

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### Michael Syrimis

Associate Professor, Department of French & Italian, Tulane University  
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## EDUCATION

### THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Doctor of Philosophy, Comparative Literature, June 2003

### THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Master of Arts, Comparative Literature, June 1991

### RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

Bachelor of Arts, Comparative Literature, January 1990

### RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

Bachelor of Science, Accounting, May 1986

## EMPLOYMENT

### TULANE UNIVERSITY

Department of French & Italian

- Chair, 2014 – 2020
- Undergraduate Advisor, Italian, 2013 – present
- Associate Professor, 2012 – present
- Assistant Professor, 2005-2012

Film Studies Program, Department of Communication

- Faculty Associate, 2006 – present

Courses taught: see below, section “Courses Taught at Tulane University”

### WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Department of Romance Languages and Literatures

- Lecturer in Italian, 1998-2005
- Supervisor, First-Year Italian Language Sequence, 2000-2005
- Director, Summer Institute in Italy, 2002-2005
- Assistant Director, Summer Institute in Italy, 1999-2001

Program in Film and Media Studies

- Associated Faculty, 1999-2005

Courses taught: Elementary & Intermediate Italian/ Advanced Grammar and Composition/  
Advanced Conversational Italian/ Topics in Italian Literature and Culture/ Italian Cinema/  
Topics in Italian Cinema: Neorealism/ Topics in Italian Cinema: Pier Paolo Pasolini/  
Independent Study (Undergraduate & Graduate)

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
Department of Romance Languages and Literatures  
• Lecturer in Italian, 1996-1998  
Courses taught: Elementary Italian

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book

*The Great Black Spider on Its Knock-Kneed Tripod: Reflections of Cinema in Early Twentieth-Century Italy*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2012.

### Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

“Film and Truth: Pirandello’s Vision of *Sei personaggi* for the Screen.” *Journal of the Pirandello Society of America*. Forthcoming.

“On the Seriousness of Things: Pirandello’s *Ma non è una cosa seria* from Page to Screen.” *Quaderni d’italianistica*. 39.2 (2018): 35-59.

“The Light that Blinds: On Art in D’Annunzio’s *La Gioconda*.” Lara Raffaelli and Michael Subialka, eds. *Reawakening Beauty: D’Annunzio’s Seduction of the Senses*. Spec. issue of *Forum Italicum* 51.2 (2017): 378-395.

“Self-Parody in Pasolini’s *La ricotta* and *Appunti per un’Orestiade africana*.” *Forum Italicum* 47.3 (2013): 557-569.

“Pasolini’s Erotic Gaze from *Medea* to *Salò*.” *Italica* 89.4 (2012): 510-31.

“‘Squarci di notti romane’: Pasolini’s Early Authorial Confessions.” *Romance Notes* 52.1 (2012): 89-96.

“Mechanical Giants, Futurist Laughs: From Gazurmah to Deed’s Bully.” Federico Luisetti and Luca Somigli, eds. *A Century of Futurism: 1909-2009*. Spec. issue of *Annali d’Italianistica* 27 (2009): 225-242.

“From Nestoroff to Garbo: Pirandellian Humour in Its Cinematic Vernacular.” *Quaderni d’italianistica*. 29.2 (2008): 29-52.

“The Humoristic Lens in Pirandello’s *Si gira*.” *Journal of the Pirandello Society of America*. 21 (2008): 45-63.

“Mona Lisa’s Gaze: D’Annunzio, Cinema, and the ‘Aura.’” *Quaderni d’italianistica* 27.1 (2006): 69-88.

“Decadent Repetitions, Technological Variations, in Gabriele D’Annunzio’s *Forse che sì forse che no*.” *Romance Notes* 45.2 (2005): 141-150.

### **Book Chapters**

“Futurism, Cinema, and the New Religion of Speed.” In *New Paths on Italian Experimental Moving Image*. Ed. Rossella Catanese and Jennifer Malvezzi. Forthcoming.

