BA Italian with Latin   **UCAS code: R3Q6**

Awarding Institution: The University of Reading
Teaching Institution: The University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject benchmarking group(s):   Languages and related studies
Faculty of Arts and Humanities   Programme length: 4 years
For students entering Part 1 in 2004   Date of specification: August 2004
Programme Director: Dr S. Vinall
Programme Advisers: Dr Francesca Medioli,
        Prof Ian Rutherford
Board of Studies: Italian and Classics
Accreditation: Not appropriate

Summary of programme aims
The Italian side of the programme aims to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to progress to a wide range of careers or to postgraduate study, while also promoting a lifelong love of learning. Its multi-disciplinary approach aims to produce graduates who are competent communicators in spoken and written Italian and have a sound knowledge of a range of aspects of Italian culture, history and society, selected in accordance with individual academic interests.

The programme also aims to provide a thorough degree level education in Latin. The syllabus aims to familiarise students with the linguistic culture of Rome, whilst providing them with the opportunity to study more thematic topics in depth. Students will expand the range, depth and sophistication of their knowledge of Latin through the structured progression through Parts 1, 2, and 3 of the programme.

Transferable skills
The University's Strategy for Teaching and Learning has identified a number of generic transferable skills which all students are expected to have developed by the end of their degree programme. In following this degree programme, students will have had the opportunity to enhance their skills relating to career management, communication (both written and oral), information handling, numeracy, problem-solving, team working and use of information technology. In particular, students of Italian will develop their abilities to deal with intellectual problems effectively by locating information, assessing it critically, communicating independent points of view logically and clearly (both orally and in writing), and substantiating opinions with evidence. In the course of such activities, they will gain experience of using information technology, working in groups, and organising their own time. The year abroad. provides particularly good opportunities for developing increased cultural awareness and self-reliance.

Programme content
The profile which follows states which modules must be taken (compulsory) together with one or more lists of modules from which the student must make a selection ('optional'). Not all options will necessarily be available every year. Admission to options will be at the discretion of the Programme Director. Students must choose such additional modules as they wish, in consultation with their programme adviser, to make 120 credits in each Part. The number of credits for each module is shown after its title, and the credit requirement for progression in Italian is indicated for each Part.

In Part 1 the remaining credits can be made up from any optional modules and/or from modules elsewhere in the University. In Parts 2 and 3, up to 20 credits can be taken from modules available elsewhere in the University.

Part 1 in Italian includes the study of both language and an introduction to aspects of Italian culture. Students with A Level in Italian (or equivalent) must take a compulsory 20-credit language module and a compulsory 20-credit module on cultural themes. Students without an A Level (including complete beginners) take a compulsory 40-credit module which includes both language and cultural studies. All students, if they wish, may also take a further module in Italian culture.

In Part 2 students take one compulsory 20-credit language module (the level at this stage depends on their previous experience), and three from a range of broadly-based culture modules.

During the Year Abroad the experience of living in Italy enables students to make great strides in their linguistic skills, particularly their oral and aural ones: by the end of this period the differences between former beginners and other students will have been eliminated. Students further broaden their knowledge of Italian culture by pursuing courses of their own choice, relating to both sides of their degree programme, at an Italian University; and they engage in independent study for their dissertation.

Part 3 comprises one module of further language study and two optional modules chosen from a range of specialised topics relating to many different aspects of Italian culture (up to 20 credits may derive from modules taken elsewhere in the University).

Part 1 in Latin builds on the students' knowledge of the language and offers course units in Graeco-Roman culture. Students are encouraged in addition to their language courses (40 credits) to take an additional 20 credits in Graeco-Roman Culture. Part 2 develops the students' knowledge of both the ancient language and literature and includes also modules to develop their academic capabilities (study skills, historical skills). In addition, students can choose from option units that are either more thematic or add greater depth than the core units. In Part 3, there is an increasing specialisation and progression to approach topics in greater depth through the provision of optional units.

Part 1 (three terms)   *Credits*   *Level*

Students must take at least 40 credits in Italian. A further 20-credit
module in Italian may be taken if desired. Additional modules, to a total
of 120, should be chosen from those available elsewhere in the
University.

