

## COURSE DETAIL

### CRITICAL UTOPIAS

**Country**

Italy

**Host Institution**

University of Bologna

**Program(s)**

University of Bologna

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Women's & Gender Studies Comparative Literature

**UCEAP Course Number**

186

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

CRITICAL UTOPIAS

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

CRITICAL UTOPIAS

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

## Course Description

This is a graduate level course that is part of the Laurea Magistrale program. The course is intended for advanced level students only. Enrollment is by consent of the instructor. The course focuses on women's popular culture with specific reference to travel literature and critical utopias, within a gender perspective. This course explores the multi-layered meanings that utopia as a literary genre and utopianism as a form of thought acquire for women's access to writing and to the public and contemporary debates. Starting from the analysis of some emblematic texts written by male authors, for example UTOPIA (1516) by Thomas More and NEW ATLANTIS (1628) by Francis Bacon, the course investigates the way in which this hybrid genre initiates a dialogue with classical utopianism and the great tradition as well as intertwining it with other contemporary emergent literary genres (travel writing, romance, novel, closet drama, theater and scientific treatises). The course then explores female forms of utopia from the 17th century to the 20th century and examines the ways in which female writers read the utopian paradigm and interpret it as a possible space for female agency and empowerment. The course also questions how women used the utopian paradigm to discuss the obstacles and possibilities in women's private and public life and to propose social and political changes.

### Language(s) of Instruction

English

### Host Institution Course Number

26029

### Host Institution Course Title

CRITICAL UTOPIAS

### Host Institution Campus

BOLOGNA

### Host Institution Faculty

LINGUE

**Host Institution Degree**

LETTERE

**Host Institution Department**

LETTERE

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