“Futurist Cinema.” In *The Total Art: Italian Cinema from Silent Screen to Digital Image*. Ed. Joseph Luzzi. New York: Bloomsbury, 2013.

“Gymnastics.” In *Futurism: A Microhistory*. Ed. Sascha Bru, Luca Somigli, and Bart Van Den Bossche. *Italian Perspectives*, 36. Cambridge: Legenda, 2017. 142-152.

“War, Laughter, and the Mechanized Body in Italian Silent Film.” In *Italy and the Cultural Politics of World War I*. Ed. Graziella Parati. Madison: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2016. 89-106.

“Film, Spectators, and War in Italian Futurism.” In *Italian Cultural Studies 2001: Selected Essays*. Ed. Anthony Julian Tamburri et al. Boca Raton, FL: Bordighera Press, 2004. 168-185.

### **Book Reviews**

Review of *Il desiderio del cinema: Ferdinando Maria Poggioli* (2017), by Angela Bianca Saponari. *Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies*. 2020.

Review of *Futurist Cinema: Studies on Italian Avant-garde Film* (2018), by Rosella Catanese. *International Yearbook of Futurism Studies*. 2019.

Review of *Reframing Luchino Visconti: Film and Art* (2017), by Ivo Blom. *Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies* 7. 2, (2019): 313-315.

“Pirandellian Filmmakers.” Review of *Contemporary Italian Filmmaking: Strategies of Subversion: Pirandello, Fellini, Scola, and the Directors of the New Generation*, by Manuela Gieri. *Oltre l'autore I*. Spec. issue of *Fotogenia: Storie e teorie del cinema* 2 (1996): 128-130.

### **PAPERS PRESENTED**

Invited Lecturer. “But It’s Nothing Serious.” *Pirandello 150*. Film and Lecture Series, University of Toronto, November 21, 2017.

- “War, Laughter, and the Mechanized Body in Italian Silent Film.” *Specters of the Great War: France, Italy, and the First World War*. Interdisciplinary Conference, Dartmouth College, May 15-17, 2014.
- “Ideology and the Use of Sound in Blasetti’s *1860*.” American Association for Italian Studies, Charleston, May 2012.
- “Self-Parody in Pasolini’s *La ricotta* and *Appunti per un’Orestiade africana*.” Tulane University Seminar on Historical Change and Social Theory, January 30, 2012.
- “Key Instances of Implicit Self-Parody in Pasolini’s Work.” *Pier Paolo Pasolini and the Multiplicity of the Italian Language*. Symposium at the University of Chicago, October 22, 2010.
- “Chapter Six: The Humoristic Image in Pirandello’s *Si gira*,” from book manuscript in progress, Tulane University Seminar on Historical Change and Social Theory, March 8, 2010.
- “The Outcast’s Gaze from Pasolini to Garrone,” South Central Modern Language Association, Baton Rouge, October 2009.
- “Mechanical Giants, Futurist Laughs: From Gazurmah to Deed’s Bully,” American Association for Italian Studies, New York, May 2009.
- “Honoring the Early Italian *comica*: Technology, Slapstick, Avant-Garde,” Modern Language Association, San Francisco, December 2008.
- “From Nestoroff to Garbo: Pirandellian Humor in Its Cinematic Vernacular.” American Association for Italian Studies and American Association of Teachers of Italian, Taormina, Italy, May 2008.
- “The Pervasive Camera in Pirandello’s *Si gira*.” American Association for Italian Studies, Colorado Springs, May 2007.
- “Pasolini’s Erotic Gaze: from *Medea* to *Salò*.” Symposium, Center for Gender Studies, University of Chicago, February 2005.
- “D’Annunzio Films *Daphne*: From Ovid to Avant-Garde.” Midwest Modern Language Association, Chicago, November 2003.
- “Mona Lisa’s Gaze: D’Annunzio, Cinema, and the ‘Aura.’” American Association for Italian Studies, Washington D.C., March 2003.
- “D’Annunzio’s ‘Cinema’: Re-Visions of the Past, and Beyond.” Midwest Modern Language Association, Minneapolis, November 2002.

