SPONSOR: Diane Musumeci, 244-2254 (campus phone) musumeci@uiuc.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Revision of the curriculum leading to the B.A. in Italian
30 hours beyond 104, with at least twelve (12) hours at the 300 level

Up to six (6) courses at the 200-level (maximum 18 hours)
Choose from the following: 200, 208, 210, 220, 240, 280, 290, 291

At least four (4) courses at the 300-level (minimum 12 hours)

The choice of courses at the 200- and 300-level must include at least one course in each of the following areas: advanced language/linguistics (Choose from: 210, 280, 302, 350), literature (Choose from: 200, 313, 314, 320, 330, 340, 342), and culture (Choose from: 240 or 306).

JUSTIFICATION:

The proposed revision of the undergraduate major in Italian reflects a national trend in foreign language curricula in which

- second language studies at the undergraduate level are conceived in a much broader sense than they were in past decades: they now include cultural studies, linguistics, cinema, language for specific purposes (such as business), as well as conventional literary studies;
- undergraduates in all curricula are encouraged increasingly to participate in an academic study abroad program; to facilitate progress toward the degree at least part of the required course work for the major should be available within that context;
- undergraduates who pursue a major in a foreign language often combine that major with a second, perhaps even primary, major; their course work in the language, while providing thorough grounding in the fundamentals of the discipline, should offer enough flexibility to complement students' second major and to realize their real world goals in acquiring the second language.

The current undergraduate major in Italian conflicts with each of the above mentioned points in the following ways:

- it is primarily a major in literary studies; five of the required nine courses for the major are literature courses (the other required course is Italian 208 - Practical review of Italian; the remaining required courses are one each in culture, linguistics, and advanced language);
- the courses that are required in literature are difficult to obtain in academic study abroad contexts: it has been the experience of the Italian literature faculty that the courses in literature offered in U.S.-sponsored study abroad programs are insufficiently rigorous compared to the courses offered at UIUC (for example, they are often taught exclusively in English translation or--in an effort to appeal to students with no background in the language, literature, history or culture of Italy--they are too broadly defined). Conversely, courses in Italian literature offered by Italian universities assume a familiarity with Italian literature that results from having studied it for at least seven years at the secondary and beginning undergraduate level. These courses are more appropriate for graduate students specializing in Italian literature than for undergraduates in study abroad programs. On the other hand, courses in history, film, sociology, and culture offered in study abroad programs do not present the same problem: they are readily available, they tend to be taught
at a level appropriate for the American undergraduate student, and they should count toward the major;
- the current curriculum specifies course work to such an extent as to discourage students from building a program that 1) reflects their interests and needs in acquiring Italian and 2) lacks complementarity to their second, often primary, majors in non-literary disciplines.

The proposed revision solves these problems by
- recognizing a greater number of courses in language/linguistics, history, and culture, including those available in an academic study abroad context, to count toward the major,
- providing more freedom in the selection of courses to fulfill the requirements for the major.

In addition, the revision remedies a local situation in which only a limited number of hours taken at the 200-level counts toward the undergraduate major. For example, under the current system, of four 200-level courses that are offered on a regular basis (Italian 210, 220, 222, and 280), students may count only one toward fulfillment of degree requirements.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

a. No additional staff are needed.

b. Although we hope to attract more majors by this revision and, thus, increase class size, such an increase will not entail internal reallocations as most 200- and 300-level courses presently have small enrollments.

c. This revision has no effect on course enrollments in other departments.

d. We do not envision any impact on library, computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc

GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:

As students advance to higher levels of competence in a second language, they engage in increasingly sophisticated analyses of the second language culture's texts--past and contemporary, print and other--in their social, literary, and historical contexts. Such analyses per force demand an increased critical awareness of one's own culture and cultural biases. The in-depth study of a foreign culture/language forms an essential part of the liberal arts, as it 'liberates' one from one's own cultural ethnocentrism through the study of diverse ways of thinking.

CLEARANCES:

Department/Unit Head                        Date

School Approval (if applicable)              Date

Assoc. Dean, Graduate College                Date

Assoc. Provost                                Date
STATEMENT FOR THE BULLETIN:

ITALIAN

These fields of study are sponsored by the Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese. See also Spanish and Portuguese.

MAJOR IN SCIENCES AND LETTERS CURRICULUM

E-mail: sip@uiuc.edu
Web address for most current program requirements:
http://www.las.uiuc.edu/las/p_ITAL.html
Degree title: Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences
Minimum required major and supporting course work normally equate to 45-51 hours including at least 30 hours in Italian courses beyond 104.
General education: The LAS General Education requirements are set up so students automatically complete the Campus General Education requirements.
Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.
Departmental distinction: To be considered for departmental distinction, a student must maintain a 3.5 grade point average and fulfill special additional requirements. See the department's honors adviser.

