ITALIAN

Overview and Contact Information
The major in Italian seeks to foster linguistic fluency and appreciation of the multifaceted culture of the Italian people. In addition to acquiring advanced oral and written proficiency in the Italian language, majors and minors will have the opportunity to access Italy's rich literary and cultural heritage through cinema, literature, music, art, the Web. Besides selecting courses offered at Mount Holyoke and in the more extended Five College community, students are encouraged to investigate the many study abroad options available to them in such culturally diverse cities as Bologna, Florence, and Padova. A major in Italian language and culture can lead to a variety of national and international careers, from foreign service to fashion marketing, from international banking and trade to film, from a career in nonprofits to teaching.

The weekly Italian table provides a welcoming environment for spontaneous expression and cultural exchange, and the ongoing extracurricular activities of the Italian club, lectures, and films round out the multifaceted learning experience at MHC.

See Also
- Romance Languages and Cultures (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/romance-languages-cultures)

Contact Information
Bruce Arnold, Chair
Denise Falk, Academic Department Coordinator
112 Ciruti Center
413-538-2885
https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/italian

Faculty
This area of study is administered by the Department of Classics and Italian. Italian faculty include:
- Ombretta Frau, Dorothy Rooke McCulloch Professor of Italian
- Morena Svaldi, Lecturer in Italian
- Martino Lovato, Visiting Lecturer in Classics and Italian

Requirements for the Major
A minimum of 32 credits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITAL-209</td>
<td>Conversation and Composition</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITAL-221</td>
<td>Introduction to Italian Culture and Literature I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ITAL-222</td>
<td>Introduction to Italian Culture and Literature II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four 300-level courses in Italian literature and culture to be approved by the department</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 additional credits in Italian</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>32</td>
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Additional Specifications
- Courses lower than ITAL-209 cannot be counted toward the major.
- Independent Study (ITAL-395) may not be used as part of the minimum major requirements.
- One 200- or 300-level course may be in English translation but must be approved by the department.
- Students thinking about a major in Italian or studying abroad should contact Professor Frau or Language Instructor Svaldi.

Requirements for the Minor
A minimum of 16 credits

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<tr>
<td>At least one course at the 300 level</td>
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<td>One additional course at the 200 or 300 level</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td>16</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional Specifications
- Courses lower than ITAL-209 cannot be counted toward the minor.
- Independent Study (ITAL-395) may not be used as part of the minimum minor requirements.
- One 200- or 300-level course may be in English translation but must be approved by the department.

Teacher Licensure
Students interested in pursuing licensure in the field of Italian can combine their course work in Italian with a minor in education. In some instances course work in the major coincides with course work required for licensure; in other cases, it does not. For specific course requirements for licensure within the major of Italian, please consult your advisor or the chair of the Department of Classics and Italian. Further information about the minor in education (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/psychology-education/#minortext) and the Teacher Licensure program (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/psychology-education/#teacherlicensuretext) is available in other sections of the catalog, or consult Professor Lawrence in the psychology and education department.

Licensure also requires a formal application as well as passing scores on the Massachusetts Test of Educator Licensure (MTEL) in both the literacy component and the subject matter component. Copies of the test objectives for the MTEL are available in the Department of Classics and Italian and in the Department of Psychology and Education.

Additional information about the Licensure Program, including application materials, can be found on the Teacher Licensure Program website (https://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/teach).

Course Advice
Guidelines for New Students
All courses satisfy distribution requirements unless otherwise indicated.

Courses are normally conducted in Italian. Courses offered in translation are listed at the end of the Italian course descriptions.
Students with no previous training in Italian should elect ITAL-101—ITAL-102.

Students with two years of high school study should elect ITAL-201. Students whose proficiency in the Italian language is superior and who wish to study literature should elect ITAL-221 or ITAL-222, in the fall semester. Students who are unsure about their level should contact Professor Frau for a proficiency test.

Students contemplating a junior year in Italy should elect an Italian course in the first semester of their first year.

Course Offerings

ITAL-101 Elementary Italian I
Fall and Spring. Credits: 4
This course emphasizes understanding, speaking, and writing in a contemporary context. It also promotes creativity with presentations and original group projects. It includes Web activities, films, short stories, and frequent conversation sessions with language assistants.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
M. Lovato, M. Svaldi
Notes: Successful completion of both ITAL-101 and ITAL-102 will give students a full grammatical knowledge of basic Italian and it is highly recommended.

ITAL-102 Elementary Italian II
Spring. Credits: 4
This course emphasizes understanding, speaking, and writing in a contemporary context. It also promotes creativity with presentations and original group projects. It includes Web activities, films, short stories, and frequent conversation sessions with language assistants.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
M. Svaldi

ITAL-112 Bridge to Italian 201 Part 1
Spring. Credits: 2
This course is particularly designed to create a new path for students who are taking (or have taken) Italian 101 and wish to have the necessary preparation to take Intermediate Italian (ITAL 201) in the fall semester. They will be provided with the skills necessary to: understand, speak, and write Italian at the advanced beginner level, learn about contemporary Italian society, and develop the competence, interest and enthusiasm for the language that will inspire them to proceed to more advanced levels.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
The department
Advisory: For students who are taking, or have taken, ITAL-101.
Notes: Second half of semester.

