

SCHEDA DOCENTE PROGRAMMA - A.A. 2017-2018

COGNOME E NOME: SCANNAVINI, ANNA

QUALIFICA: professoressa associata

SETTORE SCIENTIFICO DISCIPLINARE: L-LIN/11

CODICE INSEGNAMENTO: DQ0097

NOME INSEGNAMENTO: letterature angloamericane M

NUMERO CREDITI: 6

PERIODO INSEGNAMENTO: PRIMO SEMESTRE—SECONDA PARTE

PROGRAMMA DEL CORSO

TITLE: Circulation and adaptation of ecological motifs and preoccupations from *Pioneers* to *Avatar*

OBIETTIVI (goals):

On successful completion of the course content:

- students will control the required works with their attendant interpretations
- they will have an understanding of how contemporary preoccupation with the environment is thematically and formally interconnected to the US past
- they will be better equipped to investigate inter-semiotic circulation, when visual presentation is relevant.

CONTENUTI (contents): The course explores the ubiquity and circulation of “ecological” ideas, images and narrations throughout different media and media languages in the US culture. Circulation will be studied as “process” and “product,” a major mode of the human imagination, from oral to written to visual to the audio-visual. Students will be asked to identify and analyze the multiple relations that obtain in the cultural market between texts and ideas, and their various channels of communication. The focus will be on environmental issues as taken up, reflected and cross-reflected in different texts and media. The course will be based on the kind of inter-semiotic methodology that has found mature expression in ecocriticism. When necessary, we will resort to the study of adaptation as circulation of forms. Students will be required to monitor a set of texts, in order to trace and understand them as interrelated legitimate products.

PREREQUISITI (prerequisites): B1 level in English; full mastery of oral and written Italian. The ability to understand the interrelationships and differences between works of literature and historical sources and to differentiate between primary and secondary sources will be required as a course prerequisite.

METODO DI INSEGNAMENTO (teaching methodology): Learning activities will include class lectures and presentations, class discussion, and seminar work done under the direction of the teacher.

Students will actively contribute to the course with presentations in the classroom; they will answer questions by their fellow students and by the teacher showing: 1. a good understanding of the texts under discussion, with their attendant problems; 2. A good ability to cooperate and share their knowledge and findings.

LINGUA IN CUI SI TIENE IL CORSO (language of teaching): Italian; English when necessary (text reading)

MATERIALE DIDATTICO:

Primary texts

- James Fenimore Cooper, *The Pioneers* (1823), Oxford Univ Press 1991, with an introduction by James Wallace – as of June 24, 2016, AVAILABLE in the “biblioteca del polo centro”
- Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac* (1949), Ballantine 1970, with original illustrations – ORDERED through the “biblioteca del polo centro; june 24, 2016
- Ursula LeGuin, *Il mondo della foresta*, Mondadori, Nord, Milano 1999 –ORDERED through the “biblioteca del polo centro; june 24, 2016
- *Avatar*, a movie, director James Cameron, 2009 -- will be made available by the teacher.

Reference texts

- Linda Hutcheon (2011), *Teoria degli adattamenti. I percorsi delle storie tra letteratura, cinema, nuovi media*, Armando, Roma, chs. 1,2 (ed. or.: Routledge 2006) – as of June 24, 2016, AVAILABLE in the “biblioteca del polo centro
- Lawrence Buell (2005), *The Future of Environmental Criticism*, Malden, Blackwell – Chs. One and Three. As of June 24, 2016, the text is AVAILABLE in the “biblioteca del polo centro.”
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Students who do not attend class can substitute Buell with:

- Aa vv, a cura di, “*Green studies*”: *natura, letteratura e ambiente. Acoma*, n. 5 nuova serie (autunno 2013) – articles by E. Corti, G. D’Arcy Wood, A. Lioi, G. Garrard (la rivista è online)

All the required texts have Italian translations that can be used as a support for reading by Italian speakers. More research and/or study materials will be distributed in class

A good introduction to film language is:

Antonio Costa (1985), *Saper vedere il cinema*, Bompiani, Milano.

INFORMAZIONI PER STUDENTI DI ORDINAMENTI O COORTI PRECEDENTI (supplementary information)

Students of previous years (“coorti” other than the one now attending their third year of course) study a program of their choice between the current one or the program offered during the academic year corresponding to their third year of course.

MODALITA’ DI VERIFICA (assessment methods):

Formative assessment: as stated above, students are required to actively participate in the class, by discussing the assigned readings. Assigned works of presentation will provide an opportunity to work in team with their co-fellows and with the teacher, developing their ability not only to produce critical analyses, but also to cooperate and share their findings.

Summative assessment: oral exam.

The exam will move from one of the texts of the syllabus to assess the student’s knowledge and understanding of how circulation and adaptation of narratives work. The focus will be on ecological readings and ecocriticism. Questions will be aimed at evaluating the achieved levels of understanding of the major critical issues involved; the ability to compare the texts and their adaptations, describing and accounting for continuities and differences; the ability to present hypotheses and explanations.

The number of questions is somewhat difficult to determine, but the students will be given space to express their knowledge. In any case, the questions will not be less than two.

ORARIO DI RICEVIMENTO: <http://scienzeumane.univaq.it/index.php?id=1696>

SEDE PER IL RICEVIMENTO: ROOM 343/THIRD FLOOR

N. TELEFONO (INTERNO): 2128

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