



## SO/HS/GS 325 FAMILY AND GENDER IN MEDIEVAL AND MODERN ITALY

IES Abroad Siena

**DESCRIPTION:** Since ancient Roman times up to Early Modern Italy, gender determined an individual's life and career as much as social class or economic status. Career options for men lay in the public domain, where personal networks were as important as education and training, while women, regardless of class, had one "career" – marriage: the option of nunnery for women will start much later, due to economic shifts. This course look at the family as a social institution where individuals, both men and women, were legally subordinated in different ways to their father's authority, and their social behaviors were strictly controlled by the society. At the same time, if they behaved 'correctly', they were given protection and freedom. The course also considers some alternative, personal or professional life strategies, far from 'correct' behaviors, which evolved during these times. The aim is to give students a cultural, social and historical approach to an intriguing topic from different but interrelated points of view.

**CREDITS:** 3 credits

**CONTACT HOURS:** 45 hours

**LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:** English

**PREREQUISITES:** None

### METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Lectures (including PowerPoint projections, CD-ROMs and other visual materials)
- Seminar discussions
- Guided tours to museums and exhibitions, and archives

### REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Class participation (15%)
- Moodle online assignments (including two paper projects the topic of which consists of a wide variety of subjects that are course-related, glossary and lesson activities 25%)
- Midterms exam in the form of essay style short answers (25%)
- Final exam in the form of short answer questions and a short essay, to be picked from a given list (35%)

### LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Understand issues on gender and family in cross-cultural and local contexts, and analyze how family status and gender roles are being constructed in the past societies;
- Critically take into consideration of various female examples in the past and their roles in the society.
- Compare and analyse the ancient societies and their family and social assets with the contemporary ones in order to identify the transformation of gendered family ideals throughout the centuries, and how do those ideals affect both men and women.

### GLOBAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

**Cultural diversity:** Describes the experiences of others historically or in contemporary contexts primarily through one cultural perspective, demonstrating some openness to varied cultures and worldviews.

**Perspective taking:** Identifies multiple perspectives while maintaining a value preference for own positioning such as cultural, disciplinary, and ethical.

**GRADING SCALE:** A 100-93; A- 92,9-90; B+ 89,9-87; B 86,9-83; B- 82,9-80; C+ 79,9-77; C 76,9-73; C- 72,9-70; D+ 69,9-67; D 66,9-63; F 62,9 and below.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY:

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Successful progress of the program depends on the full cooperation of both students and faculty members: regular attendance and active participation in class are essential parts of the learning process. Attendance at and participation in all class meetings and field studies are required. More than two absences will result in a lowering of your grade by two percentage points for every absence.

#### CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments
Week 1	<p><b>Introduction to course: gender as an analytic category of historical analysis.</b></p> <p><b>The ancient Roman family; the role of father and the position of offspring</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SCOTT, J., <i>"Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis"</i>, <i>The American Historical Review</i>, 91, nr. 5, December 1986 (pp. 1066-1075). HR Forum: <i>Revisiting "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis"</i>, <i>The American Historical Review</i>, 113, nr. 5, December 2008 (pp. 1390-1403).</li> <li>- WOOLLACOTT, A (edited by), <i>"Ancient Rome"</i>; <i>History for the Australian Curriculum</i>, (Melbourne; Cambridge University Press, 2012).</li> <li>- SALLER, RICHARD P., <i>"Roman heirship Strategies in Principle and in Practice"</i>. <i>The family in Italy from antiquity to the present</i>. Yale University press, New Haven and London, 1991 (pp. 26-47).</li> <li>- Global learning outcomes: <i>Perspective taking: "Gender roles in advertisements"</i>. Students are asked to select a commercial that depict, in their opinion, <a href="#">stereotypical gender roles</a>. After uploading the link on Moodle they will provide a comment in class. (Moodle on line assignment and class discussion). <i>Cultural diversity: "The western idea of gender from antiquity to present"</i>: Students will develop a paper project (min 5 pages long) where they will examine issues of continuity and change in the Western idea of gender from antiquity to the present (the paper must be uploaded on Moodle).</li> </ul>
Week 2 & 3:	<p><b>After the ancient Roman law and the Barbarian traditions: a new reality for women</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SHEEHAN, M., <i>Sexuality, Marriage, Celibacy and the Family in Central and Northern Italy: Christian Legal and Moral Guides in the early Middle Ages</i>; <i>The Family in Italy from antiquity to the present</i>. Yale University press, New Haven and London, 1991 (pp. 168-183).</li> <li>- <i>The Acts of Paul and Thecla</i>, <i>The Apocryphal New Testament</i> (translated by J.K.ELLIOTT), Oxford University Press, 1993.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HERLIHY, D., <u>Women, family and Society in Medieval Europe: Historical Essays, 1978-1991</u>. Providence-Oxford: Berghahn Books, 1995 (pp. 96-133).</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4:</b>	<b>Christian religion and Christian family in medieval society</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HERLIHY, D., <u>Women, family and Society in Medieval Europe: Historical Essays, 1978-1991</u>. Providence-Oxford: Berghahn Books, 1995 (pp. 154-173).</li> <li>- EPSTEIN A., <u>The Medieval family: A Place of Refuge and Sorrow. Portraits of Medieval and Renaissance Living. Essays in Memory of David Herlihy</u>. The University of Michigan Press, 1996 (pp.149-171).</li> </ul> <p>Global learning outcomes: <i>Perspective taking</i>: Comparing the contemporary family with the medieval one (class discussion). <i>Cultural diversity</i>: Field study in the Basilica of San Domenico church and the sanctuary-house of Saint Catherine: women and the option of a religious life in the medieval era.</p>
<b>Week 5:</b>	<b>The different social and political realities in medieval Italy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HERLIHY, D., <u>City and society in Medieval Italy</u>, Variorum Reprints, London, 1980 chapter VII.</li> </ul> <p>Global learning outcomes: <i>Perspective taking</i>: The root of violence in contemporary society (class discussion).</p>
<b>Week 6:</b>	<b>Being a woman in the medieval society: rules, prohibitions, limits, and chances</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KUEHNT T., <u>Daughters, Mothers, Wives, and Widows. Women as legal persons. Time, Space and Women's Lives in Early Modern Europe</u>, eds. A. Jacobson Schutte, T. Kuehn, S. Seidel Menchi. Kirksville: Truman State University Press, 2001.</li> <li>- DUBY, G., <u>Love and Marriage in the Middle Ages</u>, pp. 56-63.</li> <li>- FERRANTE, JOAN M., <u>Woman as image in medieval literature from the twelfth century to Dante</u>, Labyrinth press, University of Michigan, 1975 (pp. 1-15; 65-97).</li> <li>- BRACKETT, JOHN K., <u>The florentine Onesta and the Control of the prostitution, 1403-1680</u>, <u>Sixteenth Century Journal</u>, Vol. 24, No. 2 (Summer, 1993), 273-300.</li> <li>- Global learning outcomes: <i>Perspective taking</i>: The "witchtest": find out if you would have been accused of witchcrafts in modern society. Evaluate different perspectives while providing a comment upon the witch-hunt in the middle ages (Class discussion); <i>Cultural</i></li> </ul>

