Italian Studies

The graduate program offers in-depth training in the field of Italian Studies, leading to the PhD degree. The program begins with a strong foundation in the critical analysis and historical understanding of Italian literature and encourages exploration of a wide range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary areas. These include (but are not limited to) film studies; comparative literature; literary, rhetorical, and cultural theory; gender studies; history; anthropology; history of art and music; architecture; classics; political science; medieval and early modern studies; and Romance languages and literature.

The Department of Italian Studies offers an integrated MA/PhD program, in which the MA constitutes the first phase in a trajectory leading to the PhD. Applications are not accepted for the MA degree alone. Students holding a master’s degree or the equivalent in Italian Studies and related fields from other institutions may be admitted directly to the second phase of the program.

Admission to the Program
We select our graduate students on the basis of their record of academic achievement in the past, and their promise of future success in scholarship and teaching. A bachelor’s degree in Italian is preferred but not absolutely required for admission; however, applicants with degrees in other fields must have already undertaken significant coursework in Italian studies.

We accept applications from students holding a bachelor’s degree from Berkeley or elsewhere, and from those who hold a master’s degree or Italian Laurea. Applicants from Italy should also be aware of the significant differences between the PhD degree and the dottorato di ricerca.

Normative Time Requirements
Total Normative Time
Total normative time is six years.

Curriculum

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Select three ITALIAN graduate courses from the following historical periods:

- 13th-14th Centuries
- 15th-16th Centuries
- 17th-18th Centuries
- 19th-20th Centuries

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Italian Studies
Expand all course descriptions [+]Collapse all course descriptions [-]

Where to apply?
Visit the Berkeley Graduate Division application page (http://grad.berkeley.edu/admissions/apply/).
### ITALIAN C201 Linguistic History of the Romance Language 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2021, Spring 2018, Fall 2015, Fall 2014

Linguistic development of the major Romance languages (French, Italian, and Spanish) from the common Latin origin. Comparative perspective, combining historical grammar and external history.

**Linguistic History of the Romance Language: Read More [+]**

**Rules & Requirements**

**Prerequisites:** Knowledge of at least two of the major Romance languages (French, Italian, and Spanish)

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** Italian Studies/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Formerly known as:** Romance Philology 200

**Also listed as:** FRENCH C202/SPANISH C202

**Linguistic History of the Romance Language: Read Less [-]**

### ITALIAN C203 Comparative Studies in Romance Literatures and Cultures 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022, Spring 2020, Spring 2016

Topics will vary. Comparative studies in literary, cultural, or historical issues that cut across the literatures of the Romance languages.

**Comparative Studies in Romance Literatures and Cultures: Read More [+]**

**Rules & Requirements**

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** Italian Studies/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Also listed as:** FRENCH C203/SPANISH C203

**Comparative Studies in Romance Literatures and Cultures: Read Less [-]**

### ITALIAN 204 Contemporary Trends in Critical Theory 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2013

This course is designed to provide the student with a general view of the major developments in contemporary criticism and an opportunity to apply critical methods to literary texts. One oral report and a final paper.

**Contemporary Trends in Critical Theory: Read More [+]**

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar and 1 hour of discussion per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** Italian Studies/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Instructors:** Navarrete, Hampton, Botterill

**Also listed as:** FRENCH C204/SPANISH C204

**Contemporary Trends in Critical Theory: Read Less [-]**

### ITALIAN 205 Proseminar I: Italian Literary Studies 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2022, Fall 2019, Fall 2017

This course introduces the study of Italian literature in its historical scope, while presenting the range of research interests represented on the Italian Studies faculty. Required of all Master of Arts candidates.

**Proseminar I: Italian Literary Studies: Read More [+]**

**Rules & Requirements**

**Credit Restrictions:** Students taking this course for 2 units do not write a final paper and may enroll in the course on a <satisfactory/<unsatisfactory> basis.

**Repeat rules:** Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

**Hours & Format**

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of seminar per week

**Additional Details**

**Subject/Course Level:** Italian Studies/Graduate

**Grading:** Letter grade.

**Instructors:** Navarrete, Hampton, Botterill

**Also listed as:** FRENCH C205/SPANISH C205

**Proseminar I: Italian Literary Studies: Read Less [-]**
ITALIAN 212 Seminar on Dante 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2018, Spring 2015, Fall 2014
Studies in the and other works.
Seminar on Dante: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students taking this course for 2 units do not write a final paper and may enroll in the course on a <satisfactory/unsatisfactory> basis.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructors: Ascoli, Botterill
Formerly known as: 209
Seminar on Dante: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 215 Seminar in Renaissance Literature and Culture 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023
Investigation of major topics, genres, and authors in Italian literature and culture of the 15th and 16th centuries.
Seminar in Renaissance Literature and Culture: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students taking this course for 2 units do not write a final paper and may enroll in the course on a <satisfactory/unsatisfactory> basis.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructors: Ascoli, Moses
Formerly known as: 217
Seminar in Renaissance Literature and Culture: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 230 Seminar in 19th Century Literature and Culture 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021, Spring 2019, Spring 2014
Investigation of major topics, genres, and figures in Italian literature and culture of the 19th century.
Seminar in 19th Century Literature and Culture: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students taking this course for 2 units do not write a final paper and may enroll in the course on a <satisfactory/unsatisfactory> basis.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructor: Spackman
Formerly known as: 221
Seminar in 19th Century Literature and Culture: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 235 Seminar in 20th Century Literature and Culture 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2021
Investigation of major topics, genres, and authors in Italian literature and culture of the 20th century.
Seminar in 20th Century Literature and Culture: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students taking this course for 2 units do not write a final paper and may enroll in the course on a <satisfactory/unsatisfactory> basis.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Instructors: Spackman, Fuller
Formerly known as: 223
Seminar in 20th Century Literature and Culture: Read Less [-]
ITALIAN 244 Special Topics in Genre and Mode 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Fall 2016
Investigation of significant genres and modes of writing as they recur in the course of Italian cultural history.
Special Topics in Genre and Mode: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students taking this course for 2 units enroll in the course on a <satisfactory/unsatisfactory> basis and do not write a final paper.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

