ITALIAN, PHD

for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Italian

The Department of French and Italian offers graduate programs leading to the Master of Arts and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees in French and in Italian. Candidates for the master’s degree may specialize in French Studies, French Linguistics, French Language Learning, or Italian. Candidates for the doctoral degree in French may choose one of three specializations: French Studies, French Linguistics, or Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education (SLATE).

The following minors and certificates may be pursued: Cinema Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/media/minors/cinema-studies/), Gender & Women’s Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/minors/gender-womens-studies/), Translation Studies (https://translation.illinois.edu), Criticism and Interpretive Theory (https://criticism.english.illinois.edu)

Admission

French

Students considering admission to the master’s program should usually have had a college major in French. Applicants should apply online (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/italian-Phd/ www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/) and submit an academic statement of purpose (maximum 1000 words), a personal statement (maximum 500 words), three letters of recommendation, and two writing samples (5-10 pages each), at least one of which must be in French. Original transcripts showing all undergraduate and graduate work completed should be sent to SLCL Graduate Student Services. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required of all domestic applicants and should be submitted to institution code 1836. International applicants who have taken the GRE are encouraged to submit their scores as well. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 79 on the internet-based test (iBT); they must also pass the speaking sub-section of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c.cfm). Applications are accepted for fall admission only. Application questions may be directed to SLCL Graduate Student Services (slclgradservices@illinois.edu).

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, the department requires Ph.D. candidates to do some teaching as part of their academic work because such experience is considered a vital part of graduate training and professionalization. Non-native English speakers must first pass a test of their oral English ability (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/italian-phd/www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/taengprof.htm).

Teaching Assistants in French and Italian are required to take FR 505 or ITAL 505 respectively (4 hours) as part of their contractual obligation. The course does not count toward the graduate degrees.

Faculty Research Interests

Our faculty possess strengths in literary interpretation, critical theory, the study of civilization, cinema, theoretical and applied linguistics, and computer-assisted teaching. Members of the faculty have received national and international recognition; graduates serve on the faculties of numerous colleges and universities both in this country and abroad. See also the faculty’s areas of research (https://frit.illinois.edu/research/research-areas/).

Facilities and Resources

A language learning lab provides computer-based access to resources and audio-video services. The phonetics lab contains state-of-the-art equipment available to graduate student researchers. The Kolb-Proust Archive for Research, a unit of the Library, houses a wealth of information about Marcel Proust and his time, including the important collection of notes and materials assembled by Philip Kolb, who was a professor in the Department. Documents from the collection are accessible on the Worldwide Web through a searchable SGML-encoded Virtual Archive (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/italian-phd/www.library.illinois.edu/kolbp/).

Financial Aid

All students who apply for admission are considered for financial aid. Subject to budgetary conditions, and assuming satisfactory academic and teaching performance, the Department offers two years of financial aid.
aid toward the M.A. degree and an additional four years of support toward completion of the Ph.D.

Teaching Assistantships are the most common form of graduate student support. The usual appointment requires teaching three courses during the academic year.

Research Assistantships require the recipient to assist with a faculty member’s research for a specific number of hours per week. A research assistantship may be combined with a teaching assistantship.

Fellowships are offered for new and continuing students. No separate application form is required.

Tuition and Fee Waivers are included in waiver-generating fellowship, teaching assistantship, and research assistantship awards.

Graduate students in French may spend the academic year abroad under exchange agreements with universities in France, Belgium, and Canada, employed as teaching assistants.

For the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Italian, for additional details and requirements refer to the department’s guidelines for graduate students and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/).

### Code | Title | Hours
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ITAL 599 | Thesis Research | 32

### Total Hours
64

#### Other Requirements
- **Coursework selected in consultation with advisor**
- **Language Requirement:** Students in all programs except SLATE must demonstrate reading proficiency in two languages besides the foreign language of specialization (not including English).
- **ITAL 599** Thesis Research

#### Graduation Degree Programs in French & Italian
- **French, MA** (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/comparative-literature-ma/)
  - concentration:
    - Medieval Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/medieval-studies/)
- **French, PhD** (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/french-phd/)
  - concentration:
    - Medieval Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/medieval-studies/)
    - Romance Linguistics (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/romance-linguistics/)
- **Second Language Acquisition & Teacher Education** (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/second-language-acquisition-teacher-education/)
- **Italian, MA** (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/italian-ma/)
  - concentration:
    - Medieval Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/medieval-studies/)
- **Italian, PhD** (p. 1)
  - concentration:
    - Medieval Studies (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/medieval-studies/)
    - Romance Linguistics (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/romance-linguistics/)
- **Second Language Acquisition & Teacher Education** (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/second-language-acquisition-teacher-education/)

### Department of French and Italian
- **Head of Department:** Zsuzsanna Fagyal
- **Director of Graduate Studies:** François Proulx
- **French and Italian Department Website** (http://www.frit.illinois.edu/)

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1. **Language:** mastery of spoken and written Italian in all its registers; mastery of academic English, particularly in writing, but also spoken; ability to summarize and explain major issues in language teaching and learning.
2. **Critical Theory:** demonstrates ability to synthesize knowledge of major fields of theoretical inquiry current in the discipline, such as Marxism, psychoanalysis, post-structuralism, feminism / queer studies, post-colonialism, biopolitics, environmental humanities and ecocriticism, and others. Ability to identify current trends and issues in critical theory of interest to the field, as well as capacity to critically evaluate different theoretical approaches, and defend one’s own approach.

### Areas of specialization offered in Italian are literary and cultural studies, Italian linguistics, and Romance linguistics.

For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s guidelines for graduate students and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/).

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**College of Liberal Arts & Sciences**
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences website (https://las.illinois.edu/)

**Admissions**
Overview of Italian Admissions & Requirements (https://frit.illinois.edu/admissions/italian-graduate-admissions/)
Graduate College Admissions & Requirements (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)