“Decadent Repetitions, Technological Variations: The ‘Fatal Woman’ and the ‘Superman’ in D’Annunzio’s *Forse che sì forse che no* (1910).” Midwest Modern Language Association, Cleveland, November 2001.

“Film, Spectators, and War in Italian Futurism.” Italian Cultural Studies Association, Boca Raton, October 2001.

## **COURSES TAUGHT AT TULANE UNIVERSITY**

<b>Spring 2006</b>	ITAL-101-01: Elementary Italian I ITAL-102-02: Elementary Italian II ITAL-325-01: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-499-01: Honors Thesis – Director
<b>Lagniappe 2006</b>	ITAL-102-02: Elementary Italian II ITAL-404-01: Italian Cinema
<b>Fall 2006</b>	ITAL-101-03: Elementary Italian I ITAL-404-01: Neorealism in Film and Lit
<b>Spring 2007</b>	ITAL-102-01: Elementary Italian II ITAL-325-01: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-491-01: Independent Study: Italian Neorealism
<b>Fall 2007</b>	ITAL-101-03: Elementary Italian I ITAL-330-01: Il Cinema Italiano ITAL-333-01: Italian Cinema: Origins – Now
<b>Spring 2008</b>	ITAL-102-04: Elementary Italian II ITAL-325-01: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-456-01: Internship Studies ENLS-499: Honors Thesis – Third Reader
<b>Fall 2008</b>	ITAL-101-04: Elementary Italian I ITAL-203-03: Intermediate Italian
<b>Spring 2009</b>	ITAL-325-01: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-404-01: Italian Lit & Film POLS-500: Honors Thesis – Third Reader
<b>Fall 2009</b>	Fourth-Year Leave
<b>Spring 2010</b>	ITAL-3250-01 & 02: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-3895-11: Service 20 hours: ITAL 3250
<b>Fall 2010</b>	ITAL-2030-02 & 03: Intermediate Italian ITAL-4560-01 & 02: Internship Studies

<b>Spring 2011</b>	ITAL-3250-01: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-4040-01: Neorealismo Letterario e Cinematografico ITAL-4560-01: Internship Studies
<b>Fall 2011</b>	ITAL-2030-01 & 02: Intermediate Italian ITAL-4560-01: Internship Studies ITAL-4891-01: Service 40 hours: ITAL 4560 ITAL-4910-01, 03 & 04: Independent Study: Film & Modern Lit FREN-4990-04 & 06: Honors Thesis – Second Reader
<b>Spring 2012</b>	ITAL-3250-01 & 02: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-3890-11: Service Learning 20 hours: ITAL 3250 ITAL-4920-03: Independent Study: Italian Neorealism FREN-5000: Honors Thesis – Second Reader
<b>2012-2013</b>	Sabbatical
<b>Fall 2013</b>	ITAL-2030-01: Intermediate Italian ITAL-4040 and ITAL-4440: Pasolini, Film Theory & Italian Modernism ITAL-4910-01: Independent Study: Pasolini & Film Theory
<b>Spring 2014</b>	ITAL-1020-03: Elementary Italian II ITAL-3250-01: Italian Language and Culture
<b>Fall 2014</b>	ITAL-2030-01: Intermediate Italian
<b>Spring 2015</b>	ITAL-3250-01: Italian Language and Culture
<b>Fall 2015</b>	ITAL-4040 and ITAL-4440: Italian Neorealist Cinema ITAL-4910-01: Independent Study: Letteratura dell'immigrazione
<b>Spring 2016</b>	ITAL-3250-01: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-4920-01: Independent Study: Letteratura dell'immigrazione
<b>Fall 2016</b>	ITAL-2030-01: Intermediate Italian ITAL-4560-05: Internship: Italian Tutoring
<b>Spring 2017</b>	ITAL-3520: Italian Language and Culture ITAL-4920-01, 02, 03: Independent Study: Letteratura e cinema dell'immigrazione
<b>Fall 2017</b>	ITAL-2030-02: Intermediate Italian ITAL-4560-03: Internship: American Italian Cultural Center ITAL-4990-01: Honors Thesis: Italian Futurism SRVC-4890-07: Italian Service Internship

