

BA Italian & Linguistics
For students entering Part 1 in 2003

UCAS Code: QR13

Awarding Institution:
Teaching Institution:
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):

The University of Reading
The University of Reading
Languages and Related Studies
and Linguistics
Programme length: 4 years

Faculty of Arts & Humanities
Date of specification: October 2005
Programme Director: Professor Duggan
Programme Advisers: Dr F. Medioli and Prof. M. Garman
Board of Studies: Italian & Linguistics
Accreditation: Not appropriate

Summary of programme aims

The programme in Italian & Linguistics is a multi-disciplinary programme which aims to provide students with subject specific knowledge and more general skills. It contains an inter-disciplinary element in the form of a compulsory joint dissertation in which students study a topic from the perspectives of both disciplines.

The Italian programme aims to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to progress to a wide range of careers or to postgraduate study, while also promoting a lifelong love of learning. Its multi-disciplinary approach aims to produce graduates who are competent communicators in spoken and written Italian and have a sound knowledge of a range of aspects of Italian culture, history and society, selected in accordance with individual academic interests.

The Linguistics part of the programme aims to enable students to achieve their full intellectual potential by means of the rigorous and critical study of language; to provide students with the foundation skills for further independent study and research; and to equip them with a range of transferable skills of potential value to future employers.

Transferable skills

The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to enhance their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology (word-processing and the use of web-based material), and career management.

Students of Italian and Linguistics will develop their abilities to deal with intellectual problems effectively by locating information, assessing it critically, communicating independent points of view logically and clearly (both orally and in writing), and substantiating opinions with evidence; the year abroad provides particularly good opportunities for developing increased (inter-)cultural awareness and self-reliance. They will also gain an awareness and experience of the application of information technology to language studies, and basic computing skills.

Programme content

The following profile states which modules must be taken ('compulsory' modules), together with lists of modules in any Part from which students must make a selection ('optional' modules). Not all options will necessarily be available every year. Admission to options will be at the discretion of the Programme Director. Each part comprises 120 credits. In Part 1 the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules in this programme and/or from modules elsewhere in the University.

Part 1 in Italian includes the study of both language and an introduction to aspects of Italian culture, while Linguistics introduces students to the levels of linguistic analysis that relate to sound, grammar and meaning – this constitutes the ‘core’ of the discipline. It also introduces applications of linguistics, in individual and social aspects of language. Students with A level (or equivalent qualifications) in Italian must take a compulsory 20-credit language module and a compulsory 20-credit module on cultural themes. Students without an A level in Italian (including complete beginners) take a compulsory 40-credit module which includes both language and cultural studies. All students, if they wish, may also take a further module in Italian culture.

In Part 2 students take one compulsory 20-credit Italian language module (the level at this stage depends on their previous experience), a compulsory module on the History of the Italian Language, and one optional module chosen from a range of broadly-based culture modules. Linguistics consolidates the core areas, and extends them in optional modules for sound structure and grammar and meaning. Running alongside these core modules is a further obligatory module in research methods training, and a wide range of option modules that allow students to explore further applications of linguistics, beyond the core.

In the Year Abroad the experience of living in Italy enables students to make great strides in their linguistic skills, particularly their oral and aural ones: by the end of this period the differences between former beginners and other students will have been eliminated. Students further broaden their knowledge of Italian culture by pursuing courses of their own choice at an Italian University; and they engage in independent study for their dissertation.

Part 3 comprises two modules of further Italian language study, and one optional module chosen from a range of specialised topics relating to many different aspects of Italian culture. Linguistics sees the completion of the dissertation, which allows students to follow their particular interests in their own investigation. This, together with a further wide range of option modules, provides flexibility and the opportunity for specialisation in two-thirds of the credits in the final year.

Part 1 (three terms) Certificate Level

Credits Level

Students are required to take 120 credits at Part 1, of which at least 40 and a maximum of 60 must be in Linguistics, and at least 40 and a maximum of 60 must be in Italian, made up from the modules below. Any remaining credits may be made up of any combination of 10- and 20-credit modules offered in the university, subject to the requirement for Part 1 examination.

