Our current Italian Program owes its existence to a cooperative effort of the Italian-American communities of Southern California and California State University, Long Beach. This collaboration led to the establishment of the academic program in Italian Studies as well as The George L. Graziadio Center for Italian Studies in 1998. The Center was named in honor of Mr. George L. Graziadio, whose generous contribution represents the desire of the entire Italian-American community to foster studies in Italian language and culture in Southern California. Today we strive to maintain a strong, active presence within the University as well as in the community at large.

Under the direction of Dr. Clorinda Donato, The George L. Graziadio Center promotes the diffusion of the Italian language, culture and civilization through a variety of academic and cultural events featuring prominent scholars and authors in the field of Italian Studies. These events are realized in collaboration with various campus and community entities.

A number of scholarship opportunities exist for students in our programs who wish to study in Italy.

The George L. Graziadio Program in Italian Studies proudly offers the California Single Subject Credential required for the teaching of Italian. CSULB is the only university in the State to offer this credential. We also offer a program in Italian for Spanish Speakers. Workshops on Italian pedagogy are held annually. We also offer the MA in Italian Studies.
Admission to the Program

1. Apply for admission to the University, indicating the M.A. in Italian as your objective.
2. Visit the departmental website for application instructions to initiate departmental application process. Materials will include: application form; official copies of all transcripts of university-level study; a statement of purpose in English related to the applicant’s goals (not to exceed 2 pages single-spaced); a short essay (3-10 pages) in Italian that has been graded in a previous course.

Prerequisites for Admission to Classified Standing in Italian

Either a B.A. in Italian or at least 18 units of upper-division study in Italian equivalent to the Basic Core of the CSULB Bachelor’s Degree in Italian, with at least a “B” (3.0) average in the major. The candidate must pass the CSULB Writing Proficiency Exam (WPE). For additional information about prerequisites, please contact the graduate advisor.

Requirements for the M.A. Degree in Italian (Code RGR_MA04)

1. Completion of a minimum of 30 units in Italian, 70% of the coursework must be at the 500 or 600 level, while 50% of the coursework must be in seminars designated for grad students only.
2. Two years of the following languages: Spanish, Portuguese, French or German, or pass an examination at intermediate level in one of those languages. Major or minor in a second foreign language may be used to fulfill this requirement, upon approval by the graduate advisor.
3. Maintain a GPA of at least “B” (3.0) in Italian exclusive of courses taken in other programs.
4. Pass comprehensive examinations based on Graduate Reading List after course work completed
5. Maximum of six (6) units of transfer graduate credit are allowed, subject to approval by the graduate advisor.

To ensure a successful experience, students should meet with the Graduate Advisor for advising sessions every semester.

Required of all M.A. Students

ITAL 600 Italy and the Idea of Europe (3)
ITAL 650 Research Methodology and Critical Theory (3)

Choose 27 units from the following list of courses in consultation with your Graduate Advisor.

ITALIAN

ITAL 514/414 History of the Italian Language (3)
ITAL 533/433 Italian Literature as Historical Memory (3)
ITAL 554/454 Italian Cinema (3)
ITAL 562/462 Italian Women Writers (3)
ITAL 573/473 Masterpieces of Italian Renaissance Literature (3)
ITAL 576/476 The Modern Italian Short Story (3)
ITAL 578/478 The Italian Novelistic Tradition (3)
ITAL 582/482 The Building of the Italian Nation (3)
ITAL 590/490 Special Topics in Italian (3)
ITAL 599/499 Directed Studies (1-3)
May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units
ITAL 600 Italy and the Idea of Europe: 1861-Present (3)
ITAL 650 Research Methods and Critical Theory (3)
ITAL 688 Seminar in Italian Literature or Culture (3)
May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units
ITAL 697 Directed Research (1-3)
ITAL 698 Thesis (3-6)

RGRLL

RGR 524/424 Second Language Acquisition (3)
RGR 525/425 Romance Linguistics (3)
RGR 601 Teaching Methodology (3)
Please note: RGR 601 does not count for the Italian MA, but is required of all prospective teaching assistants.

RGR 603 Theory and Practice of Literary Translation (3)

Art History

AH 598 Selected Topics in Art History (3)

History Courses

HIST 541 Mediterranean World (3)

Comparative World Literature

CWL 530/430 Dante (3)
CWL 531/431 Medieval Literature (3)
CWL 532/432 Continental Renaissance Literature (3)

Join Us on the Web!

All M.A. courses will be available to students through the web interface Collaborate. This tool allows students to enter the class remotely and in real time. They participate fully in all aspects of the class, including class discussions, presentations and exams.