ITALIAN STUDIES (ITAL)

* ITAL 110a, Elementary Italian I  Staff
A beginning course with extensive practice in speaking, reading, writing, and listening and a thorough introduction to Italian grammar. Activities include group and pairs work, role-playing, and conversation. Introduction to Italian culture through readings and films. Conducted in Italian.  L1  1½ Course cr

* ITAL 120b, Elementary Italian II  Staff
Continuation of ITAL 110.  L2  1½ Course cr

* ITAL 125b, Intensive Elementary Italian  Staff
An accelerated beginning course in Italian that covers in one term the material taught in ITAL 110 and 120. Admits to ITAL 130 or 145. Enrollment limited to 15.  L1, L2  2 Course cr

* ITAL 130a, Intermediate Italian I  Staff
The first half of a two-term sequence designed to increase students’ proficiency in the four language skills and advanced grammar concepts. Authentic readings paired with contemporary films. In-class group and pairs activities, role-playing, and conversation. Admits to ITAL 140. Conducted in Italian. ITAL 120 or equivalent.  L3  1½ Course cr

* ITAL 140b, Intermediate Italian II  Staff
Continuation of ITAL 130. Emphasis on advanced discussion of Italian culture through authentic readings (short stories, poetry, and comic theater) and contemporary films. Admits to Group B courses. Conducted in Italian.  L4  1½ Course cr

ITAL 150a, Advanced Composition and Conversation:  Simona Lorenzini
Discussion of social, political, and literary issues in order to improve active command of the language. Development of advanced reading skills through magazine and newspaper articles, essays, short stories, films, and a novel; enhancement of writing skills through experiments with reviews, essays, creative writing, and business and informal Italian. Classroom emphasis on advanced speaking skills and vocabulary building. Prerequisite: ITAL 140 or equivalent.  L5

* ITAL 151b, Advanced Italian Workshop  Staff
Our journey begins in the early 90s, in the wake of the fall of the “First Republic” (1948-1993), by contextualizing the socio-political situation of Italy at this important historical juncture. We then proceed to reading avant-garde and experimental poetry from the edgy “Gruppo ’93” and move forward until today, listening and deciphering hip-hop artists such as Ghali and Bello FiGo, and exploring questions of appropriation, linguistics, identity, and more. By the end of this class, you will have read, analyzed, and translated several poems from contemporary Italy. Moreover, by being exposed to translation theory and critical analysis, you will also have developed your own philosophy of translation as well as critical skills related to language use in both English and Italian. Furthermore, you will have acquired a deeper and better understanding of the last 30 years of Italian history.  L5

* ITAL 157a, Introduction to Italian Literature: From the Duecento to the Renaissance  Simona Lorenzini
This is the first course in a sequence studying Italian Literature. The course aims to provide an introduction and a broad overview of Italian literature and culture from the Duecento to the Renaissance, specifically focusing on authors such as Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Machiavelli, Ariosto, and literary and artistic movements such as Humanism and Renaissance. These authors and their masterpieces are introduced through readings, works of art, listening materials, videos, and films. Great space is left for in-class discussion and suggestions from students who may take an interest in specific authors or subjects. This course is interactive and open, and the authors mentioned here are only indicative of the path that we follow. At the end of the course, students are able to analyze and critique literary works of different genres and time periods. The course is conducted in Italian. Prerequisite: ITAL 140 or equivalent.  L5, HU

* ITAL 162a, Introduction to Italian Literature: From the Duecento to the Renaissance  Simona Lorenzini
This is the first course in a sequence studying Italian Literature. The course aims to provide an introduction and a broad overview of Italian literature and culture from the Duecento to the Renaissance, specifically focusing on authors such as Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, Machiavelli, Ariosto, and literary and artistic movements such as Humanism and Renaissance. These authors and their masterpieces are introduced through readings, works of art, listening materials, videos, and films. Great space is left for in-class discussion and suggestions from students who may take an interest in specific authors or subjects. This course is interactive and open, and the authors mentioned here are only indicative of the path that we follow. At the end of the course, students are able to analyze and critique literary works of different genres and time periods. The course is conducted in Italian. Prerequisite: ITAL 140 or equivalent.  L5, HU