In Italian

For students with ‘A’ level or equivalent in Italian:

Compulsory modules

IT1001	<i>Advanced Italian Language I</i>	20	C
IT1002	<i>Twentieth-Century Italian Culture</i>	20	C

For students without A level in Italian (including complete beginners):

Compulsory module

IT1003	<i>Italian Language (Elementary) and Culture</i>	40	C
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Optional module (open to all students):

IT1004	<i>Italian Mediaeval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)</i>	20	C
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In Linguistics

Compulsory modules

Autumn, Spring and Summer terms:

LS1SG	<i>Sounds, Grammar and Meaning</i>	20	C
LS1IS	<i>Language in the Individual & in Society</i>	20	C

Optional module

Autumn, Spring and Summer terms:

LS1IA	<i>Introduction to Applied English Language Studies</i>	20	C
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The examination of these modules will take place in weeks 5-7 of the Summer term, save for LS1LS which will be partially assessed by assignments over the Christmas vacation and at the end of the Spring term.

Part 2 (three terms) Intermediate Level

Credits Level

Students take 60 credits in Italian and 60 credits in Linguistics. Not all modules will necessarily be available every year. Admission to modules will be at the discretion of the Programme Director.

In Italian

Compulsory module (to total of 20 credits)

Either:

IT201	<i>Advanced Italian Language II</i>	20	I
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Or:

IT202	<i>Intermediate Italian Language</i>	20	I
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Two of the following optional modules (to total of 40 credits).

IT203	<i>History of the Italian Language</i>	20	I
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Either:

IT205	<i>Italian Cinema I</i>	20	I
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Or:

IT206	<i>Italian Cinema II</i>	20	I
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IT207	<i>Italian History and Society since 1945</i>	20	I
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IT208	<i>Italian Modernism</i>	20	I
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IT209	<i>Italian Narrative and Poetry in the Nineteenth Century</i>	20	I
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IT210	<i>Women's Everyday Life In Italy from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution</i>	20	I
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IT2CON	<i>Contemporary Italian Literature</i>	20	I
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IT2WCI	<i>Women in Contemporary Italy (1900-2000): from Invisibility to Feminism</i>	20	I
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In Linguistics

Compulsory modules:

Autumn term:

LS2LG	<i>Core Linguistics</i>	20	I
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Autumn, Spring and Summer terms:

LS2RM	<i>Research Methods</i>	20	I
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Optional modules, totalling 20 credits:

Spring and Summer terms:

LS2PP	<i>Principles of Phonetics & Phonology</i>	20	I
LS2PS	<i>Principles of Syntax & Semantics</i>	20	I

Autumn term:

LS2CL	<i>Child Language Development</i>	10	I
LS2CS	<i>Computer-Based Corpus Studies</i>	10	I
LS2DA	<i>Discourse Analysis</i>	10	I
LS2EG	<i>English Grammar</i>	10	I
LS2SL	<i>Sociolinguistics</i>	10	I

Spring term:

LS2EP	<i>English Phonology</i>	10	I
LS2FL	<i>First Language Acquisition</i>	10	I
LS2LT	<i>Applied Linguistics & Language Teaching</i>	10	I
LS2PY	<i>Language Play</i>	10	I
LS2VE	<i>Varieties of English</i>	10	I
LS2VC	<i>Variation & Change</i>	10	I

The examination of these modules will take place in weeks 5-7 of the Summer term, save that those modules running entirely in the Autumn term will be assessed by assignments to be completed over the Christmas vacation.

Of the 120 credits in Part 2, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills (Level I).

Year Abroad (three terms)

Credits Level

In this Part, students will take a further 120 credits, made up of 60 credits in Linguistics and 60 credits for the Italian Department during their Year Abroad.

For credit accounting purposes, the Italian Dissertation is listed as two distinct modules, IT3LS contributing 20 credits in Italian in the Year Abroad, and LS3IT contributing 20 credits in Linguistics in Part 3, but its preparation and completion are conceived and assessed as a single piece of work contributing 40 credits to the whole programme.

