

# Italian, BA

Italian is the gateway to one of the world's richest cultures. Italy has the most United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) world heritage sites—artistic treasures considered to be of universal value—of any country in the world, due to its history as the birthplace of the Roman Empire and the Renaissance. In addition to an internationally recognized cultural patrimony, the country also has one of the world's largest economies. Italy is a world leader in design, fashion, art restoration, the culinary arts, robotics, shipbuilding, electromechanical machinery, machine tool manufacturing, construction machinery, space engineering, pharmaceuticals, and genetic mapping. Music, cinema, and sports also speak Italian.

Students pursue Italian studies for cultural reasons, for travel and study plans in Italy, and because it enhances their competitiveness in today's marketplace. Because an estimated 950 Italian companies have offices in the U.S., and the U.S. is the third-ranked country of destination for Italian export, many employers are seeking people who speak both Italian and English. A major in Italian opens doors to careers in a variety of fields; see Career Advancement in this section of the catalog.

## Languages, Culture, and Creativity

The major in Italian provides many opportunities for growth in the language and for increased cultural fluency through dynamic, in-class learning experiences and extracurricular activities.

## Learning Outcomes

Students who graduate with a major in Italian will be able to:

- understand Italian spoken language even when delivered at fast native speed;
- communicate effectively in both oral and written discourse, considering varying registers and cultural contexts;
- read with ease all forms of the Italian written language, including complex texts such as specialized articles and literary works;
- reflect with critical insight on a range of topics in Italian literature, history, and contemporary culture;
- explain the significance of a representative selection of figures, texts, and tendencies in the literature and other forms of cultural production from the Italian-speaking world;
- recognize and reflect in an informed way on cultural differences as well as shared values between Italian culture and their native cultures; and
- develop an intellectual engagement and reflective sensibility that will contribute to their lifelong learning.

## Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in Italian requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 32–33 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They must also complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

Students may count a maximum of 9 s.h. (three courses) of approved upper-level transfer or study abroad credit toward the major in Italian, but they must take either ITAL:3305 Advanced Italian or ITAL:3306 Advanced Italian II at the University of Iowa. The Italian Language and Culture Advanced Placement (AP) exam with a score of 4 or higher may be used to complete the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement and applied to requirements for the Italian major or minor, or used as elective hours.

The BA with a major in Italian requires the following coursework.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
ITAL:2203	Intermediate Italian I	4
ITAL:2204	Intermediate Italian II	4
ITAL:3305	Advanced Italian	4
ITAL:3306	Advanced Italian II	4
ITAL:4550	Topics in Italian Studies	3
ITAL:4633	Dante's Inferno	4
ITAL:4660	Transcultural Texts and Translations	3
ITAL:4667	Modern Italian Fiction	3
One of these:		
ITAL:2550	Images of Modern Italy	4
A course taught in Italian numbered above 3000		3

## Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. See Apply on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.

Majors who want to earn teacher licensure should include an additional 2 s.h. in their work for the major. They should consult the director of undergraduate studies.

## Honors

### Honors in the Major

Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Departmental honors students must have a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.50 for work undertaken in the department and a cumulative University of Iowa GPA of at least 3.33.

To graduate with honors in the major, students must register for ITAL:4998 Honors Research and Thesis and one honors-designated course numbered 3000 or above. They must complete an honors thesis or the equivalent (e.g., translation, comparative stylistics, cultural studies, or research) in Italian and must present their work to a faculty committee.

## University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the

University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the Italian major.

## Career Advancement

A background in Italian is helpful for students planning careers in international business, tourism, and teaching, as well as for opera singers, musicians, art and art history majors, and for those who study architecture, fashion, and design. With more than a thousand Italian companies doing business in the United States, the major in Italian combines well with career options in a wide variety of fields.

Students majoring in Italian may combine their studies with courses in education to prepare for jobs in high school teaching. They may go on to graduate study in areas such as Italian, comparative literature, and other interdisciplinary areas as preparation for college-level teaching. Some Italian majors go on to law school. Students may also combine other skills and studies with their major in Italian to prepare for challenging career opportunities in international government, business, finance, public relations, journalism, education, archaeology, arts administration, nongovernmental organizations, publishing, library science, politics, travel and tourism, hospitality management, communications, the culinary arts, and in other fields where the knowledge of more than one language is essential.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.

## Academic Plans

### Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan.

**Before the third semester begins:** competence in first-year Italian.

**Before the fifth semester begins:** competence in second-year Italian (ITAL:2204 Intermediate Italian II).

**Before the seventh semester begins:** four courses in the major numbered above 3000 and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

**Before the eighth semester begins:** a total of at least five courses in the major numbered above 3000.

**During the eighth semester:** enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and enough semester hours to graduate.

### Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course choice and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For more sample plans, see MyUI.

## Italian, BA

Course	Title	Hours
<b>Academic Career</b>		
<b>Any Semester</b>		
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability <sup>a</sup>		
<b>Hours</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
ITAL:1101	Elementary Italian I <sup>b, c</sup>	5
RHET:1030	Rhetoric: Writing and	3 - 4
or ENGL:1200	Communication	
	or The Interpretation of Literature	
GE CLAS Core: Values and Society <sup>d</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		2
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	1
<b>Hours</b>		<b>14-15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ITAL:1102	Elementary Italian II <sup>b, c</sup>	5
RHET:1030	Rhetoric: Writing and	3 - 4
or ENGL:1200	Communication	
	or The Interpretation of Literature	
GE CLAS Core: Understanding Cultural Perspectives <sup>d</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab <sup>d</sup>		4
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		1
<b>Hours</b>		<b>16-17</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
ITAL:2203	Intermediate Italian I <sup>c</sup>	4
GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning <sup>d</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences <sup>d</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ITAL:2204	Intermediate Italian II <sup>c</sup>	4
ITAL:2550	Images of Modern Italy <sup>f, g</sup>	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues <sup>d</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>16-17</b>
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
ITAL:3305	Advanced Italian <sup>f</sup>	4
ITAL:4667	Modern Italian Fiction	3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives <sup>d</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab <sup>d</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ITAL:3306	Advanced Italian II <sup>f</sup>	4
ITAL:4550	Topics in Italian Studies	3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>		3

Elective course <sup>e</sup>	3
<b>Hours</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>	
<b>Fall</b>	
ITAL:4633 Dante's Inferno <sup>f</sup>	4
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts <sup>d</sup>	3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>	3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>	3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>	3
<b>Hours</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
ITAL:4660 Transcultural Texts and Translations	3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>	3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>	3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>	3
Elective course <sup>e</sup>	3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) <sup>h</sup>	
<b>Hours</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>125-128</b>

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative and Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Society.

b ITAL:1101 and ITAL:1102 do not count for credit toward the major. Language level placement will be determined by the online placement test score and consultation with the Director of Italian Studies. Students who place into the 5th semester level of the language will begin major level coursework and not be required to take semesters 1-4 of the language.

c Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in Italian courses requires an online placement exam and consultation with the Director of Italian Studies, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.

d GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.

e Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

f Students pursuing the Italian major must take this course for 4 s.h.

g Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.

h Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Degree Services.