COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department: CASS

Programme: History

FHEQ **Level:**   5

Course Title: Medieval and Early Renaissance Italy

Course Code: HST 5830

Course Leader: Monica Giovannini

Student Engagement Hours: 120 (standard 3- credit BA course)
Lectures: 22.5
Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5
Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Semester: Fall, Spring, Summer

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:
ITALIAN STUDY CENTRES ONLY. This course provides a critical discussion of the political, social and cultural history of Italy from the Early Middle Ages to the end of the 16th century. Its aim is to provide students with an understanding of the forces and processes that shaped the states and the societies of the Italian peninsula in an era of extraordinary changes: from the developments of medieval cities and the rise of humanism in the fourteenth and early fifteenth century, to the political and religious crisis of the late 14th and early 15th centuries, and finally to the establishment of a new balance of power and a new cultural climate in the course of the 16th century. Particular attention will be devoted to Florence, especially from the 13th century onward, as a social, political and economic case study of Medieval and Renaissance Italy.

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

Aims and Objectives:
This course aims to foster the acquisition and development of a number of historical and transferable skills through the study of some of the most significant events, institutions and

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cultural phenomena that occurred in Italian history from the fall of the Roman Empire to the *Signorie*. Archaeological, historical, religious and cultural forms of primary evidence will be introduced and examined to cultivate research, writing and analytical skills.

Programme Outcomes:
At the end of this course students will have achieved the following programme outcomes:
5A (i)(ii)
5B (i)(iii)
5C (i)(iii)
5D (i)(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 the ability to identify the main historical trends, leading figures and paramount geographical-political landmarks of this period;

- Demonstrate the ability to comment knowledgeably and critically on selected primary and secondary texts, visual sources and sites;

- Demonstrate an ability to gather, organise and deploy abstract ideas and information to formulate arguments cogently, and express them effectively in written and oral forms;

Indicative Content:
- Florence
- The city-states: Venice, Milan, Rome, and Naples
- Religion – the Church, the Crusades and Islam
- Guelfs and Ghibellines
- *Signorie*
- The Black Death
- Renaissance Courts
- Humanism and the Renaissance

Assessment:
This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/

Teaching Methodology:

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Classes are mainly lecture-based, although some time will be devoted each week to discussing the content of that week's readings, which all need to be completed before class. Students will typically be required to give short presentations on selected texts. Several site visits will provide a unique opportunity to complement in-class lectures with first-hand experience.

Indicative Text(s):

Abulafia, David, ed., *Italy in the Central Middle Ages: 1000-1300*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004

Najemy, John M., ed., *Italy in the Age of the Renaissance: 1300-1550*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004.

Hale, John R., *The Civilization of Europe in the Renaissance*. London: Harper Perennial, 1995.

Journals
Click here to enter text.

Web Sites
Click here to enter text.

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry