
EUROPEAN TRANSFORMATIONS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA IN ROME—UCEAP
THE ITALIAN FAMILY FROM EARLY MODERN TO CONTEMPORARY TIMES

The Italian family, the basic building block of society and state, is continually evolving, and this course will focus on the institution itself as well as the roles of women, men, children, servants and sexuality within it from the *Quattrocento* until now. We will examine the Italian family as an extended patriarchal system as well as a nuclear entity, and we will focus on how it has evolved as well as remained unchanged over the centuries. We will also study it as a unit that can be defined and experienced in a wide variety of different ways and something that is currently being shaped and defined -- on a daily basis in 2016 -- as the Italians just passed new family legislation in May, thus being forced to define exactly what a family is, and what rights its members should enjoy.

The course begins by analyzing prescribed gendered roles within Italian culture, as illustrated in select *novelle* from Boccaccio's *Decameron* and Italy's first household census data collected from 1427. We will move on to discuss Italian gender and family issues across time and location, i.e., the historical roles of the mother vs. the father, shared family time and resources (housing, meals, childcare, extended family influences, family-run businesses, and entertainment), how a couple planned for children, named them, and then educated them, according to gender, rank, and geography. Family housing, the creation of family-related art such as portraiture, and various forms of home-based material culture will be also considered.

Italian marriage will be set into historical context by examining changes made to define it at the Council of Trent (1563), the First Vatican Council (1869-70), Vatican II (1962-65), with the legalization of divorce (1970) and of same-sex civil unions (2016). Canon law governing marriage as a religious sacrament based on consent alone would be challenged by local civil laws for centuries, and we will see how different laws affected related issues such as remarriage, legitimacy of children, divorce, widowhood, inheritance, etc. We will study Italy at the time of the *Risorgimento* and Unification (1861) and assess the effects of unification, nationalism and patriotism on the family unit. The special role women played as mothers during Fascism will also be analyzed.

The course concludes by studying more recent social phenomenon such as women working outside the home, differences between northern and southern Italy, birth rates in ethnic Italian vs. migrant families, the recent laws on "fast" divorces (2014), the ongoing discussion of the rights of same-sex partners, parents 'fit' to adopt children, the ongoing illegality of surrogate motherhood, and Pope Francis's role in discussions of Italian and global family life and the Vatican's annual "Family Day" events (held this year on 30 January).

Site visits include **Palazzo Spada** in Piazza Capo di Ferro 13, the splendid 17th c. residence of Cardinal Bernardino Spada, his family, and their art collection; **Palazzo Doria Pamphilj** on Via del Corso 305, the sumptuous 17th c. palace and art collection built around the figure of Pope Innocent X and his family (who still live on the premises); and the planned **neighborhood of Testaccio (Rione XX)** designed in the late 19th c. for working-class Roman families.

Requirements: Two reading quizzes, a 10-12 page research paper, a three-minute presentation based on the results of your research, and a final exam.

Grading (100 points total):

Preparation & participation	10% = 10 points
Two reading quizzes	10% = 10 points total (5 points each)
Discussion leading	5% = 5 points
Summary write-up	5% = 5 points
Phase 1 of paper	5% = 5 points
Three-minute presentation of paper	5% = 5 points
Research paper	25% = 25 points
Final exam	35% = 35 points

All UC Rome courses operate under an attendance policy created by the UC Faculty Advisory Committee that oversees the program. According to that policy, you are allowed one absence. Any additional unexcused absence will result in a 3%-point deduction from the final raw total for that class. Students who are late to class or leave early will receive an "L" on the attendance sheet. Three tardies (i.e. "L") automatically convert to an absence. It is a student's responsibility to sign in before each class. In the case of absences, it is the student's responsibility to find out what information was given in class including handouts or any announcements made. No guests are allowed in any UC Rome class or site visit.

