Italian Studies
Guide Fall 2020
Italy at your doorstep!
Welcome to the UO's Italian Studies Program

The Italian Studies Program is housed in the Department of Romance Languages. Here you will find information on our BA degree, fall term course descriptions, faculty profiles, information about majoring and minoring in Italian, extra-curricular activities, contact information and more.

ABOUT US

- BA in Italian with specialization in either Language & Literature (in Italian) or Italian Studies (in English and Italian)
- Award-winning teachers and advisors
- One of the largest Italian programs in the West Coast
- Many study/internship abroad programs in Italy
- World-renowned scholars in Italian literature, cinema, and culture
- Courses ranging from Roman Antiquity and the Middle Ages to contemporary Italian fashion, food studies, and cinema.

Looking for information on Italian Studies? Please visit the program site at https://italian.uoregon.edu/undergraduates

2020-2021 Italian Studies Academic Plan

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<th>Winter 2021</th>
<th>Spring 2021</th>
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<td>ITAL 101 - That’s amore</td>
<td>ITAL 102 - Holidays and Traditions</td>
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<td>ITAL 252 - The Italian American Experience</td>
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<td>HUM 300* - Dante in Translation</td>
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<td>RL 407/507* - The Idea of Europe</td>
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Given the current and future uncertain situation, our 2020-2021 academic plan may change.

*It counts toward the minor when readings and projects are done in Italian; make early arrangements with the teacher.
Italians are known for savoring all pleasures and beauty that life can offer, from food to fashion, art to style, language to conviviality. In this hands-on course you will begin discovering Italy, its rich culture and its people by becoming an active user of the Italian language, starting on the first day of class. You will learn how to learn a new language and to understand the modalities which make communication effective and culturally appropriate. As you hone your skills, you will be invited to reflect upon your personal learning goals, processes, and outcomes.

All classes are supervised by Lauretta De Renzo.

Lauretta De Renzo-Huter is a Senior Instructor II and the First-Year Supervisor of Italian. In her work and research she focuses on the development and implementation of web-based materials for the first-year Italian hybrid format curriculum which strives to engage students as agents in their learning process and as cross-cultural thinkers and communicators. derenzo@uoregon.edu
ITAL 150
Cultural Legacies of Italy

This course explores the Italian peninsula and its wealth of cultural contributions, from Ancient Roman roads to Renaissance Art to Italian-American film. We will look at various art forms, such as painting, architecture, and opera. We will read from Dante’s *Divine Comedy*, discuss Machiavelli’s *The Prince*, consider the difficult legacy of Christopher Columbus in the US, and investigate Italian migration to the Americas and today’s Mediterranean migrations to Italy. We will hear lectures by a number of guest experts from our campus and beyond. As part of their coursework, students will conduct guided research on an Italian cultural legacy of their choosing, for example, regional foods, music, fashion and design, advertising, science, politics, or education.

This course fulfills the GP requirement.
Conducted in English
Ital 201
Intermediate Italian
The Bel Paese

Bel Paese or “beautiful country,” is the classical epithet for Italy because of its cultural heritage and natural endowment. In this course you will explore a cornerstone of Italy’s beauty, the cities of art, with their magnificent piazzas, churches and palaces, traditional eateries and markets, and modern nightlife venues. By interpreting authentic multimedia material, participating in discussions and writing various texts, you will improve your ability to narrate, express opinions, and establish causal relationships in Italian. You will explore and practice implementing these skills as you develop a collaborative e-poster presentation about a city of art of your choice.

All the classes are supervised by Claudia Ventura.

Claudia Ventura is a Senior Instructor I and the Second-Year Supervisor of Italian. She is continually exploring and implementing new student-centered learning strategies and methodologies that enrich the language curriculum of authentic cultural material and experiences. She authored the Italian second-year open textbook. Please, watch the video ITAL 201 e-poster presentations to see one term-long collaborative project delivered in 2019 by Claudia’s students.

vencla@uoregon.edu
Ital 301
Advanced Italian
Contemporary Italy

Rapid cultural and urban changes are transforming the landscape and identity of contemporary Italy. In this course we will examine current social phenomena such as the shift within familial structures, the reclaiming of the Italian piazza by youth movements and the internal and external patterns of immigration. Authentic news clippings, short stories and interviews will be the basis of our investigation. You will advance your interpretive and argumentative skills by participating in round table discussions and creating your own e-portfolio on Italian contemporary issues of your choice.

