HIST 300: GENDER & POLITICS IN CONTEMPORARY ITALY – Writing Intensive
John Felice Rome Center
Spring 2019
Wednesdays | 9:30AM-12:30PM
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Office Hours: Wed., 12:30-2:00pm and by appointment

Course Description
This course will examine intersections between challenges to the political order and challenges to the gender order in Italy. Across a chronological trajectory course reading, lectures and class discussion will offer a comparative perspective on the transformation of a deeply traditional Mediterranean culture, the progressive independence and political activism of Italian women, the changing relationships between sexes, and the modification of gender roles. Students will consider the impact of modernization, fascism and war on gender before moving on to look at the social and political impact of women’s suffrage, feminism and the gay liberation movement. The course will conclude with a look at some of the current gender-related issues as debated in Italian politics.

Learning Outcomes
On completion of the course students should be able to:

• assess the changing roles of Italian women and men over the last century
• conduct a gendered analysis of some key moments of modern Italian history.
• understand the interactions between gender and politics and learn how gender identity can change in response to specific historical and political circumstances

Required Text / Materials
All course readings will be provided via the Sakai platform. You can access them at sakai.luc.edu. You will also submit your assignments and weekly forum posts on Sakai.

Attendance Policy
In accordance with the JFRC mission to promote a higher level of academic rigor, all courses adhere to the following absence policy. Prompt attendance, preparation and active participation in course discussions are expected from every student.

• For all classes meeting once a week, students cannot incur more than one unexcused absence.
• For all classes meeting twice a week, students cannot incur more than two unexcused absences.
• For all classes meeting three times a week, students cannot incur more than two unexcused absences.

This course meets once a week, thus a total of 1 unexcused absence(s) will be permitted. Unexcused absences beyond these will result in a lowering of your final grade.
Assessment Components

- Participation and Forum posts 10%
  You are responsible for each week’s readings and should come to class with specific questions and comments in mind. Students will be asked to volunteer to lead class discussion for each week, but our conversation will depend on the participation of all of the members of the class. By noon on Tuesday of each week, you must compose and post to the discussion board a reaction to the primary readings for the week. These should be approximately 200-300 words (about a page). I reserve the right to require formal written summaries of the readings should it become apparent that students are not keeping up with them. Lectures in this class deal with specific events, institutions and individuals and the historical debates surrounding them, the readings provide the context for these debates and the general narrative of Italian Gender history.

- Midterm Exam 20%
  The mid-term will include a variety of question types. These will be drawn from your texts, the Sakai readings and from the lectures.

- Writing Project 50%
  You are required to complete a research paper of approximately 10-12 pages in length. This assignment is to be completed in stages, each of which will account for a portion of your grade. Guidelines for this assignment and a breakdown of grading are provided at the end of the syllabus.

- Final Exam 20%
  This will include a variety of question types and will focus on material covered since the mid-term.

Grading
94-100: A
90-93: A-
87-89: B+
84-86: B
80-83: B-
77-79: C+
74-76: C
70-73: C-
67-69: D+
60-66: D
59 or lower: F

Academic Honesty
Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are unacceptable at the JFRC and will be dealt with in accordance with Loyola University Chicago’s guidelines. Please familiarize yourself with Loyola’s standards here: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml. You are responsible to comply with the LUC Student Handbook.

Late or Missed Assignments
Late or missed assignments will not be accepted for grading without the authorization of the instructor.

Accessibility Accommodations
Students registered with the Student Accessibility Center requiring academic accommodations should contact the Office of the Dean at the John Felice Rome Center, the first week of classes.
Course Schedule

Week One (Jan 23) Course Introduction: Italian society at the turn of the century

Week Two (Jan 30) Industrialization, agricultural reform and the challenge of “modernity”
Readings: Willson, 1-42 and Joan W. Scott, Excerpts Sakai
YOUR PROPOSAL IS DUE TODAY

Week Three (Feb 8) Emigration and Gender Roles – note that this class meets on Friday due to the Papal Audience
Readings: Maddalena Tirabassi, “Bourgeois Men, Peasant Women,” Linda Reeder, “Women in the Classroom” Sakai

