

## Programme Specification

### BA Italian Studies and Comparative Literature

For students entering Part 1 in September 2019

UFITXCOLI

**This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	4 years
Accreditation	N/A

#### Programme information and content

The Programme aims to provide you with knowledge and understanding of a variety of literary, cultural and historical texts from a range of periods and backgrounds. Anglophone materials will be studied alongside those translated into English. It also gives you the ability to understand native-spoken language within an educated environment and to communicate orally with fluency and accuracy, to read with understanding and critical judgement and to write accurately in your chosen language with an appropriate understanding of register and style. Beyond this, the course also aims to foster an independent approach to formulating problems and arguments, through the development and application of close reading and analytical skills. Individual modules come with the option of an academic placement which complements and develops the learning on a module.

Part 1:	Introduces you to debate about approaches to the study of literature, through critical and research exercises and close study of selected Anglophone and translated texts from a number of different periods. You will study the culture and society of your chosen language and do extensive work on practical language skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening).
Part 2:	Develops the thinking and the practical language skills fostered at part 1 and delves into the detail of particular genres and traditions. There is a mixture of required and optional modules at this level.
Placement/Study abroad year:	An integral part of this degree is the opportunity for you to spend up to a year abroad, attending university in the country whose culture and language you are studying, or undertaking a work placement there. You will further develop your adaptability and self-reliance as well as your sensitivity to cultural difference.
Part 3:	A wide range of optional modules spanning diverse genres and traditions allows you to specialize according to your scholarly interests. You will build on your previous language work, refining your use of complex structures and attentiveness to register and style. The extended essay module complements the other modules, allowing you to develop your skills in research, planning, and writing.

**Module information**

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

**Part 1 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
ML1COMP	What is Comparative Literature?	20	4
ML1TRANS	Thinking Translation: History and Theory	20	4

Students must take one 20 credit Italian language module which will be dependent on the level studied at Part 1.

Students must take at least 20 credits of optional modules in Italian from the Department of Languages and Cultures. A further 20 credits will be taken from the list of optional modules normally available to students in the department.

60 credits at this level will come from a list of optional modules looking at literature from a comparative angle provided by the programme director of Comparative Literature programmes, available in the Department of Languages and Cultures and the Department of English Literature.

**Part 2 Modules:**

Students must take one 20 credit language module which will be dependent on the level studied at Part 1.

Students must take at least 20 credits of optional modules in Italian from the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies.

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from a list provided by the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies and the Department of English Literature.

**Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
ML2YL5	Year Abroad Language	40	5
ML2YS1	Semester 1 Study or Work Placement Abroad	40	5
ML2YS2	Semester 2 Study or Work Placement Abroad	40	5

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

**Part 3 Modules:**

Module	Name	Credits	Level
IT3L6	Advanced Italian Language III	20	6
ML3EE	Extended Essay	20	6

Students must select at least 20 credits of optional modules in Italian from the Department of Modern Languages and European Studies.

Remaining credits will be made up of optional modules from a list provided by the Department of Languages and Cultures and the Department of English Literature.

### **Optional modules:**

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

### **Additional costs of the programme**

During your programme of study you will incur some additional costs.

For textbooks and similar learning resources, we recommend that you budget between £150 and £250 per year. Many books are available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions. Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost of £0.05 per page. Costs will be, on average, £50 per year.

**Year Abroad:** You may incur additional costs, in addition to those which you would normally expect to pay at the University, during your year abroad, in accordance with clause 6.4 of the Terms and Conditions for Undergraduate Students. These additional costs will depend on your host institution and destination, but may include the purchase of a visa and mandatory medical insurance. Students will be briefed on these issues prior to them submitting the form detailing the institutions to which they would like to be allocated, and general information on additional costs is discussed in the Year Abroad preparatory meetings. *Further indicative details on costs and funding are available on the UoR Erasmus & Study Abroad webpages and the webpages of the host institution.*

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. The estimates were calculated in 2016.

### **Placement opportunities**

Placements are available to students taking the optional modules ML2LLM Literature, Language, and the Media / LS2LLE Literature, Language and Education. Here you will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

**Teaching and learning delivery:**

You will be taught through lectures, seminars/tutorials and supervised project work. The Extended Essay module is supported by workshops and individual supervision.

Total study hours for each Part of your programme will be 1200 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is Part 1 - 300 hours, Part 2 - 192 hours, Part 3 - 204 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

**Accreditation details**

N/A

**Assessment**

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework (including class tests) and oral examinations. Further information is contained in the individual module descriptions.

**Progression**

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' are as follows:

*Part 1*

- (i) Obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1; and
- (ii) Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

- (iii) Obtain a mark of at least 40% in all compulsory modules at Part 1.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

*Part 2*

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, which is necessary for progression to part 3, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits; and
- (iii) obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits,

except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and obtain a pass in the Year Abroad.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 2 qualifies a student for a Diploma of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

### **Classification**

Bachelors' degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Part 2: one-third

Part 3: two-thirds

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

BA Italian Studies and Comparative Literature for students entering Part 1 in session 2019/20

25 November 2020

© The University of Reading 2020