All course readings will be available on **moodle.eapitaly.it**. Please remember that all readings are to be completed *before* the class meeting in which they will be discussed. The preparation component of the "Preparation & Participation" grade assesses this practice and all in-class activities.

N.B. Please read our weekly **Readings**, approximately 50 pages, in preparation for each class meeting. Further related readings will be suggested on a separate sheet. Such additional readings can serve as valid potential sources for your research paper, they can give discussion leaders more context and ideas for leading discussions, or they might just be interesting for you. Many additional relevant texts are available at the library of the UC Rome Study Center.

Academic integrity. All students are expected to conduct themselves according to the principles and procedures of academic integrity and are held to the standards outlined in the EAP Academic Conduct policy, available at the following URL and on the UC Rome Study Center website:

http://eap.ucop.edu/documents/forms/academic_conduct_policy.pdf

MEETING SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE

Meeting #1

Introduction to our class & to the multi-faceted idea of the *family* in Italy

- * Introductions; go over Syllabus; compose course autobiography
- * Fill in chart with weekly class discussion leaders & weekly summary writers
- * Consider research paper topics
- * Introductory brainstorming session about the idea of the Italian family in time, gender roles, gendered honor, geographical differences, discussion of methodology—i.e. ideas on how to study the family, etc.;
- * Introduction to some of the most interesting materials in the field, including the contributions of a few major historians, art historians, sociologists and anthropologists

Meeting #2

Renaissance Families: husbands & wives, marriages, households, family planning

Readings:

Francesco Barbaro. "Francesco Barbaro: On Wifely Duties" (1416) in Gouwens, ed., *The Italian Renaissance: The Essential Sources*, 2002, pp. 150-169.

Jacqueline Musacchio. "Caterina di Ser Girolamo da Colle and the Material Culture of Renaissance Childbirth" in her *The Art and Ritual of Childbirth in Renaissance Italy*, 1999, pp. 35-57.

Cohen & Cohen. "Family" in their *Daily Life in Renaissance Italy*, 2001, pp. 53-63.

Meeting #3

Marriage Laws & Legalities, Clandestine Marriages, *Giovanni & Lusanna*, the Economics of Dowries, Trousseau, regulation at Trent (1563)

Readings:

Julius Kirshner. "Family and marriage: a socio-legal perspective" in Najemy, ed., *Italy in the Age of the Renaissance*, 2004, pp. 82-102.

Anthony F. D'Elia. "Marriage and Wisdom from Antiquity to the Renaissance" in his *The Renaissance of Marriage in 15th c. Italy*, 2004, pp. 11-34.

Elizabeth Bernhardt. "Behind the Scenes of 15th c. Marriage Schemes: Forced Marriages, Family Alliances and Power Politics in Bentivoglio Bologna" in Anselmi et al, eds., *Bologna Cultural Crossroads*, 2013, pp. 161-171.

In class we will closely read a dowry document or two

Meeting #4

More on Various Aspects of Family Life

We will begin class with a 15-minute Reading Quiz

Readings:

Raffaella Sarti. "Home and Family: Things Fall Apart" in her *Europe at Home, Family and Material Culture, 1500-1800*, 2002. Excerpts ca. 30pp.

Michael Rocke. "Gender and Sexual Culture in Renaissance Italy" in Findlen, ed., *The Italian Renaissance: The Essential Readings*, 2002, pp. 192-211.

Ann Crabb. "If I could write": Margherita Datini and Letter Writing, 1385–1410" in *Renaissance Quarterly*, Vol. 60, No. 4 (Winter 2007), pp. 1170-1206.

WEEK TWO

Meeting #5

Topic: Looking at Early Modern Italian Artists & their Families

Readings:

Patrizia Cavazzini, "Artemisia in her father's house" in Christiansen and Mann, eds., *Orazio and Artemisia Gentileschi*, 2001, pp. 283-295.

Carolyn Murphy. "Lavinia Fontana and Female Life-Cycle Experience in late 16th c. Bologna" in her *Lavinia Fontana*, 2003, 111-138.