Week Four (Feb 13) WWI and Italian Women
Readings: Willson 43-60, Thomas Row, “Mobilizing the Nation: Italian Propaganda in the Great War” Sakai

Week Five (Feb 20) The “New Men” of Fascism?
Readings: Sandro Bellassai, “The masculine mystique;” and Sarah Morgan, “Mussolini’s Boys (and Girls)” Sakai
YOUR WORKING BIBLIOGRAPHY IS DUE TODAY

Week Six (Feb 27) What kind of women for the “New Men” of Fascism?
Readings: Willson 61-95; DeGrazia, 41-76, on Sakai

Week Seven (Mar 6) Mid Term Exam

Spring Break Mar 8-17

Week Eight (Mar 20) WWII and the Resistance
YOUR SENTENCE OUTLINE IS DUE TODAY

Week Nine (Mar 27) Post-War Italy – A New Order?

Week Ten (Apr 3) The Italian Feminist Movement
Site visit to the Casa delle Donne
DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING DRAFTS

Week Eleven (Apr 10) Homosexual Liberation and the LGBTQ movement in Italy
Readings: Mario Mieli, Homosexual Liberation (excerpts) Moscati, Maria. "Trajectory of Reform: Catholicism, the State and the Civil Society in the Developments of LGBT Rights."

Week Twelve (Apr 17) Immigration, Religion and the Gender Order – Class visit to Tawasul center for dialog / lunch – Program on Women, Islam and the West
Readings: TBD Sakai
YOUR FINAL PAPER IS DUE TODAY
Week Thirteen (Apr 24) Gender, media and politics in the 21st century
Readings: Luca Malici, "Queer TV Moments and Family Viewing in Italy." and TBD

Final Exam on April

Writing Project: Your research paper accounts for fully one half of your grade in this class. It is to be completed in the following stages:

Jan 30: Question/Proposal (5 points): The first stage of academic writing is the formulation of a question to direct your inquiry. In the first weeks of the semester, you should be thinking about what aspect of Modern Italy you wish to explore and checking to see what information is available to you. On the 30th you must turn in a working question and a proposed approach to the research. The proposal should address how you plan to approach the question. It must include what types of materials you plan to consult. This is a working proposal – which means that as you research your topic, both the question and the approach are likely to undergo modifications according to the requirements/peculiarities of the topic.

Feb 20: Annotated Bibliography (10 points): This is a bibliography of sources you are gathering for your paper. You may end up citing only some of them in your actual paper, but all works consulted (even those you decide not to use) belong in your bibliography. You must provide at least 10 annotations. An annotation is a brief summary of a work placed beneath its bibliographic information. For the purposes of a research paper, this summary should focus on those parts of the work that are relevant to the topic. Your bibliography may conform to any of the standard styles. (ie. Turabian, MLA, etc. – available in the library) but must be consistent throughout.

NOTE: WIKIPEDIA IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE SOURCE FOR A RESEARCH PAPER

Mar 20: Sentence Outline with Thesis Statement (10 points): At this point you must transform your question into a thesis statement and organize your research into a full-sentence outline. See “Assignments“ for guidelines on writing a sentence outline. Remember: the more detailed the outline, the more help I can give you with the direction of your paper. It is at this stage that you should be answering the following questions: What information have you found to support your thesis? What is still missing? Will you organize your paper chronologically or topically? What information will you include in each subsection? Note: an outline does not include the introduction and conclusion.

Apr 3: Rough Draft: There is no separate point value for your rough draft, but it is, of course, in your interest to turn one in. It is at this point that I can make suggestions to help you improve the content or structure of your argument if necessary. It is also an opportunity to have the paper proofread by “fresh” eyes (although you are encouraged to help one another with proofreading as well). As this is a writing intensive class, the grade for your research paper will derive from both content and writing style. In short: grammar, spelling, punctuation, syntax and vocabulary all count. After examining your draft, I will assign an “as is” grade which will later be replaced with your grade on the final version of your paper.

Apr 17: Final Paper (25 points): The final version of your paper should include a title page, citations and bibliography. It must be turned in on Wednesday, April 17th. Late papers will be penalized at a rate of .5 point (out of the 25 available) per day.