An interdepartmental program

### Italian Studies

#### Objectives

Italian studies provides an interdisciplinary major and a minor for those who wish to extend their study of Italian beyond language and culture to areas of Italian literature, history, film, art history, and music. The study of Italian within a variety of cultural contexts enables students to deepen their understanding of a national heritage beyond the boundaries of a single time frame, region, gender, genre, or academic discipline. Students are encouraged to study abroad in their junior year and to take advantage of resources within the Boston Area Consortium (Boston College, Boston University, Tufts University, and Wellesley College).

#### How to Become a Major or Minor

Students in the major and the minor work closely with an advisor to develop an individualized plan of study that balances the exploration of a broad range of topics and sectors with a focus on a single discipline or cultural period.

#### Committee

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Lansing</td>
<td>Chair and Undergraduate Advising Head</td>
<td>Romance and Comparative Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Kapelle</td>
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<td>History</td>
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<td>Alice Kelikian</td>
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<td>History</td>
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#### Faculty

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>James Mandrell</td>
<td>Associate Professor of Romance and Comparative Literature</td>
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<td>Charles McClendon</td>
<td>Professor of Fine Arts</td>
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<td>Jessica Ann Owens</td>
<td>Professor of Music</td>
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<td>Benjamin Ravid</td>
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<td>Paola Servino</td>
<td>Associate Professor of Romance and Comparative Literature</td>
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#### Requirements for the Major

The major in Italian Studies consists of a minimum of nine semester courses, including the completion of one advanced language course, three literature courses, four courses from the related disciplines, and completion of the senior option. Students seeking honors will take a minimum of ten courses, configured as follows.

**A.** At least one advanced language course: ITAL 105a or ITAL 106a

**B.** Three literature courses: ITAL 110a, ITAL 120 b, IECS 135a, IECS 140a, IECS 150a, COML 103b

**C.** Any four of the following courses relating to Italian culture, or other courses approved by the student’s advisor:

- FA 45a St. Peter’s and the Vatican
- FA 51a Art of the Early Renaissance in Italy
- FA 58b High and Late Renaissance in Italy
- FA 60a Baroque in Italy and Spain
- FA 197b Methods and Approaches in the History of Art: Leonardo da Vinci
- HIST 123a The Renaissance
- HIST 129b Science and Religion: The Trial of Galileo
- HIST 138b Industrialization and Social Change: 1900 to the Present*
- HIST 139a Women, Work, and Family*
- HIST 139b Fascism East and West*
- HIST 176b Modern Italy 1848-1990
- NEJS 151b Merchants, Moneylenders, and Ghetti of Venice

**D.** Concentrators must complete either ITAL 97 (senior essay) or ITAL 99 (senior thesis) in their senior year, or an equivalent course or courses in a cognate department which results in the writing of a senior essay or senior thesis on a subject relating to Italy.

**E.** Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad during their junior year, for either one or two semesters. Equivalent or appropriate courses taken abroad may count towards the concentration. Students who are unable to engage in study abroad are encouraged to avail themselves of relevant courses offered by Consortium institutions in the Boston area (principally Wellesley College, Boston College, Boston University, Tufts University).

#### Requirements for the Minor

A minor in Italian studies consists of the five semester courses:

**A.** An advanced language course: ITAL 105a or ITAL 106a

**B.** A literature course: ITAL 110a, ITAL 120 b, IECS 135a, or IECS 140a

**C.** Any two of the Italian-related courses listed in C above, or other courses approved by the student’s advisor.

**D.** Any elective course from the listings in A, B, or C.
Courses of Instruction

[1-99] Primarily for Undergraduate Students

ITAL 10a Beginning Italian
Enrollment limited to 20 per section.
Students who have previously studied
Italian must obtain permission of the
instructor before enrolling.
For students who have had no previous
study of Italian. A systematic presentation
of the basic grammar and vocabulary of the
language within the context of Italian
culture, with focus on all four language
skills: listening, speaking, reading, and
writing. Usually offered every year.
Staff

ITAL 20b Continuing Italian
Prerequisite: ITAL 10a or the equivalent.
Enrollment limited to 20 per section.
For students with some previous study
of Italian. Continuing presentation of the
basic grammar and vocabulary of the
language within the context of Italian
culture, and practice of the four language
skills. Special attention to reading and
writing skills, as well as guided
conversation. Usually offered every year.
Staff

