Italian

320 Milbank Hall
212-854-5418 / 212-854-5481 / 212-854-8312
Department Assistant: Sondra Phifer

Mission
The Italian Department seeks to provide students with the opportunity for in-depth study of the language, literature, and culture of Italy; it aims to enrich students' understanding of Italian culture through an interdisciplinary curriculum; it offers students the advantages of closely supervised work with its faculty. Through its full integration with the Columbia University Italian Department, the Barnard Italian Department aims to provide a wide range of courses covering Italian literature and culture from Middle Ages to the present.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students who graduate with an Italian major should be able to attain the following outcomes:

- Write, speak, read, and listen in Italian at the intermediate-high level in Italian language and carry-on an everyday conversation;
- Identify and discuss the historical significance of major cultural works such as film, novels, plays, and opera;
- Analyses of Italian literary texts and films at an advanced level;
- Demonstrate a broad knowledge of Italian literature and culture;
- Demonstrate knowledge of major texts and authors in the Italian literary tradition, from the Middle Ages to the present;
- Knowledge of the historical, political, cultural and literary aspects of the North/South divide in Italy;
- Conduct original research on a literary or cultural topic project culminating in a 30-40 page thesis, successfully demonstrating an advanced level of textual and/or historical interpretation and the coherent presentation of an argument.

Undergraduate instruction in Italian has long been fully and successfully integrated among the various undergraduate schools-Barnard College, Columbia College, and the School of General Studies. All courses are open to Barnard students. The Advanced Italian courses, though part of the requirement for a major in Italian, are open to all qualified students whose main goal is to improve their competence in the language.

A major in Italian offers the advantages of closely supervised work for a small number of students. Through the senior tutorial, students pursue research in a chosen area of Italian culture under the guidance of a specialist.

The courses given in English have no prerequisites and are open to students majoring in other departments who nevertheless wish to study Italian literature and culture.

The Barnard Italian office is located in 320 Milbank, and the Columbia department is housed in 502 Hamilton.

Graduate courses are open to qualified students with permission of the instructor.

Chair: Nelson Moe (Associate Professor)

Other officers of the University offering courses in Italian:

Professors: Teodolinda Barolini, Jo Ann Cavallo (Chair), Elizabeth Leake
Assistant Professors: Pier Mattia Tommasino, Konstantia Zanou
Senior Lecturers: Maria Luisa Gozzi, Barbara Spinelli, Carol Rounds (Hungarian)
Lecturers: Felice Italo Beneduce, Federica Franze, Patrizia Palumbo, Alessandra Saggin

Requirements for the Major
The courses in Italian are designed to develop proficiency in all the language skills and to present the literary and cultural traditions of Italy. The program of study is to be planned as early as possible.

The following courses are required unless advanced standing is attained in the Department placement examination:

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<tr>
<td>ITAL UN1101</td>
<td>Elementary Italian I</td>
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<td>ITAL UN1102</td>
<td>and Elementary Italian II</td>
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<td>ITAL UN1121</td>
<td>Intensive Elementary Italian</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITAL V1201</td>
<td>Intermediate Italian I</td>
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Ten courses above ITAL V1202 Intermediate Italian II or ITAL UN1203 are required for the major, including:

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<tr>
<td>ITAL UN3333</td>
<td>Introduction To Italian Literature, I</td>
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<td>ITAL UN3334</td>
<td>and Introduction To Italian Literature, II</td>
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<td>ITAL GU4502</td>
<td>Italian Cultural Studies I: From Unification to World War I and Italian Cultural Studies II: From World War I to the Present</td>
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<td>ITAL UN3335</td>
<td>Advanced Italian</td>
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<td>ITAL UN3336</td>
<td>Advanced Italian II: Italian Language &amp; Culture</td>
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<td>ITAL UN3337</td>
<td>Advanced Italian Through Cinema</td>
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Plus at least five more courses in Italian including and numbered above ITAL V3333-ITAL V3334

Requirements for the Minor
A minimum of five courses is required for the minor, to be selected from courses including and numbered above ITAL UN3333 Introduction To Italian Literature, I.