ITAL-113 Bridge to Italian 201 Part 2
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 2
This course is particularly designed to create a new path for students who have taken Italian 112 only. They will be provided with the skills necessary to: understand, speak, and write Italian at the advanced beginner level, learn about contemporary Italian society, and develop the competence, interest and enthusiasm for the language that will inspire them to proceed to more advanced levels.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
M. Svaldi
Prereq: ITAL-112.
Notes: Half-semester course.

ITAL-201 Intermediate Italian
Fall. Credits: 4
After reviewing essential grammar and vocabulary, Intermediate Italian will expose students to new and more complex lexicon and communicative grammatical structures. Through authentic materials (videoclips, music, newspaper articles, websites etc.), the course emphasizes reading, writing, listening, and speaking. A realistic picture of modern Italy replaces stereotypical images of Italy with contemporary representation. Class time emphasizes group conversations and builds accurate use of the language in an interactive and dynamic way. Projects will give a solid foundation that provide opportunities for cultivating interests and help prepare students for more advanced study of Italian.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
M. Svaldi
Prereq: ITAL-102.

ITAL-209 Conversation and Composition
Spring. Credits: 4
Offers practice of colloquial and idiomatic speech patterns in Italian to emphasize correct pronunciation and intonation. Includes oral presentations as well as frequent compositions, from short reports to full-length essays. Uses newspapers, magazines, and literary texts to discuss issues and lifestyles concerning Italian society.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
M. Svaldi
Prereq: ITAL-201.

ITAL-221 Introduction to Italian Culture and Literature I
ITAL-221CT Introduction to Italian Culture and Literature I: 'Cities in the Italian Renaissance'
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
This course is a journey through five exceptional Italian Renaissance cities: Florence, Rome, Venice, Mantova and Ferrara. Through these cities’ history and literature, we will explore the cultural, historical and social conditions that contributed to make the Renaissance a unique period. We will read texts and learn about art, architecture, theatre, poetry and society.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
The department
Prereq: ITAL-209.
Notes: Taught in Italian

ITAL-221DE Introduction to Italian Culture and Literature I: 'On Love, Death, and Other Frivolous Things: Early Modern Italian Writers'
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
This course is an introduction to the major cultural movements of Medieval and Renaissance Italy, from Saint Francis of Assisi to Dante, Boccaccio, Petrarach, Machiavelli, and Vittoria Colonna. It surveys the major cultural and historical currents and introduces students to the masterpieces of Italy’s literary tradition. Love and death will be the main themes covered in the course. Class discussions, written work, and movie screenings are aimed at developing skills in oral expression and expository writing in Italian. In Fall 2016, the course will include a special focus on Italian Theatre and Opera.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive
The department
Notes: Taught in Italian
ITAL-222 Introduction to Italian Culture and Literature II

ITAL-222MB Introduction to Italian Culture and Literature II: "Mystery Boutique: The Modern Short Story in Italy"
Fall. Credits: 4
Writing short stories is a challenging art. Starting with Boccaccio, Italian authors are considered masters of the novella. This course will explore the universe of the short story in modern Italy, from realism to mystery, from love to rebellion, from the hardships of child labour to the fantastic. Readings will include DeAmicis, Capuana, Verga, Neera, Marchesa Colombi, Serao, Pirandello, Ginzburg, Buzzati, Pavese, Landolfi, Calvino, and Scego.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
O. Frau
Notes: Taught in Italian.

ITAL-241DA Italian Topics Taught in English: 'Global Dante: A Journey through Hell'
Fall. Credits: 4
In this course, we investigate what makes Dante's Divine Comedy one of the major classics of Western literature, and why this poem is still relevant in today's imagination and politics. By reading Inferno (Hell) in its entirety, we will establish a foundation for Dante's influence as a national, regional and global source of inspiration across the ages, and explore the major themes of the Comedy: love, sin, freedom, religion, violence, and politics. Dante's encyclopedic knowledge will be our reference map to navigate the complexity of our age. Through in-class discussions, journal entries and peer collaboration, you will increase your academic skills and contribute to make our collective journey into hell a lively exploration of the present world.
Crosslisted as: RELIG-225DA
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
M. Lovato
Notes: Taught in English. Students interested in taking this course as a 300-level for Italian credit should contact instructor, Martino Lovato.

ITAL-241EF Italian Topics Taught in English: 'Elena Ferrante, an Italian Mystery'
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
This course explores the writings of Elena Ferrante. In particular, we are going to concentrate on Ferrante's four volume epic known as the Neapolitan Quartet and its two female protagonists, Elena and Lila. We will examine Ferrante's notion of female friendship and solidarity, love, marriage and motherhood. We will pay special attention to working class women in post-WWII Naples and their unique lives. We are going to follow Elena and Lila's complex journey around Naples, Pisa, Rome, Ischia etc. while we try to understand and unmask the literary sensation that reclusive Ferrante has become.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Notes: The course is taught in English. Students who wish to obtain Italian credit at the 300 level, please contact Professor Frau.

