ITALIAN, PH.D.

The Italian program offers the master of arts and Ph.D. degrees. In most academic years, a wide array of courses and seminars is offered each semester to provide an even distribution across various literary periods. Courses typically meet two or three times a week and are broad in focus, generally exploring well-defined periods or genres. Seminars are held once a week for two hours and take up narrower topics in greater depth. Typical course offerings over a two- to three-year period cover all centuries of Italian literature and a wide variety of topics, including Italian culture, cinema, civilization, and linguistics. Strong emphasis is placed on the practice of the language; Italian is the usual language of instruction in graduate courses and seminars.

Graduate students gain a solid foundation not only in scholarship and criticism, but also in teaching. All admitted students receive guarantees of support. The standard offer to an incoming teaching assistant provides a guarantee of four or five years of support, depending on whether the student has already done graduate work elsewhere.

The department offers regular workshops designed to give students an overview of the job market and how to best prepare for it, making its placement record outstanding. As one of the largest Italian programs in North America, the department offers an unparalleled opportunity to study Italian literature, linguistics, and culture.

ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program's admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program's website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. ***Applicants must meet*** the minimum requirements ***(***https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/***) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).*** Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	December 20
Spring Deadline	The program does not admit in the spring.
Summer Deadline	The program does not admit in the summer.
GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Not required.
English Proficiency Test	Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency).
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a
Letters of Recommendation Required	3

Please Note: If you have received only a bachelor's degree and intend to go on to a Ph.D. after completing your M.A., please apply directly to the Ph.D. program.

We hope you will consider applying to our program. We offer an M.A. and Ph.D. in Italian.

Applicants for the M.A. or Ph.D. in Italian must submit all application materials by the application deadline of December 20. International students may have different deadlines due to the extra processing time required for visas and I–20 or IAP–66 forms. Please refer to International Student Services (http://iss.wisc.edu/students/) for more information.

Graduate School Application
Please refer to the following links:

- Consult the Graduate School (http://www.wisc.edu/grad/) website for complete information about graduate education opportunities at UW–Madison. This site is especially helpful in understanding Admissions Requirements (http://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/requirements/) and developing a Timeline (http://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/process/)for application.

Materials to Upload to the Online Application:

- You will need to list three people who will write letters of recommendation (https://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/faq/) for you. They should be in faculty or permanent academic staff positions. Since the Graduate School will contact your recommenders directly via e-mail once you have completed your online application, you should be sure to contact each recommender at least a month prior to when the letter of recommendation is needed to let them know that they will be contacted directly by the Graduate School. If your referees are unable to upload your letter of recommendation to the online application, the letters should be sent to the Graduate Coordinator at ramer2@wisc.edu.
- Statement of purpose, preferably written in English
- CV
- Unofficial transcripts
- Submit the online Graduate School Application for Admission (https://apply.grad.wisc.edu/Account/Login/?ReturnUrl=%2f) and pay the application fee.
- GRE (http://www.gre.org/) (optional) institution code 1846 for UW–Madison
- Non-native English speakers must also submit results for the TOEFL (http://toefl.org/)or IELTS (https://www.ielts.org/en-us/) exams. There are few exceptions. Please note that the Graduate School requires that these scores be no older than 2 years old. This is calculated from the start of the term for which you are applying, NOT the date on which we receive your application.

Supplemental materials:

- TA/Fellowship Application: To be considered for teaching assistantship or fellowship support, you must submit to the department a document listing all relevant experience since you began studying Italian. **There is no specific application form—it is a document, much like a CV, that you put together yourself.** Include travel, study, or residence abroad. For teaching experience, be specific about subject, level, actual classroom hours/week, and age of students. Also indicate undergraduate and graduate honors, and how you would support yourself if UW was not able to offer support.

- Writing sample (essay or paper in Italian—usually between 7 and 12 pages in length)

Questions? Please contact Graduate Coordinator Shawn Ramer (ramer2@wisc.edu).

FUNDING

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

The Department of French & Italian is committed to providing full funding (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/) to all graduate students. Students who accept our offer of admission therefore receive fellowships or assistantships that cover tuition and provide eligibility to enroll in excellent comprehensive health insurance (https://www.ohr.wisc.edu/benefits/health/#health-plans) and other benefits (https://www.ohr.wisc.edu/benefits/new-emp/grad.aspx#overview). Funding is guaranteed for a minimum of 5 years of study for students entering with a B.A., and a minimum of 4 years for those entering with an M.A. Moreover, it has been our departmental practice to continue to offer funding beyond guarantee as possible for students in good academic standing.

Teaching assistantships, the most common form of support in our department, offer the pedagogical experience and training necessary to be competitive on the academic job market. The teaching assignment is usually one course per semester, but double sections (two sections of the same course) can also be requested for an increased stipend, when available. While the guarantee of support means students in good standing will receive funding, the exact assignments are based on need, merit, and experience. Generally, a graduate student will, over the course of study, hold a variety of positions from Italian 101-204, which are available every semester. Students may also have the opportunity to teach more advanced courses, such as ITALIAN 312 and ITALIAN 322, and LITTRANS 360 depending on departmental need. For more information about our teaching assistantships, please visit our website (https://frit.wisc.edu/funding/).

