

Department of French and Italian - USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

SPRING 2016 - ITAL 499 Special Topics

SCREENING YOUTH

Professor Gian Maria Annovi

In this course we will discuss Italian films from the period between 1934 and the present in order to gain an overview of the economic, social and political changes in Italian society over the last 70 years. In particular, we will focus on the representation of youth as a metaphor for the Italian struggle to develop and emancipate itself from its dramatic past. We will begin with *Vecchia guardia*, an example of Fascist propaganda film, and we will continue with *Roma città aperta*, focusing on the children's point of view during the Resistance. In order to examine the economic, social and psychological problems that Italy faced after WWII, we will discuss the Neorealist classic film *Sciuscià* in contrast with the portrayal of youth during the years of the economic miracle in films such as *Mamma Roma* and *Rocco e i suoi fratelli*. We will also examine the social and political violence of the 60s and the counterculture of the 70s (*Mio fratello è figlio unico*, *I cento passi*) before focusing on the representation of youth in connection with more recent important issues such as immigration and economic crisis (*Pummarò*, *Con tutta la vita davanti*). **Taught in Italian**

Monday and Wednesday, 3:30-4:50pm, TTH 221



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