Italian at Leeds

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES
ITALIAN AT LEEDS

When researching different language courses around the country, Leeds really struck me as my best choice. Not only was it the course which appealed to me, with its interesting variety of syllabus, active atmosphere and time abroad opportunities, but I loved the sense of community at Leeds and the sheer volume of opportunities on offer to students.

Kathryn Marshall
BA French and Italian

We are one of the largest Italian departments in the country.

We have over 200 undergraduates and 11 full-time members of staff who offer expertise in an exciting range of areas which reflect the latest developments in the subject. Our postgraduate community supports our teaching and research and adds to the breadth and depth of Italian Studies at Leeds. This ensures that you are taught by experts in Italian culture and society and benefit from a variety of modules and teaching methods.

Italian scored 92% for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey 2016.

Having a foreign language is a plus for employers. The experience of the residence abroad offers the opportunity to develop and enhance qualities that are highly valuable in the workplace, such as flexibility, autonomy and adaptability to new contexts. Throughout your degree you will acquire a wide range of transferrable skills. Our ex-beginners and advanced graduates go on to achieve success in a very wide range of fields and some progress to postgraduate study, either at Leeds or another institution.

Italian at Leeds is ranked 8th in the UK
The Sunday Times 2017

Top 10 for modern languages and linguistics
(The Guardian 2017)
People choose to study Italian for a wide variety of reasons. Sometimes they have been to the country and fallen for its intoxicating blend of ancient and modern. Sometimes they have been fascinated by the complexities of its politics and history. Or sometimes they have simply been converted by its agreeable climate, fantastic food and passionate people. For others the language itself is the attraction: it is easy to learn the basics quickly, yet it holds enough challenges for the budding linguist. Italian history and art lies at the foundation of Europe, of which Italy is one of the founding members.

You will achieve both linguistic fluency and cultural understanding through a combination of lectures, seminars, group work, tutorials, computer-based learning and independent study. Through academic tuition and residence abroad experience, you will also become fully immersed into Italian society and experience the Italian way of life.

You will be taught in small groups by native speakers and your high number of contact hours will ensure steady progress in all language competences. Our language teaching is based on the Common European Framework of Reference, which is the most innovative language teaching guideline and provides language assessment criteria valid across the EU.

Our Beginners Programme (BA Italian B) is specifically designed for students who have little or no previous contact with Italian language. It has an excellent record in student success, with ex-beginners able to live in Italy after only two years of study, and often gaining top marks in final-year language exams.

Our Advanced Programme (BA Italian A) is specifically designed for students who have an A-level or equivalent in Italian. If you are unsure whether your language ability is advanced enough for this course, you can take our placement test.

In Level 1 you will be taught from native language speakers and use computer-assisted language learning to steadily improve your language skills. You will select modules ranging from film studies, the Renaissance and an in-depth analysis of modern Italy amongst many others.

In Level 2, your language skills are consolidated and you will choose from a wide range of optional modules that cover a number of topics including Italian cinema, society, politics, literature and language.

You will spend a year abroad before returning to Leeds to choose from a wide selection of Italian options.
A joint honours degree allows you to study the same core topics as students on a single honours course, but you will take fewer options and discovery modules so you can fit in both subjects. You will also undertake a major research project in either subject in your final year.

The intellectual range of such a degree, together with the organisational skill in combining two subject areas, makes you very attractive to employers. Our courses allow you to study your chosen subjects in depth, and to graduate with an honours degree covering two disciplines. All joint honours degrees with Italian are parented and administered by the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies. You will be allocated a personal tutor who will help guide your module choices and offer support, as well as act as a point of contact for references.

**BA Liberal Arts**

You can study Italian as your major for this degree. Find out more at [www.leeds.ac.uk/liberal-arts](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/liberal-arts)
Residence abroad

The residence abroad is one of the most important parts of your degree. Through living in a foreign country, you will acquire confidence and independence, and form many new friendships. It also adds an international dimension to your CV, which is impressive to employers.

If you study single honours Italian A or Italian B, or an Italian joint honours combination with a non-language subject, you will spend a year in Italy.

If you study a two-language joint honours course, you will normally spend two periods abroad. In most cases, you will spend a year in one country and a term in the other. However, a number of courses (including Italian B with Chinese/Japanese/Portuguese/Russian) are five-year degree courses requiring two years abroad.

University placement
Studying in Italy is an extremely rewarding and fulfilling experience. You can study at one of the 16 Italian universities with which we have ERASMUS agreements, or if your course requires you to take a term abroad then you will usually be hosted by a specialist language school in Rome.

British Council Language Assistant
You can choose to spend your year abroad working as an English Language Assistant which involves teaching English in a Italian-speaking school.

Work placement
It may be possible to take a work placement year in one of the companies with which we have links, or propose your own placement. You will be supported throughout your placement year to gain invaluable skills in a graduate-level job. If your course requires you to take a term abroad, it may be possible to spend this on an approved work placement. Check www.leeds.ac.uk/courses for more information on work placement availability.

The residence abroad is one of the most important parts of our Italian courses.
ADMISSIONS AND CONTACTS

Access to Leeds
Access to Leeds, the University’s widening access scheme, guarantees special consideration if you have personal circumstances that have affected your ability to demonstrate your talent and potential through grades alone.

Entry requirements
For BA Italian A (R310) the standard entry requirement is ABB including B in Italian.

For BA Italian B (R305) the standard entry requirement is ABB.

Joint honours entry requirements vary by course, for more information see www.leeds.ac.uk/courses

All applications must be made through UCAS by 15 January for admission the following September. www.ucas.com

Applicants to the scheme who receive a standard offer will also receive an Access to Leeds offer of two A-level grades (or equivalent) below the standard offer. To find out more visit www.leeds.ac.uk/accesstoleeds

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