

## Interested in This Major?

**Current Students:** Visit us in Curtin Hall, Room 772, or call us at 414-229-4382, or email [peshut@uwm.edu](mailto:peshut@uwm.edu)

**Not a UWM Student yet?** Call our Admissions Counselor at 414-229-7711 or email [let-sci@uwm.edu](mailto:let-sci@uwm.edu)

**web:** [italian.uwm.edu](http://italian.uwm.edu)



## Why Study Italian?

Italian is a Romance language that has more than 67 million native speakers worldwide. An additional 120 million people use Italian as a second language. In addition to serving as the official language of Italy, Italian is common in Switzerland, Croatia, Slovenia, France, the Eastern Adriatic coast, and North Africa. It is also spoken by millions of people in the United States, Canada, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile.

Italy is one of the ten largest economies in the world. More than 1,000 Italian companies have U.S. operations, and more than 7,000 American companies have locations in Italy. These companies need college graduates, in a variety of roles, who can speak, read, and write Italian.

Career opportunities exist in business, finance, marketing, public relations, journalism, translation, and computer programming, to name just a few. Italian-affiliated companies are found in the environmental protection, air and water quality control, transportation, culinary arts, fashion, robotics, interior design and graphic design industries.

Italy holds a strategic position geographically in the Mediterranean and in the political world. Thus, a degree in Italian is excellent preparation for a career in international affairs, international trade, or foreign service.

Understanding Italian culture and language is also key to a career in the arts and entertainment. Italy plays an important role in the history of literature, art, film, architecture, and music.

## Is Italian Right For Me?

Studying any language requires an attention to detail in order to master the subtleties of speech and the written word. Students of Italian generally enjoy and

appreciate Italy's culture and history, understand the impact of globalization, and appreciate the importance of cross-cultural communication. Learning Italian will enhance your skills in analyzing, discussing, and organizing information and ideas. Successful language students are able to think quickly and logically, adapt to different environments, listen closely, and practice diligently.

Italian shares some commonalities with the other Romance languages, such as Spanish, and retains many similarities with its root language, Latin. Students who have some exposure to other Romance languages may also enjoy Italian.

## The Italian Major

Students must complete Italian 104 (Second Semester Italian) or its equivalent before declaring the major.

The major consists of 38 credits. Required courses include:

First and Second year Italian language courses (4 courses)	
Italian 258	Contemporary Italian Society and Culture
Italian 457	Topics in Italian Literature and Culture in Translation
Two of:	Italian 311: Advanced Conversation and Composition  Italian 312 Contemporary Italian Language and Culture  Italian 321: Introduction to Italian Language  Italian 322: Introduction to Italian Literature and Film
12 credits in upper-level Italian electives or other approved electives	



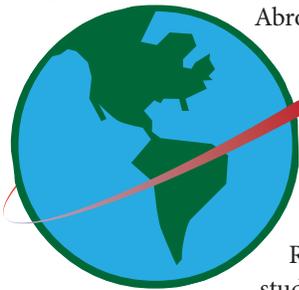
## The Italian Minor

The Italian minor requires eighteen credits (at least 9 at the 300-level and above):

Course #	Course Title
Italian 311	Advanced Conversation and Composition: Contemporary Italian Usage
Italian 312	Contemporary Italian Language and Culture
12 additional Italian electives	

## Study Abroad

Students are encouraged to complete a Study Abroad experience either with the UWM summer Study



Abroad Program in Rome or the academic year program at the University of Bologna.

Both programs are open to students of all majors. During the Rome Program (6 credits), students study the city as their textbook, and discover the contemporary history and culture of Italy through historical sites, excursions, lectures, and foods. In the 9 month program at the University of Bologna (30 or more credits), students interested in language, international relations, political science, the visual arts, and literature, for example, attend courses along with Italian students, while living in one of the major cultural centers of Europe.

## Scholarships and Financial Aid

Students should explore all opportunities for financial assistance by consulting the department or the Center for International Education. Current programs include:

**Wisconsin Study Abroad Grant** – Full-time, Wisconsin resident, undergraduate UWM students attending UWM-sponsored study abroad programs are eligible to apply. Awards up to \$2,000 may be available.

**Graduate/Advanced Undergraduate Travel Award Competition** – This \$250 to \$500 award supports field research, including internships, abroad or within the U.S., as well as travel to present a paper at a professional conference or workshop.

**Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship** – This scholarship program awards Pell Grant recipients up to \$5,000 to study abroad for a semester or year.

**Council on International Educational Exchange Scholarship** - CIEE hosts programs for studying, teaching and working all over the world and offers numerous grant and scholarship opportunities.

**American Institute for Foreign Studies** - AIFS annually makes awards for study abroad to students demonstrating high academic achievement.

**UNICO Scholarship** – The Milwaukee chapter of UNICO provides scholarships to Italian majors with outstanding academic achievement.

**Giovanni Carini Memorial Scholarship** – This scholarship is intended to support a UWM student who is accepted to a study abroad program in Italy.

**Circolo Italiano Student Group** – Based upon availability of funds, the Circolo Italiano student organization at UWM awards a scholarship to an Italian major or minor who is an active member of the Circolo.

## Faculty

Simonetta Milli Konewko, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, is Associate Professor of Italian and Director of the Italian Program. She has written articles on theories of emotion and neorealist literature and film. She is the author of *Neorealism and the “New” Italy. Compassion in the Development of Italian Identity*, which she has translated and published in Italian under the title, *L’Italia neorealista: compassione e identità nazionale nel dopoguerra*. Among her teaching interests are Italian folklore, Italian Food Studies, Women’s and Gender Studies, and Italian American culture. She also serves as faculty advisor for the UWM Circolo Italiano student group.

