

**COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
<b>Programme:</b>	COM
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	5
<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Women in Italian Society</b>
<b>Course Code:</b>	SCL 5810
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Monica Giovannini (Florence)
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	120
Lectures:	22.5
Seminar / Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
<b>Semester:</b>	<i>Fall/Spring/Summer</i>
<b>Credits:</b>	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

**Course Description:**

ITALIAN STUDY CENTRES ONLY. This course explores the social factors influencing Italian women's lives, perspectives and desires, the historical process through which they have reached their present position, and their current condition in relation to the economic, social, geographical and political environment of Italy. Representations of women in the Italian media, advertising and fashion as factors affecting their social identity are also considered.

**Prerequisites:** GEP 4180 Research and Writing 2

**Aims and Objectives:**

The course aims to offer students a comprehensive and multifaceted understanding of the evolution of gender relations in Italy, from the rise of Fascism to the present day, through a reflection upon the most relevant social and political events which marked this period: the effects of the two World Wars, the seizure of power of Fascism, the new legal system based on a more advanced and gender-sensitive social framework, and the contemporary legislative interventions in the field of family law. Contemporary representation of women in the Italian media, advertising and fashion are also explored.

**Programme Outcomes:**

A5 (i, ii), B5 (ii, iii), C5 (I, ii, iii), D5 (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/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

**Learning Outcomes:**

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

- Demonstrate a clear understanding of the meaning of gender as a sociocultural category.
- Discuss the impact of historical events (early 19<sup>th</sup> Century - present) on gender relations.
- Critically evaluate the role played by the media in the construction of female identity.
- Critically evaluate the cultural construction of female beauty, with reference to Fascism, the Sixties and Seventies, and contemporary Italian society.
- Contextualize gender: understand it in a multicultural society; identify the Vatican's role in the construction of gender identity, with a focus on reproductive rights; relate changing female-male relations to the changes faced by Italian society.

**Indicative Content:**

- Historical Contexts of gender relations from early 19<sup>th</sup> C
- Italian women during the Wars
- Gender and the media
- From politics to culture: the trickle-down effect
- From TV to life: women and their bodies
- Beauty, food & power in Italy
- Women in the art world
- *Berlusconization* and contestation: the February 2011 demonstration
- What is 'Catholic culture'? What impact does it have on gender identity?
- Reproductive rights and abortion.
- Women and politics
- Women and business

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board (formerly Learning & Teaching Policy Committee and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

**Teaching Methodology:**