Compulsory modules

IT331	<i>Italian Oral</i>	20	H
IT332	<i>Italian Written and Oral Presentation</i>	20	H
IT231	<i>Credits from Italian University course (1)</i>	20	I
IT232	<i>Credits from Italian University course (2)</i>	20	I
IT3LS	<i>Italian Dissertation (preparation)</i>	20	H
LS2A1	<i>Year Abroad Module –1</i>	20	I

(For students on this programme the Italian Oral module and the Written and Oral Presentation module contribute 20 credits in Italian and 20 credits in Linguistics.)

Where possible, *Year Abroad Module 1* will be drawn from a range of options made available to students in the host institution.

The Italian Oral module and the Written and Oral Presentation module are examined in Reading at the beginning of Part 3.

Part 3 (three terms) Honours Level*Credits Level*

Students will take courses amounting to 60 credits in Italian and 60 credits in Linguistics.

In Italian**Compulsory modules**

IT301	<i>Advanced Italian Language III</i>	20	H
IT302	<i>Additional Advanced Italian</i>	20	H

Option module

One option (20 credits) in Italian from the following list

IT303	<i>Aspects of the Renaissance in France and Italy</i>	20	H
IT305	<i>Dante</i>	20	H
Either:			
IT3EC1	<i>European Cinema I</i>	20	H
Or:			
IT3EC2	<i>European Cinema II</i>	20	H
IT312	<i>Modern Movements in Poetry 1900-1920</i>		H
IT314	<i>The South since 1860: Images and Reality</i>	20	H
IT315	<i>Umberto Eco: Fiction, Cultural Criticism and the Theory of Signs</i>	20	H
IT3CC	<i>Court Culture in the Italian Renaissance</i>	20	H
IT3FL	<i>Fantastic Literature in Italy 1860s-1980s</i>	20	H
IT3WE	<i>Women's Everyday Life in Italy from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution</i>	20	H
HS3T09	<i>The Republic of Venice from c.1454 to 1571</i>	20	H

In Linguistics

Compulsory module:

Autumn and Spring terms:

LS3IT	<i>Italian Dissertation (completion)</i>	20	H
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Optional modules totalling 40 credits:

Autumn and Spring terms:

LS3AP	<i>Advanced Phonetics & Phonology</i>	20	H
LS3AS	<i>Advanced Syntax & Semantics</i>	20	H

Autumn term:

LS3MG	<i>Aspects of Modern Greek</i>	10	H
LS3CL	<i>Child Language Development</i>	10	H
LS3CS	<i>Computer-Based Corpus Studies</i>	10	H
LS3DA	<i>Discourse Analysis</i>	10	H
LS3EG	<i>English Grammar</i>	10	H
LS3IP	<i>Issues in Phonetics & Phonology</i>	10	H
LS3LP	<i>Language Pathology</i>	10	H
LS3NO	<i>Aspects of Norwegian</i>	10	H
LS3SL	<i>Sociolinguistics</i>	10	H
LS3TU	<i>Typology & Universals</i>	10	H

Spring term:

LS3AA	<i>Linguistic Aspects of Aphasia</i>	10	H
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LS3EP	<i>English Phonology</i>	10	H
LS3FL	<i>First Language Acquisition</i>	10	H
LS3IS	<i>Issues in Syntax & Semantics</i>	10	H
LS3LT	<i>Applied Linguistics & Language Teaching</i>	10	H
LS3PL	<i>Psycholinguistics</i>	10	H
LS3PY	<i>Language Play</i>	10	H
LS3RT	<i>Research Topics in English Grammar</i>	10	H
LS3VE	<i>Varieties of English</i>	10	H
LS3VC	<i>Variation & Change</i>	10	H
LS3XP	<i>Experimental Phonetics</i>	10	H

The examination of these modules will take place in weeks 3-7 of the Summer term, save that those modules running entirely in the Autumn term will be assessed by assignments to be completed over the Christmas vacation.

