Programme Specification[1]

1. Programme Title(s) and Code(s):

Programme Title	UCAS Code	GU Code
MA Honours Italian (Joint)		R310-2034H

2. Academic Session:

2016-17

3. SCQF Level (see **Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Levels**):

10

4. Credits:

600

5. Entrance Requirements:

Please refer to the current undergraduate prospectus at: http://www.gla.ac.uk/prospectuses/undergraduate/

6. ATAS Certificate Requirement (see **Academic Technology Approval Scheme**):

ATAS Certificate not required

7. Attendance Type:

Full Time

8. Programme Aims:

The Honours programme in Italian is designed to allow students to develop advanced Italian language skills (even for those who are complete beginners on admission) and to provide an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the culture and literature of Italy, based on research-led teaching. We also aim to help you to acquire various generally useful skills and techniques. This programme therefore aims:

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[1] This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if full advantage is taken of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each course can be found in course handbooks and other programme documentation and online at www.gla.ac.uk

The accuracy of the information in this document is reviewed periodically by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

- to train students to a high level of proficiency in reading, speaking, and writing Italian, enabling them to communicate readily on a personal and professional basis
- to offer students at Honours level a range of courses on the literature and culture of Italy, thus enabling students, within the range of the programme, to develop their own particular interests
- to provide students with a variety of approaches to teaching and learning, and a supportive, vibrant study environment that will stimulate and promote independent study
- to provide a broad and challenging intellectual training
- to provide a foundation of personal transferable skills of relevance to employment, further academic study or research
- to deploy the research expertise of staff to promote the interaction of teaching and research within this course, as part of Glasgow's commitment to enhancing its reputation as a research-led university
- to enable students, through residence abroad, to increase their competence in the language and culture of Italy, reinforcing their confidence and enhancing their capacity for independent learning

9. Intended Learning Outcomes of Programme:

By the end of the Honours programme in Italian students should be able, under the headings below, to demonstrate:

Knowledge and Understanding
- knowledge of Italian language (grammar, syntax, usage)
- understanding of grammatical and syntactical structures
- understanding of appropriateness in register and vocabulary
- knowledge of Italian literature and culture
- understanding of literary texts and other cultural texts (e.g. film)
- knowledge and understanding of techniques of literary /cultural interpretation

Skills and Other Attributes

Subject-specific/practical skills
- a high level of accuracy and fluency in the production and comprehension of Italian, both orally and in writing
- the ability to communicate effectively and appropriately with native and other competent speakers of Italian in various formal contexts (i.e. academic, professional), both orally and in writing
- understanding of and ability to analyse the structures and registers of Italian
- detailed knowledge of chosen aspects of the history and culture of Italy
- understanding of linguistic principles required to assimilate and analyse structure of a foreign language
- knowledge of analysis and interpretation of texts, taking into account cultural, historical, and generic contexts
- critical understanding of forms of discourse arising from close reading and analysis of texts
- understanding of generic conventions and modes of textual production
- understanding of varieties of approaches to research in study of literature and culture.

Intellectual skills
- the capacity to analyse critically
- the ability to acquire complex information of diverse kinds in a structured and systematic way involving the use of the distinctive interpretative skills of the subject
- the ability to organise and plan in time-limited exercises
- competence in the planning and execution of essays
- a capacity for independent thought and judgement
- skills in critical reasoning
- the ability to handle information and argument in a critical manner

Transferable/key skills
- the ability to identify and analyse problems and devise appropriate strategies for resolving them
- effective communication of information, ideas and arguments, both in oral and in written form
- the ability to gather, select, and organise material from a variety of sources and to offer a critical evaluation of its significance

- the ability to manage your time and to organise, plan and execute a project to a predetermined length and deadline
- the capacity for independent thought and judgement
- the capacity for independent, effective and reflective learning
- the capacity to engage with issues and concerns outside one's own sphere of life
- the ability to work flexibly and creatively with others and engage in rational debate
- the ability to make effective and appropriate use of library and bibliographical research skills
- the ability to make effective and appropriate use of IT, both as a learning tool and as a means of communication

10. Typical Learning and Teaching Approaches:

Language elements
- Language classes: the language programme uses authentic materials in Italian, both written and spoken: these forms of target-language material are used in a variety of ways, including reading, translation, production of related material in Italian through essay-writing or oral presentation. The core language programme includes guidance on language-learning strategies throughout. Formal grammar is taught by means of the language programme and the guided study of grammar materials.
- There are regular oral classes with Native Language Assistants (including use of video/audio materials). Students here work on developing comprehension and presentational skills.
- Computer-assisted language learning reinforces command of grammatical structures
- Familiarity with the target language is reinforced by the study in literature and culture modules of a wide range of literary and other texts in Italian.

Literature and Culture elements
- The literature and culture elements of the course are taught through a variety of approaches according to level and group size and in keeping with the nature of the topic in question, from more formal lectures to seminar/discussion groups.
- There are regular lectures and seminars, with a progression from a relatively high level of input from lecturers in Level 1 to increasing emphasis on group discussion and student autonomy in Honours.

Residence Abroad
The learning experience is enhanced by one or more compulsory periods of residence abroad, one compulsory period of residence in an Italian-speaking country. In addition to the essential linguistic and cultural immersion provided, the periods of residence abroad offer positive opportunities for independent learning and intellectual and personal development.