Language Requirement
The language requirement can be fulfilled with ITAL UN1101 Elementary Italian I-ITAL UN1102 Elementary Italian II and ITAL V1201 Intermediate Italian I-ITAL V1202 Intermediate Italian II or ITAL UN1121 Intensive Elementary Italian-ITAL UN1203 (or their equivalents). Students who have taken courses in Italian elsewhere (whether in high school, in college, or both) but not at Barnard or Columbia, must take the Italian placement test before registering for any Italian course. The test is given during the preregistration period in 502 Hamilton. Please call 854-8312 or 854-2308 for hours and date.
Elementary and Intermediate Language Courses

ITAL UN1101 Elementary Italian I. 4 points.
Limited enrollment.

Elementary level of Italian.

, Same course as ITAL V1101-V1102.

ITAL UN1102 Elementary Italian II. 4 points.
Limited enrollment.

Prerequisites: ITAL UN1101 or the equivalent, ITAL V1101 or the equivalent.
Introduction to Italian grammar, with emphasis on reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.

, Introduction to Italian grammar, with emphasis on reading, writing, listening and speaking skills.

ITAL UN1121 Intensive Elementary Italian. 6 points.
Limited enrollment.

An intensive course that covers two semesters of elementary Italian in one, and prepares students to move into Intermediate Italian. Students will develop their Italian communicative competence through (interactive) speaking, reading and (interactive) writing. The Italian language will be used for real-world purposes and in meaningful contexts to promote intercultural understanding. This course is especially recommended for students who already know another Romance language. May be used toward fulfillment of the language requirement.
ITAL UN2101 Intermediate Italian I. 4 points.
Limited enrollment.

Prerequisites: ITAL UN1102 or the equivalent. If you did not take Elementary Italian at Columbia in the semester preceding the current one, you must take the placement test, offered by the Italian Department at the beginning of each semester, ITAL V1102 or W1102, or the equivalent. If you did not take Elementary Italian at Columbia in the semester preceding the current one, you must take the placement test, offered by the Italian Department at the beginning of each semester.
A review of grammar, intensive reading, composition, and practice in conversation. Exploration of literary and cultural materials. Lab: hours to be arranged.

ITAL UN2102 Intermediate Italian II. 4 points.
Limited enrollment.

Prerequisites: ITAL UN1101 or the equivalent. If you did not take Elementary Italian at Columbia in the semester preceding the current one, you must take the placement test, offered by the Italian Department at the beginning of each semester, ITAL V1201 or W1201, or the equivalent. If you did not take Elementary Italian at Columbia in the semester preceding the current one, you must take the placement test, offered by the Italian Department at the beginning of each semester.
A review of grammar, intensive reading, composition, and practice in conversation. Exploration of literary and cultural material. Lab: hours to be arranged. ITAL UN1202 fulfills the basic foreign language requirement and prepares students for advanced study in Italian language and literature.

ITAL UN2121 INTENSIVE INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN. 6.00 points.
Limited enrollment.

Prerequisites: ITAL UN1102 or the equivalent, with a grade of B+ or higher. Prerequisites: ITAL UN1102 or the equivalent, with a grade of B or higher.
An intensive course that covers two semesters of intermediate Italian in one, and prepares students for advanced language and literature study. Grammar, reading, writing, and conversation. Exploration of literary and cultural materials. This course may be used to fulfill the language requirement.
ITAL UN2221 Intermediate Conversation. 2 points.
Prerequisites: ITAL W1112 or sufficient fluency to satisfy the instructor.
Corequisites: Recommended: ITAL V1201-V/W1202 or ITAL W1201-W1202.
Conversation courses may not be used to satisfy the language requirement or fulfill major or concentration requirements. Intensive practice in the spoken language, assigned topics for class discussions, and oral reports.

Advanced Language and Literature/Culture Courses

ITAL UN3333 Introduction To Italian Literature, I. 3 points.
Prerequisites: Intermediate Italian II ITAL UN2102 or the equivalent.
UN3334x-UN3333y is the basic course in Italian literature.