Progression requirements

To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students must:

- (a) obtain a mark of at least 40% in each of their compulsory modules in Italian and an average of at least 40% over the Linguistics modules taken;
- (b) achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;
- (c) achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

To proceed from Part 2 to the Year Abroad students must

- (a) obtain a mark of at least 40% in either *Advanced Italian Language II* or *Intermediate Italian Language*;
- (b) achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;
- (c) achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

To proceed from the Year Abroad to Part 3 students must satisfy the examiners that they have successfully completed an approved programme of studies at a University in Italy and have handed in the work and assignments required by the programme.

Summary of teaching and assessment

Italian language modules are taught in small groups; other modules typically involve a mixture of lectures and small-group seminars. Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. In the Linguistics part of the programme, modules are taught by lectures, seminars and small group practical work. The Dissertation completion module additionally is supported by individual supervision. Some modules are assessed wholly by coursework, some wholly by examination, and others by a mixture of the two: details are given in the module descriptions. The Year Abroad modules in Italian and Linguistics will derive credits from marks obtained in oral examinations set by the Italian university. The Oral in Italian and the Written and Oral Presentation will be examined at the beginning of Part 3.

The conventions for assessment and classification are included in the Programme Handbooks, but it should be noted that Part 2 modules and Year Abroad I-level modules will count for 33% of the final assessment, and Year Abroad H-level modules and Part 3 modules will count for 67% of the final assessment.

Admission requirements

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained either 280 points from 4 subjects ('A' or A/S levels) including 2 full A-levels, or: 260 points from 3 subjects ('A' or A/S levels) including 2 full A-levels. No previous qualification in Italian is required. Equivalent international qualifications will be accepted.

Mature applicants: Applications from mature candidates are welcomed, and many have done notably well in the past. A mature applicant is more likely to receive an offer of a place if he or she has undertaken recent study, for example 2 or more A Levels or an Access course (70% or more usually required) but each case is assessed on its merits. Potential applicants should contact the Admissions Tutor well in advance to discuss individual circumstances.

International applicants: Applications from international candidates are also particularly welcomed. Advice on the acceptability of your qualifications may be sought, where necessary, from the Admissions Tutor.

Admissions Tutor: Professor Christopher Duggan

Tel: 0118 931 8403 (44 118 931 8403 from abroad)

e-mail: <mailto:c.j.h.duggan@reading.ac.uk>

Admissions Secretary: Mrs Lucy Hudson

Tel: 0118 931 8400 (44 118 931 8402 from abroad)

e-mail: <mailto:l.c.hudson@reading.ac.uk>

or, for Linguistics, <mailto:SLALS@reading.ac.uk>

Information on courses may be obtained via the Internet on: <http://www.rdg.ac.uk/italian>

Support for students and their learning

University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@IL) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided through the University's Personal Academic Record (PAR) Scheme, in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review their progress, and through the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union.

The Departmental Handbooks issued to Part 1 and to degree course students provide extensive information on resources and study skills. The Access Point for Individual Language Learning (APILL) contains a range of audio and audio-visual materials to promote self-study in languages, together with facilities for watching Italian television by satellite. The University Library is particularly well stocked with works relating to many different aspects of Italian culture and the Faculty possesses a video suite to support cinema studies. The Departmental Library contains a range of reference works which can be used by students and offers a congenial study space.

The Italian Departmental Handbook is provided to students in the first year. Also available on the internet:

<http://www.rdg.ac.uk/italian>

The School of Linguistics & Applied Language Studies provides an induction course in Academic Writing. Each student is provided with a course handbook which contains full details of the degree programme, the staff and facilities in the School, and a range of useful information including advice on note-taking in lectures, preparation of written work