Italian
Compulsory modules

For students with A Level or equivalent:

IT1001	*Advanced Italian Language I*	20	C
IT1002	*Twentieth-Century Italian Culture*	20	C

For students without A Level (including complete beginners):

IT1003	*Italian Language (Elementary) and Culture*	40	C

Optional module (open to all students):

IT1004	*Italian Mediaeval and Renaissance Culture (in translation)*	20	C

Latin

Either

CL1AL	Advanced Latin	40	C

or

CL1BLA	Beginners Latin A	20	C
CL1BLB	Beginners Latin B	20	C

Optional Modules

CL1CB	*Greek and Roman Civilisations B: Augustan Rome*	20	C
	or		
CL1GRF	*Greece and Rome on Film*	20	C

Part 2 (three terms) *Credits* *Level*

Italian (80 credits)
Compulsory module (20 credits)

Either:

IT201	*Advanced Italian Language II*	20	I

Or:

IT202	*Intermediate Italian Language*	20	I

Three of the following optional modules (to total of 60 credits).

IT203	*History of the Italian Language*	20	I
IT204	*Introduction to the Renaissance: Boccaccio, Humanism and Machiavelli*	20	I
IT205	*Italian Cinema I: Introduction to Film Study, Neorealism, War and Resistance*	20	I
IT206	*Italian Cinema II: Popular Genre Cinema*	20	I
IT207	*Italian History and Society since 1945*	20	I
IT208	*Italian Modernism*	20	I
IT209	*Italian Narrative and Poetry in the Nineteenth Century*	20	I
IT210	*Women's Everyday Life In Italy from the Middle Ages to the French Revolution*	20	I
IT2WW	*Writing Women in Early Modern Italy (1300-1650)*	20	I
IT2CON	*Contemporary Italian Literature*	20	I

Latin (40 Credits)

Compulsory modules

Mod Code	Module Title		
	Either		
CL2FL	*Further Latin*	20	I
	or		
CL2AL	*Advanced Latin*	20	I

And 20 credits taken from:

Optional modules (not all are offered in any one year):

Mod Code	*Module Title*		
CL2AE	Ancient Epic	20	I
CL2GD	Greek Drama	20	I
CL2LP	Roman Love Poetry	20	I
CL2EG	Egypt and Greece	20	I
CL2AP	Greek and Roman Painting	20	I
CL2AS	Greek and Roman Sculpture	20	I
CL2RL	Greek and Roman Religions	20	I
CL2CM	Classical Mythology	20	I
CL2GH	Greek History	20	I
CL2RR	Roman Republic	20	I
CL2RE	Roman Empire	20	I
Cl2GL	Greek Lyric Poetry	20	I
CL2LL	Later Latin Authors	20	I
CL2PS	Plato	20	I
CL2EP	Early Greek Philosophy	20	I
CL2FG	Further Ancient Greek II	20	I
CL2AG	Advanced Ancient Greek II	20	I
CL2CL	Roman Life Cycle	20	I
Cl2ML	Introduction to Modern Greek Literature	20	I

Year Abroad (three terms)   *Credits*   *Level*

Compulsory modules (to total of 120 credits)

IT331	*Italian Oral*	20	H
IT332	*Italian Written and Oral Presentation*	20	H
IT333	*Dissertation*	40	H
IT231	*Credits from Italian University course (1)*	20	I
IT232	*Credits from Italian University course (2)*	20	I

Of the 120 credits allocated to the year abroad, 5 are taken up by Career Management Skills.

Part 3 (three terms)   *Credits*   *Level*

Italian (80 credits)

Compulsory module (20 credits)

IT301	*Advanced Italian Language III*	20	H

Three of the following optional modules (to total of 60 credits)..

