ITALIAN, M.A.

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. The department also 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 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/]).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Deadline</td>
<td>December 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the spring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Deadline</td>
<td>The program does not admit in the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)</td>
<td>Not required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Proficiency Test</td>
<td>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 ([<a href="https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency">https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letters of Recommendation Required

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).

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**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/graduate/italian/financial_assistance/).

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 $10,000 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.

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**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**

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

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**CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>30 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>Over half of degree coursework (18 credits out of 30 total credits) must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide (<a href="https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/">https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>3.25 GPA required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate GPA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grade</td>
<td>No other grade requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments</td>
<td>Formal examination required. No thesis requirement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>No language requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REQUIRED COURSES**

Must take a total of 24 credits of Italian ([http://guide.wisc.edu/courses/italian/](http://guide.wisc.edu/courses/italian/)) courses numbered 500 and above. 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/](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 five or more years prior to admission to a master's 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 five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**PROBATION**

The Graduate School regularly reviews the record of any student who earned grades of BC, 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**

Master's degree students who have been absent for five 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/](https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/))
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures ([https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure](https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure))
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures ([https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/](https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/))
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs ([https://facstaffprovost.wisc.edu/](https://facstaffprovost.wisc.edu/))
  - Dean of Students Office ([https://doso.students.wisc.edu/](https://doso.students.wisc.edu/)) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
  - Employee Assistance ([http://www.eao.wisc.edu/](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/](https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/)) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
  - Graduate School ([https://grad.wisc.edu/](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/](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/](https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/)) (for conflicts involving students)
  - Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff ([http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/](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/](https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/)) (for concerns about discrimination)

Students should contact the department chair or program director with questions about grievances.

**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.

**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 critical understanding of the major works of Italian literature and culture from the Middle Ages up to the present.
2. Lead a well-informed discussion of literature and culture utilizing an adequate proficiency of Italian.
3. Master methods of literary and cultural analysis in their specific areas of interest.
4. Examine literary texts of various genres and write competent critical and analytical essays.
5. Lead a well-informed discussion of literature and culture utilizing an adequate proficiency of Italian.
6. Identify, select, and retrieve primary and secondary sources pertaining to questions in Italian literature and culture.
7. Recognizes and applies principles of ethical and professional conduct.
8. Create level- and course-appropriate instructional objectives, activities, and assessments for teaching language, literature, and culture.
9. Use instructional technologies appropriately to enhance the teaching of language, literature, and culture.
10. Incorporate insights from second language acquisition theory and current best practices in foreign language teaching into instruction.

**PEOPLE**

**ITALIAN FACULTY AND ACADEMIC STAFF**

Professors Buccini (chair), Livorni and Rumble

Associate Professors Menechella, Phillips-Court and Todorovic

Faculty Associate Eadie