Italian Guide 2021-2022
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](https://italian.uoregon.edu/undergraduates)

Given the current and future uncertain situation, our 2021-2022 academic plan may change.

Two professors of Italian are on leave during Fall term; we will resume our full course offerings in Winter 2022.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Type</th>
<th>Fall 2021</th>
<th>Winter 2022</th>
<th>Spring 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Elementary Language and Culture</strong></td>
<td>• ITAL 101 - That’s amore</td>
<td>• ITAL 102 - Holidays and Traditions</td>
<td>• ITAL 103 - Italian Stories, Italian History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intermediate Language and Culture</strong></td>
<td>• ITAL 201 - The Bel Paese</td>
<td>• ITAL 202 - Italian Excellence</td>
<td>• ITAL 203 - One Italy, Many Italies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advanced Language and Culture</strong></td>
<td>• ITAL 303 - Italian Society and Politics</td>
<td>• ITAL 305 - Culinary Culture of Italy</td>
<td>• ITAL 301/399 - TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content and Language Integrated Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Italian Studies Courses Taught in English</strong></td>
<td>• ITAL 150 - Cultural Legacies of Italy</td>
<td>• ITAL 152 - Italian Cinema: Desire and Resistance</td>
<td>• ITAL 152 - Feminist Lens</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;It counts toward the major and minor when readings and projects are done in Italian; make early arrangements with the teacher.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>• RL 407/407* - Mediterranean Eco-criticism + Italian Practice</td>
<td>• ITAL 319* - Eco-Italy</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• RL 407/507* - Early Modern Travel Writing + Italian Practice</td>
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Professor Harinder Khalsa teaching ITAL 104
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

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
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.

### Advanced Language and Culture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12 credits of 300-level advanced Italian language and culture</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• ITAL 301, 303, 305, 320, 307</td>
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<tr>
<td>• or 300-level language courses taken abroad</td>
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### Literature & Cinema

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8 credits of 300-level Italian literature OR cinema courses</th>
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<tr>
<td>• ITAL 317, 318, 341, etc (excluding 320)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• or equivalent course taken abroad</td>
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### Expertise

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<tr>
<th>16 credits IN RESIDENCE on the Eugene campus, in RL or other department</th>
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<td>• At least 1 course (4 credits) taught in Italian</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 2 courses (8 credits) must be at the 400 level or RL 407 (If coursework is completed in target language)</td>
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### Electives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12 credits of elective courses in Italian literature, linguistics, film, grammar, culture, art history, history, political science, food studies, classics, geography, etc.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• May be taken in other UO departments or abroad</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Maximum of 2 lower-division courses (8 credits) may be used</td>
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<table>
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<th>12 credits of elective courses in Italian literature, linguistics, film, grammar, culture, art history, music, etc.</th>
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<td>• Can include ITAL 150, 152, 252, 341</td>
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Would you like to learn more our program?

Department of Romance Languages Web Pages

Home Page: https://italian.uoregon.edu
Undergraduates Program: https://italian.uoregon.edu/undergraduates

Italian Program Social Network Pages

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/uoitalian/
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/uoitalianstudies/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/UoItalian

Studies Abroad Programs in Italy Directed or Supervised by Italian Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proficiency Level Covered</th>
<th>Web Page</th>
<th>Italian Faculty Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced Italian</td>
<td>Intensive Italian Language in Lecce</td>
<td>Lauretta De Renzo <a href="mailto:derenzo@uoregon.edu">derenzo@uoregon.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Italian</td>
<td>University of Pavia Exchange</td>
<td>Nathalie Hester <a href="mailto:nhester@uoregon.edu">nhester@uoregon.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught in English with credits in Advanced Italian</td>
<td>Exploring the Dolomites: Landscape, History, Ecology, and Literature in Northern Italy</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

GEO Study and Internship Programs in Italy

https://geo.uoregon.edu/programs/italy
- Kerby Boshee: kboschee@uoregon.edu
- Yifang Zhang: yzhang1@uoregon.edu
Course Offerings
Fall 2021 *

* Two professors of Italian are on leave during Fall term; we will resume our full course offerings in Winter 2022.
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

Nathalie Hester is Associate Professor of Italian and French and Director of European Studies. Her areas of research interest include Renaissance travel writing, the Italian reception of the Americas, and early modern women’s writing. [https://rl.uoregon.edu/profile/nhester/](https://rl.uoregon.edu/profile/nhester/) nhester@uoregon.edu
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.
The subtitle of this course’s itineration is, “L’Italia in declino?” (Is Italy in a decline?) because we will consider Italy’s self-directed pessimism in conjunction with their fierce protection from outside critique. This is the course’s point of entry to society, politics, and economics as we will study how and why this dichotomy exists in Italian culture.

The course is a multidisciplinary approach to contemporary Italian life and culture since postwar Italy. For this reason, the course begins with a historical overview:

- The economic miracle and the beginning of political activism
- Corruption within the Italian political system during the ‘80s and ‘90s
- The judiciary cleansing called “Tangentopoli” that marked the passage from “Prima Repubblica” to “Seconda Repubblica” (1992-1994)
- Berlusconi’s era (1994-2013) and the European Union
- Rise of the new political party “Movimento 5 stelle”
- COVID-19 and current societal and political topics

The course will not offer any practical solutions or specific answers about if Italy is declining. The goal is, however, to allow students to understand as many aspects as possible about Italy while using the Italian language. The tools will be provided for students to come up with their own answer while becoming an expert on a term long project topic about Italian culture and thus can have the opportunity to interact with Italian reality here and abroad.

Kevin Regan-Maglione is a PhD candidate in Romance Languages and he focuses on queer prison testimonies from the Holocaust to today. He has been an instructor all levels of Italian at UO and has taught many different formats from hybrid, intensive, and online.