

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	History
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	History of Florence
Course Code:	HST 5810
Course Leader:	Monica Giovannini (Florence)
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	45
Seminar / Tutorials:	
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	<i>Fall/Spring/Summer</i>
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

ITALIAN STUDY CENTRES ONLY. This course covers the history of Florence, concentrating on its development as a city and a state before and during the Renaissance and the Early Modern period. The uniqueness of Florence is underlined by drawing comparisons with other cities in Italy and Europe. The course features primary source readings by such authors as Dante Alighieri, Dino Compagni, Giovanni Villani and Franco Sacchetti. Some lessons take place onsite so that students experience this city's past first-hand.

Prerequisites: HST 3200 World Cultural History or GEP 4180 Research and Writing II

Aims and Objectives:

This course aims to offer a sweeping narrative of human settlement in Florence, from its origins until the recent past, with particular focus on the city's exceptional development between 1300 and 1700. This period saw the rise of the merchant class and the passing of political power to the guilds before the rise of a family of bankers, the Medici, who eventually became its hereditary rulers.

The course aims to explain why this city took the form it has today and how much present-day Florence was shaped by events in the Renaissance and Early Modern eras. Main objectives include: enabling students to acquire historically informed, first-hand experience of key sites around the city, as well as to reflect on its historical significance.

Programme Outcomes:

5A(i); 5A(ii); 5A(iii); 5B(i); 5B(ii); 5B(iii); 5C(i); 5C(ii); 5C(iii); 5D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- demonstrate a detailed knowledge of the history of Florence.
- demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between political and commercial power and patronage, as exemplified in the city's buildings and its surviving works of art.
- produce independent research into an aspect of Florentine history, demonstrating an effective and critical use of historical sources, both primary and secondary

Indicative Content:

- Various site visits
- Introduction to the history of Florence
- Roman and medieval Florence
- Guelphs vs. Ghibellines
- Popolo vs. Magnati
- The Guilds
- The Medici: Cosimo, Piero, Lorenzo the Magnificent
- Girolamo Savonarola
- The Medici Popes: Leo X, Clement VII
- The Grand Dukes

