UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

1. **Programme Title(s) and UCAS code(s):**

   Italian Studies Major (Beginners) (R301)
   Italian Studies Major (Advanced) (R301)
   Italian Language Minor (Beginners)
   Italian Language Minor (Advanced)

2. **Awarding body or institution:**

   University of Leicester

3. a) **Mode of study: Full-Time**
   b) **Type of study:** Campus based

4. **Registration periods:**

   Italian Studies Major (Beginner and Advanced): The normal period of registration is four years, including a full academic session abroad in the third year (three years, in exceptional circumstances, without year abroad).

   The maximum period of registration is six years (five years without year abroad).

   Italian Language Minor (Beginners and Advanced): The normal period of registration is three years but the period of Registration depends upon a student's Major.

   The maximum period of registration is five years (six years with year abroad).

5. **Typical entry requirements:**

   Italian Studies Major:

   ABB at A level including a B in a foreign language, or equivalent qualification.

   Students taking a Major in French Studies at advanced level require a B in Italian at A level or equivalent qualification.

   International Baccalaureate:
   Pass diploma with 30 points, including evidence of capacity in a foreign language, usually at A2 grade B or IB grade 6 higher level.

   European Baccalaureate:
   Pass with 77% overall, a language at grade 7 (or equivalent) to be included in that figure.

   Italian Language Minor:
   Students taking a Minor in Italian Language at **advanced** level require a B in Italian at A level or equivalent qualification.

   There are no specific entry requirements for students taking a Minor in French Language at **beginners** level.

6. **Accreditation of Prior Learning:**
   APL will not be accepted for exemptions from individual modules, however may be considered for direct entry to year 2, on a case by case and subject to the general provisions of the University APL policy.

7. **Programme aims:**

The **Major pathway** aims:

- To equip all students with a high degree of proficiency in the use of Italian as a medium for expression and communication, both written and spoken, through a programme of progressive tuition based on authentic documentation (press and broadcast media), Italian literature and film, academic texts and exposure to native speakers;

- To promote explicit knowledge of the languages studied through an awareness of language systems;

- To provide students with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the cultures, communities and societies where Italian is used, through approaches which draw on key ideas, concepts and methodologies shared with other disciplines, including literary, cultural and film studies, historical, social and political;

- To promote intercultural awareness and understanding through the lived experience of time spent abroad and through the development of analytical skills of comparing, contrasting and mediating between cultures and societies;

- To equip students with subject-specific and transferable skills in preparation for employment in a wide area including teaching, academic research, marketing, journalism, law, trainee management, publishing, translating, administration, media and the arts, travel and tourism, leisure industry, hotel and catering, social work.

The **Minor pathway** aims:

- To equip all students with a high degree of proficiency in the use of Italian as a medium for expression and communication, both written and spoken, through a programme of progressive tuition based on authentic documentation (press and broadcast media), Italian literature and film, academic texts and exposure to native speakers;

- To promote explicit knowledge of the languages studied through an awareness of language systems;

- To provide students with a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the cultures, communities and societies where Italian is used, through approaches which draw on key ideas, concepts and methodologies shared with other disciplines, including literary, cultural and film studies, historical, social and political;

- To equip students with subject-specific and transferable skills in preparation for employment in a wide area including teaching, academic research, marketing, journalism, law, trainee management, publishing, translating, administration, media and the arts, travel and tourism, leisure industry, hotel and catering, social work.

8. **Reference points used to inform the programme specification:**
   - QAA Benchmark Statement for Languages and Related Studies
     http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Languages-Cultures-and-Societies-15.pdf
   - QAA Benchmark Statement for Linguistics
     http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/SBS-Linguistics-15.pdf
   - QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
   - University of Leicester Learning Strategy
     http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/quality/learnteach

- University of Leicester Employability strategy
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review (2014)
- National Student Survey
- First Destinations Data
- Graduate survey
- External examiners' reports
- Annual Development Review