Meeting #6

Site Visit to Palazzo Spada. Themes: Families and marriage strategies in Baroque Rome; Art created in family workshops

We will meet in Piazza Farnese, in front of the fountain on the north side of the piazza (the one closer to our study center) at 11:30am. We will then continue on to nearby Palazzo Spada.

Reading:

Irene Fosi and Maria Antonietta Visceglia, "Marriage and politics at the papal court in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries" in Dean and Lowe, eds., *Marriage in Italy*, 1998, pp. 197-224.

N.B. Class will end at the Galleria Spada, Piazza Capo di Ferro 13, at 12:00noon.

Meeting #7

Site Visit to Palazzo Doria Pamphilj. Themes: Papal Art & Architecture; Nepotism (and attempted dissolution of nepotism, 1692); extended family planning; gender roles in Roman families

We will meet outside in the piazza in front of our study center, Piazza dell'Orologio, at 4:30pm in order to tour nearby Pamphilj territory in the Piazza Navona area before heading to the Pamphilj palace on Via del Corso.

Readings:

Kimberly L. Dennis, "A Palace Built by a Princess? Olimpia Maidalchini Pamphilj and the Construction of Palazzo Pamphilj in Piazza Navona" in McIver and Stollhans, eds., *Patronage, Gender and the Arts in Early Modern Italy: Essays in Honor of Carolyn Valone*, 2015, pp. 43-64.

Stephanie C. Leone, "Prince Giovanni Battista Pamphilj (1648–1709) and the Display of Art in the Palazzo at Collegio Romano, Rome," *Memoirs of the American Academy in Rome*, 58 (2013) 191-214.

N.B. Class will end in front of the Pamphilj palace in Via del Corso 304 at 6:30pm.

Meeting #8

The Long Risorgimento (18th & 19th centuries) & Unification (1861), especially in the South. We will begin class with a reading quiz (#2)

Readings:

William A. Douglass. "The Joint-Family Household in 18th c. Southern Italian Society" in Kertzer and Saller, eds., *The Family in Italy from Antiquity to the Present*, 1991, pp. 286-303.

Anthony H. Galt. "Marital Property in an Apulian Town during the 18th and early 19th centuries" in Kertzer and Saller, eds., *The Family in Italy from Antiquity to the Present*, 1991, pp. 304-320.

Marzio Barbagli. "Three Household Formation Systems in 18th & 19th c. Italy" in Kertzer & Saller, eds., *The Family in Italy from Antiquity to the Present*, 1991, pp. 250-270.

WEEK THREE

Meeting #9

More on Nineteenth-century Italian Family Life

Readings:

Domenico Rizzo. "Marriage on Trial: Adultery in 19th c. Rome" in Willson, ed., *Gender, Family and Sexuality*, 2004, pp. 20-36.

Anna-Maria Tapaninen. "Motherhood through the Wheel: The Care of Foundlings in Late 19th c. Naples" in Willson, ed., *Gender, Family and Sexuality*, 2004, pp. 51-70.

Luigi Tittarelli. "Choosing a Spouse among 19th c. Central Italian Sharecroppers" in Kertzer and Saller, eds., *The Family in Italy from Antiquity to the Present*, 1991, pp. 271-285.

***Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa.** *Il gattopardo*, or *The Leopard*. In class we will watch some clips from this film based on the classic historical novel of the same title. We will discuss the end of an era (as reflected in the end of the idea of an aristocratic family--the author's own) in the time of the Risorgimento.

Meeting #10

Church and State Involvement in the 19th c. Italian Family; Phase One of Paper Due

Reading:

David Kertzer. *The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara* (1858). 1997. Excerpts 50 pp.

Meeting #11 Friday April 21, 11:30 to 1:30

The Italian Family and Food; Artusi's famous Italian cookbook

Reading:

Pellegrino Artusi. *Science in the Kitchen and the Art of Eating Well* [1891], Ed. and trans. Murtha Baca, 2003. Excerpts 50 pp.