IT305	*Dante*	20	H
IT310	*Italian Renaissance Poetry: The Inner Self, the Outer World, and their Representation*	20	H
IT303	*Aspects of the Renaissance in France and Italy*	20	H
IT304	*Contemporary Italian Literature*	20	H
IT307	*Italian Cinema III: The Cinema of Fellini, Antonioni and Bertolucci*	20	H
IT308	*Italian Cinema IV: Social Comedy*	20	H
IT311	*Italian Women's Studies*	20	H
IT312	*Modern Movements in Poetry 1900-1920*	20	H
IT314	*The South since 1860: Images and Reality*	20	H
IT315	*Umberto Eco: Fiction, Cultural Criticism and the Theory of Signs*	20	H

	Either		
IT302	*Additional Advanced Italian*	20	H
	Or		
IT309	*Italian for Managers*	20	H
HS3T09	*The Republic of Venice from c.1454 to 1571*	20	H

Latin (40 Credits)

Compulsory modules

Mod Code	*Module Title*		
CL3IL	Intermediate Latin	20	H
	or		
CL3AL	Advanced Latin	20	H

Optional modules: (not all optional modules will be available in any one year)

Mod Code	*Module Title*		
CL3AB	Ancient Biography	20	H
CL3AN	The Ancient Novel	20	H
CL3GB	The Greek Bible	20	H
CL3CN	Conversion of the Roman Empire	20	H
CL3GD	Gender in the Classical Antiquity	20	H
CL3AP	Greek and Roman Painting	20	H
CL3GA	Greek Art and Drama	20	H
CL3LA	Later Latin Authors	20	H
CL3LL	Litigation and Life in the Graeco-Roman World	20	H
CL3NC	New Comedy	20	H
CL3HO	Odes of Horace	20	H
CL3OA	Oedipus and Antigone in the 20th Century	20	H
CL3PW	Peloponnesian War	20	H
CL3PP	Pornography and Power in the Graeco-Roman World	20	H
CL3RM	Renaissance Medicine	20	H
CL3POM	Pompeii	20	H
CL3RF	Rome On Film	20	H
CL3ST	Special Topics in Greek Drama	20	H
CL3TC	Tourism, Classics and National Identity	20	H
CL3UA	Uses and Abuses of Antiquity	20	H
CL3FG	Further Ancient Greek III	20	H
CL3AG	Advanced Ancient Greek III	20	H

Progression requirements
To proceed from Part 1 to Part 2 students must:
(a) obtain a mark of at least 40% in their compulsory module in Italian and in their Latin modules;
(b) achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;
(c) achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

To proceed from Part 2 to the Year Abroad students must
(a) obtain a mark of at least 40% in either *Advanced Italian Language II* or *Intermediate Italian Language;*
(b) achieve an overall average of 40% in 120 credits taken in the examination;

(c) achieve not less than 30% in any module, except that marks of less than 30% in a total of 20 credits may be condoned, provided that the candidate has pursued the course for the module(s) with reasonable diligence and has not been absent from the examination without reasonable cause.

To proceed from the Year Abroad to Part 3 students must satisfy the examiners that they have successfully completed an approved programme of studies at a University in Italy and have handed in the work and assignments required by the programme.

Summary of teaching and assessment
In Part 1 in Italian, language modules are always taught in small groups and the other modules are taught by a mixture of lectures and seminars. In Parts 2 and 3 students are normally taught in small groups for all modules, and when lectures are used they are informal. Most modules are assessed by a mixture of coursework and formal examination. The Credits from Italian University courses will derive from marks obtained in oral examinations set by the Italian university. The Oral in Italian and the Written and Oral Presentation will be examined at the beginning of Part 3. The dissertation comprises a piece of work based on supervised independent study.

The language teaching in Latin is delivered by intensive small group classes throughout the degree course. For optional modules there is a mixture of lectures and seminars in Parts 1 and 2, with a greater emphasis on seminars in Part 3.

The conventions for classification are included in the Programme Handbook but you should note that weighting between Part 2 (and I Level modules in the Year Abroad) and Part 3 (and H Level modules in the Year Abroad) for classification purposes is 33% and 67%.

Admission requirements
No previous qualifications in Italian are required.

Entrants to this programme are normally required to have obtained
either
280 points from 4 subjects ('A' or A/S levels) including 2 full A-levels
or
260 points from 3 subjects ('A' or A/S levels) including 2 full A-levels.