9. Programme Outcomes:

Italian Studies Major

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies		
(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge		
Knowledge of the structures, registers and varieties of the target languages. Knowledge and critical understanding of the cultures and societies of target countries	Spoken and written language classes including language laboratory classes. On-line grammar practice. Summer programmes and year abroad in target countries. First year cultural studies programmes, requirement to watch TV news from target countries, lectures and seminars throughout course.	Weekly assignments, including exercises marked online, examinations, role plays and presentations. Essays, portfolios, presentations, examinations.
(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques		
Understanding of the principles of phonology, syntax and discourse required to analyse the target languages. Techniques for translating and interpreting between target and source languages. Techniques for the analysis of texts (literary, filmic, journalistic).	Language classes including specialist options in translating and interpreting. Textual analysis classes, film courses including sequence analysis, language classes.	Tests and examinations. Contextualised translating and interpreting tasks. Essays, seminar presentations.
(iii) Critical analysis of key issues		
Ability to analyse through appropriate methodologies aspects of the literatures, cultures, linguistic contexts, history, political and social structures of target countries.	Lectures, seminars, independent reading and research.	Essays, seminar presentations, examinations, contributions to discussion.
(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material		
Ability to give a presentation in the target languages on a topic of cultural or socio political interest. Ability to present coherent arguments based on research and personal synthesis of material.	Seminar presentations, oral examinations preceded by mock examinations with feedback on performance. Essays, summaries, short written pieces.	Assessed presentations, oral examinations. Assessed essays and extended essay, examinations.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight		
Ability to synthesise and evaluate relevant literature and internet material on the subjects studied. Awareness of cultural and political reference systems in target countries.	Research tasks, portfolios. Lectures, seminars, independent reading, requirement to watch TV news in target language.	Assessed research projects, portfolios. Essays, examinations, reporting back on news in spoken language classes.
(vi) Other discipline specific competencies		
Intercultural awareness and understanding.	Seminar discussion, study of literature, cinema, current news, role-play and drama, periods of residence in target country.	Seminar presentations, essays, role-play.
(b) Transferable skills		
(i) Oral communication		
Fluent, accurate and appropriate communication in target languages. Ability to give well-structured and effective oral presentations demonstrating awareness of audience. Ability to mediate and interpret between target and source cultures.	Spoken language classes, language laboratory sessions, residence abroad. Seminar presentations, oral examination practice followed by feedback. Translating and interpreting tasks.	Role-play exercises and simulations, oral examinations. Assessed seminar presentations, oral examinations. Assessed translating and interpreting tasks.
(ii) Written communication		
Production of texts of various types demonstrating accuracy and appropriate discourse conventions. Ability to produce accurate translations between target and source languages.	Weekly language assignments including register exercises, study of and practice in reproducing discourse features of a variety of text types. Translation activities.	Assessed language tasks, examination. Assessed translation tasks, examination.
(iii) Information technology		
Ability to use IT effectively both as a means of communication and as an aid to learning.	On-line grammar practice, other CALL or TiLE activities, bulletin boards in target languages, use of internet for research, use of IT to present material.	On-line and CALL or TiLE exercises as requirement, critical appraisal of internet material in submission of word processed coursework assignments.
(iv) Numeracy		
Ability to interpret graphs and extract relevant information. Ability to interpret statistics and numerical trends and express them coherently on oral and written formats.	Analysis of current affairs documents in oral and written language classes, and content modules. Work placement preparation guidance.	Assessed oral presentations, summaries and essays. Work placement report.
(v) Team working		
Team-management and group-working skills, collaborative planning.	Pair and group tasks in oral classes, group project.	Assessed group tasks, self-assessment of group-working skills.
(vi) Problem solving		
Ability to identify, describe and analyse problems and to devise appropriate strategies for their resolution.	Assignment tasks involving increasing levels of critical engagement as course proceeds, error analysis through use of marking system.	Coursework assignments, examinations, research projects, ability to self-correct language work.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(vii) Information handling		
Understanding of information and referential structure of texts.	Language classes, comprehension exercises.	Assessed comprehension tasks.
Ability to produce résumés in the target language and between target and source languages.	Work on résumé and translation in language classes.	Assessed résumés and translations.
Ability to make a personal synthesis of information gathered from paper, audio-visual and electronic sources in target and native languages.	Research tasks, seminar presentations, oral examinations based on dossier of material.	Essays, extended essay, presentations.
(viii) Skills for lifelong learning		
Strategies for self-monitoring and continued maintenance and development of skills in target languages.	Development of metalinguistic awareness through language classes, tasks designed to expand target language repertoire.	Language assignments, ability to self-correct.
Effectiveness and self-awareness as an independent learner.	Research tasks, independent, critical and analytical reading and viewing.	Essays, research projects, extended essay.

