



# ITALIAN DIASPORA STUDIES SUMMER SEMINAR

June 11 – 29, 2018 • Rome, Italy

Dipartimento di Lingue, Letterature e Culture Straniere  
Scuola di Lettere Filosofia Lingue, Università degli Studi Roma Tre  
&

John D. Calandra Italian American Institute  
Queens College, The City University of New York





**T**he Italian Diaspora Studies Summer Seminar is a three-week summer program at the Università degli Studi Roma Tre that takes place June 11 through June 29, 2018.

This Summer Seminar is designed to introduce participants to cultural studies of the Italian Diaspora from a variety of academic perspectives and to foster development of individual projects responding to the materials covered in the series of seminars in literature, film, and the social sciences.

All of the courses are taught by leading scholars in the field. Faculty includes: Mary Jo Bona, Nancy Carnevale, Fred Gardaphé, Laura Ruberto, Joseph Sciorra, Anthony Julian Tamburri, and Sabrina Vellucci.

Lectures will be offered by leading scholars from a variety of disciplines.

#### PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Dr. Fred Gardaphé	Dr. Anthony Julian Tamburri
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**W**e wish to thank the many organizations that have contributed to making this seminar possible. First, our two home institutions, Università degli Studi Roma Tre and the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College, The City University of New York, have made it possible for us to work on the notion of an Italian diaspora summer seminar and put it into effect.

Of course, none of this could be possible without substantial support. The various Italian American organizations and colleges and universities have offered the opportunity in the form of fellowships for nineteen participants to attend this year. This is no small deed, to be sure. Thus, we offer a heart-felt thanks to the numerous organizations that have contributed to this year's seminar.

Queens College President Felix Matos and Roma Tre University Rector Luca Pietromarchi have offered their unmitigated support of this seminar, an historical understanding within the greater realm of Italian-American and Italian Diaspora studies. Our teaching staff, further still, agreed to participate in the Summer School more for the spirit of it than for the compensation.

*Un caloroso grazie a tutti quanti!*

*The Program Directors*

## FELLOWS

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## FACULTY

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Nancy Carnevale, Department of History, Montclair State University: [carnevalen@mail.montclair.edu](mailto:carnevalen@mail.montclair.edu)  
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## AWARDS

Anita Aloisio, Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance Fellowship

Tommaso Caiazza, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute Fellowship

Kathleen Crawford Boyle, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship

Antonia Marie Cucchiara, Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance Fellowship

Francesco Michael Cupelli, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute Fellowship

Dario De Palma, Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance Fellowship

Vincent R. DiGirolamo, CUNY Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Fellowship

Charlotte Fressilli, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship

Raffaella Fusco, Italian American Studies Association Fellowship

Giulia Guarnieri, CUNY Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Fellowship

Agnieszka Lobodziec, Italian Language Inter-Cultural Alliance Fellowship

Holly L. Masturzo, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship

Caroline A. Merithew, National Italian American Foundation Fellowship

Francesca Mirti, UNICO Brookhaven Fellowship

John M. Ryan, Italian American Studies Association Fellowship

Arianna Serafina Valocchi, UNICO National Fellowship

## WEEK ONE

Seminar meetings last 1 hour 30 minutes

	June 11	June 12	June 13	June 14	June 15
<b>8:00 — 10:00</b>	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
10:00 – 11:30	<i>Italian American Film</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Joseph Sciorra	<i>Italian American Film</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Joseph Sciorra	
11:45 — 13:15	<i>Italian American Literature</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Mary Jo Bona	<i>Mapping Theories and Approaches to Italian Diaspora Studies</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Laura Ruberto	<i>Italian American Literature</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Mary Jo Bona	<i>Mapping Theories and Approaches to Italian Diaspora Studies</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Laura Ruberto	
13:15 – 14:30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
14:30 – 16,00	<i>Italian American History</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Nancy Carnevale	<i>Workshop</i>  Projects workshop  Prof. Fred Gardaphé	<i>Italian American History</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Nancy Carnevale	<i>Workshop</i>  Projects workshop  Prof. Fred Gardaphé	
16:15 — 17,45	<i>Contemporary Italian American Literature &amp; Cinema I</i>  Prof. Sabrina Vellucci	<i>Consultation with professors:</i>  Individual or group meetings with professors.	<i>Film Viewing and/or Guest Lecture</i>	<i>Consultation with professors:</i>  Individual or group meetings with professors.	
<b>18:00</b>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	

