

ITALIAN, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Program Description

The major offers training in the skills required for fluency in Italian and knowledge in Italian culture, civilization, and literature. Its aim is to open to the student both the traditions of one of the major formative components of the Western world and the continuing vitality of modern Italian and Italian-American life.

As one of the humanistic programs of the College of the Liberal Arts, the Italian major is not designed to be directly vocational. Nevertheless, rigorous training in either of the two Italian major options can prepare students for rewarding and unique careers in business, travel, ministry, banking, and education. In addition, the federal government employs liberal arts graduates with foreign-language skills in organizations including the National Security Agency, the Central Intelligence Agency, the U.S. Information Agency, and the Department of Labor. The Italian major is also preparatory for graduate work directed to the Ph.D. degree required for teaching and research in colleges and universities. Students with degrees in the humanities are particularly successful applicants to professional schools, such as law and medicine.

What is Italian?

Italian is the voice of one of the formative cultural traditions of the Western world. The study of Italy and its language offers a rigorous, interdisciplinary exploration of the continuing vitality of modern Italian and Italian American culture through literature, cinema, translation studies, the arts, Roman thought, fashion, tourism, Mediterranean cuisine, and much more. Italian, in its humanistic breadth and depth, offers students access to a wide variety of professional pathways through an emphasis on global communicative understanding and cultural sensitivity. Italian is increasingly important in business; six of the 100 biggest companies are headquartered in Italy, and Italy is the world's fifth largest industrial producer of goods. Learning a foreign language also improves oral and written skills in English interactions. Penn State's Italian program is small, and prides itself on its capacity to provide individual attention and mentoring to each of its majors and minors.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You enjoy learning languages and communicating with people from a particularly rich cultural civilization.
- You dream of studying abroad. More Penn State students currently study in Italy than in any other nation of the world, and you will enjoy more memorable experiences with a deeper preparation through advanced coursework in Italian.
- You wish to learn more about the roots of your family heritage and traditions.

Entrance to Major

In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have third-semester classification (http://www.registrar.psu.edu/registration/semester_classification.cfm).

READ SENATE POLICY 37-30: ENTRANCE TO AND CHANGES IN MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/37-00-entrance-to-a-college-or-major>)

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Italian, a minimum of 122 credits is required for the Italian Language and Literature option, or 123 credits minimum is required for the Italian Studies option:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	18
Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements	24
Requirements for the Major	35

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Recommended Academic Plan for your intended program.

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Knowledge Domains

- **Arts (GA):** 6 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 6 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 6 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- **Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses:** 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements

Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses>).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44>).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
IT 301	Pathways to Fluency	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
IT 130	Italian Culture and Civilization	3
or IT 131	Introduction to Italian American Culture	
IT 415	Dante	3
or IT 490	Dante in Translation	
Requirements for the Option		
<i>Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select an option		26-27

Requirements for the Option

Language and Literature Option (26 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 18 credits of which at least 9 credits are courses taught in Italian, and at least 9 credits are at the 400-level (some courses will satisfy both conditions)		18
For courses taught in Italian, select from the following:		
IT 320	Introduction to Italian Culture; Food, Fashion, Family	
IT 325	Introduction to Italy's Genius	
IT 330W	Greatest Books of Italian Literature	
IT 412	Theory and Practice of Translation	
IT 422	Topics in the Italian Renaissance	
Other courses taught in Italian in consultation with major adviser		
For courses at the 400-level, select from the following:		
IT 412	Theory and Practice of Translation	
IT 422	Topics in the Italian Renaissance	
IT 475	Modern Italian Literature and Cinema	
IT 480	Italian Women Writers Through the Centuries	
IT 485	Italian-American Cultural Studies	
IT 497	Special Topics	
Other 400-level courses taught in Italian in consultation with major adviser		
Select 8 credits from one of the following A, B, C, D, or E:		8
A.		
LATIN 1 & LATIN 2	Elementary Latin and Elementary Latin	
B.		
FR 1 & FR 2	Elementary French I and Elementary French II	
C.		