Italian Language Minor

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies		
(i) Mastery of an appropriate body of knowledge		
Knowledge of the structures, registers and varieties of the target languages.	Spoken and written language classes including language laboratory classes. Online grammar practice.	Weekly assignments, including exercises marked on-line, examinations, role-plays and presentations in the target language.
(ii) Understanding and application of key concepts and techniques		
Techniques for translating and interpreting between target and source languages.	Language classes including translation and interpreting exercises at higher levels.	Contextualised translating and interpreting tasks.
(iii) Critical analysis of key issues		
Ability to analyse through appropriate methodologies aspects of the literatures, cultures, linguistic contexts, history, political and social structures of target countries.	Lectures, seminars, independent reading and research.	Essays, seminar presentations, examinations, contributions to discussion.
(iv) Clear and concise presentation of material		
Ability to give a presentation in the target languages on a topic of cultural or socio political interest.	Seminar presentations, oral examinations preceded by mock examinations with feedback on performance.	Assessed presentations, oral examinations.
(v) Critical appraisal of evidence with appropriate insight		
Ability to synthesise and evaluate relevant literature and internet material on the subjects studied.

Awareness of cultural and political reference systems in target countries. | Research tasks, portfolios.

Lectures, seminars, independent reading, requirement to watch TV news in target language. | Assessed research projects, portfolios.

Essays, examinations, reporting back on news in spoken language classes. |

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(vi) Other discipline specific competencies		
Intercultural awareness and understanding.	Seminar discussion, study of literature, cinema, current news, role-play and drama, periods of residence in target country.	Seminar presentations, essays, role-play.
(b) Transferable skills		
(i) Oral communication		
Fluent, accurate and appropriate communication in target languages. Ability to give well-structured and effective oral presentations demonstrating awareness of audience.	Spoken language classes, language laboratory sessions. Seminar presentations, oral examination practice followed by feedback.	Role-play exercises and simulations, oral examinations. Assessed seminar presentations, oral examinations.
(ii) Written communication		
Production of texts of various types demonstrating accuracy and appropriate discourse conventions. Ability to produce accurate translations between target and source languages.	Weekly language assignments including register exercises, study of and practice in reproducing discourse features of a variety of text types. Translation activities.	Assessed language tasks, examination. Assessed translation tasks, examination.
(iii) Information technology		
Ability to use IT effectively both as a means of communication and as an aid to learning.	On-line grammar practice, other CALL or TiLE activities, bulletin boards in target languages, use of internet for research, use of IT to present material.	On-line and CALL or TiLE exercises as requirement, critical appraisal of internet material in submission of word processed coursework assignments.
(iv) Numeracy		
Ability to interpret graphs and extract relevant information. Ability to interpret statistics and numerical trends and express them coherently on oral and written formats.	Analysis of current affairs documents in oral and written language classes.	Assessed oral presentations, summaries and essays.
(v) Team working		
Team-management and group-working skills, collaborative planning.	Pair and group tasks in oral classes, group project.	Assessed group tasks, self-assessment of group-working skills.
(vi) Problem solving		
Ability to identify, describe and analyse problems and to devise appropriate strategies for their resolution.	Assignment tasks involving increasing levels of critical engagement as course proceeds, error analysis through use of marking system.	Coursework assignments, examinations, research projects, ability to self-correct language work.