Nadia Ceccacci is a Senior Instructor II of Italian, whose research interests are language pedagogy and 20th-century Italian Cultural Studies. Her work focuses on the transformation of the Italian social landscape and the development of pedagogical materials for all levels of language instruction. ceccacci@uoregon.edu
What is the relationship between people and places? This interdisciplinary Italian course bridges the arts and the sciences, introducing you to human-land relationships across Southern Italy, North Africa, and East Africa. Together, we will explore the Green Humanities in the greater Mediterranean: we will analyze activist artwork of earthquakes and volcanoes. We will read investigative reporting on the eco-mafia and discuss the meaning of their slogan, “Trash is Gold.” Our Scientist Speaker Series brings experts into the classroom: for example, you will be able to discuss the art and architecture of Pompeii with an expert on volcanology.

Diana Garvin is an Assistant Professor of Italian, specializing in Mediterranean Studies. In her research, she uses food as a lens to discuss the history of everyday life in Italy and East Africa. You can read more about her projects and publications at www.dianagarvin.com. You can also watch the video UO Today with Diana Garvin to learn more about research and teaching approach.

dgarvin@uoregon.edu
"La mia casa è dove sono.” “My home is where I am.” Italo-Somali author Igiaba Scego’s famous assertion evokes our seminar’s focus: the enmeshment of colonial Africa and postcolonial Europe. To do so, we will use small research laboratories to apply critical race theory in our study of contemporary poetry, novels, and films. We will also discuss the ethical questions of colonial museums in Rome and imperial monuments in Addis Ababa, giving special attention to issues of access and information flow across digital archives like the Archivio Luce, the Archives Nationales d’outre-mer, and the Wolfsonian Museum.

Diana Garvin is an Assistant Professor of Italian, specializing in Mediterranean Studies. In her research, she uses food as a lens to discuss the history of everyday life in Italy and East Africa. You can read more about her projects and publications at www.dianagarvin.com. You can also watch the video UO Today with Diana Garvin to learn more about research and teaching approach. dgarvin@uoregon.edu
A journey through the cinemas of Latin America, the Mediterranean, Africa and Europe, this course examines the histories, politics, forms, spectatorial pleasures, theoretical debates and industrial contexts which have shaped the category of the international film.

Conducted in English with possible credits in Italian

Sergio Rigoletto is an Associate Professor of Cinema Studies and Italian. His research explores the relation between socio-political change and media aesthetics (especially cinema and TV). He has written extensively on queer cinemas, film acting, global television and many aspects of Italian cinema. [https://rl.uoregon.edu/profile/srigolet/](https://rl.uoregon.edu/profile/srigolet/) srigolet@uoregon.edu
Minor and Major in Italian

Italian is the voice of one of the most influential Western cultural traditions. Italy is the world’s 7th-largest export economy, so Italian is increasingly important in business. Italian prepares you to engage with the current politics of migration in multi-ethnic Europe. An Italian minor offers an interdisciplinary exploration of modern Italian culture through literature, cinema, translation studies, the arts, fashion, tourism, Mediterranean cuisine, and much more. You may choose from many interdisciplinary programs to study or intern in Italy—leading to a wide variety of professional pathways with an emphasis on intercultural communication awareness.

Top 5 reasons to study Italian

1. Explore Italian legacies in the arts, humanities, social and natural sciences
2. Understand social and cultural diversity in Italy, the Mediterranean basin, Africa, and the Americas
3. Become a cross-cultural, informed, global citizen
4. Study or intern abroad in Italy for both your minor and/or major
5. Prepare yourself for a wide variety of careers and studies, including the green economy

Where can you go?

Italian provides students with a foundation for employment in:
- Business in the US and abroad
- Education: K–12, colleges and universities
- Museums and archives
- Print and broadcast media
- Food industry
- Fashion and design
- Visual arts, film, theatre
- Non-governmental and intragovernmental agencies (e.g., the United Nations)

What will you learn?

A minor in Italian can give you expertise in:
- Oral and written communication
- Critical thinking and analysis
- Language tutoring and translating
- Grant writing and advocacy
- Understanding geopolitical issues
- Analyzing historical trends
- Intra-/Inter-cultural relations
- Critical awareness of aspects of diversity and inclusivity

Courses you will need for the minor

You will need 28 credits to complete this minor:

A. **Foundations**: At least twelve (12) credits from ITAL 301, 303, 305, 320
B. **Advanced work**: At least twelve (12) credits from ITAL 317, 318, 319, 407 and above; RL 407*
C. **Contexts (optional)**: Four (4) credits from ITAL 150, 151, 152, 252 or upper-division courses taught in English if the course focuses on Italian literature, cinema, art, etc.