11. Typical Assessment Methods:

Language elements

Language work at all levels (except the year abroad) is assessed by a combination of coursework done during the year and written and oral exams at the end of the year.
- Coursework is marked throughout the year, with staff offering feedback and support; there is regular marking and return of translation work and language essays, providing feedback on progress in preparation for further learning and assessment.
- Students are assessed by means of a variety of testing methods in the language element of the programme (translation, comprehension, independent writing in Italian, oral presentations / examinations).

Literature and Culture elements

The literature and culture elements of the Italian programme are assessed by a range of methods across the various levels:
- Class essays test skills of organisation, argumentation, understanding, analysis and independent research.
- Exams test knowledge retention and manipulation of material covered as well as organisational skills in time-limited contexts.
- Single Honours students are required to write a dissertation; Joint Honours must write a shorter dissertation either for Italian or for their other subject of study. Dissertations test skills of organisation, argumentation, understanding, analysis and independent research in the context of an independently elaborated project.

Year abroad

British Council Assistantship – satisfactory completion of the placement will be certified by completion of the Erasmus Training Agreement (in cases where students have availed themselves of an Erasmus grant) and will be confirmed also by a report to SMLC signed by the head (or equivalent) of the host school, and by official report through the British Council.

Erasmus studentship - assessment will vary depending on the individual student's curriculum (as approved by the Glasgow academic co-ordinator of the exchange). This will normally include a significant proportion of assessment by examination. Completed transcripts to be approved by SMLC on the student's return (using standard conversion tables for ECTS grades).

12. Programme Structure and Features:

Year	Courses	Credits	Possible Exit Points
1	(Italian Language 1 (non-beginners) and Italian Culture 1 (non-beginners)) **OR** Italian Language 1 (beginners) Two Level 1 courses in a second Subject Two Level 1 courses in a third Subject	20 20 40 20 each 20 each	Certificate of Higher Education (120 credits)
2	Italian Language 2 and Italian Culture 2 **AND (for ex Language 1 beginners only)** Italian Culture 1 (non-beginners) Two Level 2 courses in second Subject Two additional Level 1 courses **(Ex Language 1 beginners take only ONE additional Level 1 course)**	20 20 20 20 each 20 each	Diploma of Higher Education (240 credits)
3 **Level 2** Year Abroad	Year spent in Italy, either studying at an Italian university or as an English Language Assistant in an Italian school. (For Joint Honours with another language, year may be spent in other country. In this case, student spends 3 months of Junior Honours year in Italy)	120	Diploma of Higher Education (360 credits)
4 Junior Hons	**Joint Honours:** Language courses (30 credits) 2 literature/culture courses (20 credits each) Other Honours subject	70 60	Graduate with non-honours Degree (MA General Humanities) (minimum of 360 credits including at least 60 credits at Level 3)
5 Senior Hons	**Joint Honours:** Language courses (30 credits) 1 literature/culture course or dissertation (20 credits) Other Honours subject	50 60	MA with Honours (600 credits)

The Honours programme is full-time over five years of study at Glasgow. The Honours MA in Italian is subject to the regulations of the College of Arts.

You may progress from Italian Language 1 (beginners) to Italian Language 2 (normally requires grade C3 result or above in Italian Language 1 (beginners)) and on to Honours.

Progression to Honours normally requires a grade C3 result or above in Italian Language 2 and Italian

Culture 2.

Courses in Italian language only (without literature/culture elements) may be taken at levels 1, 2 and 3 as part of a student's wider curriculum.

Level 1, 2 and 3 courses in Italian may be taken as components in a number of three-year General Degree programmes offered by the College of Arts. More information on these degree programmes can be found in the Undergraduate Prospectus at: http://www.gla.ac.uk:443/studying/ug/

Honours courses in Italian may be combined with other subjects in a variety of Joint Honours combinations. See Prospectus at: http://www.gla.ac.uk:443/studying/ug/

13. Programme Accredited By:

14. Location(s):

Glasgow

15. College:

College of Arts

16. Lead School/Institute:

Modern Languages and Cultures [REG10400000]

17. Is this programme collaborative with another institution:

No

18. Awarding Institution(s):

University of Glasgow

19. Teaching Institution(s):

20. Language of Instruction:

English

21. Language of Assessment:

English

22. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (see **Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education**) and Other External or Internal Reference Points:

Languages
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Languages-and-related-studies.pdf

English (for literary elements)
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-English.pdf

Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (for Cinema and Cultural Studies elements)
http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Subject-benchmark-statement-Communication-media-film-and-cultural-studies.pdf

23. Additional Relevant Information (if applicable):

Support for students is provided by the Postgraduate/Undergraduate Adviser(s) of Studies supported by University resources such as the Student Learning Service (www.gla.ac.uk/services/sls/), Counselling & Psychological Services (www.gla.ac.uk/services/counselling/), the Disability Service (www.gla.ac.uk/services/studentdisability/) and the Careers Service (www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/).

Further information may be found on the Italian web pages at:

http://www.gla.ac.uk/subjects/italian/

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the Student Counselling and Advisory Service (http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/counselling/),
the Student Disability Service (http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/studentdisability/)
and the Careers Service (http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/careers/).

24. Date of approval:	