		<p><i>diversity</i>: “Students will develop a paper project and they can choose the topic provided that it consist of a wide variety of subjects that are course-related, and it focuses on past and contemporary societies (the paper must be min 5 pages long and must be uploaded on Moodle).</p>
<b>Week 7:</b>	<b>The marriage: technical, social, legal, economic aspects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DUBY, G., <i>Love and Marriage in the Middle Ages</i>, pp. 3-21.</li> <li>- BRUCKER, G., <i>Giovanni and Lusanna. Love and Marriage in renaissance Florence</i>, University of California Press, Berkley, Los Angeles, 1986.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8:</b>	<b>The offspring: advantages and disadvantages in being mother</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HERLIHY, D., <i>Women, family and Society in Medieval Europe: Historical Essays, 1978-1991</i>. Providence-Oxford: Berghahn Books, 1995 (pp. 215-243).</li> <li>- FORTINI BROWN, P., <i>Children and education</i>, Marta Ajamar-Wollheim and Flora Dennis (ed. By), <i>At home in Renaissance Italy</i>, V &amp; A Publishing, 2010.</li> </ul> <p>Global learning outcomes: <i>cultural diversity</i>: “Family and gender crossword puzzle” : students will create their own customized crossword puzzle by using words and definitions related to “The offspring: advantages and disadvantages in being mother” class and will upload it on Moodle. Puzzles will be printed in class and students will have to solve each other's puzzles (Moodle online assignment). <i>Cultural diversity</i>: Field study in Florence: Palazzo Davanzati and the everyday life of a woman in renaissance society.</p>
<b>Week 9:</b>	<b>Medical knowledge and practical aspects of women's bodies and life</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GREEN, MONICA H., <i>Women's Healthcare in the Medieval West</i>, St Edmundsbury Press, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, 2000 (pp. 39-78).</li> <li>- MUSACCHIO, JACQUELINE M., <i>Conception and birth</i>, Marta Ajamar-Wollheim and Flora Dennis (ed. By), <i>At home in Renaissance Italy</i>, V &amp; A Publishing, 2010.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 10:</b>	<b>The social role of women and their help to kin strategies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BRIZIO E., <i>In the Shadow of the Campo. Sienese Women and Their Families (c. 1400-1600). Across the Religious Divide. Women, Property, and law in the Wider Mediterranean (ca. 1300-1800)</i>, (ed. By) Jutta Gisela Sperling</li> </ul>

		<p>and Shona Kelly Wray, Routledge Research in Gender and History, New York.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- JENKENS, LAWERENCE A., <i>Caterina Piccolomini and the Palazzo delle Papesse in Siena</i>, REISS, SHERYL E., WILKINS, DAVID G. (ed. by), <u>Beyond Isabella. Secular Women patrons of art in Renaissance Italy</u>. Truman State University Press, Missouri, 2001.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 11:</b>	<b>The artistic role of women in Renaissance and Baroque era: Sofonisba Anguissola, Lavinia Fontana, Marietta Robusti (as known as "Tintoretta"), Artemisia Gentileschi.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GARRAND M.D., <i>Artemisia and Susanna. Feminism and art history. Questioning the litany</i>. Harper &amp; Row Publishers, New York, 1982. Global learning outcomes: <i>Perspective taking</i>: "Italian female painters of Renaissance and Baroque era": students are asked to choose one of the Italian female painters biography to read about, and then answer questions about what they've read (Moodle lesson assignment).</li> </ul>

**REQUIRED READINGS:** All the required readings will be in the course packet.

- AHR Forum: *Revisiting "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis"*, The American Historical Review, 113, nr. 5, December 2008.
- BRACKETT, JOHN K., *The florentine Onesta and the Control of the prostitution, 1403-1680*, Sixteenth Century Journal, Vol. 24, No. 2 (Summer, 1993), 273-300.
- BRIZIO E., *In the Shadow of the Campo. Sienese Women and Their Families (c. 1400-1600). Across the Religious Divide. Women, Property, and law in the Wider Mediterranean (ca. 1300-1800)*, ed. by Jutta Gisela Sperling and Shona Kelly Wray, Routledge Research in Gender and History, New York.
- BRUCKER, G., Giovanni and Lusanna. Love and Marriage in renaissance Florence, University of California Press, Berkley, Los Angeles, 1986.
- DUBY, G., *Love and Marriage in the Middle Ages*, (translated by Jane Dunnet), Polity press, Cambridge, 2005.
- ELLIOTT J.K., (translated by) The Apocryphal New Testament, The Acts of Paul and Thecla, Oxford University Press, 1993.
- EPSTEIN A., *The Medieval family: A Place of Refuge and Sorrow. Portraits of Medieval and Renaissance Living. Essays in Memory of David Herlihy*. The University of Michigan Press, 1996.
- FERRANTE, JOAN M., *Woman as image in medieval literature from the twelfth century to Dante*, Labyrinth press, University of Michigan, 1975.
- FORTINI BROWN, P., *Children and education*, Marta Ajamar-Wollheim and Flora Dennis (ed. By), At home in Renaissance Italy, V & A Publishing, 2010.
- GARRAND M.D., *Artemisia and Susanna. Feminism and art history. Questioning the litany*. Harper & Row Publishers, New York, 1982.
- GREEN, MONICA H., *Women's Healthcare in the Medieval West*, St Edmundsbury Press, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, 2000.
- GREEN, MONICA H.; SMAIL, DANIEL L., *The trial of Floreta d'Ays (1403): Jews, Christians, and obstetrics in later medieval Marseille*, Journal of Medieval History 34 (2008) 185-211, Arizona State University, 2008.
- HERLIHY D., *Women, Family and Society in Medieval Europe: Historical Essays, 1978-1991*. Providence-Oxford: Berghahn Books, 1995.
- JENKENS, LAWERENCE A., *Caterina Piccolomini and the Palazzo delle Papesse in Siena*, REISS, SHERYL E., WILKINS, DAVID G. (ed. by), Beyond Isabella. Secular Women patrons of art in Renaissance Italy. Truman State University Press, Missouri, 2001.
- HERLIHY, D., *City and society in Medieval Italy*, Variorum Reprints, London, 1980.
- KUEHNT T., *Daughters, Mothers, Wives, and Widows. Women as legal persons. Time, Space and Women's Lives in Early Modern Europe*, eds. A. Jacobson Schutte, T. Kuehn, S. Seidel Menchi. Kirksville: Truman State University Press, 2001.

