The four-year Italian BA provides a stimulating programme of Italian language and linguistics, literature, art, history and film. The third year is spent in Italy, offering unrivalled possibilities to develop your linguistic proficiency and to immerse yourself in Italian culture. Previous knowledge of Italian is not required.

Key information

Programme starts
September 2018

Location
London, Bloomsbury

Degree benefits

We are one of the biggest Italian departments in the UK with leading experts in all periods of Italian literature. We are also famous for the range of Italian studies courses offered. Our students can explore interests as diverse and fascinating as Renaissance art, history, modern and contemporary Italian art, linguistics, film, graphic novels, the Mafia...

Staff members include experts in all periods of Italian literature, as well as historians, cultural historians and linguists.

Exceptional resources for Italian studies are available in the UCL Library, including five special collections on Italian studies, and a substantial video library of Italian films. The Warburg Institute Library is within short walking distance of the Italian department.

Our students experience innovative teaching in every area of study. Examples include language projects using e-learning, historical Italian cookery, dedicated visits to museums and galleries in London, hands-on access to UCL rare book collections (for example Dante incunables) and film screenings.

Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014

The Research Excellence Framework, or REF, is the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. The 2014 REF was carried out by the UK’s higher education funding bodies, and the results used to allocate research funding from 2015/16.

74% rated 4* (‘world-leading’) or 3* (‘internationally excellent’)

Learn more about the scope of UCL’s research, and browse case studies, on our Research Impact website.

Degree structure

In each year of your degree you will take a number of individual modules, normally valued at 0.5 or 1.0 credits, adding up to a total of 4.0 credits for the year. Modules are assessed in the academic year in which they are taken. The balance of compulsory and optional modules varies from programme to programme and year to year. A 1.0 credit is considered equivalent to 15 credits in the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

Language study is compulsory throughout the programme and is designed to cater for those either with or without prior knowledge of the language. You will also take modules each year in areas such as literature, history, linguistics, culture, film and art, covering a large historical timespan. Your third year is spent in Italy, either at a university or on a teaching or work placement.

You may also take modules from SELCS, allowing you to study literature, film, art and culture from outside your subject area. This will enable you to focus on broad cultural movements, issues and approaches from an interdisciplinary perspective, drawing on the full range of specialisms within the school.

Your third year is spent in Italy, either at a university or on a teaching or work placement. This is a unique experience that allows you to immerse yourself fully in Italian life and culture. Students come back from Italy feeling much more at home with the language and with a spectrum of first-hand experiences from the country.

The final year is spent at UCL. Back from Italy, you will be able to speak the language fluently and engage in your studies using a whole range of resources in Italian, as a native speaker would do. You will take fourth-year courses that are often taught partly or wholly in Italian.

YEAR ONE

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Italian Language 1

Optional modules

- You will select 3.0 credits from a wide range of optional modules. Options may include:
  - Background to Dante and Inferno
  - Imagining the Nation: Italian Unification
  - Introduction to Linguistics and Syntactic Theory
  - Italy, the First 150 years
  - Realism and Neo-Realism
  - World War I as an Italian War: Events, Interpretations, Representations and Memory

YEAR TWO

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Italian Language 2

Optional modules

- You will choose from a wide range of optional modules. Options may include:
  - Dante: Purgatorio
  - Docudrama in Contemporary Italian Cinema
  - Fascist anti-Semitism and the Race of Laws of 1938: Origins, Applications and Memory
  - Italian Literature: 1865-1925
  - Renaissance: Machiavelli and Castiglione
  - The Italian Novel 1900-1950
  - SELCS Interdisciplinary courses which focus on history, literature, culture (film, theatre etc) and linguistics.
Year abroad key information

- You will spend your third year abroad in an Italian-speaking country. Students currently complete:
- Any assessment required by a host university (if participating in a university exchange);
- A British Council Assistantship or work placement abroad.
- Whether you undertake an internship or a university placement, you will engage in guided academic work and critical reflections so as to make the most of your cultural and linguistic immersion.
- For further information and a list of partner universities please see the SELCS Year Abroad website.

Year abroad: further details

- Institutions currently open to the programme include universities in Bologna, Milan, Rome, Pisa and other prestigious institutions.
- Note: students can take work placements provided it is arranged and approved by the end of April in the preceding academic year. Students may also apply for British Council Language Assistantships.
- When you go to Italy for your year abroad, you will have the opportunity to meet former UCL students who have studied Italian with us and hear about their experiences.
- Visit UCL Study Abroad for more information.