<b>Spring 2018</b>	ITAL-1020-04: Elementary Italian II ITAL-4570-01, 02, 03: Internship: Rare Books at Howard Tilton ITAL-4920-01, 02: Independent Study: Storia e cultura d'Italia ITAL-5000-01: Honors Thesis: Italian Futurism
<b>Fall 2018</b>	ITAL-2030-01: Intermediate Italian
<b>Spring 2019</b>	ITAL-3250-01: Italian Language and Culture
<b>Fall 2019</b>	ITAL-4040 and ITAL-4440: Italian Neorealist Cinema
<b>Spring 2020</b>	ITAL-3250: Italian Language and Culture

#### **DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE AT TULANE UNIVERSITY**

Chair, Search Committee for Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in French Caribbean/  
French Atlantic Studies, Dept. of French & Italian, 2018 – Present.

Coordinator, *SLA Tulanguage*, reception and poster exhibit on Tulane language programs  
in connection with ACTFL in New Orleans, August-November 2018.

Chair, Search Committee for Administrative Secretary for Dept. of French & Italian and  
Dept. of German & Slavic

Chair, Search Committee for Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in French Medieval  
Studies, Dept. of French & Italian, 2017-18.

Chair, Search Committee for PoP in Italian, Dept. of French & Italian, 2015-16.

Organizer, Italian Flag Throwers of Sansepolcro demonstration, 2015 – present.

Member, Tulane Study Abroad Committee, 2013 – 2020.

Member, Search Committee for Italian VAP, Dept. of French & Italian, 2010-11, 2012-13.

Organizer, Italian Movie Night, Italian Major Week, 2011.

Representative of School of Liberal Arts to the Graduate Studies Honor Board pool, Tulane  
University, 2010-12.

Member, committee to review learning outcomes assessment plan, Italian Program, Dept.  
of French & Italian, 2010 & 2011.

Representative of the Italian and/or Film Studies Programs at the Tulane, Honors Weekend  
Luncheon, 2010 – present.

Organizer, visit of Studio 3 Italian artist Jonathan Bertucelli, spoke of the Italian origins of his New Orleans Carnival floats, Italian Major Week, 2010.

Member, committee to review learning outcomes assessment plan, Film Studies Program, Dept. of Communication, 2009 – present.

Organizer and presenter, “Rethinking the Neorealist Image,” lecture by Georgia Institute of Technology scholar Angela Dalle Vacche, Tulane University, April 2009.

Member, committee for the development of service-learning courses, Dept. of French & Italian, February 2009.

Co-Organizer and presenter, Italian Film Festival USA of New Orleans, Tulane University campus, April 2008. New Orleans premier of contemporary Italian films.

Voluntary member, Search committee at MLA convention for VAP in Italian, Dept. of French & Italian, 2007, 2008, 2009.

Co-Organizer, “The End of the Renaissance Treatises on Love: Leone Ebreo in Tomaso Garzoni and Miguel de Cervantes.” Lecture by University of Chicago scholar Armando Maggi. Tulane University, February 2007.

Member, grievance committee, Department of French & Italian, 2007 & 2011.

Representative of Italian Program at lunch portion of the Louisiana Week program for prospective Louisiana high school juniors, seniors, and parents, 2006 – present.

Recording Secretary, Dept. of French & Italian, 2006-07.

Library Liaison, Italian Program, Dept. of French & Italian, 2006 – present.

Representative of the Italian and/or Film Studies Programs, School of Liberal Arts Open House and Reception for Freshmen, 2006 – present.