UN3333: This course, entirely taught in Italian, introduces you to Medieval and early modern Italian literature. It will give you the opportunity to test your ability as a close-reader and discover unusual and fascinating texts that tell us about the polycentric richness of the Italian peninsula. We will read poems, tales, letters, fiction and non-fiction, travel writings and political pamphlets. The great "Three Crowns" - Dante, Petrarcha and Boccaccio - as well as renowned Renaissance authors such as Ludovico Ariosto and Niccolò Machiavelli, will show us the main path to discover Italian masterpieces and understand the European Renaissance. But we will also explore China with Marco Polo and the secrets of the Medieval soul diving into the mystical poems by Jacopone da Todi. We will study parody and laughter through the “poesia giocosa” (parodic poetry) by Cecco Angiolieri and the legacy of Humanism through the letters of Poggio Bracciolini. This first overview will allow you to explore Italian literature from its complex and multicultural beginnings to its diffusion across Europe during the Renaissance.

ITAL UN3334 Introduction To Italian Literature, II. 3 points.
Prerequisites: ITAL UN2102 or the equivalent.
UN3334-UN3333 is the basic course in Italian literature. UN3334: Authors and works from the Cinquecento to the present. Taught in Italian.

ITAL UN3336 Advanced Italian II: Italian Language & Culture. 3 points.
Prerequisites: ITAL V3335
Advanced reading, writing, speaking with emphasis on authentic cultural materials. Topic and semester theme varies.

ITAL UN3337 Advanced Italian Through Cinema. 3 points.
Prerequisites: ITAL UN3335
Students will develop advanced language competence while analyzing and discussing Italian film comedies and their reflection of changing Italian culture and society. Films by Monicelli, Germi, Moretti, Wertmuller, Soldini and others.

ITAL UN3338 Italiana. Introduction to Italian Culture, The High, The Low, and the In-between. 3 points.
"Italiana. Introduction to Italian Culture, the High, the Low, and the In-between" aims at expanding the students' knowledge of Italian culture and improving and refining their language skills, through writing, reading, speaking, and listening. This is a content based course in which the students familiarize with the most crucial moments of Italian history and are exposed to the issues that are currently debated in Italy, such as national identity, immigration, emigration, homoparental family, and the truthfulness or deceptiveness of the brand Made in Italy. Naturally, considerable attention is given to the distinctive geographical, economical, and cultural traits of Italian regions and their cities. The students apply their communicative skills in Italian by conversing with the Italian students currently registered at Columbia University and by conducting interviews within New York's Italian communities on the subjects studied and discussed in class.

ITAL UN3590 Anatomy of Fantastic Fiction: The Uncanny, the Monstrous and the Other in Modern and Contemporary Italy. 3 points.
What is a fantastic text and what renders it "scandalous" (R. Caillois)? How do nineteenth-century fantastic tropes and motifs survive in present-day narratives? What assumptions about "real" and "reality" do they reveal? How can fantastic representations of the inexplicable, supernatural and inhuman shape and enrich our understanding of the human mind and the world around us? And finally, why are we so fascinated by that which frightens us? In this course, we will address these and many other questions by looking at short stories, films, TV shows and comic books from the Italian and other traditions, from the 19th century to the present day. The course will be loosely chronological, but will be based mainly around thematic units. Through a comparative approach, we will explore the relationship between the fantastic mode and notions such as the uncanny, the repressed and the unconscious. We will look at our primary texts through an interdisciplinary lens spanning literary theory and genre studies to psychoanalysis and reader-response theory. Some primary texts are only available in Italian; however, accommodations can be made for non-Italian speakers.
ITAL UN3642 Road Trips: Travel in Italian Cinema. 3 points.
Explores the representation of national identity in Italian cinema from the
Facist era to the present. Examines how both geography and history are used
to construct an image of Italy and the Italians. Special focus on the cinematic
representation of travel and journeys between North and South. Films by
major neo-realist directors (Rossellini, De Sica, Visconti) as well as by leading
temporaries (Moretti, Amelio).