ITALIAN 248 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Italian Studies 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2021
Investigation of topics in Italian cultural history from a multidisciplinary perspective.
Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Italian Studies: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Students taking this course for 2 units enroll in the course on a <satisfactory/unsatisfactory> basis and do not write a final paper.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

ITALIAN 260 Directed Readings in Italian Literature and Culture 2 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023
Directed readings undertaken under the direction of a faculty member of the department of Italian Studies in conjunction with an audit of a 100-series seminar.
Directed Readings in Italian Literature and Culture: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

ITALIAN 270 Seminar Research Course 1 Unit
Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021
Directed research leading to the writing of a term paper under the direction of an Italian Studies department faculty member. Requires concurrent enrollment in a 100-series seminar.
Seminar Research Course: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Italian Studies: Read Less [-]
ITALIAN 282 Prospectus Tutorial 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021
Directed reading course leading to the production of a formal dissertation prospectus with detailed bibliography. Course is required for all Doctor of Philosophy candidates.
Prospectus Tutorial: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Prospectus Tutorial: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 290A Graduate Colloquium in Italian Studies 2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021
Reports on current scholarly work by faculty and graduate students.
Graduate Colloquium in Italian Studies: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Graduate standing in Italian studies
Credit Restrictions: M.A. or Ph.D. students who elect to repeat the sequence must do so on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of colloquium per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.
Formerly known as: 290

Graduate Colloquium in Italian Studies: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 298 Special Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023
Designed to allow students to do research in areas not covered by other courses. Requires regular discussions with the instructor and a final written report.
Special Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Consent of the instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 6 weeks - 2.5-7.5 hours of independent study per week
8 weeks - 1.5-5.5 hours of independent study per week
10 weeks - 1.5-6 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.

Special Study: Read Less [-]
ITALIAN 299 Directed Research 6 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023
Limited to students engaged in research for the doctoral dissertation.
Directed Research: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week
Summer:
3 weeks - 27-60 hours of independent study per week
6 weeks - 15-30 hours of independent study per week
8 weeks - 10-99 hours of independent study per week
10 weeks - 8-18 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Directed Research: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN N299 Directed Research 1 - 6 Units
Terms offered: Summer 2024 10 Week Session, Summer 2023 10 Week Session, Summer 2022 10 Week Session
Limited to students engaged in research for the doctoral dissertation.
Directed Research: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Summer:
6 weeks - 0.5-8 hours of independent study per week
8 weeks - 0.5-6 hours of independent study per week
10 weeks - 0.5-4.5 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Directed Research: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 302 Practicum in College Teaching of Italian 2 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023
Practicum in College Teaching of Italian: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: 301. Concurrent service as Italian graduate student instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-4 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Practicum in College Teaching of Italian: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 303 Practicum in the Teaching of Italian Literature, History, and Culture 2 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023
Three hours of classroom teaching per week with regular faculty supervision; attendance at faculty lectures where appropriate; routine meetings to discuss and evaluate teaching methods, including lecturing, discussion, classroom activities, grading and testing, design of syllabi and course materials.
Practicum in the Teaching of Italian Literature, History, and Culture: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Required of Italian Studies Department GSIs not enrolled in 302 or 355 or in an approved Reading and Composition pedagogy course
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Practicum in the Teaching of Italian Literature, History, and Culture: Read Less [-]
ITALIAN 375 Seminar in Language Pedagogy
4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017
Required of all graduate student instructors in their first semester of teaching. This course provides instruction on the theory and practice of foreign language teaching and learning with lectures on methodology, testing, grading, class preparation, textbook selection and evaluation, course design and development, and the use of audio-visual and computer aids to instruction. A final research paper is required. It also includes supervised classroom practice.
Seminars in Language Pedagogy: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Graduate student instructor status
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers
Grading: Letter grade.
Seminars in Language Pedagogy: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 601 Individual Studies for M.A. Candidates 1 - 8 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023
Individual study in consultation with a faculty member with a view to the M.A. comprehensive examination. May be taken only in the semester of the comprehensive examination.
Individual Studies for M.A. Candidates: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with advisor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate examination preparation
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Individual Studies for M.A. Candidates: Read Less [-]

ITALIAN 602 Individual Studies for Doctoral Students 1 - 8 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023
Individual study in consultation with a faculty adviser. Intended to provide an opportunity for qualified students to prepare for the Ph.D. qualifying examination. May be taken only in the semester of the qualifying examination.
Individual Studies for Doctoral Students: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Credit Restrictions: Course does not satisfy unit or residence requirements for doctoral degree.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with advisor consent.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Italian Studies/Graduate examination preparation
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Individual Studies for Doctoral Students: Read Less [-]