## **HONORS, AWARDS, AND RESEARCH GRANTS**

Lurcy Grant, Tulane University, 2009-10, 2011-12 & 2012-13

Carol S. Levin Grant, Tulane University, 2011-12 & 2012-13

Glick Fellow, Tulane University, 2012-2013

Mortar Board Award for Excellence in Non-Tenured Teaching, Tulane University 2007-08

Research Enhancement Fund, Phase II Grant, Tulane University 2007-09

Committee on Research Summer Fellowship, Tulane University, 2005-06

Honors on Dissertation Defense, The University of Chicago, 2003

Faculty Award from Students of Arts and Sciences, Washington University, 2002



## **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

- External Reviewer, Habilitation (venia docendi), Universität Innsbruck, Austria, 2020.
- External Reviewer, Tenure and Promotion, Villanova University, 2017.
- External Reviewer, Tenure and Promotion, University of Massachusetts Boston, 2016.
- Member, SAT Subject Test Committee in Italian, The College Board, Fall 2016 – present.
- Guest Lecturer, American Italian Cultural Center of New Orleans Lecture Series, “War, Laughter, and Masculinity,” July 28, 2016.
- Presenter, American Italian Cultural Center of New Orleans Film Series, 2016 - present.
- Peer Reviewer, *Modernism/Modernity*, 2016.
- Peer Reviewer, *California Italian Studies*, 2015.
- Peer Reviewer, *The Journal of the Pirandello Society of America*, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015.
- Peer Reviewer, *Comparative Literature*, 2014-15.
- External Reviewer, Tenure and Promotion, Wake Forest University, 2013.
- External Reviewer, Tenure and Promotion, Clemson University. 2013.
- External Reviewer, Tenure and Promotion, North Carolina State University, 2013.
- Peer Reviewer, University of Toronto Press, 2011-13.
- Discussant, Seminar on Historical Change and Social Theory, Tulane University, April 2011 & September 2011.
- Guest Speaker, “The Italian Cinema,” Italian Wonder Week Course, Newman School, New Orleans, 2011 & 2012.
- Chair, “In quest’anno futurista I: La ricostruzione futurista dell’universo,” American Association for Italian Studies Annual Conference, New York, May 2009.
- Chair, “Italian Modernism II,” American Association for Italian Studies and American Association of Teachers of Italian Annual Conference, Taormina, Italy, May 2008.
- Peer Reviewer, *M/MLA Journal*, Midwest Modern Language Association, 2006.
- Presenter and Co-Organizer, Saint Louis Italian Film Festival, Washington University, March-April 2005. Saint Louis premier of contemporary Italian films with Q&A

Peer Reviewer, *Theatron*, a semi-annual theater journal published out of Washington University in St. Louis, submissions by graduate students, 2004.

Guest Lecturer, presentation of *Death in Venice* (Luchino Visconti, 1971) at a film series held at the Saint Louis Art Museum, January 2004.

Organizer, "Italian (Post)Modernity in Literature and Film." Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Chicago, November 2003.

Organizer and Chair, "Italian Cinema and Literature." Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Minneapolis, November 2002.

## ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia, Rome, Italy, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013.

Cineteca del Museo Nazionale del Cinema, Turin, Italy, 2007.

Cineteca del Comune di Bologna, Bologna, Italy, 1995.

Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1995.

## LANGUAGES

English (near native)

French (reading comprehension)

Greek, Ancient (reading comprehension)

Greek, Modern (native)

Italian (near native)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Pirandello, D'Annunzio, and Marinetti on cinema and technology; Italian avant-garde and modernism; Italian film theory and criticism 1910-1920; Italian cinema of the 1930s; Early and classical Neorealism and its relations with modernism and classical Hollywood cinema; Pasolini, writer and filmmaker.

## TEACHING INTERESTS

History of Italian cinema & special topics in Italian cinema (silent era; *divismo*; Neorealism; popular genres of the 1950s and '60s; Italian *auteurs*; New Italian Cinema; literary adaptations); Literature and technology in early twentieth-century Italy; Film and Literature; Pasolini writer, filmmaker, and theorist; Modern Italian literature; Italian language, history, and culture.

**MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

American Association for Italian Studies  
American Association of Teachers of Italian  
Midwest Modern Language Association  
Modern Language Association of America  
Pirandello Society of America  
Society for Cinema and Media Studies  
South Central Modern Language Association