Equivalent international qualifications will be accepted,

Mature applicants: Applications from mature candidates are welcomed, and many have done notably well in the past. A mature applicant is more likely to receive an offer of a place if he or she has undertaken recent study, for example 2 or more A Levels or an Access course (70% or more usually required) but each case is assessed on its merits. Potential applicants should contact the Admissions Tutor well in advance to discuss individual circumstances.

International applicants: Applications from international candidates are also particularly welcomed. Advice on the acceptability of your qualifications may be sought, where necessary, from the Admissions Tutor.

Admissions Tutor: Dr Christopher Duggan
Tel: 0118 931 8403 (44 118 931 8403 from abroad)
mailto:c.j.h.duggan@reading.ac.uk

Admissions Secretary: Mrs Lucy Hudson
Tel: 0118 931 8400 (44 118 931 8402 from abroad)

Information on courses may be obtained via the Internet on:
http://www.rdg.ac.uk/italian

Support for students and their learning
University support for students and their learning falls into two categories. Learning support includes IT Services, which has several hundred computers and the University Library, which across its three sites holds over a million volumes, subscribes to around 4,000 current periodicals, has a range of electronic sources of information and houses the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@IL) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme. Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, the Careers Advisory Service, the University's Special Needs Advisor, Study Advisors, Hall Wardens and the Students' Union. Support for students in their studies is provided through the University's Personal Academic Record (PAR) Scheme, in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review their progress.

The Departmental Handbooks issued to Part 1 and to degree course students provide extensive information on resources and study skills. The Access Point for Individual Language Learning (APILL) contains a range of audio and audio-visual materials to promote self-study in languages, together with facilities for watching Italian television by satellite. The University Library is particularly well stocked with works relating to many different aspects of Italian culture, and the Faculty possesses a video suite to support cinema studies. The Departmental Library contains a range of reference works which can be used by students and offers a congenial study space.

Career prospects
Students graduating in Italian work in many different fields. Some use their linguistic skills in teaching, including teaching English as a Foreign Language abroad; others proceed to post-graduate courses in various areas, including translating. A degree involving Italian with Latin can also, like degrees in other arts subjects, lead to careers in such areas as administration, management or marketing, or be a prelude to study in law or accountancy; and increasing numbers of students find positions in the business world, including the travel industry, where their knowledge of Italian can be a distinct asset.
Graduates in Latin have found that their degree course has been a good basis for careers in management, administration, the civil service, commerce, law, publishing, librarianship and teaching. Graduates have also gone onto postgraduate courses within the field of the Classics at Reading and elsewhere.

Opportunities for study abroad or for placements
The Department of Italian Studies participates in SOCRATES exchanges with the Universities of Padova, Roma III, Firenze, Siena, Pisa, Pavia, Genova, Trieste, Napoli (Federico II), Bologna, Bergamo, Salerno and Venezia. Students spend the whole of the third year studying at one of these Universities. Further information on these Universities is available on the Internet at
http://www.reading.ac.uk/Italian

