

**COURSE DATA****DATA SUBJECT****Code:** 35714**Name:** Narrative studies in the Italian language**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies**ECTS Credits:** 6**Academic year:** 2026-27**STUDY (S)**

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1008 - Degree in Modern Languages and Literatures	Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació	2	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1008 - Degree in Modern Languages and Literatures	Literature studies in language B (CO Italian)	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

BOMBI ANDREA

SUMMARY

The subject pursues two objectives: to focus the genre of the *novella* (short story) through the integral reading of the *Decameron* of Giovanni Boccaccio; and to familiarize students with the development of fiction in unified Italy, from Alessandro Manzoni to the second half of the twentieth century, with special attention to works by storytellers such as Grazia Deledda, Sibilla Aleramo, Alba de Cespedes and Fabrizia Ramondino.

From the historical point of view, the relevance of the brief narrative (*novella*) in the first centuries of Italian literature will be valued, after the late beginning of artistic narrative prose. Also the growing prestige of the extensive narrative (*romanzo*) from *I promessi sposi*, until its prevalence in the twentieth century will be considered.

From the critical point of view, we will work from the most important analyses – philological, thematic, narratological and stylistic – of the twentieth century.

The subject is taught in Italian.



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

There are no prerequisites, apart from a knowledge of the Italian language at the level foreseen for the course (A2 advanced and B1 exit), and the basics of Italian literature acquired in the three preceding terms.

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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A capacity for teamwork and interpersonal relationship skills.

Concern for the quality of the work.

Critical capacity in the study of phenomena related with cultural diversity.

Familiarity with the literature or literatures of a foreign language and an understanding of their texts.

Knowledge of analysis techniques and methodologies of literary texts in a foreign language and how they are applied.

Knowledge of the trends and methodologies of literary theory and criticism and how they are applied in the area of literary studies.

Show ethical commitment in the field of language studies as regards gender equality, equal opportunities, the values of the culture of peace and democratic values and environmental and sustainability issues, and have an understanding and appreciation of linguistic diversity and multiculturalism.

The ability to find, handle and synthesise bibliographic information on different local or online supports in the area of modern languages and their literatures.

The ability to gather and interpret relevant data by applying procedures of synthesis, analysis, criticism and self-criticism.

The ability to produce and understand oral and written texts in a foreign language.

The development of an ethical commitment to issues such as gender equality, equal opportunities, democratic values, non-violence, environmental and sustainability issues and an awareness of diversity and multiculturalism.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS



1. The Decamerón by Giovanni Boccaccio

The Decameron will be read in its entirety, with a special focus on one novella of each day, as specified in the methodology section.

2. Reception and influence of the Decameron up to the 16th century.

Alongside the reading of the Decameron, the course will explore this work's varied reception and influence until it became a model of language and style in the 16th century.

3. I promessi sposi by Alessandro Manzoni

An introduction to Manzoni's masterpiece will be proposed as a guide to independent reading, with emphasis on its literary and linguistic relevance.

4. Women's writing in unified Italy

After the unification of Italy, and until now, more and more women entered into the Italian literary communication. This makes it possible to approach the narrative genres through the works of women who occupy very prominent places in the canon: Grazia Deledda, Sibilla Aleramo, Alba de Cespedes and Fabrizia Ramondino.

These contents will serve to achieve the following learning outcomes:

1. In-depth knowledge of movements, works and authors of the literature in Italian language.
2. Competence to comment on a literary text in Italian by applying methods of analysis and operative concepts of literary criticism.
3. Increased ability to develop in writing and to present a critical and synthetic reflection on Italian literature in the language
4. Increased ability to read, interpret and analyse written works in Italian literature, in their original language.
5. Reinforcement of communicative skills in the Italian language.

WORKLOAD

**PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Activity	Hours
Theory	45,00
Seminar	15,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	5,00
Individual or group project	10,00
Independent study and work	60,00
Preparation of lessons	0,00
Preparation for assessment activities	15,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY**Seminar Work**

Week by week, all students will read the Prologue and the Introduction to the first day of the Decameron and, successively, one by one, the ten days and the epilogue; each week, a reading comprehension test will be carried out on the novellas of each day.

At the same time, each student will indicate to the lecturer the novella that has attracted their attention the most in each session, giving reasons for their choice. These reflections will serve to foster seminar-style debate on the specific content of the novelle and the sessions.

The lecturer will indicate, where appropriate, which conferences organized by the Department of French and Italian Philology the students should attend in preparation for this work.

Lectures

The lecturer will read and comment in class on a selection of texts and excerpts from which to approach the corresponding historical and critical issues in each case.

The texts will be made available from the outset in order to allow prior reading and adequate preparation of the classes by the students.

A document with more detailed instructions will be distributed via the virtual classroom at the beginning of the course.

This subject incorporates several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. In particular, it contributes to SDG 4 (Quality education), by providing rigorous and critical academic training; to SDG 8 (Decent work and economic growth), by promoting key skills for employability in cultural and educational sectors; and to SDG 10 (Reducing inequalities), by promoting an inclusive and pluralistic perspective through the study of literature.

EVALUATION



The evaluation will consist of two parts: continuous assessment and a final exam, equivalent to 75% and 25% of the final grade, respectively.

Only grades equal to or higher than 4 in each section may be averaged.

Continuous assessment (7.5/10 points of the final grade)

Continuous assessment tests will be carried out for both seminar activities and lectures, with the following distribution:

10 reading control quizzes on the Decameron: 20%

10 essays on novelle from the Decameron: 25%

5 tests covering topics 3 and 4: 45%

Active participation in seminar activities and lectures: 10%

Attendance at conferences organized by the Department of French and Italian Philology will be valued in this section.

Anyone unable to attend at least 80% of the classes must contact the professor to agree on a substitute assignment.

Final exam (2,5/10 points of the final grade)

The final exam serves to assess knowledge and critical skills acquired during the course, with special attention to topics 3 and 4. It will consist of a multiple-choice questionnaire on the first aspect, and another open-ended question on a text to be chosen from several proposed.

Intellectual honesty is vital in academic communities and for the fair assessment of students' work. All work submitted for this course must be original. Work involving fraudulent collaboration will not be accepted, in accordance with the "Protocol for dealing with fraudulent practices at the University of Valencia, approved by the Governing Council on 14 July 2020. ACGIV 123/2020". The use of artificial intelligence tools must comply with the provisions of the "Guidelines for the Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Teaching and Assessment Activities at the University of Valencia" or any regulations that may replace them.

The general grading system will follow the regulations of the Universitat de València approved by the Consell de Govern on 30 May 2017. ACGUV 108/2017

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