This course is designed to be a gateway to the Italian Majors and Minors. Students will expand and strengthen their abilities to read, reflect on, and discuss works, trends, and ideas that shaped today’s Italy, focusing on critical writing in Italian. We will explore the basic literary genres—poetry, fictional as well as nonfictional narrative, and theater—along with other media such as cinema, music, and visual arts. One of the main emphases of this course is how various critical approaches enable you to ask different kinds of questions about the texts or media we analyze. What is the internal logic of a literary work? What are commonalities and contrasts among poetry, drama, and narrative? When we study literature in school, what are we really doing? How can we write about a movie or a work of art? This course will help students become proficient in the skills of close reading, research, organization, writing, and revising that they will need in order to write successful papers in upper-division Italian courses.

**MON & WED**

12:00-1:20pm