ITAL UN3993 Senior Thesis/Tutorial. 3 points.
Prerequisites: the faculty adviser's permission.
Senior thesis or tutorial project consisting of independent scholarly work
in an area of study of the student's choosing, under the supervision of a
member of the faculty.

ITAL GU4089 Petrarch's Canzoniere. 3 points.
This course presents a reading of Petrarch's Canzoniere and a theory of
the lyric sequence as a genre. In this course we examine Petrarch as he fashions
himself authorially, especially in the context of Ovid, Dante, and previous lyric
poets. We bring to bear ideas on time and narrative from authors such as
Augustine and Ricoeur in order to reconstruct the metaphysical significance
of collecting fragments in what was effectively a new genre. We will consider
Petrarch's lyric sequence in detail as well as read Petrarch's Secretum and
Trionfi. Lectures in English; text in Italian, although students from other
departments who can follow with the help of translations are welcome.

ITAL GU4100 Narratives of Modernity. 3 points.
In revisiting two major authors of the Italian modern novel, the course
investigates the relation between fiction and the "conditions of
modernity" (personal risk, anxiety and lack of control on reality, secularization,
to name a few). Special attention will be paid to the response of the novelistic
discourse to modernity, and to Italy's peculiarly peripheral position in
the modern world. Primary texts will be read in Italian, while theoretical
references will be in English.

ITAL GU4395 Fifty Years of Impatience: The Italian Novel between
1950-2000. 3 points.
The course examines some of the most important novels that belong to
Italy's period of major social and economic transformations. Only after
WWII Italy finally becomes a modern nation, i.e. a republic based on truly
universal suffrage, and an industrialized country. Such accelerated progress,
though, causes deep social instability and mobility which obviously results
in heavy psychological pressures on the people: adaptation becomes
crucial and inevitable. Fiction therefore resumes the task to represent such
awkwardness of integration into a modern bourgeois society that, contrarily
to its European and American counterpart, is extremely tentative and insecure
per se, since it's political identity has extremely precarious grounds. Among
other authors, primary readings include Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa's
The Leopard and Italo Calvino's If on a Winter's Night a Traveler. Primary
Readings in Italian.

ITAL GU4502 Italian Cultural Studies I: From Unification to World War I. 3
points.
An interdisciplinary investigation into Italian culture and society in the years
between Unification in 1860 and the outbreak of World War I. Drawing on
novels, historical analyses, and other sources including film and political
cartoons, the course examines some of the key problems and trends in
the cultural and political history of the period. Lectures, discussion and
required readings will be in English. Students with a knowledge of Italian are
couraged to read the primary literature in Italian.

ITAL GU4503 Italian Cultural Studies II: From World War I to the Present. 3
points.
An interdisciplinary investigation into Italian culture and society in the years
between World War I and the present. Drawing on historical analyses, literary
texts, letters, film, cartoons, popular music, etc., the course examines some of
the key problems and trends in the cultural and political history of the period.
Lectures, discussion and required readings will be in English. Students with a
knowledge of Italian are encouraged to read the primary literature in Italian.

ITAL GU4725 Pirandello and Modern Drama. 3 points.
The course will examine the foundations of modern drama and stage
representation by analysing Luigi Pirandello's plays and theatrical works
in close comparison with the major authors and drama theorists of the XIX
century, including Bertolt Brecht, August Strinberg, and Jean Genet.

CLIA GU3660 Mafia Movies: From Sicily to The Sopranos. 3 points.
Examines representations of the mafia in American and Italian film and
literature. Special attention to questions of ethnic identity and immigration.
Comparison of the different histories and myths of the mafia in the U.S. and
Italy. Readings includes novels, historical studies, and film criticism. Limit 35
CLIA GR6999 MAFIA MOVIES. 3 points.
Examines representations of the mafia in American and Italian film and literature. Special attention to questions of ethnic identity and immigration. Comparison of the different histories and myths of the mafia in the U.S. and Italy. Readings includes novels, historical studies, and film criticism. (NOTE: This is the graduate section of CLIA GU3660 which meets W 6:10p-10:00p)