

Graduate Program in Italian

Master of Arts

Learning Goals and Assessment

Adopted December 2011

The Master of Arts in Italian trains students at the highest level to pursue careers teaching Italian language, literature, culture, and cinema studies. Students may also use their acquired skills to pursue careers in publishing, translation, or to work in cultural institutions in the US, in Italy, and abroad.

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
 - Assessment of exam 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: Prepare to be professionals in the field of Italian language, literature, and culture

Assessment of graduate student achievement of Goal 2:

- Grades in graduate coursework and comprehensive examination
- Collection of placement data in professional placement and continuation of graduate studies
- Survey alumni/ae

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

- Encourage participation in professional development programs in such areas as literature instruction, language pedagogy, library use, course management software
- Host professional development and career exploration
- Teach students how to do assessment in their future professional capacities
- Acquaint students with non-academic career opportunities

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.