SPAN 1 & SPAN 2	Elementary Spanish I and Elementary Spanish II
D.	
PORT 1 & PORT 2	Elementary Portuguese I and Elementary Portuguese II
E. Foreign Study	
IT 1	Elementary Italian I
IT 2	Elementary Italian II
IT 99	Foreign Studies
IT 399	Foreign Study–Italian
Other courses abroad in consultation with major adviser	

Italian Studies Option (27 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
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Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 27 credits from categories a, b, and c ¹

a) Select 6 credits of the following: 6

IT 320	Introduction to Italian Culture; Food, Fashion, Family
IT 325	Introduction to Italy's Genius
IT 330W	Greatest Books of Italian Literature
IT 412	Theory and Practice of Translation
IT 422	Topics in the Italian Renaissance
Other 300 or 400-level courses taught in Italian in consultation with major adviser	

b) Select 12 credits of the following: 12

IT 110	
IT 230	Masterpieces of Italian Literature in English Translation
IT 320	Introduction to Italian Culture; Food, Fashion, Family
IT 325	Introduction to Italy's Genius
IT 330W	Greatest Books of Italian Literature
IT 399	Foreign Study–Italian
IT 422	Topics in the Italian Renaissance
IT 475	Modern Italian Literature and Cinema
IT 480	Italian Women Writers Through the Centuries
IT 485	Italian-American Cultural Studies
IT 497	Special Topics
Other courses in consultation with major adviser	

c) Select 9 credits of 400-level courses in related disciplines of the following: 9

ARTH 411	Roman Art
ARTH 423	Studies in Italian Renaissance Art
ARTH 456	Renaissance and Baroque Palaces
ARTH 458	The City 1600-1800
CAMS 410	Classical Epic
CAS 471	Intercultural Communication Theory and Research
CMLIT 400	Senior Seminar in Literary Criticism and Theory
CMLIT 401	The Western Literary Heritage I
LATIN 402	Republican Literature
LATIN 403	Augustan Age Literature
LATIN 404	Silver Age Literature

LATIN 450	History of Latin
LING 447	Bilingualism
LING 448	Sociolinguistics
PHIL 437	World Philosophies and Cultures
PHIL 455	Topics in Modern Philosophy
PLSC 431	Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance Political Theories
PLSC 432	Modern and Contemporary Political Theories
Other courses in consultation with major adviser	

¹ Courses in different categories in the Italian Studies option cannot double-count. Example: if a student uses IT 422 to satisfy category A requirements, IT 422 cannot count in category B. Also, in addition to the prescribed IT 415/IT 490 course, Italian Studies majors must take a minimum of 12 credits at the 400-level in categories A, B, and C.

NOTE: While some of the courses in related disciplines focus specifically on Italian or Roman topics, other courses on this list endeavor to provide a broader cultural or disciplinary context for students with an Italian Studies orientation. Students will be encouraged to suggest to their major adviser other relevant 400-level special topics courses in other disciplines to satisfy this requirement.

Program Learning Objectives

The linguistic objectives for students who have completed an undergraduate major in Italian are as follows:

- Students will have developed oral skills in Italian that allow them to communicate effectively and accurately in a range of settings.
- Students will have developed written skills in Italian that allow them to communicate effectively and accurately in a range of settings.
- Students will have developed literacy skills that allow them to read and understand texts in a variety of media ranging from newspapers to literary texts and formal academic prose.
- Students will have developed a cultural awareness that allows them to interact well with Italians in informal and formal situations and to use knowledge of target culture to interpret texts read, heard or viewed in Italian or English.
- Students will, ideally, have spent at least six weeks in Italy immersed in the target language and its culture.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy>)

University Park

Liberal Arts Academic Advising

814-865-2545

<http://starfish.psu.edu><http://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/education/majors-and-minors>

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2019-20 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (*Note: the archive only contain suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin*).

University Park Campus

Language and Literature

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
ENGL 15, 30, ESL 15, ENGL 137H, or CAS 137H (GWS) [‡]	3	CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138T (GWS) [‡]	3
General Education Quantification Course (GQ) [‡]	3	General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3	General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3	BA Requirement	3
IT 1 [*]	4	IT 2 [*]	4
	16		16

Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
General Education Quantification Course (GQ) [‡]	3	General Education Course	3
IT 130 or 131 (or General Education Course) [*]	3	General Education Course	3
IT 3 [*]	4	IT 301 [*]	3
BA Requirement	3	IT 131 or 130 (or General Education Course) [*]	3
General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)	1.5	BA Requirement	3
	14.5		15

Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
IT 3xx in Italian [*]	3	IT 3xx or 4xx in Italian [*]	3
Level 1 in a second Romance language (if not studying abroad), or Elective [*]	3	IT 3xx or 4xx in Italian [*]	3

Elective	3	Level 2 in a second Romance language (if not studying abroad), or Elective [*]	3
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General Education Course	3	Elective	3
General Education Course	3	Elective	3
	15		15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D (GWS) [‡]	3	IT 490 or 415 [*]	3
General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)	1.5	IT 4xx [*]	3
IT 4xx [*]	3	BA Other Cultures (or Elective)	3
IT 4xx [*]	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
Elective	3		
	16.5		15

Total Credits 123

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL/CAS 137 in the fall semester and ENGL/CAS 138 in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30 and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/>)

undergraduate/general-information/academic-information) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures>).