ITAL-241ME Italian Topics Taught in English: 'Introduction to the Mediterranean'
Spring. Credits: 4
This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary study of African, Asian, and European regions of the Mediterranean. Setting sail from classics such as the Bible and the Koran, we will explore the connected histories and geographies of Arab, French, and Italian societies, to focus on colonial and postcolonial classics in literature and cinema such as Pabst's L'Atlantide, Pontecorvo's The Battle of Algiers, and Abdel Salem's The Mummy.
Crosslisted as: HIST-255ME, FLMST-270ME, GEOG-241ME, CST-249ME
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
M. Lovato
Notes: Taught in English.

ITAL-295 Independent Study
Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 4
The department
Instructor permission required.

ITAL-301 Liars, Pranksters, and Jesters on the Italian Stage
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
This course explores the role of lies and practical jokes in Italian literary culture and the concept of humor has changed over time. We will investigate the intimate connection between power, religion, and laughter by reading some of the funniest and politically charged works. Our authors (Machiavelli, Goldoni, Pirandello, De Filippo, Fo) will take us through the streets of Renaissance Florence, eighteenth-century Venetian canals, as well as the improvised "factory theaters" of the 1970s.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
Other Attribute(s): Writing-Intensive
The department
Notes: Taught in English. Students who wish to obtain Italian credit will have to do all of the readings/writings in Italian and participate in a tutorial with Professor Frau.

ITAL-306 All in the Family: Italian Families
Spring. Credits: 4
What is a family? Starting with Ancient Rome, familial ties have always played a strong role in Italian society. This course examines the concept of family through the centuries and through cultural, literary and historical changes. We will explore this idea from the ancient Roman family, to the Fascist family, to the modern and post-modern family, together with representations of Italian families in art, television, cinema, and advertisement.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
O. Frau
Advisory: Intended for Italian and Romance Languages majors and minors and all students interested in Mediterranean studies.
Notes: Taught in English. Students who want to take this course for credit towards the Italian major or minor, please contact Professor Frau. This course will be linked with Professor Khory's International Migration and Professor Gadjigo's Paris and France in the African Imagination.
ITAL-311 Advanced Topics in Italian
ITAL-311GM Advanced Topics in Italian: 'Bric-a-Brac, Trinkets, Needles, Pen and Paper Gendering Material Culture in Italy'
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
In this course we examine female and male spaces in the Italian home through modern works of literature and art. We will analyze how objects can define a personality, a space, a life. Spaces examined include intellectual/writing spaces, working spaces, eating/cooking spaces, clothing, décor. Authors include Mara Antelling, Gabriele D’Annunzio, Guido Gozzano, Oscar Wilde, Jolanda, Aldo Palazzeschi, Marchesa Colombi, Matilde Serao, Virginia Woolf.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Language
The department
Notes: Taught in Italian
ITAL-341 Italian Topics Taught in English
ITAL-350 Topic
ITAL-350LC Topic: ’Once upon a Time: Literature for Children in Italy from the 1500s to the 1900s’
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
This course explores the development of gender roles, gender narratives, and patterns and metaphors of society through books and short stories aimed at children and young adults. Readings include classics such as Basile’s Pentamerone, Collodi’s Pinocchio and DeAmicis’ Cuore, and less-known works by Salgari, Baccini, Capuana, Vamba, and Rodari. We will also examine the evolution of children’s textbooks (with particular attention given to fascist schoolbooks), children’s magazines, and the media.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Notes: Taught in Italian
ITAL-361 Seminar in Romance Languages and Cultures
This interdisciplinary seminar will focus on a comparative study of Romance languages or literatures. Topics will vary from semester to semester. Seminar discussions will be conducted in English, but students wishing to obtain language credit are expected to read works in at least one original language. Papers will be written in either English or the Romance language of the student’s choice.
ITAL-361HE Seminar in Romance Languages and Cultures: ’Heroes & Infidels: Masculine Identity and The Birth of Europe in Medieval Romance Classics’
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
In this course we will read the canonical works that have shaped the national identity of European Romance countries such as Spain, France, Italy, Portugal, and Romania: from the medieval Chanson the Roland and Cantar del mio Cid to the early modern Don Quixote, Os Lusíadas, Orlando Furioso, and Mesterul Manole. We will discuss the performed masculinity of heroes, enemies, and mediators at the threshold between worlds. We will employ a decolonial critical approach to the Medieval, to question past and present wars against the infidel and their roles in the shaping of a modern European identity.
Crosslisted as: ROMLG-375HE, SPAN-360HE, FREN-321HE
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive
The department
Advisory: For Language Majors: two courses in culture and literature at the 200 level. Also open to non-language majors with no prerequisite.
Notes: Note: Students wishing to obtain 300-level credit in French, Italian, or Spanish must read texts and write papers in the Romance language for which they wish to receive credit.
ITAL-395 Independent Study
Fall and Spring. Credits: 1 - 8
The department
Instructor permission required.