Core or compulsory module(s)

- Italian Language 3

Optional modules

- You will select 3.0 credits from a wide range of optional modules. Options may include:
  - Cultures of Tradition and Modernity in Postwar Italy
  - Dante, Divine Comedy
  - Dante and Petrarch
  - Marriage and Divorce Italian-Style (1861-1975)
  - Michælangeio: Painter, Sculptor and Poet
  - Nation, Culture and Society in Italy 1860-1915
  - Poesia Italian tra Otto e Novecento
  - The Contemporary Italian Novel
  - The Syntax of Information Structure

ELCS Advanced Level modules

Your learning

Italian language is taught at both beginners level and advanced (post A level) in the first year. You will be taught in small seminar-style classes. Cultural studies modules in the first two years are taught mainly through lectures and tutorials. Final-year topics, which reflect staff research specialisms, use seminar classes and student presentations to encourage participation and discussion.

Assessment

Assessment is continuous throughout your studies and includes essays, presentations, and oral and unseen examinations. If you are studying at one of our partner universities during your year abroad you will follow the modules of that university and take the associated examinations.

Your career

Our graduates have a marketable combination of talents, including the rigour and accuracy required to master a language, and the conceptual power, communication skills and imagination needed to tackle literature, history and other aspects of a foreign culture. Spending the third year abroad adds a unique capacity for enterprise and maturity to the mix. These qualities all provide an excellent preparation for the global, flexible and fast-changing economy of today.

Our graduates find employment in many branches of commerce, finance and industry, including publishing, journalism, NGOs, broadcasting and film, as well as in teaching and higher education, libraries, museums and archives. Many continue their studies in Italian at a graduate level through MA programmes, which lead also to the MPhil or PhD.

Please see first destinations of recent graduates (2013-2015) from European Languages, Culture and Society programmes at UCL for a selection of representative careers.
- Trainee Interior Designer, Percy Bass Ltd.
- Senior Auditor, Deloitte
- Writer and Researcher, Chambers & Partners
Entry requirements

A LEVELS
Grades
AAB
Subjects
Foreign language preferred.

GCSE
English Language at grade B or 6, plus Mathematics at grade C or 5. For UK-based students, a grade C or 5 or equivalent in a foreign language (other than Ancient Greek, Biblical Hebrew or Latin) is required. UCL provides opportunities to meet the foreign language requirement following enrolment, further details at: www.ucl.ac.uk/ug-reqs

IB DIPLOMA
Points
36 overall.
Subjects
A score of 17 points in three higher level subjects, preferably including a foreign language, with no score lower than 5.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS
UCL considers a wide range of UK and international qualifications for entry into its undergraduate programmes. Full details are given at: www.ucl.ac.uk/otherquals

UNDERGRADUATE PREPARATORY CERTIFICATES (International foundation courses)
The Undergraduate Preparatory Certificates (UPCs) are intensive one-year foundation courses for international students of high academic potential who are aiming to gain access to undergraduate degree programmes at UCL and other top UK universities.

Typical UPC students will be high achievers in a 12-year school system which does not meet the standard required for direct entry to UCL.

For more information see: www.ucl.ac.uk/upc.

TUITION FEES
The fees indicated are for undergraduate entry in the 2018/19 academic year. The UK/EU fees shown are for the first year of the programme at UCL only. The Overseas fees shown are the fees that will be charged to 2018/19 entrants for each year of study on the programme, unless otherwise indicated below.

// UK & EU: £9,250 (2018/19)
// Overseas: £19,390 (2018/19)

Full details of UCL’s tuition fees, tuition fee policy and potential increases to fees can be found on the UCL Students website.

FUNDING
Various funding options are available, including student loans, scholarships and bursaries. UK students whose household income falls below a certain level may also be eligible for a non-repayable bursary or for certain scholarships. Please see the Fees and funding pages for more details.

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EU referendum
For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to: www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum

Disclaimer
This information is for guidance only. It should not be construed as advice nor relied upon and does not form part of any contract. For more information on UCL’s degree programmes please see the UCL Undergraduate Prospectus at www.ucl.ac.uk/prospectus