Advising Note:

All incoming freshmen must take a First-Year Seminar (FYS) during Fall or Spring of their first year. Academic advisers can provide a list of FYS being offered and help the student enroll. Most FYS in the College of the Liberal Arts are worth 3 cr. and count as a General Humanities (GH) or General Social Sciences (GS) course. For this reason, the FYS is not listed separately on this eight-semester plan; most students will be able to fulfill the FYS requirement while also fulfilling a GH or GS requirement.

Italian Studies

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
ENGL 15, 30, ESL 15, ENGL 137H, or CAS 137H (GWS) [‡]	3	CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138T (GWS) [‡]	3
General Education Quantification Course (GQ) [‡]	3	General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3	General Education Course	3
General Education Course	3	BA Requirement	3
IT 1 [*]	4	IT 2 [*]	4
	16		16

Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
General Education Quantification Course (GQ) [‡]	3	General Education Course	3
IT 130 or 131 (or General Education Course) [*]	3	General Education Course	3
IT 3 [*]	4	IT 301 [*]	3
BA Requirement	3	IT 131 or 130 (or General Education Course) [*]	3
General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)	1.5	BA Requirement	3
	14.5		15

Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
IT 3xx in Italian [*]	3	IT 3xx or 4xx in Italian [*]	3
4xx level course in related discipline [*]	3	IT 3xx or 4xx in Italian [*]	3
General Education Course	3	4xx level course in related discipline [*]	3
General Education Course	3	Elective	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
	15		15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D (GWS) [‡]	3	IT 490 or 415 [*]	3
General Education Health and Wellness (GHW)	1.5	IT 4xx [*]	3
IT 4xx [*]	3	BA Other Cultures	3
IT 4xx [*]	3	Elective	3
4xx level course in related discipline [*]	3	Elective	3
Elective	3		
	16.5		15

Total Credits 123

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL/CAS 137 in the fall semester and ENGL/CAS 138 in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30 and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

Bachelor of Arts Requirements:

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information>) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures>).

Advising Note:

All incoming freshmen must take a First-Year Seminar (FYS) during Fall or Spring of their first year. Academic advisers can provide a list of FYS being offered and help the student enroll. Most FYS in the College of the Liberal Arts are worth 3 cr. and count as a General Humanities (GH) or General Social Sciences (GS) course. For this reason, the FYS is not listed separately on this eight-semester plan; most students will be able to fulfill the FYS requirement while also fulfilling a GH or GS requirement.

Career Paths

Because the study of Italian comprises advanced-level language proficiency and the development of cultural understanding, critical thinking, and communicative capacities, successful Penn State students have gone on to pursue many professions. In the Italian program, majors and minors have access to:

- Individualized advising aimed at integrating complementary majors/minors, study abroad, and internship opportunities.
- Italian-specific fellowships, prizes, and capstone project opportunities to ready them for future goals.
- Mentorship that connects Italian students with alumni who have applied successfully to graduate schools, participated in Fulbright/Peace Corps/Teach for America/etc., or are making contributions in the career path of particular interest.

Careers

As a humanistic program in the liberal arts, Italian is not designed to be directly vocational. Italian prepares students to access a wide array of rewarding and unique careers, including those related to international business, travel, journalism, ministry, diplomacy, banking, science fields, the arts, and education. The federal government employs graduates with advanced foreign-language skills in organizations including the National Security Agency, the Central Intelligence Agency, the U.S. Information Agency, and the Department of Labor. Students with degrees in the humanities are also particularly successful applicants to graduate and professional schools, such as law, business, and medicine.

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Any of the three baccalaureate degree options in Italian (the Bachelor of Arts in Italian Language and Literature, the Bachelor of Arts in Italian Studies, or the Bachelor of Science in Applied Italian) can serve as the foundation for graduate studies in Italian, as well as other humanistic, social science, and STEM disciplines. Italian can also lead to advanced professional degrees in business, educational administration, law, and medicine.

Contact

University Park

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<http://www.sip.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/italian>