

WELCOME TO THE ITALIAN STUDIES MAJOR!

Advising

Students should write to the Director of the Language Program, Professor Luciana Fellin (fellin@duke.edu), when they declare their major to set up their first advising meetings and to discuss any questions they may have.

Tracks

There are two tracks: Italian Studies & Italian and European Studies. A total of 10 courses are required for both. Italian Studies allows for up to 4 courses focused on Italian content taught in English and the European Studies up to 5 courses (taught in English) on any Italian and/or European topic. The English-language courses can be taken within or outside of the Italian section.

Study in Italy

Many of our majors go abroad! Department administered program courses taught in Italian through our Duke-in study abroad programs may be counted towards the major. Approval is needed for courses taught at non-Duke administered programs to determine if they will count toward the major.

Welcome to the vibrant and rich world of Italian studies!

Our students have gone on to have great success in a range of careers, including non-profit agencies, think tanks, financial corporations, and consulting agencies, and graduate programs, including top ranking law schools, medical school, and doctoral programs.

Students gain an in-depth understanding of Italian language, culture, and literature. Our two tracks allow students to follow two intellectual trajectories, one more focused on the complexities of Italian language, culture, and literature by itself (Italian Studies) and one more comparatively (Italian and European Studies).

Both tracks require 10 courses as well as the following:

At least 1 course from three areas, Medieval & Renaissance (includes courses such as Boccaccio, Dante, Machiavelli), Modern & Contemporary (includes courses such as Detective Stories, Mafia at the Movies, Cultures of Fascism, What is Europe?, Modern European Short Fiction, America from Abroad), and Linguistics (including courses such as Sociolinguistics, Food Studies).

Up to 2 of the following 200 level language courses can be counted towards your major requirements:

ITALIAN 203 - Intermediate Italian

ITALIAN 204 - Advanced Intermediate Italian

ITALIAN 213A - Accelerated Intermediate Italian.

We strongly recommend taking Italian 301 and 303 to provide a foundation for your linguistic, cultural, and literary studies. We also strongly suggest taking Dante as the most important author of Italian literature and central writer of the Western canon.

