

Fall 2020
ITAL-GA 2889

The Truth of Fiction: Reading Manzoni's *I Promessi Sposi*

Prof. Eugenio Refini
Tuesdays 3:30-6:15pm
Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò, Library
203



This seminar looks at the interplay of “truth” and “fiction” in Alessandro Manzoni’s *I Promessi Sposi*. By engaging in a close-reading of the novel, students will have the opportunity to situate Manzoni’s masterwork within a set of questions relevant to both the development of the genre in nineteenth-century Europe and the specific place of the Italian tradition within such development.

Along with the text of *I Promessi Sposi*, the seminar will cover other writings by Manzoni as well as works (both literary and theoretical) by other authors revolving around the complex relationship between historical truth and its reshaping through fiction. Adaptations of *I Promessi Sposi* into other art forms will also be considered.