

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
Programme:	COM
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	News and the Media in Italy
Course Code:	COM 5855
Course Leader:	Monica Giovannini (Florence) Rosanna Graziani (Rome)
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	22.5
Seminars/Tutorials:	22.5
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. In this course students explore the most important characteristics of Italian journalism and the Italian media system. The focus is around a comparative analysis of different styles used in international journalism, particularly in print media, although other kinds of media are included. Students will have the opportunity to develop their own research and practical writing skills while examining different aspects of the Italian media. Students may be able to publish articles in an Italian newspaper.

Prerequisites: COM 3100 or JRN 4200

Aims and Objectives:

This course aims to introduce students to the Italian media system and specific aspects of Italian journalism. Students consider different writing styles in international journalism and the role of media ethics. Students work on developing their skills in writing media texts, and in critiquing existing media writing. A project is produced which will allow students to reflect on their research. Students are

expected to follow the Italian news and develop their oral communication and group skills.

Programme Outcomes:

A5i, B5i, C5ii, C5iii, D5i, D5iii

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 understanding of the ways Italian media and specifically Italian journalism contrast to other national contexts;
- demonstrate an ability to produce effective media stories and reflect on this process;
- deliver work with limited supervision, demonstrating their capacity to use different research methodologies and critical thinking skills;
- demonstrate the ability to use effective interpersonal and cross-cultural communication skills to adapt to a series of non-routine performance tasks using information communication technology.

Indicative Content:

- The language and style of news in Italy as contrasted to the US and UK
- Selecting and reporting the news in Italy
- Writing news stories from press releases
- Interviews, speeches, and meetings
- Feature stories; news reporting.
- PR Practitioners in Italy
- Media Ethics

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Special Programme Assessment Norms for International Journalism and Media approved at Academic Board (formerly Learning and Teaching Committee) and located at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/>

Teaching Methodology:

In addition to guest speakers and special lectures on the Italian media, the course aims to develop students' research and writing skills. Measurable improvements in these skills are rewarded, as it is rare to achieve a perfect journalistic style in a single semester. Small-scale exercises, news, and mini-features make up the project work. Students complete the course by writing a larger final project with the aid of tutorials and a number of drafts.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

IndicativeText(s):

Foust, J.C., 2011. *Online journalism: Principles and practices of news for the web*. 3rd ed. Holcomb Hathaway.

Hibbert, M., 2008. *The Media in Italy*. Open University Press.

Randall, D., 2011. *The Universal Journalist*. 4th ed. Pluto Press.

Rich, C., 2013. *Writing and reporting news: A coaching Method*. 7th ed. Cengage Learning.

Journals

Web Sites

See syllabus for complete list

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry