

## BA Music and Italian

UCAS Code: RW33

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

The University of Reading  
The University of Reading  
Music and Languages and Related  
Studies

Faculty of Arts and Humanities  
For students entering Part 1 in 2003  
Programme Director:  
Programme Advisor:  
Board of Studies:

Programme length: 4 years  
Date of specification: July 2003  
Dr Christopher Wilson  
Dr Shirley Vinall  
Music and Italian Studies

### Summary of programme aims

This is a multi-disciplinary programme which seeks to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to embark on a wide range of careers or progress to postgraduate study, while also promoting a lifelong love of learning. It emphasises the integration of the musical sub-disciplines composing, listening and performing, and an appreciation of the wider issues in Western classical, popular, film, and non-Western musics. The programme also 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.

### Transferable skills

The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which 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, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology. Students on the Music and Italian programme 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. They are also expected to have gained experience and show competence in the following transferable skills: use of library and archive resources, music-related information technology, skills-based presentation and time management. The year abroad provides particularly good opportunities for developing increased cultural awareness and self-reliance.

### Programme content

The profile which follows lists those modules which must be taken (compulsory modules) and one or more lists of modules from which students must make a selection (optional modules). Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser, to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits for each module is shown after its title.

In Part 1 students will take **either** 40 or 60 credits in Music and 60 credits in Italian **or** 80 credits in Music and 40 credits in Italian. In Parts 2 and 3 they normally take 60 credits in both the Music and Italian Departments in each Part. During the Year Abroad students study in Italy. In all parts up to 20 credits can be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.

**Part 1 (three terms)***Credits Level***Either****A (40 or 60 credits in the Music Department and 60 credits in the Italian Department)****Music Department***40 or 60 credits from the following optional modules:*

MU1MM1	<i>Performance studies</i>	20	C
MU1MM2	<i>Contemporary composition</i>	20	C
MU1SS3	<i>Introduction to musicology</i>	20	C
MU1MM3	<i>Practical music</i>	20	C
MU1JP5	<i>Popular music</i>	20	C
MU1MT6	<i>Music technology</i>	20	C

If 40 credits are chosen, 20 credits should be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.

**Italian Department***Compulsory modules:*

For advanced students:

IT1001	<i>Advanced Italian Language I</i>	20	C
IT1002	<i>Twentieth-Century Italian Culture</i>	20	C
IT1004	<i>Italian Mediaeval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)</i>	20	C

For beginners:

IT1003	<i>Italian Language (Elementary) and Culture</i>	40	C
IT1004	<i>Italian Mediaeval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)</i>	20	C

**Or****B (80 credits in the Music Department and 40 credits in the Italian Department)****Music Department***80 credits from the following optional modules:*

MU1MM1	<i>Performance studies</i>	20	C
MU1MM2	<i>Contemporary composition</i>	20	C
MU1SS3	<i>Introduction to musicology</i>	20	C
MU1MM3	<i>Practical music</i>	20	C
MU1JP5	<i>Popular music</i>	20	C
MU1MT6	<i>Music technology</i>	20	C

**Italian Department***Compulsory modules:*

For advanced students:

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

For beginners:

IT1003	<i>Italian Language (Elementary) and Culture</i>	40	C
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<b>Part 2 (three terms)</b>		<i>Credits</i>	<i>Level</i>
<b>Music Department</b>			
<i>60 credits from the following optional modules:</i>			
MU2CP4	<i>Practical Music (including career management skills)</i>	20	I
MU2PR1	<i>Project A</i>	20	I
MU2PR2	<i>Project B</i>	20	I
MU2PR3	<i>Project C</i>	20	I
MU2PR4	<i>Project D</i>	20	I
MU2PR5	<i>Project E</i>	20	I
MU2FS1	<i>Further Studies: Project A (co-requisite MU2PR1)</i>	10	I
MU2FS2	<i>Further Studies: Project B (co-requisite MU2PR2)</i>	10	I
MU2FS3	<i>Further Studies: Project C (co-requisite MU2PR3)</i>	10	I
MU2FS4	<i>Further Studies: Project D (co-requisite MU2PR4)</i>	10	I
MU2FS5	<i>Further Studies: Project E (co-requisite MU2PR5)</i>	10	I
MU2PE4	<i>Practical Music essay (co-requisite MU2CP4)</i>	10	I
MU2PF5	<i>Performance Recital</i>	20	I
MU2AE6	<i>Arts Exchange</i>	10	I

### **Italian Department**

*Compulsory modules (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):*

Not all optional modules will be available in any one year; the availability of all optional modules is subject to availability of staff and will require a minimum number of participants.

IT203	<i>History of the Italian Language</i>	20	I
IT204	<i>Introduction to the Renaissance: Boccaccio, Humanism and Machiavelli</i>	20	I
<b>Either</b>	<i>Italian Cinema I: Introduction to Film Study,</i>	20	I
IT205	<i>Neorealism, War and Resistance</i>		
<b>Or</b>		20	I
IT206	<i>Italian Cinema II: Popular Genre Cinema</i>		
IT207	<i>Italian History and Society since 1945</i>	20	I
IT208	<i>Italian Modernism</i>	20	I
IT209	<i>Italian Narrative and Poetry in the Nineteenth Century</i>	20	I
IT210	<i>Women's Everyday Life In Italy from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution</i>	20	I
IT211	<i>Women's Writing and Writing about Women from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment</i>	20	I

*Up to 20 credits may be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.*

**Year Abroad (three terms)** *Credits* *Level*

*Compulsory modules*

**Italian Department**

IT331	<i>Italian Oral</i>	20	H
IT332	<i>Italian Written and Oral Presentation</i>	20	H

**Music Department**

MU3IMD	<i>Dissertation</i>	40	H
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**Italian University**

IT231	<i>Credits from Italian University course (1)</i>	20	I
IT232	<i>Credits from Italian University course (2)</i>	20	I

If students have not taken MU2CP4 ('Practical Music, including career management skills') at Part 2, then of the 120 credits in the year abroad, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills.

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

**Music Department**

*60 credits from the following optional modules:*

MU3CP3	<i>Practical Music</i>	20	H
MU3PR1	<i>Project A</i>	20	H
MU3PR2	<i>Project B</i>	20	H
MU3PR3	<i>Project C</i>	20	H
MU3PR4	<i>Project D</i>	20	H
MU3PR5	<i>Project E</i>	20	H
MU3IP4	<i>Individual Project: Performance</i>	40	H
MU3ID4	<i>Individual Project: Dissertation</i>	40	H
MU3IC4	<i>Individual Project: Composition</i>	40	H
MU3FS1	<i>Further Studies: Project A (co-requisite MU3PR1)</i>	10	H
MU3FS2	<i>Further Studies: Project B (co-requisite MU3PR2)</i>	10	H
MU3FS3	<i>Further Studies: Project A (co-requisite MU3PR3)</i>	10	H
MU3FS4	<i>Further Studies: Project A (co-requisite MU3PR4)</i>	10	H
MU3FS5	<i>Further Studies: Project A (co-requisite MU3PR5)</i>	10	H
MU3PE3	<i>Practical Music essay</i>	10	H

**Italian Department**

*Compulsory module (20 credits)*

IT301	<i>Advanced Italian Language III</i>	20	H
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*Two of the following optional modules (to total of 40 credits).*

Not all optional modules will be available in any one year; the availability of all optional modules is subject to availability of staff and will require a minimum number of participants.

IT303	<i>Aspects of the Renaissance in France and Italy</i>	20	H
IT304	<i>Contemporary Italian Literature</i>	20	H
IT305	<i>Dante</i>	20	H
IT307	<i>Italian Cinema III: The Cinema of Fellini, Antonioni and Bertolucci</i>	20	H

IT308	<i>Italian Cinema IV: Social Comedy</i>	20	H
IT310	<i>Italian Renaissance Poetry: The Inner Self, the Outer World, and their Representation</i>	20	H
IT311	<i>Italian Women's Studies</i>	20	H
IT312	<i>Modern Movements in Poetry 1900-1920</i>	20	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

*Up to 20 credits may be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.*

### **Progression requirements**

From Part 1 to Part 2 and Part 2 to the Year Abroad: (i) an average of 40% in the Music modules taken and 40% in each compulsory Italian module; (ii) an overall average of 40%; (iii) no mark less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be considered, provided the candidate has pursued the course for the module with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without 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**

Teaching is through seminars, lectures, tutorials and individual professional training (such as instrumental/vocal lessons). Language modules are always taught in small groups. Other modules are taught by a mixture of lectures and seminars, but lectures are generally informal and, because of the large number of optional courses available, the large lecture is extremely rare.

Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. In Music, modules for Parts 2 and 3 are normally assessed by coursework. The Credits from Italian University courses will derive 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 dissertation comprises a piece of work based on supervised independent study. Assessment criteria for each of the Parts are given in the appropriate Departmental Handbook.

In the overall assessment I level credits contribute 33% of the final assessment and H level credits contribute 67%.

The University's honours classification is as follows:

<u>Mark</u>	<u>Interpretation</u>
70% - 100%	First Class
60% - 69%	Upper Second Class
50% - 59%	Lower Second Class
40% - 49%	Third Class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

### **Admission requirements**

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained:

**UCAS Tariff:** Either 260 points over 3 subjects or 280 points over 4 subjects (to include Music A2 at Grade B or higher and at least one other A2); ABRSM Grade 8 (or equivalent) in main

instrument or voice; if the piano is not the main instrument an intermediate level of piano ability is advisable. No previous qualifications in Italian are required.

**International Baccalaureat:** 30 points (including Music at higher level)

**Irish Leaving Certificate:** BBBBC (B in Music )

Grade C or better in English in GCSE

Equivalent international qualifications that demonstrate competence in Music and Italian will also be considered. Applications from international candidates are particularly welcomed. Advice on the acceptability of your qualifications may be sought, where necessary, from the Admissions Tutors.

*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 Tutors well in advance to discuss individual circumstances.

Admissions Tutors: Dr Sophie Fuller and Dr Christopher Duggan

### **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 by Personal Tutors, the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union. Support for students in their studies is also provided through the University's Personal Academic Record (PAR) Scheme, in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review their progress.

Within the Music department additional support is provided through individual tutorials and subject-specific training in the Music Library from information specialists. Further details of the programme, as well as general information about the departmental and services provided by the university, are found in the Departmental Handbook which is issued to all students. The department provides students with access to a wide variety of musical instruments, specialist music software and hardware, and the extensive print, on-line, audio and visual materials in the Music Library.

The Italian 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.

### **Career prospects**

A large number of professional career destinations are open to students on the Music programme, including musical paths such as performance, composition, research and management. Specific and transferable skills enable students to enter many fields of work in education, the media,

commerce and industry, the arts and other professions such as law, accountancy and information technology.

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 arts 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.

### **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 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. It aims to equip students with a sound body of knowledge within the fields of Music and Italian Studies that is suited to their individual talents and interests, familiarity with the theories and methods of the various disciplines covered and the ability to develop their own expertise and develop and present their arguments in these areas. 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 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.