WEEK FOUR

Meeting # 12

Italian Families at the Turn of the Century

Readings:

Mark Seymour. "Till Death Do Them Part? The Church-State Struggle over Marriage and Divorce, 1860-1914" in Willson, ed., *Gender, Family and Sexuality*, 2004, pp. 37-50.

Perry Willson. "Italian Women at the Dawn of the 20th Century" in her *Women in 20th c. Italy*, 2010, pp. 4-23.

Bruno Wanrooij. "The History of Sexuality in Italy, 1860-1945" in Willson, ed., *Gender, Family and Sexuality*, 2004, pp. 173-191.

Meeting #13

Fascism, Communism, Family Issues & Women's Issues

Readings:

Perry Willson. "Exemplary Wives and Mothers: Under Fascist Dictatorship" in her *Women in 20th c. Italy*, 2010, pp. 61-78.

Maria Casalini. "The family, sexual morality and gender identity in the communist tradition in Italy, 1921-1956" in *Modern Italy*, vol. 18, no. 3 (2013): 229-244.

Meeting #14

Class Presentations

We will spend this class period sharing every student's individual research in the form of a professional, succinct three-minute presentation. Students may discuss their topic, methodology, most fascinating findings, and/or unexpected aspects of research that came out of work on the paper. I will then collect all of the research papers in printed

copy. Please note that by sometime today your papers must also be uploaded to the appropriate file on Moodle.

*Please watch Pietro Germi's *Divorce Italian Style* (1961) sometime before Monday. The film can be viewed this afternoon at the study center. You may choose to watch it with the group this afternoon or on your own at another place and time.

Meeting #15 Friday April 28, 10:00 to 1:00

Site Visit to Testaccio Neighborhood—Rione XX

Meeting Point: 10:00 am at the benches in front of the entrance to the Ex-Mattatoio/
Macro Testaccio complex: Piazza Orazio Giustiniani 4, Testaccio

Reading:

Elsa Morante. *History: A Novel*, Trans. William Weaver, 1974. Excerpts 50 pp.

N.B. We will end the tour at 1:00 pm at the foot of Ponte Sublicio next to Piazza dell'Emporio.

WEEK FIVE

Meeting #16

Part I. Honor, Divorce, Homicides, the 1960s & 1970s

Readings:

Eva Cantarella. "Homicides of Honor: The Development of Italian Adultery Law over Two Millennia" in Kertzer and Saller, eds., *The Family in Italy from Antiquity to the Present*, 1991, pp. 229-246.

Luisa Passerini. "Gender Relations" in Forgacs and Lumley, eds., *Italian Cultural Studies*, 1999, pp. 144-159.

Perry Willson. "'Io sono Mia': Feminism in the 'Great Cultural Revolution'" in her *Women in 20th c. Italy*, 2010, pp. 149-167.

Part II. 2-3pm. We will discuss Pietro Germi's *Divorce Italian Style*

Meeting #17

Contemporary Issues

Readings:

Chiara Saraceno. "The Italian family from the 1960s to the present" in *Modern Italy*, vol. 9 (2004), pp. 47-57.

Tina Lagostena Bassi. "Violence Against Women and the Response of Italian Institutions" in Cicioni and Prunster, eds., *Visions and Revisions*, 1993, pp. 199-212.

Perry Willson. "The Dual Presence: More Work and Fewer Children in the Age of Materialism" in her *Women in 20th c. Italy*, 2010, pp. 168-185.

Raffaella Sarri. "Who cares for me? Grandparents, nannies and babysitters caring for children in contemporary Italy" in *Paedagogica Historica*, vol. 46, no. 6 (2010): 789-802.

Meeting #18

FINAL EXAM:

N.B. The in-class examination is individual, and no books or other study materials may be consulted while it is in progress. Once the examination starts, students will not be allowed to leave the room until they have finished their work.