## WEEK TWO

	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22
<b>8:00 — 10:00</b>	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
10:00 – 11:30	<i>Italian American Film</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Joseph Sciorra	<i>Italian American Film</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Anthony Julian	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Joseph Sciorra	
11:45 — 13:15	<i>Italian American Literature</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Mary Jo Bona	<i>Mapping Theories and Approaches to Italian Diaspora Studies</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Laura Ruberto	<i>Italian American Literature</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Mary Jo Bona	<i>Mapping Theories and Approaches to Italian Diaspora Studies</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Laura Ruberto	
13:15 – 14:30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
14:30 – 16,00	<i>Italian American History</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Nancy Carnevale	<i>Workshop</i>  Projects workshop  Prof. Fred Gardaphé	<i>Italian American History</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Nancy Carnevale	<i>Workshop</i>  Projects workshop  Prof. Fred Gardaphé	
16:15 — 17,45	<i>Contemporary Italian American Literature &amp; Cinema 2</i>  Prof. Sabrina Vellucci	<i>Consultation with professors:</i> Individual or group meetings with professors.	<i>Film Viewing and/or Guest Lecture</i>	<i>Consultation with professors:</i> Individual or group meetings with professors.	
<b>18:00</b>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	

### WEEK THREE

	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29
8:00 — 10:00	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
10:00 – 11:30	<i>Italian American Film</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Anthony Julian Tamburri	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Joseph Sciorra	<i>Italian American Film</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Anthony Julian	<i>Folk &amp; Vernacular Cultures</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Joseph Sciorra	
11:45 — 13:15	<i>Italian American Literature</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Mary Jo Bona	<i>Mapping Theories and Approaches to Italian Diaspora Studies</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Laura Ruberto	<i>Italian American Literature</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Mary Jo Bona	<i>Mapping Theories and Approaches to Italian Diaspora Studies</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Laura Ruberto	
13:15 – 14:30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	
14:30 – 16,00	<i>Italian American History</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Nancy Carnevale	<i>Workshop</i>  Projects workshop  Prof. Fred Gardaphé	<i>Italian American History</i>  Lecture & discussion  Prof. Nancy Carnevale	<i>Workshop</i>  Projects workshop  Prof. Fred Gardaphé	
16:15 — 17,45	<i>Contemporary Italian American Literature &amp; Cinema 3</i>  Prof. Sabrina Vellucci	<i>Consultation with professors:</i> Individual or group meetings with professors.	<i>Film Viewing and/or Guest Lecture</i>	<i>Consultation with professors:</i> Individual or group meetings with professors.	
18:00	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	<i>Aperitivo</i>	



## FACULTY

All courses are taught by leading scholars in the field, who, besides their scholarship, are also part of editorial boards of major journals (*Italian American Review*, *Letterature d'America*, *Voices in Italian Americana*) and book series (Bordighera Press, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, Fordham University Press, Franco Cesati Editore, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, SUNY Press) both in the United States and in Italy.