* ITAL 172b, Introduction to Italian Literature: From the Baroque to the Present  Simona Lorenzini
This course is the second course in a sequence studying Italian Literature. This course introduces students to the masterpieces of Italian literature, in prose and poetry, from the Baroque to the 21st century. We closely read sample writings representative of the most important authors and literary movements, including Galileo, Manzoni, Pirandello, and Ferrante, and the ways in which they encompassed science, medicine, culture, law, gender. Through critical readings, textual analysis, and class discussions, students appreciate the intellectual and artistic traditions that shaped the birth of the Italian nation. Texts and authors are examined in their historical, social, and cultural context. The course is conducted in Italian. Students are required to take notes during the lectures and learn new vocabulary specific to the topic studied. Prerequisite: ITAL 140 or equivalent.  L5, HU

* ITAL 303b / FILM 457b / LITR 359b, Italian Film from Postwar to Postmodern  Millicent Marcus
A study of important Italian films from World War II to the present. Consideration of works that typify major directors and trends. Topics include neorealism, self-reflexivity and metacinema, fascism and war, and postmodernism. Films by Fellini, Antonioni, Rossellini, De Sica, Visconti, Pasolini, Bertolucci, Wertmuller, Tornatore, and Moretti. Films in Italian with English subtitles.  WR, HU
ITAL 306a / FILM 366a, Spotlight on Sicily in Literature and Film  Millicent Marcus
Sicily has always occupied a privileged place in the Italian imagination. The course focuses on a series of fictional works and films from the early 20th century until today, which reveal how this island has served as a vital space for cinematic experimentation and artistic self-discovery. Topics range from unification history, the Mafia, the migrant crisis, environmental issues, gender, and social/sexual mores. The course is taught in English, but those who wish to enroll for credit towards the certificate in Italian, or the major, can make arrangements to do so.  WR, HU

ITAL 310a / HUMS 180a / LITR 183a, Dante in Translation  Christiana Purdy Moudarres
A critical reading of Dante’s Divine Comedy and selections from the minor works, with an attempt to place Dante’s work in the intellectual and social context of the late Middle Ages by relating literature to philosophical, theological, and political concerns. No knowledge of Italian required. Course conducted in English.  HU  TR

ITAL 315a / HIST 280a / RLST 160a, The Catholic Intellectual Tradition  Carlos Eire
Introductory survey of the interaction between Catholicism and Western culture from the first century to the present, with a focus on pivotal moments and crucial developments that defined both traditions. Key beliefs, rites, and customs of the Roman Catholic Church, and the ways in which they have found expression; interaction between Catholics and the institution of the Church; Catholicism in its cultural and sociopolitical matrices. Close reading of primary sources.  HU

ITAL 317b / HUMS 210b / LITR 180b / WGSS 317b, Women in the Middle Ages  Christiana Purdy Moudarres
Medieval understandings of womanhood examined through analysis of writings by and/or about women, from antiquity through the Middle Ages. Introduction to the premodern Western canon and assessment of the role that women played in its construction.  HU

ITAL 322a / HUMS 444a, The City of Rome  Virginia Jewiss
An interdisciplinary study of Rome from its legendary origins through its evolving presence at the crossroads of Europe and the world. Significant moments of Roman and world history will be considered through the literature, intellectual history, political science, theology, and arts inspired by Rome.  HU

ITAL 470a and ITAL 471a, Special Studies in Italian Literature  Simona Lorenzini
A series of tutorials to direct students in special interests and requirements. Students meet regularly with a faculty member.

ITAL 491a, The Senior Essay  Simona Lorenzini
A research essay on a subject selected by the student in consultation with the faculty adviser.