especially the dissertation, and dates of terms and examinations, and the University's procedure for assessment. Each Part of the programme has a Course Tutor to advise students on selection of modules, learning and assessment. Learning on core modules is supported by small group seminars. Learning is also supported by dedicated facilities in the School. The Corpus Facility has 6 networked PCs that are intended in the first instance for students researching corpora and databases, such as the British National Corpus and CoBUILD. We also have our own research corpora and databases, and these can be accessed from these machines. The facility uses the latest software in language and speech analysis. Also available for students are word-processing and statistics, e-mail, and Internet access. Further PCs are located in the student common room for student use. The Speech Research Laboratory is well equipped with a wide range of instrumentation for the investigation of many aspects of speech, and the technical staff and phonetics lecturers are available to advise and help with its setting up and use. The Communication Disorders Centre includes a speech and language therapy clinic in the local NHS Trust, and provides students with opportunities for learning and research. There is also a Language Acquisition Laboratory, which provides an essential testing ground for linguistic theories.

Career prospects

Students graduating in Italian work in many different fields. Some use their linguistic skills in teaching, including teaching English as a Foreign Language abroad; others proceed to post-graduate courses in various areas, including translating. A degree involving Italian can also, like degrees in other Humanities subjects, lead to careers in such areas as administration, management or marketing, or be a prelude to study in law or accountancy; and increasing numbers of students find positions in the business world, including the travel industry, where their knowledge of Italian can be a distinct asset.

Students graduating in Linguistics are equipped to enter a range of professions that obviously concern themselves with written or spoken language: for example, publishing, broadcasting, advertising and translating, as well as academic Linguistics. In some cases, further study and qualifications will be necessary, for which Linguistics forms an excellent foundation, as in teaching, including second and foreign language teaching, and speech and language therapy. More broadly, employers have come to recognise that graduates in Linguistics have the ability to organise complex data and to work in IT environments, and these are skills that are in demand in many types of employment that are not directly concerned with language.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements

The Department of Italian Studies participates in SOCRATES exchanges with the Universities of Padova, Roma III, Firenze, Siena, Pisa, Pavia, Genova, Trieste, Napoli (Federico II), Bologna, Bergamo, Salerno and Venezia. Students spend the whole of the third year studying at one of these Universities. Further information on these Universities is available on the Internet at <http://www.rdg.ac.uk/italian>

Educational aims of the programme

The Italian part of the programme aims to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to progress to a wide range of careers or to postgraduate study, while also promoting a lifelong love of learning. Its multi-disciplinary approach aims to produce graduates who are competent communicators in Italian and have a sound knowledge of a range of aspects of Italian culture, history and society.

The programme therefore aims to equip students with:

- a competence which comes as near as possible to that of an educated Italian person in the reception and production of spoken and written Italian;
- a sound body of knowledge of a range of aspects of Italian Studies chosen in accordance with their academic interests;
- familiarity with the theories and methods of the various disciplines covered and the ability to develop their own expertise and present their own arguments in these areas.

The programme also aims to equip students with the ability to seek and identify sources of information; make articulate written and oral presentations; conduct lucid arguments in support of a case, using evidence appropriately; analyse the form and content of written and audio-visual communications; appreciate the mentality and outlook of people from another culture or age; articulate in rational discourse the expression of emotion; and develop sound work discipline, including commitment to deadlines and time management.

The programme in Linguistics aims to enable students to achieve their full intellectual potential by means of the rigorous and critical study of language; to develop students' skills in core areas of linguistics including phonetics, phonology, syntax and semantics; to allow students to develop their own interests in the applications of linguistics in a variety of areas; to provide students with the foundation skills for further independent study and research; and, by exposing students to a variety of learning experiences, to equip them with a range of transferable skills of potential value to future employers.