MARY JO BONA is Professor and Chair of Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies at Stony Brook University with her affiliated department in English. A specialist in the field of Italian American and multiethnic literature and feminist studies, her authored books include *Women Writing Cloth: Migratory Fictions in the American Imaginary* (Lexington Book, 2015); *By the Breath of Their Mouths: Narratives of Resistance in Italian America* (SUNY 2012); *Claiming a Tradition: Italian American Women Writers* (Southern Illinois UP, 1999), and a book of poetry, *I Stop Waiting For You* (Bordighera, 2014). Bona is also editor of *The Voices We Carry: Recent Italian American Women's Fiction* (Guerniza, 1994); co-editor (with Irma Maini) of *Multiethnic Literature and Canon Debates* (SUNY, 2006); and series editor of *Multiethnic Literature* for SUNY Press. Bona published chapters on the culture wars and canon debates for the Cambridge Volume on American Literature in Transition and on mother daughters for the *Routledge History of Italian Americans* (2017). Her current project focuses on a reinterpretation of mother-daughter studies through an analysis of literary queer daughters and their mothers in experimental women's narratives.

NANCY CARNEVALE is Associate Professor of History at Montclair State University where she teaches the history of immigration, race, and ethnicity in the nineteenth and twentieth century U.S., Italian American, and women's history. She is the author of *A New Language, A New World: Italian Immigrants in the United States, 1890-1945* (University of Illinois Press, 2009), winner of a 2010 American Book Award, and her articles and essays appear in a number of journals and edited collections. Her research has been supported by fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Social Science Research Council/International Migration Program, and the Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Institute. She has served as historical consultant for a variety of public history projects including museum exhibitions and oral history collections, as well as documentary film and theater. Her current book project is a comparative study of African American and Italian American relations in the twentieth century city and suburb. She is co-editor of the Critical Studies in Italian America book series from Fordham University Press and serves on the Editorial Board of the *Italian American Review*.

FRED GARDAPHÉ is Distinguished Professor of English and Italian American Studies at Queens College and the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute. He is director of the Italian/American Studies Programs at Queens College. His books include *Italian Signs, American Streets: The Evolution of Italian American Narrative* (Duke UP, 1996), *Dagoes Read: Tradition and the Italian/American Writer* (Guernica, 1997), *Moustache Pete is Dead!* (Bordighera, 1997/2010), *Leaving Little Italy* (SUNY, 2003), *The Art of Reading Italian Americana* (Bordighera, 2011), *From Wiseguys to Wise Men: Masculinities and the Italian American Gangster* (Routledge, 2013), and *Read 'em and Reap: Gambling on Italian American Writing* (Bordighera, 2017).

He is co-founding, co-editor of Bordighera Press, publisher of *VIA: Voices in Italian Americana*, and editor of the Italian American Culture Series of SUNY Press.

**LAURA RUBERTO** is a Humanities professor at Berkeley City College, where she teaches courses in film and cultural studies. Her research focuses on Italian and Italian American transnational and diasporic experiences and cultures, mainly vis-à-vis film, television, and material culture. She has been a Fulbright Faculty Scholar to Italy, and her work has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities. She is the author of *Gramsci, Migration, and the Representation of Women's Work in Italy and the U.S.* (Lexington, 2009) and editor of numerous books and special journal issues, including co-editing *Italian Neorealism and Global Cinema* (Wayne State UP, 2007), *Bakhtin and the Nation* (Bucknell UP, 1999), *Italian Americans and Television* (*Italian American Review*, 2016), and the two volumes *New Italian Migrations to the United States. Vol. 1: Politics and History since 1945* and *Vol. 2: Art and Culture since 1945* (U Illinois P, 2017). She also publishes as a translator, including, most recently, Gianna Manzini's *Threshold/Sulla soglia* (Italica Press, 2016). She is co-editor of the book series Critical Studies in Italian America for Fordham University Press and serves on the Editorial Board of the *Italian American Review*.