Educational aims of the programme
The programme aims to develop students' intellectual potential, enabling them to progress to a wide range of careers or to postgraduate study, while also promoting a lifelong love of learning. Its multi-disciplinary approach aims to produce graduates who are competent communicators in Italian and have a sound knowledge of a range of aspects of Italian culture, history and society.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:	Teaching/learning methods and strategies
A. Knowledge and understanding of: 1. The Italian language (spoken and written); 2. The Latin language (reading and translation) 3. Selected aspects of Italian and Graeco-Roman literature, history and culture; 4. Methods of approach, analysis and interpretation associated with the various disciplines covered.	Teaching/learning methods and strategies 1. At Part 1, Italian is taught at three distinct levels: beginners, intermediate and advanced. Latin is taught at two levels at Part 1. Separate teaching is maintained throughout Part 2, but after the year in Italy all students follow the same courses. Teaching is always in small groups, with different classes being devoted to grammar, oral and aural skills, reading and writing skills and translation. Audio-visual resources are used as appropriate and the use of self-access facilities is encouraged. Regular non-assessed coursework is set, and considerable emphasis is based on individual study. The Year Abroad provides experience in the use of everyday Italian and the opportunity to follow University courses. 2,3. These areas are taught through a combination of usually informal lectures and seminars. Students are expected to undertake independent reading on the basis of bibliographies issued for each module, and prepare seminar papers and assessed essays. The dissertation provides an opportunity for the further development of independent research. *Assessment* Language work is assessed by oral and written examinations. The Italian University courses are assessed by oral examinations. Modules on literature and culture are assessed by a combination of coursework essays and examination or, in one case, by an independent dissertation.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills – able to: 1. analyse and interpret literary or cinematic works in their cultural contexts; 2. apply literary and historical concepts; 3. conduct lucid arguments in support of a case, using evidence appropriately; 4. think critically and independently.	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies** These skills are developed throughout the programme. Classes in literary, historical, cinematic and other cultural modules involve analysis and discussion, often based on papers presented by students; and set essays involve analysis and debate on intellectual problems. Awareness of new approaches is encouraged as options are often linked to teachers' research interests. Individual feedback is provided on content and organisation of essays. Independent thinking is developed especially through the dissertation module for which initial preparation and regular support are provided. *Assessment* These skills are assessed in all Parts of the programme by a combination of coursework essays and examination. The independent dissertation is a key element, and there are further opportunities for writing extended essays.
C. Practical skills – able to: 1. speak, write, read and understand Italian at high or near-native levels of proficiency; 2. read and translate Latin at a high level 3. seek out and select information from published and Internet sources and use it critically; 4. make clearly-constructed written and oral presentations; 5. plan and carry out limited research projects; 6. apply key methods and concepts of literary, historical and linguistic analysis.	**Teaching/learning methods and strategies** Language classes are compulsory throughout the programme and there is regular coursework: the marks for this work are given for guidance and do not contribute to the final module mark. The Year Abroad provides a range of experiences in the use of everyday and academic Italian. Primary source material and much secondary literature is in Italian. Bibliographies are provided for all modules, students are trained in library use, and many modules provide experience searching for information via the Internet. Departmental Handbooks provide guidance in preparing coursework essays and dissertations. Students regularly give oral presentations and write essays and are given feedback on them. In the latter half of the programme the dissertation and, in some cases, extended essays provided experience of researching topics independently. *Assessment* Skill 1 is assessed at different stages by oral examinations and unseen written papers. Skill 2 is assessed at different stages by written tests and examinations. Skills 3-5 are assessed by a combination of coursework, examinations and dissertation.

D. Transferable skills – able to:
1. construct and communicate arguments clearly and effectively in speech and writing, and support arguments with evidence;
2. think critically and assess the relevance and importance of the ideas of others;
3. locate information and use information technology (especially word-processing and web-based resources);
4. participate effectively in group activities;
5. be self-reliant, organise their own time purposefully and work independently;
6. show sensitivity to cultural differences;
7. make informed career plans.
8. present material in a written form, with discrimination and lucidity in the use of language, professional referencing and clear layout
9. write and think under pressure and to meet deadlines.
.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies
Skills 1-6 are developed progressively throughout the programme. Participation in seminars and oral classes develops skills in self-expression and teamwork. Critical thought, the construction of arguments, and information skills are all developed through essay writing and the dissertation, and all assessed work must be word-processed. Time-management skills are enhanced by the regular production of language work and the meeting of strict essay deadlines. Sensitivity to cultural difference informs the whole programme and, together with the development of self-motivation and self-reliance, is greatly encouraged by the Year Abroad. Career management is taught through a distinct module linked with preparation for the Year Abroad.

Assessment
Skills 1-2 are assessed through coursework and examinations, including the examinations in Italy. The location of information forms part of the activity involved in the dissertation, but word-processing skills are not formally assessed. Skill 4 is not directly assessed. There are strict, clearly-defined penalties for lateness in handing in assessed work and for plagiarism.
Skills 8-9 are assessed via written course work within the Department of Classics.
Skill 9 is assessed via the need to organise work for deadlines and in timed tests and examinations.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably expect to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme handbooks.