaching of Italian to keep it attractive, current, and meaningful to students and administrations. It particularly seeks contributions addressing a wide spectrum of innovative ideas such as: new curricula and content, new technological tools that allow students to actively engage in the classroom, creative modalities that make the study of Italian agile and flexible (modular solutions, flipped classes, etc.), new materials and activities, innovative assessments, and new ways to provide feedback. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to tserafin@nd.edu and zagarea@pdx.edu by December 9, 2022.

40) THE ECOPEDAGOGICAL APPROACH: EDUCATING FOR SOCIAL CHANGE (Panel)

Organizer: Elisabetta Convento (convento@bu.edu), Boston University

We are facing a global systemic structural crisis; the exploitation of the Earth, of people and of the societies where we live are unparalleled. The ecological and personal crisis are linked to the development of a well-known anthropocentric worldview grounded in domination of humans on nature as well on others, with increasing issues of justice, race, gender, diversity, climate, cultural and economic poverty. Ecopedagogy is not just a critique of the foolish dominion on nature, but a new knowledge paradigm that promises an emancipatory learning environment and informs new teaching strategies to grow better world citizens. The panel will explore how the epistemological standpoint of Ecopedagogy can be translated into practices in the classroom and how this is not only desirable but possible by means of selected cultural materials, syllabi, extracurricular activities, art, and field work that can facilitate and promote the critique of human dominion over nature and other human beings. The panel encourages interventions that combine the environmental humanities, cultural studies, postcolonial studies, science, art and film studies, and show how it is possible to educate to collective responsibility for a sustainable planet. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to convento@bu.edu by December 9, 2022.

41) WHY STUDY COLLEGE-LEVEL ITALIAN IN THE US? - THE ONGOING ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION CRISIS IN ITALIAN PROGRAMS, WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY DONE TO ADDRESS IT AND WHAT WE CAN DO NEXT? (Round Table)

Organizer: Federico Fabbri (ffabbri@arizona.edu), University of Arizona

For over a decade, US-based Italian programs in higher education have faced a serious enrollment and retention crisis: fewer students study Italian, and only a small minority of them continues after the first two years of instruction (Looney & Lusin, 2019). The roundtable discussion will first aim at identifying and examining the possible main causes of the ongoing enrollment and retention crisis at multiple levels: micro (e.g., the classroom & the individual course), meso (e.g., the program level – curriculum & course offerings), and macro (e.g., institutional & societal factors). The roundtable will also discuss strategies and innovations that have been already implemented (or that are currently in the works) by individual Italian programs to increase total enrollments and student retention; the roundtable will also explore possible future directions and solutions to reverse the crisis. Discussions may focus on strategies and innovations impacting diverse components of Italian programs, including (but may not be limited to): marketing & outreach, curriculum development, materials selection,

teacher training, mission & goal setting, pedagogical approaches, and opportunities for collaboration at the program level and beyond. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to ffabbri@arizona.edu by December 9, 2022.

42) REFORMING ITALIAN LITERATURE COURSES (Panel)

Organizer: Sara Galli (sara.galli@utoronto.ca), University of Toronto

The decreasing number of students in the Humanities has also impacted Italian literature courses. With a literary canon that started around the 12th century and continues, Italy is one of the most prolific countries and reference points for the European literature. With such a reach heritage, how could we update our course curricula to reach out a wider audience and make our courses more attractive for younger generations? This panel aims to explore new and different pedagogical approaches and perspectives on how Italian syllabi can be updated and remodeled. Proposals should focus on projects, or examples of activities presented in classes. They can refer to any period of the Italian literature, from the Medieval age to the contemporary one, and be presented by teachers of all levels. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to sara.galli@utoronto.ca by December 9, 2022.

43) ONLINE LEARNING AND TEACHING: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES (Round Table)

Organizer: Andrea Polegato (apolegato@csufresno.edu), California State University, Fresno

The emergency move to online education has created opportunities but also caused difficulties to the study of Italian language and culture. This round table brings together scholars to discuss the past, present, and potential future of online teaching and learning in Italian courses. We invite papers that focus on pedagogical best practices, innovative strategies, and case studies in online environment (online synchronous & asynchronous, Hybrid, Blended, Flipped, HyFlex, and etc.) Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to apolegato@csufresno.edu by December 9, 2022. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to by December 9, 2022.