**JOSEPH SCIORRA** is Director of Academic and Cultural Programs at Queens College's John D. Calandra Italian American Institute. He received his PhD from the Department of Folklore and Folklife at the University of Pennsylvania. As a folklorist, Joseph has conducted ethnographic research with numerous New York City communities, in particular Italian Americans, implementing public programming such as museum exhibitions, concert series, and video documentaries, as well as publishing on religious practices, material culture, and vernacular music, among other topics. He was the editor (2011-2016) of the social science and cultural studies journal *Italian American Review* and of *Italian Folk: Vernacular Culture in Italian-American Lives* (Fordham UP, 2010), co-editor of *Embroidered Stories: Interpreting Women's Domestic Needlework from the Italian Diaspora* (UP of Mississippi, 2014) and *Graces Received: Painted and Metal Ex-votos from Italy* (Calandra Institute, 2012). Sciorra is the author of *R.I.P.: Memorial Wall Art* (Henry Holt & Co., 1994; Thames & Hudson, 2002) and *Built with Faith: Italian American Imagination and Catholic Material Culture in New York City* (U Tennessee P, 2015). Together with Laura E. Ruberto he has co-edited *New Italian Migrations to the United States. Vol. 1: Politics and History since 1945* (U Illinois P, 2017) and *New Italian Migrations to the United States. Vol. 2: Art and Culture since 1945* (U Illinois P, 2017).

**ANTHONY JULIAN TAMBURRI** is Dean of the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute (Queens College, CUNY) and Distinguished Professor of European Languages and Literatures. With Paul Giordano and Fred Gardaphè he is co-founder of Bordighera Press. He is past president of the Italian American Studies Association and of the American Association of Teachers of Italian. His authored books on Italian/American studies include: *Una semiotica dell'etnicità: nuove segnalature per la letteratura italiano/americana* (Cesati, 2010); *Re-viewing Italian Americana: Generalities and Specificities on Cinema* (Bordighera P, 2011); and *Re-reading Italian Americana: Specificities and Generalities on Literature and Criticism* (Fairleigh Dickinson UP, 2014). His new book on Italian writing in the U.S. is *Un bi-culturalismo negato: la scrittura italiana negli Stati Uniti* (Cesati, 2018). Also new is his *Scrittori italiano[-]americani: trattino sì trattino no* (MnM Print Edizioni, 2018). He is co-editor, with Robert

Viscusi and James Periconi, of the English version of *Italoamericana: The Literature of the Great Migration, 1880-1943* (Fordham UP, 2014), Francesco Durante, ed; and with Giordano and Gardaphé, *From The Margin: Writings in Italian Americana* (Purdue UP, 1991/2000). He is the director of the Italian Studies Series for Fairleigh Dickinson University Press; he is also executive producer of *Italics*, produced in collaboration with CUNY TV.

[SABRINA VELLUCCI](#) holds a PhD in American Studies and is a tenured Assistant Professor of Anglo-American Literature at Roma Tre University (Italy), where she has taught since 2011. Her research interests focus mainly on Italian/American literature and culture, women's writing, cinema, and intermediality. She is the author of *New Girls. Adolescenti nella cultura statunitense, 1865-1890* (Loffredo, 2008), and has co-edited the volumes *Miti americani oggi* (Diabasis, 2005) and *Miti americani tra Europa e Americhe* (Mazzanti, 2008). She is also co-editor, with Carla Francellini, of the volume *Re-Mapping Italian America: Places, Cultures, Identities* (Bordighera, 2017), born out of the 2016 conference of the same name. She has published essays on, among others, Carole Maso, Louise DeSalvo, Sandra M. Gilbert, Kym Ragusa, Marylou & Jerome Bongiorno, Don DeLillo, Tennessee Williams, Rudolph Valentino. She is currently working on a manuscript titled *Affective Topographies in Italian/American Literature and Film*. Since 2004, she has been assistant editor of the international journal *Letterature d'America*.





# TRANSCENDING BORDERS, BRIDGING GAPS

ITALIAN AMERICANA, DIASPORIC STUDIES,  
AND THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM

EDITED BY  
ANTHONY JULIAN TAMBURRI  
FRED L. GARDAPHÉ

Studies in Italian Americana 10

JOHN D. CALANDRA ITALIAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
QUEENS COLLEGE, THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

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New York: John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, 2015.

## NOTES

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