

Italian Studies (PhD)

The graduate program in Italian studies addresses Italian literature, cinema, and culture.

Graduate Handbook

Graduate handbook information is updated and maintained by each program. Graduate handbooks are available within each program's office and [online](#). Please contact the program with concerns or questions.

Total Hours Required: 54

Requirements

Although the doctoral degree is not awarded on the basis of a specific number of courses or semester hours of credit, doctoral students complete an additional six courses (or 18 semester hours) beyond the MA degree. With the approval of the graduate advisor, one of these courses may be an undergraduate course that satisfies the requirement for proficiency in a foreign language other than Italian.

When the student has completed all or almost all of their coursework—generally by the fall semester of year three for those who enter with a B.A. or the spring semester of year two for those who enter with an M.A.—students begin preparing for their Qualifying Exam.

At the start of the semester in which the Qualifying Exam will be taken, the student must identify an Exam Committee Chair and establish an Exam Committee. Students complete the Qualifying Exam by submitting two research papers based on questions proposed and approved by members of the Qualifying Exam Committee. One paper will be related to a broader field of study; the other paper will be dedicated to a secondary or supporting topic.

After successfully completing the Qualifying Exam, students will present a written dissertation Prospectus to their Supervising Committee before applying for candidacy. The Supervising Committee is comprised of faculty members who will serve on the future Dissertation Committee. Once in candidacy, students will write a dissertation that makes a substantial contribution to existing scholarship in the field. The dissertation must have an oral defense, which the Dissertation Committee is responsible for approving.

Code	Title	Hours
All students must also follow the following requirements and policies:		
	Graduate Liberal Arts Requirements	
	Graduate University Requirements	