Robin Pickering-Iazzi, PhD, University of Washington, is Professor of Italian and Comparative Literature. She has published numerous articles and books on contemporary Italian literature, film, and society, such as *The Italian Antimafia, New Media, and the Culture of Legality, The Mafia in Italian Lives and Literature: Life Sentences and Their Geographies*, and *Politics of the Visible: Writing Women, Culture, and Fascism*. Her courses explore such topics as social justice movements, cinema, new media, food culture, and literature.

## Student Organization

The Italian Student Association works to increase Italian cultural awareness on campus through events and conferences.

## Campus Affiliation

The department works closely with UWM’s Center for International Education (CIE). CIE offers a range of services to the campus, including international, inter-cultural and interdisciplinary teaching and research opportunities, study abroad, international student admissions, public programming, and scholarly conferences.

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This sample four-year plan shows just one possible pathway to earning a degree with this major in four years. This plan **does not** replace the advice of your advisor, and students are cautioned to meet regularly with their advisor to create a personalized plan that matches their particular circumstances. This plan also follows the degree requirements for students who began their college education in Fall of 2013 or later. If you started college prior to Fall of 2013, your degree requirements may be different.

### Degree Requirements (brief summary):

1. English Proficiency and UWM Oral and Written Communication (OWC) GER - English 102 (fulfills Part A) and one OWC-Part B course.
2. Math Proficiency, UWM Quantitative Literacy (QL) GER, and Formal Reasoning – two courses can satisfy all three requirements. Some courses have prerequisites, however, so a student may end up taking more than two total classes depending on his/her placement test scores. Students will usually take Math 103, 105, or 108 AND three credits in either a 200-level or above math course, Philosophy 211, or an approved Letters & Science statistics course.
3. Foreign Language – 4 semesters of a single Foreign Language (or 3 semesters of one language and 2 semesters of another language) (May be satisfied through 4 years of a single Foreign Language in high school.)
4. L&S Humanities – 12 credits
5. L&S Social Sciences – 12 credits
6. L&S Natural Science – 12 credits including one laboratory
7. L&S International – 9 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with Humanities and/or Social Science courses
8. UWM Arts GER – 3 credits
9. UWM Cultural Diversity GER – 3 credits usually accomplished in conjunction with a Humanities or Social Science course
10. 120 credits including 90 credits in L&S and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses
11. Complete the Italian major requirements
  - 38 credits with at least 15 of those credits at the 300-level or higher and completed at UWM
  - First through fourth-semester Italian language courses
  - Italian 258 and 457
  - Two of Italian 311, 312, 321, or 322
  - 6 credits of upper-level Italian electives
  - 6 credits chosen from additional Italian classes, ArtHist 333, Classics 202, Classics 303, Classics 304, or other approved electives

### Sample Four Year Plan:

There are hundreds of courses that satisfy various requirements and courses can count towards more than one requirement. For example, Italian 311 counts towards the major and as a humanities. (This sample assumes no high school Foreign Language was taken and that the student placed into college-level math and English.)

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	Math 103 or 105 (QL-A)	QL-B course
	English 101	English 102 (OWC-A)
	Italian 103	Italian 104
	L&S Humanities, not Italian	L&S Natural Science with lab
	L&S Social Science	Arts GER
Year 2	L&S Social Science	Formal reasoning course
	Italian 203	Italian 204
	Italian 258 (HU)	L&S Humanities / Cultural Diversity, not Italian
	L&S Natural Science	L&S Natural Science
	OWC-B GER	Elective
Year 3	Italian 311 (HU)	Italian 321 (HU)
	Italian elective	Italian 457 (HU)
	L&S Natural Science	L&S Social Science
	L&S Social Science	L&S upper-level
	Elective	Elective
Year 4	Italian elective	Italian 322 (HU)
	Italian elective	Italian elective
	L&S upper-level	L&S upper-level
	Elective	L&S upper-level
	Elective	Elective

(HU) Humanities GER

(OWC) Oral and Written Communication - Part A and B

(QL) Quantitative Literacy - Part A and B

**Sample Four Year Plan for Option B Italian Studies:**

There are hundreds of courses that satisfy various requirements and courses can count towards more than one requirement. For example, Italian 258 counts towards the major and as a humanities. (This sample assumes no high school Foreign Language was taken and that the student placed into college-level math and English.)

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	Math 103 or 105	QL-B GER
	English 101	English 102
	Italian 103	Italian 104
	L&S Humanities, not Italian	L&S Natural Science with lab
	L&S Social Science	Arts GER
Year 2	L&S Social Science	Formal Reasoning
	Italian 203 (Int'l)	Italian 204 (Int'l)
	Italian 258 (HU)	L&S Humanities / Cultural Diversity, not Italian
	L&S Natural Science	L&S Natural Science
	OWC-B GER	Italian elective (HU)
Year 3	Upper-level Italian elective	Italian elective
	Upper-level Italian or cross-listed course	Upper-level Italian or cross-listed course
	L&S Natural Science	L&S Social Science
	L&S Social Science	L&S upper-level
	Elective	Elective
Year 4	Upper-level Italian elective or cross-listed course	Upper-level Italian or cross-listed course
	Upper-level Italian elective	Italian 457
	L&S upper-level	L&S upper-level
	L&S upper-level	L&S upper-level
	Elective	Elective

(HU) Humanities GER

(OWC) Oral and Written Communication - Part A and B

(QL) Quantitative Literacy - Part A and B