44) THE STATE OF CERTIFICATION IN *ITALIAN AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE* (Panel)

Organizer: Alessia Defraia (Claudiaalessiadefraia@gmail.com), Loyola Chicago

Lately, a significant number of people have started learning Italian in order to obtain the dual citizenship. The numbers of candidates to get certified in Italian has increased consistently all over the world. Several schools have been offering new courses for the preparation to the exam and several students have begun a new path learning Italian thanks to this exam because it paved the way to their interest. Keeping in mind this new reality, what are the actual numbers of students who are certified in Italian? Can we use the certification as an instrument to motivate students to keep on studying Italian? What is the marketability of certification at an educational level or in the work field? The panel's goal is to highlight the strengths (and weaknesses) of certification. The presentations may focus on a variety of aspects, including the proposal syllabi and/or course to prepare for the exam, the marketability of certification in the working world, new ideas to motivate students to keep on studying Italian after getting certified etc. Prospective speakers must submit a 200-word abstract and a brief biography. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to Claudiaalessiadefraia@gmail.com by December 9, 2022.

45) INSEGNARE, APPRENDERE, USARE ITALIANO ALL'ESTERO: STRUMENTI, PROSPETTIVE, RICERCHE (Round Table)

Organizer: Simone Casini (simone.casini@utoronto.ca), University of Toronto Mississauga

Nel 2022 sono stati pubblicati lavori che affrontano in modo diverso questioni centrali per le politiche linguistiche ed educative finalizzate allo sviluppo dell'italiano all'estero. I singoli lavori hanno tentato di rispondere alla domanda generale e non nuova su quale sia la condizione reale della lingua italiana nel mondo. I terreni di indagine hanno incluso la didattica della lingua nelle scuole e nelle università; la spendibilità della competenza ling. nel tessuto locale e internazionale; la promozione della lingua ad opera delle istituzioni, delle associazioni culturali e il loro impatto sulla società globale; la trasmissione della lingua nelle reti di origine italiana; la presenza dell'italiano nei panorami urbani. I dati ed i risultati emersi sono il punto di partenza per una riflessione più ampia sul ruolo dell'italiano fuori d'Italia e sulle possibili strategie di coordinamento con realtà di diffusione e promozione della lingua in Italia. Sulla base dei riferimenti teorici e metodologici nonché dei risultati conseguiti dalle diverse ricerche, la tavola rotonda mira a sollecitare una discussione che coinvolga sia il mondo della ricerca scientifica, sia quello delle Istituzioni e delle agenzie culturali. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to simone.casini@utoronto.ca by December 9, 2022.

46) NEW DIRECTIONS IN ITALIAN L2 CLASSROOM STRATEGIE (Panel)

Organizer: Camilla Zamboni (czamboni@wesleyan.edu), Wesleyan University

Along with the productive discussions that have emerged in these past few years centered on what we teach and why we teach, this panel aims to explore how we teach and organize our classroom experience. What are new directions in L2 research and practice that can best suit recent developments – such as a shift away from traditional textbooks and toward digital platforms, the sudden implementation of online learning worldwide due to the Covid19 pandemic, or the imperative to find more inclusive practices in the classroom? This panel invites submissions that reflect on how to implement new pedagogical strategies in the Italian L2 classroom, and aims to explore experiences, outcomes, and implications of adopting non-traditional approaches in our digital and non-digital spaces. Examples of new pedagogical models can vary from a single activity to a whole semester curriculum, should be informed by research, and may include project-based learning (PBL), game-based learning (GBL), design thinking, and so forth. Participants will discuss their theoretical and practical approach, its benefits and challenges, and best practices for other instructors. Please submit a 250-word abstract by 11 pm EST on December 9, 2022 to czamboni@wesleyan.edu.

47) NUOVE VOCI SICILIANE: SULLA PAGINA, SULLO SCHERMO, SUL PALCOSCENICO...IN AULA E NELLA RICERCA (Panel)

Organizer: Carla Cornette (cornette.16@osu.edu), The Ohio State University

Inaugurating the birth of Italian literature with la scuola poetica siciliana at the court of Federico II in Palermo, Sicily has been the locus of a plurisecular tradition of literary excellence. Yet, are there new voices who merit attention in Italian Studies curricula and research, particularly those of women or those who come from other disenfranchised groups? What contributions are new Sicilian voices making to renewing the literary canon, or more broadly, to the arts in cinema, television, journalism, and music? What do these voices have to say in terms of current-day social justice issues, for example, the perennial questione meridionale, poverty, misogyny, gendered violence, immigration, racialized Othering, organized crime and institutional complicity, disability, queerness, gendered ageism? How can their contributions contribute to updating courses in the Italian curriculum making them more relatable to 21st century students? And how can current-day Sicilian voices serve as a catalyst for new strands of interdisciplinary research in Italian Studies, cross-pollinating with Gender and Women's Studies, Postcolonial Studies, Queer Studies, Film and Media Studies, Race and Diaspora Studies? Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to cornette.16@osu.edu, by December 9, 2022.

