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

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

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<th>Winter 2022</th>
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<td>Elementary Language and Culture</td>
<td>• ITAL 101 - That’s amore</td>
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<td>• ITAL 201 - The Bel Paese</td>
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<td>Advanced Language and Culture</td>
<td>• ITAL 303 - Italian Society and Politics</td>
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<td>Content and Language Integrated Courses</td>
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<td>• ITAL 317 - Middle Ages and Renaissance</td>
<td>• ITAL 319* - Eco-Italy</td>
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<td>Italian Studies Courses Taught in English</td>
<td>• ITAL 150 - Cultural Legacies of Italy</td>
<td>• ITAL 152 - Italian Cinema: Desire and Resistance</td>
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<td>*It counts toward the major and minor when readings and projects are done in Italian; make early arrangements with the teacher.</td>
<td>• RL 407/407* - Mediterranean Eco-criticism + Italian Practice</td>
<td></td>
<td>• RL 407/507* - Queer/ Feminist Film Methods</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!

#### 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

### 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

- **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

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

#### Expertise

- **12 credits IN RESIDENCE on the Eugene campus, in RL department**
  - 2 ITAL 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, music, etc.**
  - Can include ITAL 150, 152, 252, 341
  - Maximum of 2 lower-division courses may be used
Course Offerings
Spring 2022
Ital 103
Elementary Italian

Portraits of Italy

Through snapshots of Italian society, you will explore how the past and the present are closely intertwined in Italian culture and how this affects Italian lifestyle. By examining a variety of media (videos, photos, articles, websites, a short story, etc.), you will learn about the *stile italiano*. You will also advance on your Italian proficiency by extending your oral and written interpersonal and presentational skills as well as your interpretive skills.

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
Globalization and immigration seem to carry new challenges for Italy’s socio-economic stability. By examining infographics and data as well as personal stories and participating in discussions, you will explore current social phenomena such as young adults’ unemployment, LGBTQ rights, and immigrant routes in Italy to gain a critical panorama of Italian society.

You will also advance further your ability to narrate, compare and contrast, and express opinions in Italian. By the end of this course your spoken and written presentations will include culturally appropriate vocabulary, expressions, and gestures. You will explore and practice implementing these skills as you develop an Italian Portfolio where you showcase your greatest strengths and accomplishments.

All the classes are supervised by Claudia Ventura.

Claudia Ventura is a Senior Instructor II 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 material and experiences. She authored the Italian second-year open textbook. See the collaborative project delivered by Claudia’s students: ITAL 201 e-poster presentations vencla@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.

Conducted in English with credits for the Italian minor and RL or Italian majors.

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
RL 407/507

Early Modern Travel Writing

For centuries travel and travel writing have been parallel endeavors. In the early modern period, prescriptions concerning the art of travel also addressed how to properly chronicle a journey. However, as curiosity became an acceptable motive for travel, European travelers took greater individual liberties not only in choosing an itinerary but also in narrating their travels. In this course we will read from English, French, Italian, and Spanish travel accounts in order to consider a broad range of issues and questions, including: taxonomies of travel writing, travel narrative as theoretical discourse, the construction of local and global identities through the representation of travel, and the links between travel writing and European expansion and conquest. Readings will include the travel writing of humanists, navigators, pilgrims, merchants, ambassadresses, Grand Tourists, adventurers, and fugitives.

Conducted in English. Students will read the primary texts and complete written work in their target language to receive credit in French, Italian, or Spanish.

M.A. Periods: Spanish 1, 2; French 1, 2; Italian

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/

nhester@uoregon.edu

Department of Romance Languages

541-346-4021
This course explores contemporary queer filmmaking with an emphasis on transnational infrastructures, aesthetic practices and geopolitical contexts which negotiate the tension between the local and the global. Students will learn how ‘queer’ has emerged as a category of critical analysis and as a tool for emancipationist struggles, while also reflecting on its usefulness for understanding the films under consideration. The course will focus on the work of filmmakers such as Luca Guadagnino (Call Me By Your Name), Celine Sciamma (Tomboy), Apichatong Weerasethakul (Tropical Malady), Ferzan Ozpetek (Loose Cannons), and Pedro Almodovar (The Law of Desire). The course will also include a series of guest lectures. Confirmed invited speakers: Heather Berg (Washington University, St Louis), Damon Young (UC Berkeley), Raed El Rafei (UC Santa Cruz), Giovanna Maina (University of Turin) and Baran Germen (Colorado College).

The course provides credits for students pursuing their majors or minors in ITAL, FR, SPA and RL. Minors and Majors in Italian may sign up for special discussion sections in Italian language.
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

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<th>Proficiency Level Covered</th>
<th>Web Page</th>
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<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