

Italian Studies Major and Minor

www.frenchanditalian.pitt.edu

Revised: 08/2007

A major in Italian gives students at the University of Pittsburgh the opportunity to study in detail a foreign language and to acquire an education in a literary and cultural tradition central to the humanities. Studying Italian language, literature, and culture prepares students for graduate study in law and international affairs, advanced work in the humanities, and careers in business, governmental service, and teaching. The University is committed to international study, and students are encouraged to take advantage of the numerous study abroad opportunities available to them. Students can combine a major in Italian with a second major in a field such as political science, history, history of art and architecture, English, business, or another foreign language. Students who choose to study the linguistic, literary, cinematographic, and cultural traditions of Italy will acquire an invaluable technical resource and an in-depth knowledge of a diverse and foundational intellectual tradition. For more information on available majors and minors, and on the [Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures](#), please visit our Web site.

Required courses for the Italian Studies major

After one year of college instruction in the Italian language (ITAL 0001 and ITAL 0002, or the equivalent as determined by placement test results), Italian majors may enroll in ITAL 0003 for credit toward the major.

The Italian studies major requires the completion of 33 credits beyond elementary Italian language, distributed as follows.

Core course

ITAL 0003 Intermediate Italian 1
ITAL 0004 Intermediate Italian 2
ITAL 0055 Italian Conversation and Culture

One of the following

ITAL 0080 Italian Cultural Heritage 1
ITAL 0081 Italian Cultural Heritage 2

Note: Because ITAL 0080 and ITAL 0081 have no prerequisites and are taught in English, it is recommended that students interested in majoring in Italian take those courses as early in their studies as possible.

One of the following W courses

ITAL 0060 Literary Italian 1
ITAL 0061 Literary Italian 2
ITAL 1041 Italian Theatrical Workshop

Six 1000-level electives, which can be taught either in Italian or English

At least two of these electives must be taken in the Department of French and Italian. The remaining courses must be selected from an approved list. Italian studies majors are encouraged to continue their study of the Italian language to the greatest extent possible.

Grade requirements: A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option: Courses taken on an S/NC basis may not be applied toward the Italian major or minor. Students deciding to pursue an Italian major or minor after selecting this option for a departmental course should consult with the departmental advisor.

Writing (W) requirement: Students must complete one W-course in the major. ITAL 0060, ITAL 0061, and ITAL 1041 are always offered as W courses.

Related area: A minimum of 12 credits is required in any one Arts and Sciences department chosen in consultation with the major advisor or in a cluster of courses approved by your advisor. The completion of an official Arts and Sciences minor or an Arts and Sciences or UCIS certificate also satisfies this requirement.

Honors major requirements: To earn departmental honors in Italian, students must demonstrate superior performance in departmental courses and be enrolled in 1000-level Italian courses, preferably no later than the first term of their junior year. Selection of honors candidates takes place in the second term of students' junior year. To qualify for departmental honors, students must complete and present a research paper. Work on this project customarily takes place over three terms:

1. topic selection and preparatory work with faculty advisor during the summer before the senior year;
2. research and writing during the fall term;
3. revision and presentation of the thesis before a faculty committee in the spring.

Honors will be determined by the quality of the paper and the presentation, as well as the cumulative grades in all departmental courses counting toward the major.

Language study: Reading competency in at least one other foreign language is recommended for those students planning to do graduate study in Italian.

Advising: Lina Insana
CL 1328
412-624-6269
insana@pitt.edu

Study abroad: Students are strongly encouraged to add an international dimension to their undergraduate education by studying abroad. By participating in a study abroad program, students can earn credits toward the major as well as general education requirements. Please contact Lina Insana in the Italian program for guidance in choosing the most appropriate program. Students should choose a study abroad program, keeping in mind their specific program of study and other factors such as location, cost, level of immersion, and internship opportunities. We offer the following representative sampling of study abroad programs from the numerous programs available.

University of Pittsburgh summer program: Syracuse

- **Duration:** six weeks of summer study
- **Fields of study:** intermediate and advanced language, Italian culture.
- **Special features:** Pitt faculty accompanies the program www.abroad.pitt.edu/pittitaly/index.html

Academic year abroad: Siena

- **Duration:** semester and yearlong programs
- **Fields of study:** language, culture, literature, history, film
- **Special features:** direct enrollment option at the University of Siena for advanced students www.ayabroad.org/siena/index.html

Sarah Lawrence College: Florence

- **Duration:** semester and yearlong programs
- **Fields of study:** language, art history, studio arts, literature, history.
- **Special features:** direct enrollment option at the Università per Stranieri di Firenze for advanced students www.slc.edu/italy/Florence_Program.php

IES: Milan, Rome, and Siena

- **Duration:** semester, yearlong, and summer programs
- **Fields of study:**
- Milan: language, literature, business, finance, history, film;
- Rome: elementary language, fine arts, social sciences;
- Siena: intensive language at all levels, history, literature, art history, political science, economics
- **Special features:** direct enrollment option at universities in each city www.iesabroad.org/IES/Programs/Italy/italy.html

Università per Stranieri di Perugia

- Direct enrollment programs specially designed for foreign students of Italian language. www.unistrapg.it/homepage.htm

Checklist for the Italian Studies major

Core courses

- _____ ITAL 0001 (does not count toward major)
- _____ ITAL 0002 (does not count toward major)
- _____ ITAL 0003
- _____ ITAL 0004
- _____ ITAL 0055

One of the following

- _____ ITAL 0080
- _____ ITAL 0081

One of the following W courses

- _____ ITAL 0060
- _____ ITAL 0061
- _____ ITAL 1041

Elective courses

- _____ ITAL 1 _____ (1000-level in ITAL or ENG)
- _____ ITAL 1 _____ (1000-level in ITAL or ENG)
- _____ ITAL 1 _____ (1000-level in ITAL or ENG)
- _____ ITAL 1 _____ (1000-level in ITAL or ENG)
- _____ ITAL 1 _____ (1000-level in ITAL or ENG)
- _____ ITAL 1 _____ (1000-level in ITAL or ENG)

Checklist for the Italian Studies minor

Option 1 (15 credits)

- _____ ITAL 0080
- _____ ITAL 0081
- _____ ITAL _____ (0086 or 1080-series)
- _____ ITAL _____ (0086 or 1080-series)
- _____ ITAL _____ (0086 or 1080-series)

One of the following W courses

- _____ ITAL 0060
- _____ ITAL 0061
- _____ ITAL 1041

Option 2 (19 credits)

- _____ ITAL 0001
- _____ ITAL 0002
- _____ ITAL _____ (0080-series or 1080-series)
- _____ ITAL _____ (0080-series or 1080-series)
- _____ ITAL _____ (0080-series or 1080-series)

Note: Students must apply for any official minor they will complete or have completed at the time they apply for graduation.