48) 'SO MANY SICILIES. I WON'T STOP SINGING THEM': TRADITION, PROTEST AND MEDITERRANEITY IN CONTEMPORARY SICILIAN MUSIC (Panel)

Organizer: Angela Zagarella (zagarea@pdx.edu), Portland State University; Giovanna Summerfield (summegi@auburn.edu), Auburn University

Music is not just a simple source of entertainment and a pleasant companion in our daily lives, but it is above all a careful reader of our society, a precise thermometer of the culture of every time and place. It is linked to places and geography, tradition, history. It can be an expression of identity, it fosters belonging, it carries political and cultural messages, not only for the lyrics it contains but also for the language it uses. This panel welcomes contributions exploring the many aspects of contemporary Sicilian musical production as a vehicle of tradition, an expression of the migratory process, a common language to cross linguistic borders and an instrument to fight discrimination and social problems. The lyrics, the captured emotions and the voices of Sicilians will provide an invaluable resource to better understand the complexity of Sicily for which students in Italian L2 classroom have always shown great fascination and curiosity. This panel is dedicated to the memory of Franco Battiato, Sicilian songwriter and singer. Please submit a 250-word abstract of your presentation and a short bio to Angela Zagarella (zagarea@pdx.edu) or Giovanna Summerfield (summegi@auburn.edu) by December 9, 2022.

49) VITA MATERIALE E LINGUAGGIO DEL CORPO IN VERGA E IN ALTRI AUTORI "REALISTI" (Panel)

Organizer: Luigi La Grua (luigilagrua@virgilio.it) UdS Catania; Andrea Manganaro, UdS Catania

Nel narrato “realista” risultano a volte centrali elementi della vita materiale dei personaggi che in altra letteratura sarebbero più in ombra. Questi, «portatori diretti di verità assai più che le parole dei dialoghi», costituiscono, involontariamente, tracce da cui il lettore può arrivare a un’interpretazione del testo senza che questa venga direttamente suggerita dal narratore. Analogamente, per esempio, Verga desidera che un suo personaggio si possa conoscere anche solo da un gesto, spesso connesso a un preciso codice nell’ambiente socioculturale a cui afferisce o a una specifica connotazione assunta nel corso della narrazione. L’analisi dell’elemento corporale si fa, quindi, per induzione, strumento idoneo alla ricostruzione della psicologia dei personaggi da parte del lettore. La sessione è aperta a tutti gli interventi che si propongano di riflettere sulle occorrenze di un gesto, sulla gestualità di un personaggio o, ancora, su «oggetti, costumi, tecniche e strumenti della vita materiale» all’interno del narrato di matrice realista. Gli interessati sono pregati di inviare un abstract di circa 200 parole e una breve biografia completa di affiliazione e indirizzo e-mail a luigilagrua@virgilio.it entro il 9 dicembre 2022.

50) SCRITTRICI SICILIANE NELL'ORBITA DEL VERISMO (Panel)

Organizer: Dora Marchese (doramarchese@libero.it), Università di Catania - Fondazione Verga

Il panel si propone di far conoscere alcune scrittrici siciliane, d’origine o di acquisizione, oggi sconosciute o poco note, e di illustrare i loro contatti con i veristi con i quali collaborarono o furono in rapporti (penso principalmente a Verga e a Capuana), in modo da restituire loro centralità e dignità, far capire come fossero inserite in contesti letterari anche importanti, far emergere l’originalità delle loro scelte letterarie pur all’interno dell’orbita dei veristi. Oltre alla figura di Adelaide Bernardini (da me studiata e raccontata in uno studio in volume appena edito dalla Fond. Verga), si potrebbero approfondire le opere di Giselda Fojanesi, Maria Messina, Elvira Mancuso ed altre. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to doramarchese@libero.it, by December 9, 2022.