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(vii) Information handling		
Understanding of information and referential structure of texts.	Language classes, comprehension exercises.	Assessed comprehension tasks.
Ability to produce résumés in the target language and between target and source languages.	Work on résumé and translation in language classes.	Assessed résumés and translations.
Ability to make a personal synthesis of information gathered from paper, audio-visual and electronic sources in target and native languages.	Research tasks, seminar presentations, oral examinations based on dossier of material.	Essays, extended essay, presentations.
(viii) Skills for lifelong learning		
Strategies for self-monitoring and continued maintenance and development of skills in target languages.	Development of metalinguistic awareness through language classes, tasks designed to expand target language repertoire.	Language assignments, ability to self-correct.
Effectiveness and self-awareness as an independent learner.	Research tasks, independent, critical and analytical reading and viewing.	Essays, research projects, extended essay.

10. **Progression points:**

    Italian Studies Major (Beginners and Advanced):

    In accordance with Senate Regulation 5, in cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course.

    All core language modules must be passed in order to progress to the following year of the programme and must be passed at Honours level (40%+). Final Year core language programmes must be passed at Honours level in order to graduate.

    Italian Language Minor (Beginners and Advanced):

    All core language modules must be passed in order to progress to the following year of the programme.

11. **Scheme of Assessment**
    This programme follows the standard scheme of award and classification set out in Senate Regulation 5.

12. **Special features**

    Major in Italian Studies:

    Consolidation of linguistic skills and opportunity for cultural enrichment at an early stage of the course through three-week summer programme in target country at end of Year 1, involving tuition from native speakers at a University and linguistic immersion through accommodation with local families.

    Work placement or a period of study during the Year Abroad: Consolidation of linguistic skills, enhancement of cultural understanding and knowledge and the opportunity for the development of study skills.

13. **Indications of programme quality**

    External examiners' reports consistently emphasize the quality of the student learning experience and the high standard of teaching and of assessment. They also favourably comment on the careful design of

our modules' intended learning outcomes and their meeting the requirements of the QAA benchmark statements in all its key elements.

Modern Languages at Leicester achieves regularly very high scores in the National Student Survey. In the 2017 NSS Modern Languages achieved an overall satisfaction score of 97.4% (JACS subject area of 'European Languages and Area Studies'). Students' comments praise in particular the vibrant and supportive student-staff community within Modern Languages.

Modern Languages at Leicester was ranked 8th nationally in the Guardian university league table 2017.

95% of the School's research is recognised internationally.

14. External Examiners

The details of the External Examiners for these programmes and the most recent External Examiners' reports for these programmes can be found here.

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

There are two main routes through the core language modules in this programme: One for students with well-developed abilities in a language other than English and their native language, and one for students without such abilities. The former group of students take the programme with advanced language skills; the latter group of students take the programme *ab initio*. For example, an advanced student will take Advanced Language in year 1, followed by Post-Advanced Language in year 2. A beginners level student will take semester 1 Beginners language and semester 2 Beginners language in year 1 followed by Post-Beginners in year 2. Major students will be taught together in final year language groups. Post-beginner Minor students, who have not gone on a year abroad, will be taught in 'upper intermediate' final year language groups. Please see the diagrams below.

Note: Modern Languages optional modules are listed at the end of each year and may be subject to change from year to year.

<u>**ITALIAN STUDIES MAJOR**</u>

FIRST YEAR

Students studying a modern language for more than one year as a Major are required to attend a compulsory three-week language Summer School (**ML2007: Modern Language Summer School**, 0 credits), organised by the School of Modern Languages and in their Major language, during the long vacation at the end of the first year.

