

Graduate Program in Italian
Master of Arts for Teachers
Learning Goals and Assessment
Adopted December 2011

The Master of Arts for Teachers in Italian trains students at the highest level to pursue careers teaching Italian language, literature, culture, and cinema studies.

Learning Goal 1 for Students: Achieve mastery in reading and analyzing critically and creatively literary, cultural, and cinematic texts of the Italian tradition.

Assessment of student achievement of Goal 1:

- Grades in graduate courses
- Comprehensive examination assessing the depth and breadth of knowledge or, alternatively, a teaching portfolio (for these two options, see description of the program at <http://italian.rutgers.edu/graduate-program-mainmenu-127>)
 - Assessment of exam or portfolio by committee of graduate faculty members
- Review by faculty of student progress with close advising and mentoring

Role of the program in helping students to achieve Goal 1:

- Close advising to ensure that students are being prepared in a coherent and academically rigorous fashion
- Effective monitoring of student progress
- Evaluation of teaching effectiveness of instructors in graduate courses
 - If effectiveness is below expectation, work with instructor to improve effectiveness
- Periodic review of curricular offerings, degree requirements and assessment tools
 - By program faculty

- In consultation with the office of the dean of the graduate school and/or the unit dean

Learning Goal 2 for Students: Ability to teach Italian language, literature, and culture

Assessment of student achievement of Goal 2:

- Performance in Methodologies course
- Review by faculty
 - Advising and mentoring

Role of the program in helping students to achieve Goal 2:

- Supervision of student teaching
 - Mentoring
 - Participation in second-language acquisition workshops organized by the department
 - Attendance of workshops organized by Language Institute
 - Videotaping of classes
 - Review of videotapes
 - Review of student evaluations
- Close advising to ensure that students are being prepared in a coherent and academically rigorous fashion
- Effective monitoring of student progress
- Evaluations of teaching effectiveness of instructors in graduate courses
 - If effectiveness is below expectations, work with instructors to improve effectiveness
- Periodic review of curricular offerings, degree requirements and assessment tools
 - By program faculty

- In consultation with the office of the dean of the graduate school and/or the unit dean

The leadership of the Italian graduate program will regularly review the structure and content of the program and the feedback received from assessment and surveys. These reviews will be used to provide the best possible education to students in order to meet the needs for highly trained individuals in the field of Italian language, literature, and culture.