

Florida State University – Graduate Studies in Italian
Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics

We wish to take this opportunity to acquaint you with our program, the **Master of Arts in Italian Studies** offered at the Italian division within the Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics at Florida State University. Our interdisciplinary degree has a programmatic emphasis on the *critical* study of Italy and its centrality to the development of what we, even today, refer to as humane letters, the humanities, or the humanistic tradition. Our master's program seeks to give substance to the term "humanistic" by offering the opportunity to broaden our context and our understanding of that tradition. Utilizing Italian culture as our prism, we explore the character of the institutions, movements, and ideologies that have shaped Western society and its values and assumptions up to and including Western culture of the twenty-first century. This systematic exploration is essentially interdisciplinary, i.e. it enables a holistic view of culture by encouraging students to examine enduring issues of our common life across a wide range of academic disciplines, from literature and art history, to political science, music, and cultural studies. Therefore our program allows students to combine in their individualized programs a wide range of courses from such related areas as Italian language, Italian literature, Art History, Humanities, Classics, Communications, Economics, English, Film, French, Spanish, German, Interior Design, International Affairs, Music, Philosophy, Political Science, Religion, and Theater.

In order to facilitate such a broad array of possible interests, the M.A. in Italian Studies provides as a core faculty one of the largest Italian faculties in the Southeast. The

Italian's faculty area of expertise include the Trecento, Renaissance, Baroque, Romanticism, nineteenth- and twentieth-century Italian literature, cultural studies, cinema studies, narrative and translation theory, Italian-American Studies, comparative literature, gender studies, nineteenth- and twentieth-century French literature, eighteenth-, nineteenth- and twentieth-century German history and culture, Italian language pedagogy, and literary theory. In addition, the program has an outstanding group of affiliated faculty with primary appointments in other departments but with interests in the field of Italian Studies.

The admission requirements to our program are a BA degree in a related area of study, evidence of Italian language proficiency beyond the intermediate level, a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4 point scale, GRE score of 1000 or higher. To complete our thesis MA program a minimum of 30 credit hours including thesis credit are required, while the non-thesis program requires a minimum of 32 credit hours. Teaching Assistantships as well as other fellowships and scholarships are available to qualified applicants on a competitive basis. There are also various possibilities of financial support for study in Italy that our program offers to well-qualified students.

The M.A. in Italian Studies can prepare one for doctoral studies in a variety of areas that might include not only Italian and the disciplines mentioned above, but also in such areas as Romance languages, history, and comparative literature. Moreover, our students are encouraged to present their most outstanding research papers at both regional and national conferences. Although our M.A. in Italian Studies is a relatively new program, our recent graduates have been accepted into doctoral programs in such areas as comparative literature, romance languages, and Italian at a wide number of prestigious

institutions, such as the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University, the University of Chicago, Johns Hopkins University, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Illinois, the University of Oregon, Indiana University, Rutgers University, the City University of New York, and others. Our Italian Studies program may also serve the interests of those students considering careers in the Foreign Service or teaching foreign language, literature, or humanities at the community college or high school levels. Some of our other recent graduates are teaching at the university and high school levels, or are in medical school, or are in the business world.

Italian Studies Core Faculty

- Dr. Raymond R. Fleming – Harvard University, 1976: Italian Trecento; European Romanticism; Afro-American Studies.
- Dr. William Leparulo - Dottore in Materie Letterarie, University of Salerno, Italy, 1960: Modern Italian Literature, Italian Cinema and Literature.
- Dr. Reinier Leushuis – Princeton University, 2000: Medieval and Renaissance Italian Literature. Department Associate Chair for Graduate Studies.
- Dr. Mark Pietralunga - University of California-Berkeley, 1983: 20th century Italian Literature, Translation Studies, Italian American Studies.
- Dr. Silvia Valisa - University of California-Berkeley, 2007: Modern Italian Studies; Gender Studies; Theory of the Novel; History of Publishing.
- Dr. Irene Zanini Cordi - University of California -Berkeley, 2004: 18th and 19th Century Literature and Culture; Renaissance Literature; Narrative Theory; Gender Theory and Italian Women Writers.

Italian Studies Affiliated Faculty

Celia R. Daileader, PhD, Brandeis University, Associate Professor of English. Renaissance studies, feminist theory, and critical race studies.

Francis Cairns, PhD, Liverpool, Professor of Classical Languages. Greek and Latin poetry, Medieval and Renaissance Latin literature and Greek epigraphy.

Jack Freiberg, PhD, Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, Associate Professor Art History. Italian Renaissance Art and Architecture.

S.E. Gontarski, PhD, Ohio State University, Sarah Herndon Professor of English. Twentieth-century Irish Studies, British, U.S., and European Modernism, and performance theory.

Nancy de Grummond, PhD, North Carolina, M. Lynette Thompson Professor of Classics. Etruscan, Hellenistic, and Roman archaeology.

David Kirby, PhD, Johns Hopkins University, Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor and Professor of English. Nineteenth-century US Literature and creative writing.

Darrin M. McMahan, PhD, Yale University, Ben Weider Associate Professor of History. Modern European Cultural and Intellectual; Old Regime Europe; French Revolution; Italian history.

Karen Myers, MS, Florida State University, Associate Professor of Interior Design. Architectural and design history.

Jerrold Pope, M.M. Yale University, D.M.A. Rutgers University, Associate Professor of Voice. Opera.

Douglass Seaton, PhD, Columbia University, Warren D. Allen Professor Musicology. Classic/Romantic period, and relationships of literature and music.

Gary Taylor, Ph.D., Cambridge, George Matthew Edgar Professor of English. Renaissance studies, cultural studies, race and ethnicity.