Programme Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and Understanding

<p>A. Knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Italian language2. Selected aspects of Italian literature, history and culture.3. Methods of approach, analysis and interpretation associated with the various disciplines covered. <p>Core areas of linguistics, represented in 1-6:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the systems for the production and perception of human speech sounds2. the principles of phonological contrast and organisation of linguistic sound systems3. the principles of derivational and inflectional morphology4. the principles for determining syntactic constituents and their inter-relations5. the principles of semantic contrast, and the role of sense, reference and denotation6. the principles of pragmatics, including speech acts, entailment and presupposition <p>Additionally,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. a wide range of specialist areas in which linguistic principles are applied	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. At Part 1, Italian is taught at three distinct levels: beginners, intermediate and advanced. Separate teaching is maintained throughout Part 2, but after the year in Italy all students follow the same courses. Teaching is always in small groups, with different classes being devoted to grammar, oral and aural skills, reading and writing skills and translation. Audio-visual resources are used as appropriate. Regular non-assessed coursework is set, and considerable emphasis is based on individual study. The Year Abroad provides experience in the use of everyday Italian and the opportunity to follow University courses.2,3. These areas are taught through a combination of usually informal lectures and seminars. Students are expected to undertake independent reading on the basis of bibliographies issued for each module, and prepare seminar papers and assessed essays. The dissertation provides an opportunity for the further development of independent research. <p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p>Language work is assessed by oral and written examinations. The Italian University courses are assessed by oral examinations. Modules on literature and culture are assessed by a combination of coursework essays and examination or, in one case, by an independent dissertation.</p> <p><i>Linguistics</i></p> <p>1-6 are achieved through Part 1 module <i>Sounds, Grammar and Meaning</i> and Part 2 module <i>Core Linguistics</i>, by lectures and small group seminars. Additionally, small group phonetics practical sessions focus on 1. Further knowledge and understanding in areas 1-6 are offered in option modules at Parts 2 and 3, by lectures, small group seminars and guided assignments. 7 is achieved through Part 1 module <i>Language in the Individual & Society</i>, by lectures and small group seminars, and through further Part 2 and 3 option modules, by lectures and guided assignments.</p> <p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p>1-7 are assessed by coursework and written examination; 1 is additionally assessed by oral examination. Dissertation and oral presentations also contribute in core and applied areas.</p>
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Skills and other attributes

B Intellectual skills – able to:

1. Analyse and interpret literary or cinematic works in their cultural contexts;
2. apply literary and historical concepts;
3. conduct lucid arguments in support of a case, using evidence appropriately;
4. think critically and independently.

Linguistics

1. think logically
2. analyse and solve problems
3. operationalise abstract concepts for testing of hypotheses
4. assimilate rapidly-evolving concepts and models of language
5. generalise knowledge and methods from one area of study to others
6. plan, carry out and present an extended independent investigation of a research topic

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

These skills are developed throughout the programme. Classes in literary, historical, cinematic and other cultural modules involve analysis and discussion, often based on papers presented by students; and set essays involve analysis and debate on intellectual problems. Awareness of new approaches is encouraged as options are often linked to teachers' research interests. Individual feedback is provided on content and organisation of essays. Independent thinking is developed especially through the dissertation module for which initial preparation and regular support are provided.

Assessment

These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework essays and examination. The independent dissertation is a key element, and there are further opportunities for writing extended essays.

Linguistics

1-2 are achieved through demonstration and example in all lectures and small group seminars; additionally, through language practicals at Parts 1 and 2, and the Part 2 module *Research Methods*, and through the *Dissertation* at Part 3.

3 is achieved mainly through the Part 2 module *Research Methods*, and through the *Dissertation* at Part 3.

4 is achieved through the progression of concepts particularly in the modules *Sounds, Grammar and Meaning* at Part 1 and *Core Linguistics* at Part 2; further opportunities are offered through option modules, especially those in core and applied areas at Part 3.

5 is achieved through the combination of core and applied modules at Parts 1, 2 and 3.

6. is achieved through the Part 2 module *Research Methods*, and through the *Dissertation* at Part 3.

Assessment

1-5 form part of the evaluation of the quality of students' coursework and their written examinations. Additionally, 6 is assessed through small-scale and subsequent larger project work, respectively, in the modules *Research Methods*, and the *Dissertation*.

C. Practical skills – able to:

1. speak, write, read and understand Italian at a high or near-native level of proficiency;
2. seek out and select information from published and Internet sources and use it critically;
3. make clearly-constructed written and oral presentations;
4. plan and carry out limited research projects.

