# Italian weekend: a cultural Grand Tour of Italy - Palermo

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<th><strong>Start date</strong></th>
<th>10 January 2020</th>
<th><strong>End date</strong></th>
<th>12 January 2020</th>
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<td><strong>Venue</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tutor</strong></td>
<td>Dr Emanuela Davey</td>
<td><strong>Course code</strong></td>
<td>1920NRX036</td>
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**Director of ISP and LL**

Sarah Ormrod

**For further information on this course, please contact**

Head of Academic Centre Administration, Zara Kuckelhaus

zara.kuckelhaus@ice.cam.ac.uk, 01223 746204

**To book**

See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

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**Tutor biography**

*Dr. Emanuela Davey* - Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, University of Cambridge; Fellow in Italian, Tutor and Director of Studies in MML, Murray Edwards College, and CULP Language Teacher and course developer at the Language Centre, University of Cambridge.
Course programme

Friday
Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00 Dinner
20:30 Session 1: Film: “Marianna Ucrìa” (extracts).
22:00 Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday
07:30 Breakfast
09:00 Session 2: Introductory talk about the author followed by discussion of the novel.
10:30 Coffee
11:00 Session 3: Reading and comprehension practice.
13:00 Lunch
14:00 Free
16:00 Tea
16:30 Session 4: Listening and reading comprehension.
18:00 Free
18:30 Dinner
20:00 Session 5: Discussion of film and novel. Wine tasting and Italian conversation.
21:30 Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday
07:30 Breakfast
09:00 Session 6: Language Workshop. Reading and writing.
10:30 Coffee
11:00 Session 7: Language Workshop. Reading and writing.
12:45 Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch
Please note that this course is taught in French at the following CEFR levels:

**Reading: B2:** I can understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument, provided that the topic is reasonably familiar. I can understand most TV news and current affairs programmes. I can understand the majority of films in standard dialect.

**Listening: B2:** I can read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints. I can understand contemporary literary prose.

**Spoken Interaction: B1:** I can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest, or pertinent to every day life (e.g. families, hobbies, work, travel and current events).

**Writing: B1:** I can write simple connected text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest. I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.

**Course syllabus**

**Aims:**

- To engage students in the critical evaluation of both the novel by Dacia Maraini selected as course set text, and the written and video material relative to this author and the territory of Palermo.

- To present students and make them familiar with a selection of lexical aspects, idiomatic expressions as well as syntactical structures extrapolated from the course material or relevant to the topic.

- To improve the students' knowledge of Italian and in particular their communicative written and oral skills in the language.

**Content:**

The Italian weekend will tend to be as varied as possible, aiming to achieve a balance between language and literature/film, lectures and discussions, with emphasis on the latter whenever possible, trying to practise and improve all linguistic skills in the course of the different sessions.

This multidisciplinary weekend is intended to be an exploration, through films, extracts of documentaries, analysis and comment of texts and literary passages, into some aspects of the narrative of Dacia Maraini and, in particular, it will focus on ‘La lunga vita di Marianna Ucrìa’, which has been selected as set text and should therefore be read in Italian beforehand.

The course will be looking at the territory of Palermo and at aspects of Dacia Maraini's life (1936) and work in connection with their historical and cultural background.

**Presentation of the course:**

Students are asked to read the set text beforehand in Italian.

During the course of the weekend, which will be conducted almost entirely in Italian, course members will be expected to read, to understand spoken Italian, to listen to and to comprehend original audio-visual material, to take part in the discussions and to participate, individually or in small groups, in the language workshop part of the sessions, where they will be presented with oral and written exercises at different levels of difficulty.
As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Identify and evaluate the main themes in the work by Dacia Maraini taken into consideration and to be able to compare their rendering in relation to the video material presented during the weekend.
- Gain some knowledge of different aspects relating to the territory of Palermo.
- Understand and master a selected range of lexical and idiomatic expressions.
- Express opinions and participate in discussions in Italian.
- Apply the knowledge acquired and the skills learned to complete similar tasks, feeling encouraged to pursue further study.

**Preliminary Reading and resources list:**

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher and date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dacia Maraini</td>
<td>La Lunga Vita Di Marianna Ucria</td>
<td>Rizzoli, (EAN 9788817061841)</td>
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The book can be purchased from the Italian Bookshop in London (tel. 020 7240 1634) and other leading booksellers in England and in Europe. It is currently also available from Internet Bookshop Italia (http://www.internetbookshop.it), with 1-2 days delivery, and from Amazon.

Other editions of this book are available for purchase. The novel is available from Rizzoli also in e-book format EPUB (EAN 9788858635117), and as an audiobook from Emons Ed. (EAN 9788895703473).

No general background knowledge is required, as it will be entirely provided during the course.

Participants are required to bring only the set text and, at their discretion, a small bilingual dictionary.

**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

*Information correct as of:* 18 October 2019