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. Most students have guarantees of support. The standard offer to an incoming teaching assistant provides a guarantee of three or four years of support, depending on whether the student has already done graduate work elsewhere. Study abroad programs and exchange agreements with individual universities provide opportunities for study and research in Italy. For example, the department frequently sends a graduate student to serve for a semester or a year as house fellow for the study program at the Villa Corsi-Salviati near Florence. In addition the department has exchange and cooperation arrangements with the Università di Siena and the Università di Firenze.

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 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.
- 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.

- 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 MELAB (http://www.cambridgemichigan.org/melab) exams. 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.

Materials to be sent to the department:

- 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)
- If your referees are sending hard copies of your letters of recommendation to the department and are not electing to submit the letters electronically, you must print, fill out, and send a recommendation form to your recommender, who needs to include it with their letter.

Application materials should be sent to:

Graduate Coordinator, Shawn Ramer
ramer2@wisc.edu

or

Graduate Program Coordinator
Department of French and Italian
608 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
University of Wisconsin–Madison
Madison, WI 53706

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

GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet requirements of both the program(s) and the Graduate School. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/admissions).
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](https://grad.wisc.edu/funding)) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES
The Department of French and Italian typically offers three years of guaranteed support for its incoming Ph.D. students who remain in good standing in the program. The most common form of support in our department is teaching assistantships. The basic teaching assistantship in our department is at the level of 36% time and comes with a stipend, tuition remission and health benefits. For more information about our teaching assistantships, please visit our website ([https://frit.wisc.edu/graduate/italian/financial_assistance](https://frit.wisc.edu/graduate/italian/financial_assistance)). We also offer fellowships, scholarships and project assistantships, as available.

REQUIREMENTS

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

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
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</table>

Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Evening/Weekend:** These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Online:** These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules.

Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.

**Hybrid:** These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

**Accelerated:** These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Credit Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit requirement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residence Credit requirement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.30 GPA required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grade Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No other grade requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments and Examinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualifying exam (if M.A. is from another institution); preliminary examinations; dissertation proposal; oral examination; dissertation; dissertation defense.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Requirements and Italian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading proficiency in two languages other than English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral Minor/Breadth Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All doctoral students are required to complete a minor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 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
GRADUATE PROGRAM HANDBOOK
The Graduate Program Handbook (https://frit.wisc.edu/sites/frit.wisc.edu/files/Graduate%20Guidelines%20Rev%205-16-17.pdf) is the repository for all of the program's policies and requirements.

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.

1. Good standing (progressing according to standards; any funding guarantee remains in place).
2. Probation (not progressing according to standards but permitted to enroll; loss of funding guarantee; specific plan with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status).
3. Unsatisfactory progress (not progressing according to standards; not permitted to enroll, dismissal, leave of absence or change of advisor or program).

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.

OTHER
In most cases, the department offers four-year guarantees of support (for students with no prior graduate work) and three-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.

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
Professors Buccini, Livorni and Rumble
Associate Professors Menechella, Phillips-Court and Todorovic
Faculty Associate Eadie