* RL 407 counts towards the minor when readings and projects are done in Italian. Consult your minor advisor.
Courses you will need for the major

You have two options for organizing the 48 courses required for a major of Italian: concentrations in Italian Studies or Language and Culture.

**Italian Studies**

If you are interested in exploring different aspects of Italian society and culture, you should opt for this concentration. You may choose courses taught in English for up to half (24 of 48) of your major credits! Italian Studies works best with a second major in another discipline, and is ideal for Study Abroad (in Rome, Siena, etc) as many of the courses taken there will be applicable to professional disciplines such as Food Industry, Arts, Media and Communications, Humanities, Architecture, and much more!

**Language & Culture**

If you are interested in a highly immersive Italian language experience, you should choose this concentration. The majority of this coursework will be done in Italian (40 of 48 credits). You will work closely with exceptional Italian faculty within the Department of Romance Languages, and will develop high-level skills in critical thinking and in the Italian language through constant written and oral expression. This concentration is also optimal for students interested in semester and year-long study abroad programs!

### Advanced Language and Culture

12 credits of 300-level advanced Italian language and culture
- ITAL 301, 303, 305, 320, 307
- or 300-level language courses taken abroad

### Literature & Cinema

8 credits of 300-level Italian literature OR cinema courses
- ITAL 317, 318, 341, etc (excluding 320)
- or equivalent course taken abroad

### Expertise

16 credits IN RESIDENCE on the Eugene campus, in RL or other department
- At least 1 course (4 credits) taught in Italian
- 2 courses (8 credits) must be at the 400 level or RL 407 (If coursework is completed in target language)

### Electives

12 credits of elective courses in Italian literature, linguistics, film, grammar, culture, art history, history, political science, food studies, classics, geography, etc.
- May be taken in other UO departments or abroad
- Maximum of 2 lower-division courses (8 credits) may be used

12 credits of elective courses in Italian literature, linguistics, film, grammar, culture, art history, music, etc.
- Can include ITAL 150, 152, 252, 341
- Maximum of 2 lower-division courses may be used
Do you like to learn more our program?

**Department of Romance Languages Web Pages**

Home Page: [https://italian.uoregon.edu](https://italian.uoregon.edu)
Undergraduates Program: [https://italian.uoregon.edu/undergraduates](https://italian.uoregon.edu/undergraduates)
Graduate Program: [https://italian.uoregon.edu/undergraduates](https://italian.uoregon.edu/undergraduates)

**Italian Program Social Network Pages**

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/uoitalian/](https://www.facebook.com/uoitalian/)
Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/uoitalianstudies/](https://www.instagram.com/uoitalianstudies/)

**Studies Abroad Programs in Italy Directed or Supervised by Italian Faculty**

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<th>Proficiency Level Covered</th>
<th>Web Page</th>
<th>Italian Faculty Contact</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Italian and French</td>
<td><a href="#">Task-Based Language Learning in Siena and Lyon</a></td>
<td>Lauretta De Renzo <a href="mailto:derenzo@uoregon.edu">derenzo@uoregon.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced Italian</td>
<td><a href="#">Intensive Italian Language in Lecce</a></td>
<td>Lauretta De Renzo <a href="mailto:derenzo@uoregon.edu">derenzo@uoregon.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Italian</td>
<td><a href="#">University of Pavia Exchange</a></td>
<td>Gina Psaki <a href="mailto:rpsaki@uoregon.edu">rpsaki@uoregon.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught in English with credits in Advanced Italian</td>
<td><a href="#">Exploring the Dolomites: Landscape, History, Ecology, and Literature in Northern Italy</a></td>
<td>Massimo Lollini <a href="mailto:maxiloll@uoregon.edu">maxiloll@uoregon.edu</a></td>
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**Special Internship Programs in Italy and US**

**Study Intercultural Training Experience (SITE) Program:** an internship opportunity for English-speaking teaching assistant in schools of Lombardy, Italy; for more info, contact Gina Psaki: rpsaki@uoregon.edu

**Datalogic Internship for students of Italian and Business Marketing:** Datalogic is an Italian high-tech company with the US quarter in Eugene, Oregon; for more info, contact Claudia Ventura vencla@uoregon.edu

**GEO Study and Internship Programs in Italy**

[https://geo.uoregon.edu/programs/italy](https://geo.uoregon.edu/programs/italy)
- Meg Montgomery: mmontg10@uoregon.edu
- Yifang Zhang: yzhang1@uoregon.edu