- MUSACCHIO, JACQUELINE M., *Conception and birth*, Marta Ajamar-Wollheim and Flora Dennis (ed. By), At home in Renaissance Italy, V & A Publishing, 2010.
- SALLER, P. RICHARD, *Roman Heirship Strategies in Principle and in Practise. The Family in Italy from antiquity to the present*. Yale University Press, New Haven and London, 1991.
- SCOTT, J., "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis", *The American Historical Review*, 91, nr. 5, December 1986.
- SHEEHAN, M., *Sexuality, Marriage, Celibacy and the Family in Central and Northern Italy: Christian Legal and Moral Guides in the early Middle Ages*. The Family in Italy from antiquity to the present. Yale University press, New Haven and London, 199.
- WOOLLACOTT, A (edited by), "Ancient Rome"; History for the Australian Curriculum, (Melbourne; Cambridge University Press, 2012).

#### RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- BRADLEY, KEITH B., *Discovering the Roman family: Studies in Roman social history*, Oxford University press, 1991.
- CHOJNACKI S., *Women and Men in Renaissance Venice: Twelve Essays on Patrician Society*. Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000 (pp.1-52; 115-131; 169-182).
- CRABB A., *The Strozzi of Florence. Widowhood & Family in the Renaissance*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 2000 (pp. 180-205).
- CRABB A., *How Typical Was Alessandra Macinghi Strozzi of Fifteen-Century Florentine Widows? Upon My Husband's Death: Widows in the Literature & Histories of Medieval Europe*, ed. L. Mirrer. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press, 1992.
- DEAN, R., THOMSON, M., *Women of the Middle ages*, San Diego (California), Lucent Books, 2003.
- DIEFENDORF, BARBARA B., *Family Culture, Renaissance Culture*. *Renaissance Quarterly*, 40, 1987.
- EISENACH E., *Husbands, Wives, and Concubines: Marriage, Family, and Social Order in sixteenth-century Verona*. Kirksville: Truman State University Press, 2004 (pp. 87-133; 178-219).
- FONAY WEMPLE, S., *Women in Frankish Society: Marriage and the Cloister, 500 to 900*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1981.
- GOLLANCZ, I., HONNOR MORTEN, (edited by), *The love letters of Abelard and Heloise*, 2008, Bibliobazar.
- SEYMOUR, R. (edited by), *The love letters of Abelard and Heloise*, The Project Gutenberg EBook, Release Date: July 14, 2012 [EBook #40227].
- KLAPISCH-ZUBER, C., *A History of Women*, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, London, England. 1992, 2000 (5th printing).
- MURRAY, J., *Love, Marriage, and Family in the Middle Ages: A Reader (Readings in Medieval Civilizations and Cultures)*, University of Toronto Press, 1 edition (September 1, 2001).
- TODD, M., *The early germans* (second edition), Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2004.