



WHY STUDY ITALIAN?

Because Art, History, Music, Film, Food, High Tech, and Fashion speak Italian!



LA TAVOLA ITALIANA, ITALIAN FILMS AND OTHER EVENTS

Each semester you can speak Italian with your Professor and other Italian guests at the Tavola Italiana (Mondays, 2:30, coffee shop of the Fedex Institute of Technology).

Our program of activities also includes viewing contemporary Italian films, attending the opera, and more. In April 2025, the Italian Program will host our twelfth **Italian Film Festival**. We are able to stage this festival thanks to the support of the University of Memphis, Italian Film Festival USA, the Italian Culture Institute of Chicago, and the Memphis Chapter of the Italian American organization UNICO. For schedule of events go to <http://www.memphis.edu/ifi> or contact cgaudenz@memphis.edu. Follow us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/Italianprogrammemphis



ITALIAN

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD
LANGUAGES & LITERATURES



MAJOR IN ITALIAN!

The University of Memphis offers Italian as a major, as a minor, and as a concentration for the B.A. in World Languages.

Substantial scholarships are available for students interested in spending a semester or summer abroad at various Italian universities.

Contact: Dr. Cosetta Gaudenzi, Associate
Professor of Italian (cgaudenz@memphis.edu)





BOLOGNA SUMMER STUDY ABROAD

(Trips to Rome, Florence, and Venice)

Students of the University of Memphis have the opportunity to enroll at the University of Bologna for a Summer Study Abroad in Italian language and culture (6 credits). The University of Bologna is one of the oldest universities in Europe. It is situated in Bologna, which is very close to a number of culturally important cities such as Florence, Ravenna, Ferrara, and Venice. The Program Director is Dr. Gaudenzi. (cgaudenz@memphis.edu).

INTERNSHIPS

English Teaching Assistantships in Lombard Schools (Fall and Spring semester). (<http://siteprogram.wix.com/site>)

Voluntaritaly, Dante Alighieri Society (Summer)

Volunteering at a Summer camp in Italy organized by the Dante Society of Michigan in partnership with the Oratories of Lombard Italy. (<https://www.dantemichigan.org/voluntaritaly/>)

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Ciee (<http://www.ciee.org/>); Icon (<http://www.italicon.it/>); Niaf (<http://www.niaf.org/>); Rotary (<http://www.rotary.org/>); Unico (<http://www.UNICO.org/>); Order Sons of Italy in America (<http://www.osia.org/>); UM Mary Pettus Thomas Scholarship (<http://www.memphis.edu/fl/scholarships/index.php>); UM Study Abroad Scholarship (<http://www.memphis.edu/abroad/scholarships.php>);



Italian at UM

The Italian program at the University of Memphis offers a major and a minor in Italian and Italian Studies with beginning, intermediate, and advanced courses in Italian language, literature, and business Italian, as well as courses in English on topics such as Dante, Italian cinema, and Italian food and culture. In language courses, the communicative approach is employed, and classroom instruction is complemented by social media and audio-visual media. We regularly view beautiful slides of Italy and we even make Italian films! Our student-teacher ratios average is 14:1!

The new Minor in Italian Studies was created in 2022 to answer and better serve the needs of an increasing number of UM students who are interested in taking some Italian language together with Italian culture courses taught in English which would complement their major field of study. Italian culture is a major component of several courses taught in various departments at the University of Memphis, including the Departments of Art History, History, the Program in Classics, and the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music. In addition, many faculty-led Study Abroad courses in Italy from the Department of Architecture, the Fogelman College of Business and Economics, the Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality & Resort Management, the College of Health Sciences (Nutrition), and the new B.A in Fashion Design offer study in areas where Italy has been or is a contemporary leader (art, fashion, culinary arts; interior, graphic, and furniture design; environmental planning and design; and music).

Requirements for the major: 24 upper division semester hours (8 courses). (To declare a major go to Scates 107.)

Requirements for the minor: a total of 18 semester hours (6 courses): ITAL 1020, 2010, and 2020 (or their equivalents); and 9 upper division semester hours (3 courses) in the Italian program. (To declare a minor go to Scates 107.)

Requirements for a two-language concentration: 27 upper division semester hours (9 courses) with a minimum of 9 semester hours in each language.

Requirements for a three-language concentration: at least 33 upper division semester hours (11 courses) to include at least 12 semester hours in each of two languages plus approved course work in a third language.

Requirement for the Minor in Italian Studies: A minimum of 18 semester hours, including the Core and Elective Courses.

Core: 9 semester hours of any course under the ITAL (Italian) prefix.

Elective Courses: 9 semester hours from the following:



FACULTY

Cosetta Gaudenzi, Associate Professor of Italian, Head of Section.

University of Bologna, Italy, Master in World Languages; University of Warwick, UK, Master in Translations Studies; University of Texas at Austin, PhD in Comparative Literatures.

Rita Pasqui, Associate Professor of Teaching, Classics and Italian

Career Opportunities

A Major or Minor in Italian at UM prepares you linguistically and culturally for many career paths, including challenging and rewarding jobs in government, international nonprofit organizations, business, communications, sciences, and teaching. Knowing Italian in particular is beneficial in several career fields where contemporary Italy is a world leader: fashion; culinary arts; interior, graphic, and furniture design; machine tool manufacturing, robotics, electromechanical machinery; transportation equipment, shipbuilding, and space engineering. Since language skills complement other fields of study so well, students majoring in Italian are encouraged to double major and minor in areas such as Art History, Music, International Business, International Studies, Political Science, and Hospitality and Resort Management. The Italian Program at the University of Memphis puts special emphasis on academic topics such as Dante, Italian Cinema, Food, Music, and Business Italian, and aims at helping students spend time in Italy to gain a well-rounded education and expertise.

Possible Employers: import / export and mechanical and technical companies, travel services, airlines, restaurants, resorts, convention centers, foreign news agencies, book publishers, TV networks, film and music companies, opera houses, universities / colleges, K-12 schools, national and international professional language schools, museums, and libraries.

THE IMPORTANCE OF ITALY: PAST AND PRESENT

Over the centuries, Italy has produced some of the most remarkable cultural works in the western canon, from Dante's *Divine Comedy* to Michelangelo's frescoes in the Sistine Chapel; from Machiavelli's *Prince* to Castiglione's *The Courtier*; and from the neorealist films of Vittorio De Sica to the post-modernist novels of Italo Calvino. According to UNESCO, over 60% of the world's art treasures are found in Italy. Historically, too, Italy has been of great importance. The Roman empire had a profound influence on the development of Europe and subsequent Western Civilization. In the Middle Ages cities such as Florence and Venice were among the richest and most powerful of Europe. Italy was the birthplace of the Renaissance, the culture and values of which provided foundations for much of life in the West over the last five hundred years. Today Italy is a key ally to the U.S.: it hosts more NATO and U.S. military bases than almost any country. In addition, Italy is one of the world's leading industrial democracies. It is the seventh largest global market. The USA-Italy bilateral relationship is strong and growing. The two countries cooperate closely on major economic issues. With a large population and high per-capita income, Italy is one of the United States' most important trade partners. Moreover, the Italo-American community, the fifth largest ethnic group in the U.S., has been a driving force for the development of cultural and economic bonds between the two countries. An estimated 7,500 American companies do business with Italy and more than 1,000 U.S. firms have offices in Italy, including IBM, General Electric, Motorola, and Citibank. Consequently, many employers in the United States are seeking people who speak both Italian and English.