SEMESTER 1 (45 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (45 credits)
CORE	CORE
either:	*either:*
IT1010: Italian Language (Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	
or:	*or:*
IT1020: Italian Language (Beginners) 1 (15 credits)	IT1021: Italian Language (Beginners) 2 (15 credits)
	OPTIONS
IT1028: Introduction to Italian Studies (Post-Unification Italy) (15 credits)	2 x 15 credit modules from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list below
ML1006: Language and Society (15 credits)	

Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules
Option modules may be subject to change from year to year

		credits
IT1027	Authors and Genres	15
IT1029	Italy since 1945	15
ML1007	The Making of the Modern European World	15

SECOND YEAR

SEMESTER 1 (45 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (45 credits)
CORE	
either:	
IT2024: Italian Language (Post-Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	
or (if Year 1 was taken as Beginners):	
IT2005: Italian Language (Post-Beginners) (30 credits, year long)	

OPTIONS	OPTIONS
2 x 15 credit modules from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list below	2 x 15 credit modules from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list below

Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules
Option modules may be subject to change from year to year

		credits
IT2011	Italian Linguistics	15
IT2012	History of Italian Cinema	15
IT2016	Italian Society and Culture under Fascism	15
ML2020	The Latin World: Ancient, Medieval and Modern	15
ML2021	Nations and Narrations	15

THIRD YEAR

All students on this programme spend a full academic session abroad between the second and final years. They may do so in one of three ways:

1. By following approved courses at a university in Italy.
2. As British Council English Language Teaching Assistant.
3. On an approved work placement.

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
CORE	
ML3032 Year Abroad Placement Evaluation: Study or Work (Year Long) (30 credits) AND ML3035 Language Skills (Year Long) (90 credits)	

FOURTH YEAR MODULES

SEMESTER 1 (45 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (45 credits)
CORE	
IT3010: Final Year Italian Language (Proficiency) (30 credits, year long)	
OPTIONS	**OPTIONS**
2 x 15 credit modules from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list below	2 x 15 credit modules from the Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules list below

Modern Languages Cultural Studies Modules
Option modules may be subject to change from year to year

		credits
IT3136	Contemporary Italian Fiction	15
IT3139	Post-war Italian Directors	15
IT3144	Visions of Modernity	15
ML3020	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (1)	15
ML3021	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (2)	15
ML3176	Extended essay*	15*

*Students wishing to undertake a Modern Languages extended essay in final year should note that this is available by successful application to the Section Coordinator only. Selection will be based on the student's prior academic performance and the strength of the research plans that they are able to present.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE MINOR

FIRST YEAR

Students on a Minor degree are not eligible to attend the Summer School.

SEMESTER 1 (15 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (15 credits)
CORE	**CORE**
15 credits of language: *either:*	15 credits of language: *either:*
IT1010: Italian Language (Advanced) (30 credits, year long)	
or:	*or:*
IT1020: Italian Language (Beginners) 1 (15 credits)	IT1021: Italian Language (Beginners) 2 (15 credits)

SECOND YEAR

SEMESTER 1 (15 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (15 credits)
CORE	
either: IT2024: Italian Language (Post-Advanced) (30 credits, year long) *or (if Year 1 was taken as Beginners):* IT2005: Italian Language (Post-Beginners) (30 credits, year long)	

FINAL YEAR MODULES

SEMESTER 1 (15 credits)	SEMESTER 2 (15 credits)
CORE	
either: IT3010: Final Year Italian Language (Proficiency) (30 credits, year long)) *or (if Year 2 was taken as post-beginners):* IT3113: Modern Italian Language (Upper Intermediate) (30 credits, year long)	

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See module specification database: http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation

15. Guided Independent Study

MODERN LANGUAGES CULTURAL STUDIES MODULES

Guided Independent Study: Indicative Activities

Each student uses their independent study time differently, but as a broad guide, you might find it useful to spend roughly the suggested amount of time on each of these activities:

Lecture, seminar and tutorial preparation (20%)
Lecture, seminar and tutorial revision (20%)
Assessment preparation (35%)
Reflecting on assessment feedback (5%)
Wider reading/research (20%)

LANGUAGE MODULES

Guided Independent Study: Indicative Activities

Each student uses their independent study time differently, but as a broad guide, you might find it useful to spend roughly the suggested amount of time on each of these activities:

Class preparation (20%)
Class revision (15%)
Assessment preparation (30%)
Reflecting on assessment feedback (15%)
Immersion in the Target Language (20%)