ITAL 30a Intermediate Italian
Prerequisite: ITAL 20b or the equivalent.
Enrollment limited to 20 per section.
Readings in contemporary Italian short
stories, newspaper, and journal articles and
short essays of cultural interest will be
supplemented by video presentations
[opera, film, “filmati,” and “telegiornale”
from Rai] designed to enhance oral
comprehension. Typical themes include
social conflicts (Fascism, the problem of the
“mezzogiorno”) and cultural phenomena
[feminism, art, geography]. Review of
grammar, written exercises, and short
compositions. Usually offered every fall.
Ms. Servino

ITAL 97a Senior Essay
Signatures of the instructor and the
undergraduate advising head required.
Students should consult the undergraduate
advising head before enrolling. May not be
taken for credit by students who have
satisfactorily completed ITAL 97b.
Offers students an opportunity to produce a
senior essay under the direction of an
individual instructor. Usually offered every
spring.
Staff

ITAL 98a Independent Study
May be taken only with the written
permission of the advising head and the
chair of the department. Signatures of the
instructor and the chair of the department
required.
Reading and reports under faculty
supervision. Usually offered every year.
Staff

ITAL 98b Independent Study
May be taken only with the written
permission of the advising head and the
chair of the department. Signatures of the
instructor and the chair of the department
required.
Reading and reports under faculty
supervision. Usually offered every year.
Staff

ITAL 99d Senior Thesis
Signatures of the instructor and the
undergraduate advising head required.
Students should consult the undergraduate
advising head before enrolling.
Usually offered every year.
Staff

ITAL 97b Senior Essay
Signatures of the instructor and the
undergraduate advising head required.
Students should consult the undergraduate
advising head before enrolling. May not be
taken for credit by students who have
satisfactorily completed ITAL 97b.
Offers students an opportunity to produce a
senior essay under the direction of an
individual instructor. Usually offered every
spring.
Staff

ITAL 98a Independent Study
May be taken only with the written
permission of the advising head and the
chair of the department. Signatures of the
instructor and the chair of the department
required.
Reading and reports under faculty
supervision. Usually offered every year.
Staff

ITAL 98b Independent Study
May be taken only with the written
permission of the advising head and the
chair of the department. Signatures of the
instructor and the chair of the department
required.
Reading and reports under faculty
supervision. Usually offered every year.
Staff

ITAL 99d Senior Thesis
Signatures of the instructor and the
undergraduate advising head required.
Students should consult the undergraduate
advising head before enrolling.
Usually offered every year.
Staff

[100-199] For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

ITAL 105a Italian Conversation and
Composition
Prerequisite: ITAL 30a or the equivalent.
Provides students with an opportunity to
develop their oral and written proficiency in
Italian, while familiarizing themselves
with different facets of contemporary
Italian culture and society. Readings will be
supplemented by films and recordings.
Usually offered every second year. Last
offered in the spring of 2001.
Ms. Servino

ITAL 106a Advanced Readings in Italian
Prerequisite: ITAL 30a or the equivalent.
Enrollment limited to 18.
Close study and analysis of representative
works of Italian literature (prose, poetry,
drama) and culture (art, history, music,
cinema, politics) designed to enhance the
student’s reading skills. Three hours per
week. Usually offered every year. Will be
offered in the fall of 2002.
Mr. Lansing

ITAL 106b Advanced Readings in Italian
Prerequisite: ITAL 30a or the equivalent.
Enrollment limited to 18.
Close study and analysis of representative
works of Italian literature (prose, poetry,
drama) and culture (art, history, music,
cinema, politics) designed to enhance the
student’s reading skills. Three hours per
week. Usually offered every year. Will be
offered in the fall of 2002.
Mr. Lansing

ITAL 110a Introduction to Italian Literature
Prerequisite: ITAL 30a or the equivalent.
Surveys the masterpieces of Italian
literature from Dante to the present. It is
designed to introduce the student to the
major authors and literary periods, styles,
and genres and present an overview of the
history of the literature. Conducted in
Italian. Usually offered every second year.
Last offered in the spring of 2001.
Mr. Lansing