51) «VERITÀ EFFETTUALE», PARTICOLARITÀ SOCIO-CULTURALE E SIGNIFICATIVITÀ LETTERARIA: LA CONNATURATA POLISEMIA DELLA NARRATIVA VERISTA IN SICILIA. (Panel)

Organizer: Ninna Maria Lucia Martines (mrt.nml98@gmail.com), UdS Catania; Andrea Manganaro, UdS Catania

La proposta prende le mosse dal carattere particolare e innovativo del Verismo di Giovanni Verga che nel suo romanzo "I Malavoglia" assume un’ottica a distanza non necessaria per una riproduzione dal vero, ma indispensabile per una “ricostruzione intellettuale”, estetica, della realtà siciliana «da lontano», dalla frenetica modernità di Milano. La realtà della rappresentazione narrativa non si riduce allora al dato osservato scientificamente, bensì a una trasfigurazione del fatto storico nel tempo e nello spazio etnologici, attraverso una complessa operazione di montaggio narrativo. Una narrativa certamente ibrida nella resa artistico-letteraria che intende riprodurre un quadro della condizione siciliana reale nel suo confronto anche drammatico con la modernità incipiente. Date queste premesse, il panel intende indagare testi della letteratura verista, focalizzandone le componenti ibride tra fattualità storica, indagine etno-antropologica e rappresentazione letteraria “realistica”, per metterne in luce il ruolo di rilievo nella trasmissione dell’identità storica, etnografica, folklorica e artistico-letteraria della Sicilia nel mondo.

Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to mrt.nml98@gmail.com, by December 9, 2022.

52) DOMINATING VS. SUBSERVIENT WOMEN IN THE NARRATIVE OF ITALIAN VERISMO AUTHORS (Panel)

Organizer: Mohammad Jamali (m.jamali@utoronto.ca), University of Toronto

Though typically secondary agents, many female characters in the narrative of Italian verismo play a crucial role in the fate of other characters and/or the progression of the plot. Their roles in the storyline vary from subservient to dominating, innocent to femme fatale, and secondary character to the protagonist. This panel aims to discuss the dynamic between female characters and their environment as portrayed by Italian verismo authors and discuss similarities and differences in portraying women across different verismi regionali, through a study of the works of Giovanni Verga and other Italian realist writers. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to m.jamali@utoronto.ca, by December 9, 2022.

53) POST-MAFIA? INSEGNARE LA MAFIA OGGI (Panel)

Organizer: Elena Daniele (edaniele@tulane.edu), Tulane University

La mafia, argomento "caldo" che ha attratto la curiosità di molte generazioni di studenti di italiano, è un fenomeno ormai generalmente percepito come relegato al passato. Mentre per decenni la Sicilia (quando non proprio l'Italia intera) è stata associata con il discorso sulla mafia, i giovani studenti di italiano di oggi non conoscono il fenomeno mafia, non lo percepiscono come rilevante, e lo associano sempre meno con la cultura siciliana o, più genericamente, italiana o anche italo-americana, nonostante l'attenzione attratta sul tema all'epoca del rilascio della serie televisiva "The Sopranos", o da film come "Gomorrah" e la relativa serie tv (che spostavano però l'attenzione ed il discorso su altre mafie, fuori di Sicilia). A trent'anni dagli omicidi di Giovanni Falcone e Paolo Borsellino, questa sessione si pone come obiettivo una riflessione sui temi della mafia, di lotta alla mafia, del suo legame con la cultura siciliana, e sulla percezione del fenomeno rispetto all'immagine della Sicilia di oggi. Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to edaniele@tulane.edu, by December 9, 2022.

54) SICILIAN-AMERICAN CULTURE TODAY (Panel)

Organizer: Elena Daniele (edaniele@tulane.edu), Tulane University

This panel welcomes proposals for the discussion of what it means to be Sicilian-American today. Are there communities in the US (or Canada) today that maintain a strong sense of belonging to their Sicilian origin specifically? What is this sense of "sicilianità" based on, and how is it preserved? This panel aims at discussing elements of "sicilianità" and if, or how, they differ specifically from a more broadly defined sense of "italianità" among contemporary communities of Sicilian origin.

Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to edaniele@tulane.edu, by December 9, 2022.

TECHNOLOGY IN THE LANGUAGE CLASSROOM

55) A regola d'arte (Panel)



Organizer: Giuseppe Celano (giuseppe.celano@babilonia.it), Babilonia Italian Language School

The potential of the visual arts can create vocabulary learning, oral and written production more active, engaging and effective. To give students greater cultural awareness of what they see combined with language practice. You can effectively play visual arts with special video effects as the "Tableaux vivants" from Caravaggio paintings, or by presenting two different versions, the original and a copy, of the famous painting "Vucciria" from Renato Guttuso, to stimulate oral production activity through the comparison of the two works.

Please send an abstract of 250 words, along with a brief biography and technology requests to giuseppe.celano@babilonia.it, by December 9, 2022.