## Programme Outcomes

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

### *Knowledge and Understanding*

<p><b>A. Knowledge and understanding of:</b></p> <p><b>Music</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. a range of approaches in musicological study.</li><li>2. topics in Western classical, popular and world musics, including cultural, social and historical issues.</li><li>3. how to compose both original and imitative music.</li><li>4. how to perform music.</li><li>5. techniques of music analysis.</li></ol> <p><b>Italian</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. the Italian language (spoken and written)</li><li>2. selected aspects of Italian literature, history and culture</li><li>3. methods of approach, analysis and interpretation associated with the various disciplines covered.</li></ol>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods and strategies</b></p> <p><b>Music</b></p> <p>Knowledge and understanding are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminars, individual tutorials and vocal/instrumental tuition), guided independent research, the writing of essays, reports, music and analytical notation and through public and workshop performance. Part 1 offers a broad introduction to 1-5. In Part 2 and 3 the understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 are developed and Part 3 introduces more specialised study focused on 2, 3, 4 or 5.</p> <p><i>Assessment</i> - in Part 1 knowledge and understanding of 1-5 are tested through a combination of essays, written and verbal reports, written examinations (both unseen and prepared), composition portfolio (including electronic recordings) and musical performance. In Parts 2 and 3 all of the above applies but in addition a choice is made between writing a dissertation, assembling a composition portfolio or giving a public recital. Throughout the programme students are given credit for participation in approved University music making.</p> <p><b>Italian</b></p> <p>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 Abroad all students follow the same courses. Teaching is 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 and the use of self-access facilities is encouraged. 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.</p> <p>2 &amp; 3 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 further development of independent research.</p> <p><i>Assessment</i> - 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>
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*Skills and other attributes*

**B. Intellectual skills – able to:**

**Music**

1. demonstrate a capacity for independent thought and critical writing.
2. Use musical and historical resources as evidence.
3. assimilate and communicate complex structures

**Italian**

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.

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

**Music**

Intellectual skills are acquired through lectures, independent musical study, seminar preparation and discussion, essay writing, workshop performance, and individual tutorials (1-3).

*Assessment*

1-3 are assessed both continually in project assessment and at module exit standard in examinations in Parts 1-3 and the individual projects in Part 3.

**Italian**

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.

### **C. Practical skills – able to:**

#### **Music**

1. play music with an appropriate command over accuracy, style and presentation.
2. compose music with an appropriate command of the relevant technical requirements.
3. conduct a critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches.
4. demonstrate information retrieval skills.
5. apply appropriate conventions in the presentation of all assessed work.

#### **Italian**

1. speak, write, read and understand Italian at high or near-native levels 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;
5. apply key methods and concepts of literary, historical and linguistic analysis.

### **Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

#### **Music**

1 and 2 are developed by vocational training, including workshops. 3-5 are developed through lectures, independent musical study, seminar preparation and discussion, essay writing, workshop performance, and individual tutorials. 4 is developed in close liaison with specialist Library personnel.

#### *Assessment*

The practice-based nature of a music programme means that all practical skills are assessed in a broader knowledge-based context as well as exit performance (such as in Part 3 a solo recital, dissertation or composition portfolio).

#### **Italian**

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. Departmental Handbooks provide guidance in preparing coursework essays and dissertations. 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 2-5 are assessed by a combination of coursework, examinations and dissertation.

**D. Transferable skills – able to:**

**Music**

1. use IT (including word-processing, standard notation software and databases).
2. use library and archival resources.
3. write fluently and critically.
4. give effective oral and skills-based presentations.
5. work as part of a team.
6. solve problems effectively.
7. manage time.
8. plan and manage future careers.
9. assimilate cultural issues.

**Italian**

1. construct and communicate arguments clearly and effectively in speech and writing, and support arguments with evidence;
2. think critically and assess the relevance and importance of the ideas of others;
3. locate information and use information technology (especially word-processing and web-based resources);
4. participate effectively in group activities;
5. be self-reliant, organise their own time purposefully and work independently;
6. show sensitivity to cultural differences;
7. make informed career plans.

**Teaching/learning methods and strategies**

**Music**

Transferable skills are developed through seminars and tutorials (1-9), workshops (4-6), vocational training (4-8), independent learning (1-4, 6-9), examinations (3, 4, 6, 7) and individual projects (1-9).

*Assessment*

Due to the project-based nature of the music programme transferable skills are integrally assessed in all modules. Increasing emphasis is placed on 8 and 9 in Parts 2 and 3.

**Italian**

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.

*Assessment*

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.

*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.