There are also fellowships (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/fellowships/) available from several sources on campus each year, including the Chancellor's fellowship, which starts at around $11,000 per semester. Advanced Opportunity Fellowships are also available to increase the racial and ethnic diversity of the graduate student population, as well as support economically disadvantaged and first generation college students. The department also offers a number of monetary awards every year, for academic performance and for teaching.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement	Detail
Minimum Credit Requirement	51 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	Half of degree coursework (26 credits out of 51 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide.
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.30 GPA required.
Other Grade Requirements	No other grade requirements.
Assessments and Examinations	Qualifying exam (if M.A. is from another institution); preliminary examinations; dissertation proposal; oral examination; dissertation; dissertation defense.
Language Requirements	Reading proficiency in two languages other than English and Italian.
Doctoral Minor/ Breadth Requirements	All doctoral students are required to complete a minor.

REQUIRED COURSES

Students admitted to the Ph.D. program who do not have the M.A. degree in Italian from UW–Madison are expected to have a background in the subject areas indicated by the M.A. reading list. Students in this category are required to pass the qualifying examination by the end of the second semester in the Ph.D. program. It may be taken only once.

Students must take a seminar (ITALIAN 951 and/or ITALIAN 952) in an area of Italian studies each semester until they have passed the preliminary examinations. In any given semester, this request may be waived upon approval by the associate chair for Italian. In addition, it is expected that students will complete the bulk of the coursework for their minor and foreign language reading requirements after taking their first set of preliminary examinations. Students are encouraged to plan ahead for a timeline to take these courses, and if a student wishes to take a course for their minor or foreign language requirement as part of their full-time load of 9 credits prior to that time, they may do so with approval from their advisor. Students should understand that it is very rare that requests to take minor or foreign language classes during the first year of study would be granted. In addition, advisors reserve the right to deny a student permission to take these classes (prior to the time of passing the first set of prelims) if doing so would directly conflict with a course offering in Italian which was important to the student's area of research.

At any time, students may take a course for their minor or foreign language reading requirement as a fourth course, in addition to the 9-credit requirement in Italian, without needing approval from their advisor.

Students choose courses in consultation with their advisor.

POLICIES

GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

PRIOR COURSEWORK

Graduate Work from Other Institutions

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 6 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned ten years or more prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

UW–Madison Undergraduate

No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree.

UW–Madison University Special

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 6 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison Special student. Coursework earned ten years or more prior to admission to a doctoral degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PROBATION

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, C, D, F, or Incomplete in a graduate course (300 or above), or grade of U in research credits. This review could result in academic probation with a hold on future enrollment or in being suspended from the Graduate School.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

All students are required to conduct a yearly progress report meeting with their advisor.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

TIME CONSTRAINTS

A candidate for a doctoral degree who fails to take the final oral examination and deposit the dissertation within five years after passing the preliminary examination may be required to take another preliminary examination and to be admitted to candidacy a second time.

Doctoral degree students who have been absent for ten or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/)
- Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- Employee Assistance (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
- Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
- Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
- Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
- Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
- Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
- Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances. They may also contact the L&S Academic Divisional Associate Deans, the L&S Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning Administration, or the L&S Director of Human Resources.

OTHER

In most cases, the department offers five-year guarantees of support (for students with no prior graduate work) and four-year guarantees of support (for students with prior graduate work) to incoming students. During this period of guaranteed support, students usually hold a fellowship or teaching assistantship. Decisions on support are made in February and offers are usually sent out in early March.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

The Department of French and Italian hosts several professional development workshops for our students each semester. Workshops focus on academic and non-academic professional development. Previous workshop materials are available to all students in the department.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate thorough knowledge and critical understanding of their area of specialization.
2. Synthesize and define a field of inquiry in a persuasive, coherent, and original way.
3. Make effective use of research sources, tools, and strategies in the field of Italian literature and culture.
4. Demonstrate, in the writing of their Ph.D. dissertation, an originality of thinking and insight that reaches beyond the current boundaries of knowledge within the field of study.
5. Articulate awareness of various questions, problems, and limitations implied by their framing of their topic.
6. Contribute substantially to their area of specialization, and engage in a dialogue with other experts in that area.
7. Fosters ethical and professional conduct.
8. Communicate and defend complex ideas in a clear and understandable manner, in both Italian and English.
9. Show reading knowledge of a second foreign language pertinent to their research specialty.
10. Be prepared to be effective teachers of Italian culture, and language at the college and university levels.

PEOPLE

ITALIAN FACULTY AND ACADEMIC STAFF

Professors: Stefania Buccini, Ernesto Livorni and Patrick Rumble

Associate Professors: Grazia Menechella(chair), Kristin Phillips-Court and Jelena Todorovic

Teaching Faculty II: Director of the Italian Language Program, Dr. Loren Eadie