

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
<b>Programme:</b>	FLM
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	5
<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Italian Cinema and Society</b>
<b>Course Code:</b>	COM 5810
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Monica Giovannini (Florence) Rosanna Graziani (Rome)
<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 history of Italian cinema and society as represented in film, with particular focus on the wide range of films to emerge after the Second World War. Students study key works of Italian cinema within the context of world cinema to assess realism as an aesthetic convention as well as gain insights into contemporary trends in Italian culture.

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

### **Aims and Objectives:**

The course aims to analyze Italian history and society through the history of Italian cinema. Key moments and issues in recent Italian cinema include:

- The attempt to build a new national identity after the fall of Fascism;
- The Cold War and its impact on Italian society;
- The North-South divide, the 'economic miracle' and its reflections on Italian society;

- 'La dolce vita';
- The South and the influence of the Mafia;
- Recent changes in Italian society.

The course focuses on the key periods in Italian Cinema of Neorealism and the Commedia all'Italiana and on the most important movie directors, such as Rossellini, De Sica, Visconti, Fellini, and Monicelli. In the second part of the semester recent directors and developments in Italian cinema are explored.

### **Programme Outcomes:**

5A(I, ii); 5B(ii, iii); 5C(ii, 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 understanding of the various styles of Italian cinema production.
- demonstrate a familiarity with the debates concerning the key cultural concepts that have shaped Italian society as represented through cinema.
- demonstrate an detailed knowledge of current trends in Italian cinema.

### **Indicative Content:**

- Historical contexts of Italian cinema
- 1948-53: Italy in the Cold War. The evolution of Neorealism
- The social and political divide between Catholics and Communists in Italy
- From Neorealism towards the Commedia all'Italiana.
- The economic miracle and the changes in Italian society (1954-1962)
- Fame, fashion and style: the Italian star system
- The cinema of Federico Fellini and other key directors
- The Italian family between tradition and change
- The three patterns of Italian migration
- Cinematic trends in contemporary Italy

### **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:**

