



Italian as a New Minor Subject

Details for 2021-22

1. Why take a New Minor Subject in Italian?

Learn a language and be immersed in a creative Italian culture and way of life.

Studying Italian opens the door to a wonderful new world:

- Italy has **an amazing culture**. It is the birthplace of the Renaissance, has an wonderful cinema culture, and has some of the world's greatest writers and thinkers, including Dante and Machiavelli. It holds up to 60% of the world's art treasures.
- Italy today has a **dynamic, creative economy**. The 'Made in Italy' brand is the 3rd biggest brand globally: from Barilla pasta to Prosecco and Ferrari, from Chiara Ferragni to FIAT, Prada, Versace and Nutella, Italy's unique creativity leads the world.
- Studying Italian allows you to enter into that **creative Italian space** and learn a beautiful language.
- It prepares you for being a **global citizen** and for an **international career**.

We have small friendly classes and pride ourselves on being welcoming and supportive.

Italian has been taught in Trinity since 1776. You join one of the longest traditions of teaching Italian in the world, one which includes alumni like Samuel Beckett and Douglas Hyde.

2. What will I learn?

Our language courses are meticulously designed by our expert language coordinator and are intensive. You will **learn Italian language quickly** and be able to communicate in it. Our students say: "The teaching has allowed me to learn the language quicker than I could have expected. The classes are enjoyable, as our lecturers are very friendly. Small class teaching allows you to interact with the language easily and stops it from being intimidating." (Ailbhe Cullen)

We lead you into Italy's rich history and culture. As a minor you have a **brilliant range of options**, from Dante and Renaissance Florence, right through to Italian cinema and contemporary writing.

As part of your course, you will normally **spend a semester abroad**. A semester studying abroad is a highlight of a student's Trinity experience. Immersing oneself in the language and culture is one of the most valuable ways of achieving fluency when you are studying a language.

A student perspective on what you learn: "I decided to study Italian because of my curiosity for the language and culture. Four years on, I am pleased to say that it was one of the best decisions I have made to date. I found the Italian Department to be consistently

encouraging with regard to our studies, and their passion and enthusiasm for their subject was inspiring. I would highly recommend this course to anyone who would like to discover more about this fascinating country, its people and their language.” (Lily Lee)

3. What will I do?

4.

Junior Fresh:

Core: Italian Language 1 (Beginners or Advanced). 5+5 ECTS credits

Optional: choose 2 from:

Italy through Cinema and Art.

Making Italy: From Unification to the Fall of Fascism

Italian poetry and the modern novel.

Florence and the birth of the Renaissance.

Senior Fresh:

Core: Italian Language 2 (10 ECTS credits)

Optional: choose 2 from:

Dante, Petrarch and the Lyric Tradition.

Italian Cinema 1900-2020

Visions of Italy: A Journey in the Making of a Nation Dante’s Divine Comedy:

Purgatorio and Paradiso

Italian History and Society in 20th-Century Italy Literature, Language and

Society

Junior Sophister: (Single Honors pathway):

Core: Italian Language 2 (10 ECTS credits)

Senior Sophister (Major with Minor pathway):

Core: Italian Language 3 (10 ECTS credits)

Optional: choose 2 from:

Writers and Cinema in 20th-century Italy

Collodi’s Pinocchio: Exploring a Timeless Children’s Classic through Cultural Theory.

Boccaccio and other novelists

Renaissance Politics and Ethics: Machiavelli and Castiglione

Italy in the 21st century: Change, challenges and tradition in modern Italy

Italian Cinema: 1900-2018

Introduction to Second Language Teaching and Learning

The Poetry of Michelangelo Italian Drama 1470s-1530s

Libretti d’Opera. Il mito di Don Giovanni

All options are 5 credits.

Your semester in Italy:

Minor subject students, who choose Major with Minors exit award pathway, will have an opportunity to spend a semester abroad in Hilary term of their Junior Sophister year*. At a minimum, you will be required to spend two months in Italy prior to taking your final exams. We currently have exchange agreements with Bologna, Pavia, Siena, and Trieste.

** Study abroad opportunities depend on availability of modules in your major and minor subjects at the host university and availability of places.*

5. How will this be assessed?

A variety of assessments are used. Optional (i.e. cultural modules) are usually assessed by essay. Language (i.e. core) modules are assessed by exam, continuous assessment (including language tests and homework), oral exams and listening comprehension.

6. Contacts

Please contact italian@tcd.ie for more details.