HOURS REQUIREMENTS

18 max
Choose from:
3 ITAL 200-Introduction to the Study of Italian Literature
3 ITAL 208-Practical Review of Italian
3 ITAL 210-Advanced Grammar
3 ITAL 220-Contemporary Italian, Oral and Written
3 ITAL 240-Italian Civilization of the Middle Ages and Renaissance
3 ITAL 280-Italian for Business and the Professions
2-4 ITAL 290-Special Topics in Italian Studies
2 ITAL 291-Honors Senior Thesis
3 ITAL 302-Composition and Stylistics
3 ITAL 306-Italian Culture
3 ITAL 313-Dante
3 ITAL 314-Petrarch and Boccaccio: Literature of the Italian Middle Ages
3-6 ITAL 320-Masterpieces of Italian Renaissance Literature
3 ITAL 330-From Baroque to Romanticism
3 ITAL 340-Modern Italian Novel
3 ITAL 342-Modern Italian Poetry
3 ITAL 350-Italian Syntax and Phonology

Supporting course work or a minor1 chosen in consultation with an adviser, in one related area (or a combination, with no fewer than 8 hours in each). Areas may include, for example, any other language and literature, history, political science, biology (pre-med), international law (pre-law), economics, finance, business administration, education, architecture, fine arts, or journalism.

1 A minor consists of 16-21 hours.
February 14, 2001

Susan A. Lamb, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Lamb:

Enclosed are copies of proposals from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the Curriculum leading to the B.A. in Italian and the Curriculum Leading to the Undergraduate Minor in Italian.

These proposal have been approved by the LAS Courses and Curricula, Academic Affairs and Executive committees; they now require Senate review.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Marshall
Staff Associate

KAM/ab

c: A. Mester
    D. Musumeci
Course work in Italian must include at least one course in each of the following areas: advanced language/linguistics (Choose from: 210, 280, 302, 350), literature (Choose from: 200, 313, 314, 320, 330, 340, 342), and culture (Choose from: 240 or 306).

Twelve hours advanced-level (300- and approved 200-level) courses in the major must be taken on this campus.

All foreign language requirements must be satisfied

A Major Plan of Study Form must be completed and submitted to the LAS Student Affairs Office before the end of the fifth semester (60-75 hours). Please see your adviser.

EFFECTIVE DATE: FALL 2001
TO: Ann Mester, Assistant Dean, LAS College Office, 294 Lincoln Hall, MC 448

SPONSOR: Diane Musumeci, 244-2254 (campus phone) musumeci@uiuc.edu (email)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Revision of the curriculum leading to the undergraduate minor in Italian

_The proposed revision to the undergraduate minor involves only a change in the distribution of required hours. It does not change the total number of hours required._

The minor in Italian consists of 19 hours course work in Italian language, literature and culture beyond 103, distributed as follows:

Italian 104 (4 hours) and

Five (5) additional courses at the 200- and/or 300-level (15 hours).


JUSTIFICATION:

See Revision of the undergraduate major in Italian.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

  a. No additional staff are needed.

  b. Although we hope to attract more minors by this revision and, thus, increase class size, such an increase will not entail internal reallocations as most 200- and 300-level courses presently have small enrollments.

  c. This revision has no effect on course enrollments in other departments.

  d. We do not envision any impact on library, computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.

GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:

As students advance to higher levels of competence in a second language, they engage in increasingly sophisticated analyses of the second language culture’s texts—past and contemporary, print and other—in their social, literary, and historical contexts. Such analyses per force demand an
increased critical awareness of one's own culture and cultural biases. The in-depth study of a foreign culture/language forms an essential part of the liberal arts, as it 'liberates' one from one's own cultural ethnocentrism through the study of diverse ways of thinking.

CLEARANCES:

Department/Unit Head

School Approval (if applicable)

Asst. Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Assoc. Dean, Graduate College

Assoc. Provost
STATEMENT FOR THE BULLETIN:

MINOR IN ITALIAN

E-mail: sip@uiuc.edu
Web address for most current program requirements:
http://kingbird.las.uiuc.edu/las/p_ITAL.html

HOURS REQUIREMENTS

19 Minimum of 19 hours course work in Italian language, literature and culture beyond 103 including:

ITAL 104-Intermediate Italian

15 hrs Minimum of 15 hours of electives at the 200- and/or 300-level

19

At least 6 of the 15 hours must be taken from among the following advanced-level courses: 210, 280, 302, 306, 313, 314, 320, 330, 340, 342, 350.

EFFECTIVE DATE: FALL 2001