

COURSE DETAIL

FEMINIST CRITIQUES OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

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

UCEAP Course Number

188

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

FEMINIST CRITIQUES OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

UCEAP Transcript Title

FEMINIST CRITIQUES

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

This course is part of the Laurea Magistrale program in cultural anthropology. The course is intended for advanced levels students only. Enrollment is by consent of the instructor. The course focuses on the ways in which women have historically criticized the theoretical justification of their subordination as articulated in Western political and social thought. By applying the fundamental tools of feminist and post-colonial theories, the course provides an historical analysis of political and social concepts – such as authority, freedom, rights, citizenship, society, and labor – as the expression of gendered relations of power. The course explores how, since the beginning of political modernity, feminist political discourses actively dispute the constitutive categories of modern politics and expose them as an expression of historically determined power relationships based on sexual difference. While the course focuses on a selection of fundamental texts chosen from the history of women's and feminist political thought, it questions the very conception of history from this epistemological perspective. The course presents and analyzes the critiques of social and political thought articulated by women and feminists through specific problematic issues including the distinction between the public and private domain and the construction of the modern legitimate political subject; the conception of society as an order, where “natural” hierarchies are substituted by functional power relationships; and the contemporary transformations of State and capitalism and the accomplished global dimension of social production and reproduction. The course explores topics including an introduction to feminist historiography and criticism and early modern feminists, feminism and the critique of modern society, feminism and the political difference, and Black and post-colonial feminism. The course consists of traditional lectures; class discussion is strongly encouraged regarding the readings as well as specific topics presented in class. Assessment is based on a final paper (3,000 words) on a pre-approved topic.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

81969

Host Institution Course Title

FEMINIST CRITIQUES OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

Host Institution Campus

STORIA CULTURE CIVILTÀ

Host Institution Faculty**Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department**

Scienze Storiche e Orientalistiche

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