ITAL 120b Modern Italian Literature
Prerequisite: ITAL 30a or the equivalent.
Analysis of major works by Svevo, Pirandello,
Moravia, Silone, Lampedusa, Pavese, Primo Levi,
Montale, and Vittorini with respect to the political,
economic, and social problems of post-Risorgimento Italy.
Conducted in Italian. Usually offered every second year.
Last offered in the spring of 2002.
Mr. Lansing

IECS 135a Shifting Grounds: Social Change
in Italian Fiction and Film
Open to all students. Conducted in English
with readings in English translation.
Charts various aspects of social change in
Italian society and culture through close
readings and discussions of literary and
cinematic texts by Manzoni, Verga,
Pirandello, Silone, Morante, Calvino,
Rossellini, de Sica, Fellini, Pasolini, and
Bertolucci, among others. Usually offered
every third year. Last offered in the spring
of 1999.
Mr. Mandrell

IECS 140a Dante’s Divine Comedy
Open to all students. Conducted in English
with readings in English translation.
A close study of the entire poem—Inferno,
Purgatorio, Paradiso—as a symbolic vision
of reality reflecting the culture and
thought—political, philosophical,
thecological—of the Middle Ages. Readings
will include two minor works, the Vita
Nuova and World Government. Usually
offered every second year. Last offered in
the fall of 2001.
Mr. Lansing

IECS 150a Jewish Identity and Italian
Culture
Open to all students. Conducted in English
with readings in English translation.
Aims to discuss Jewish identity in
contemporary Italian culture and provide an
overview of the formation and
transformation of the Jewish Italian
community. Students read prose, poetry,
theses, and articles, as well as view films
that address issues of religious and national
identity. Authors include Giorgio Bassani,
Primo Levi, Rosetta Loy, among others.
Special one-time offering. Was offered in
the spring of 2003.
Mr. Parussa
Electives

FA 45a St. Peter’s and the Vatican
FA 51a Art of the Early Renaissance in Italy
FA 58b High and Late Renaissance in Italy

FA 60a Baroque in Italy and Spain
FA 197b Methods and Approaches in the History of Art: Leonardo da Vinci
HIST 123a The Renaissance
HIST 129b Science and Religion: The Trial of Galileo
HIST 138b Industrialization and Social Change: 1900 to the Present*
HIST 139a Women, Gender, and Family

Japanese

Faculty

Hiroko Sekino

Courses of Instruction

[1-99] Primarily for Undergraduate Students

JAPN 10a Beginning Japanese
Enrollment limited to 20. Meets five days per week for a total of five class hours per week.
Intended for students with no previous knowledge and minimal background. Offers intensive training in the basics of Japanese language. Usually offered every fall. Will be offered in the fall of 2003
Ms. Sekino

JAPN 20b Continuing Japanese
Prerequisite: JAPN 10a. Enrollment limited to 20. Meets five days per week for a total of five class hours per week.
Continuation of JAPN 10a. Usually offered every spring.
Ms. Sekino

JAPN 30a Intermediate Japanese
Prerequisite: JAPN 20b. Enrollment limited to 20. Meets five days per week for a total of five class hours per week.
A continuation of JAPN 20b. Development of skills in speaking, reading, and writing, including the writing of short essays. Usually offered every fall. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.
Ms. Sekino

JAPN 40b Advanced Intermediate Japanese
Prerequisite: JAPN 30a. Enrollment limited to 20. Meets five days per week for a total of five class hours per week.
A continuation of JAPN 30a. Usually offered every spring.
Ms. Sekino

JAPN 98a Readings in Japanese
Prerequisite: JAPN 40b or equivalent. Signature of the instructor required. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Sekino

JAPN 98b Readings in Japanese
Prerequisite: JAPN 40b or equivalent. Signature of the instructor required. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Sekino

[100-199] For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

JAPN 105a Advanced Conversation and Composition I
Prerequisite: JAPN 40b or the equivalent. Enrollment is limited to 20.
This course aims to develop students’ proficiency in writing, reading, and speaking through reading and discussion of Japanese texts on various topics. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through audiotapes, guided conversation, discussion of texts, and oral presentation. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the fall of 2003.
Ms. Sekino

JAPN 105b Advanced Conversation and Composition II
Prerequisite: JAPN 105a. Usually offered every year. Will be offered in the spring of 2004.
Ms. Sekino