

Salvatore Taibi

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EDUCATION

Rutgers University PhD Candidate, Department of Italian	New Brunswick, NJ	Sept 2021 - present
Columbia University Bachelor of Arts, Summa Cum Laude, Italian	New York, NY	Jun 30, 2021
Rutgers University Bachelor of Arts, English (Double Major: Administration of Justice)	New Brunswick, NJ	Oct 30, 1994

RELEVANT COURSEWORK - GRADUATE SEMINARS/FACULTY LED

Introduction: History & Theory	Professor Elizabeth Leake	Spring '20
History of Italian Cinema	Professor Elizabeth Leake	Summer '20
Road Trips: Travel in Italian Cinema	Professor Nelson Moe	Fall '20
Dante's Divina Commedia I & II	Professor Teodolinda Barolini	Fall '20/Spring '21
Italian Ren Romance Epic I & II	Professor Jo Ann Cavallo	Fall '20/Spring '21
Italian Cultural Studies	Professor Nelson Moe	Spring '21
Honors Thesis	Professor Elizabeth Leake	Spring '21
Frametale Narratives	Professor Patricia Grieve	Summer '21

RECENT WORK

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- “Stazio's Role in the *Commedia*: Who cries for John the Baptist?” (Dec 2021)
- Highlighting Dante's—and poetry's—role as the true saviors of the *Commedia*
- “A Wooden Boy and an Economics Lesson: How *Le Avventure di Pinocchio* Is Driven by the Free Market”
- A close reading of the ever-present role of free market economics in *Pinocchio*
- “‘America Was Like a Religion’: Looking past the violence to discover the spirituality of Sergio Leone's ‘Dollars’ trilogy” - Professor Elizabeth Leake, Senior Thesis Advisor (April 2021)
- An in-depth analysis of Leone's use of religious themes in the ‘Dollars’ trilogy
- “Closing the Loop: An investigation of the opening and closing scenes of *Salvatore Giuliano*” (Dec 2020)
- Close reading of the bookending technique used by Rosi in his film about the bandit Giuliano
- “The Freest of Men: A look at liberty and agency in *Orlando Innamorato*” (Dec 2020)
- Revisiting Boiardo's treatment of character through the lens of the Austrian School of Economics
- “Ugolino and Levi: Il Sommerso e Il Salvato” (November 2020)
- A look at the triangular relationship between Dante-Primo Levi-Ugolino della Gherardesca
- “Free Will Within *Orlando Innamorato*: A Randian Approach To Boiardo's Romance Epic” (Nov 2020)

- Using the Objectivism of Ayn Rand to examine free will and agency in *Orlando Innamorato*
- “*Roma città aperta*: Moving beyond the theater and into a post-war world” (November 2020)
- How Rossellini used a progression of onscreen witnessing to ignite change in his audience
- “Rossellini’s *Paisà*: Brokering American Engagement In Post-War Italy” (October 2020)
- Rossellini’s use of sympathy and guilt as a way of inspiring an American audience
- “The Land of Make-Believe: A Close Reading of the Opening Scenes of *8 ½*” (July 2020)
- Discussing Fellini’s meta-cinematic approach to the first several minutes of *8 ½*
- “Soltanto l’inizio: Un’analisi di Leopardi e la sua influenza sul neorealismo” (May 2020)
- Starting with “La prefazione” of Italo Calvino, searching for Leopardi’s connection to neorealism
- “Silent Truth: An Examination of Nicola Pugliese’s *Malacqua* and Its Inevitable Conclusion” (May 2020)
- Taking a new historical perspective of Pugliese’s novel set in Napoli during *gli anni di piombo*
- “Mark Lilla: Speaking the Unspeakable” (November 2019)
- Investigating the repercussions of Mark Lilla’s comments on intersectionality

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Italian Cinema; Modern Italian Literature; Fascism and the Holocaust; Italian Romantic Literature and the Italian Epic; Italian-American Culture; The “Southern Question”

HONORS AND AWARDS

Phi Beta Kappa Society, Columbia University, Delta Chapter	Inducted April 2021
Honor Society of the School of General Studies - Columbia University	Inducted October 2020
Gamma Kappa Alpha National Italian Honor Society	Inducted April 2021
Medaglia d'Oro Prize for excellence in Italian Studies - Columbia University	April 2021
Spirit Award Award for outstanding contribution to the School of General Studies and the Columbia University Community	April 2021
Student Representative to the Columbia University Committee on Instruction	Fall 2020/Spring 2021
Department of Defense Service Medal	1995
Department of Navy Meritorious Mast	1995, 1998, 1999

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, TEACHING & LEADERSHIP

Independent Researcher & Consultant Community Builder Athlete	2005-2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enthusiastically supported a military family as a stay-at-home dad; networked and engaged with teachers, parents, and coaches to improve sense of community and positively influence childrens’ education and social/physical activities • Leveraged years of international travel, backpacking, food, & photography experience for freelance consultation to individuals and groups for US, European, and Asian travel • Competitive road cyclist: raced nationally; trained & mentored young riders to achieve their goals • Volunteer baseball and soccer coach: organized practices and games; team development 	

Golf Professional, Operations Manager, Instructor	2005-2010
<i>Poppy Hills GC, Monterey, CA; Kaneohe Clipper GC, Kaneohe, HI</i>	

- Managed \$3M golf operations; increased sales by 15% year over year through creative marketing strategies and organizing club tournaments; oversaw retail buying and inventory; coached players of all levels through individual and group lessons

English Teacher

2004-2005

Avalon Middle School

Santa Rosa, FL

- Developed coursework in literature and composition; designed program around student interests allowing for greater achievement while meeting state mandates; improved reading levels by 30%

Carpenter, Foreman

2000-2004

NYC Local Union 157

New York NY

- Lead projects of up to 10 carpenters for new commercial construction builds and re-modelings; used effective teamwork and leadership skills to keep everyone aligned and motivated in order to reach time and budget goals for each project

Radar Technician, Team Lead

1994-1999

United States Marine Corps

Oceanside, CA; Okinawa, Japan

- Responsible for the operations and maintenance of a \$15M aviation radar system, including ensuring daily safety and security of all equipment and personnel; designed and lead training plans; integrated a collaborative team approach and mentoring model to aid junior technicians to succeed in their careers

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

American Association for Italian Studies

Modern Language Association

Association for the Study of Modern Italy

Dante Society of America

Zeta Psi Fraternity (Alumni)