Linguistics

1. perceive, produce and transcribe a full range of sounds produced by the human vocal tract
2. analyse an unknown language at all levels of linguistic organisation
3. identify patterns in complex linguistic data and account for them in terms of appropriate levels of representation and generative rules
4. address and assemble the information contained in modern electronic linguistic corpora
5. run appropriate statistical tests on numerical data

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Language classes are compulsory throughout the programme and there is regular unassessed coursework. The Year Abroad provides a range of experiences in the use of everyday and academic Italian. Primary source material and much secondary literature is in Italian. Bibliographies are provided for all modules, students are trained in library use, and many modules provide experience searching for information via the Internet. Students regularly give oral presentations and write essays and are given feedback on them. In the latter half of the programme the dissertation and, in some cases, extended essays provided experience of researching topics independently.

Assessment

Skill 1 is assessed at different stages by oral examinations and unseen written papers. Skills 2-4 are assessed by a combination of coursework, examinations and dissertation.

Linguistics

1 is achieved through small group phonetics practical sessions, based on general information provided in the main core lectures on the sounds of language.

2-3 are achieved through small group language practical sessions at Parts 2 and 3 which exercise field linguistic techniques, based on lectures on the core areas of language structure and function; also, through the Part 2 module *Research Methods*, and through the *Dissertation* at Part 3.

4 is achieved through introductory sessions and assignment in the module *Research Methods*, and through the option module *Computer-Based Corpus Studies*.

5 is achieved through the Part 2 module *Research Methods*

Assessment

1 is assessed by oral examination.

2-5 are assessed by assignment;

3-4 are additionally assessable by written examination, and 5 by evaluation of the *Dissertation*

<p>D. Transferable skills – able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. construct and communicate arguments clearly and effectively in speech and writing, and support arguments with evidence; 2. think critically; 3. locate information and use information technology (especially word-processing and web-based resources); 4. participate effectively in group activities; 5. organise their own time purposefully and work independently; 6. show sensitivity to cultural differences; 7. make informed career plans. <p>.</p> <p>Linguistics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. use IT (word processing, using standard and statistical software) 2. define a research topic and mount a principled investigation by means of hypothesis-formulation and testing 3. give oral presentations 4. work as part of a team 5. use library resources 6. manage time 7. formulate and implement career plans 	<p>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</p> <p>Skills 1-6 are developed progressively throughout the programme. Participation in seminars and oral classes develops skills in self-expression and teamwork. Critical thought, the construction of arguments, and information skills are all developed through essay writing and the dissertation, and all assessed work must be word-processed. Time-management skills are enhanced by the regular production of language work and the meeting of strict essay deadlines. Sensitivity to cultural difference informs the whole programme and, together with the development of self-motivation and self-reliance, is greatly encouraged by the Year Abroad. Career management is taught through a distinct module linked with preparation for the Year Abroad.</p> <p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p>Skills 1-2 are assessed through coursework and examinations, including the examinations in Italy. The location of information forms part of the activity involved in the dissertation, but word-processing skills are not formally assessed. Skill 4 is not directly assessed. There are strict, clearly-defined penalties for lateness in handing in assessed work and for plagiarism.</p> <p>Linguistics</p> <p>1-6 are achieved through the Part 2 module <i>Research Methods</i>. 2, 5 and 6 are additionally achieved through the <i>Dissertation</i>. 3 is additionally achieved in a number of option modules, and in the <i>Second Year Conference</i>. 5 and 6 are also required for successful execution of assignments throughout the programme. 7 is achieved through the 5-credit Part 2 distributed module <i>Career Management Skills</i></p> <p><i>Assessment</i></p> <p>1 is assessed by coursework and is also assessable in the <i>Dissertation</i>. 2 is assessed by group presentation and individual writing up of the project carried out in the Part 2 module <i>Research Methods</i>, and in the <i>Dissertation</i>. 3 is assessed by staff observation and contributes to coursework on relevant modules. 4-6 are not specifically assessed but contribute to success in forms of assessment generally. 7 is assessed by three equally weighted assignments</p>
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Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably expect to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme handbooks.