

Italian Studies PhD/MA by Research (On-Campus or by Distance Learning)

Italian Studies at Birmingham has an excellent record in attracting funding and a vibrant postgraduate community. The research environment is outstanding and it has one full AHRC PhD for the 2013/14 academic year. It is home to: the Leopardi Centre; a Leverhulme-funded project on populists in power; an AHRC-funded project on Leopardi's Zibaldone; an AHRC networking grant, 'Interdisciplinary Italy 1900-2010'; an annual Birmingham–Warwick postgraduate symposium; and, since 2008, has held a student-led Italian seminar series.

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14
<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx>

Course fact file

Type of Course: Distance learning, doctoral research

Study Options: Full time, part time

Duration: PhD – 3 years full-time; 6 years part-time, MA by Research – 1 year full-time; 2 years part-time

Start date: January 2014, September 2014

Contact

Dr Ita Mac Carthy, Admissions Tutor

Tel: +44 (0)121 414 5933

Email: I.MacCarthy@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:I.MacCarthy@bham.ac.uk>)

School of Languages, Cultures, Art History and Music (</schools/lcahm/index.aspx>)

Department of Modern Languages: Italian Studies (</schools/lcahm/departments/italian/index.aspx>)

Department of Modern Languages (</schools/lcahm/departments/languages/index.aspx>)

Details

The MA by Research programme requires you to prepare a dissertation of up to 40,000 words on a topic of your choice, for which an academic staff member will provide expert supervision.

The PhD – the most advanced research degree – leads to a dissertation of up to 80,000 words on a subject of your choice and under the expert supervision of an academic member of staff.

You can study an MA by Research or PhD programme on campus or **by Distance Learning** (</students/courses/postgraduate/research/arts-law-inter/distance-learning.aspx>).

(Read Patrizia's experience: **English** (</schools/lcahm/departments/italian/postgraduate/profiles/lissoni-patrizia-en.aspx>) | **Italian** (</schools/lcahm/departments/italian/postgraduate/profiles/lissoni-patrizia-it.aspx>).

We welcome applications in the major areas of Italian Studies, and members of staff are always willing to discuss ideas and proposals with those who are thinking of applying.



</schools/lcahm/departments/italian/research/postgraduateresearch/index.aspx>

Fees and funding

We charge an annual tuition fee. Fees for 2015/16 are currently as follows:

- Home / EU £4,090 full-time; £2,045 part-time
- Overseas: £13,195 full-time; £6,597.50 part-time

For part-time students, the above fee quoted is for year one only and tuition fees will also be payable in subsequent years of your programme.

Tuition fees can either be paid in full or by instalments.

Eligibility for Home/EU or Overseas fees can be verified with Admissions. Learn more about **fees for international students** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/students/finance/fees.aspx>).

Scholarships and studentships

Scholarships to cover fees and/or maintenance costs may be available. To be eligible for these awards, candidates must hold either an offer of a place to study or have submitted an application to study at the University. To discover whether you are eligible for any award across the University, and to start your funding application, please visit the University's [Postgraduate Funding Database \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/funding/FundingFilter.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/funding/FundingFilter.aspx).

International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government.

Entry requirements

Learn more about [entry requirements \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/index.aspx)

International students

Academic requirements

We accept a range of qualifications; our [country pages \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/country/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/country/index.aspx) show you what qualifications we accept from your country.

English language requirements

You can satisfy our English language requirements in two ways:

- by holding an [English language qualification \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/index.aspx) to the right level
- by taking and successfully completing one of our [English courses for international students \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/english-courses.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/english-courses.aspx)

How to apply

Before you make your application

You may wish to [register your interest with us \(https://bham.hobsons.co.uk/emtinterestpage.aspx?ip=postgraduate\)](https://bham.hobsons.co.uk/emtinterestpage.aspx?ip=postgraduate) to receive regular news and updates on postgraduate life within this Department and the wider University.

Making your application

For applicants to the PhD Distance Learning study mode only:

As part of the application process for the distance learning study mode, we will ask you to provide evidence to demonstrate that you have the time, commitment, facilities and experience to study for a PhD by Distance Learning. Please be prepared to provide evidence, and details, of the following:

- Examples of your postgraduate research experience and ability to work independently e.g. papers/presentations at professional and academic conferences or publications in professional journals or previous completion of an independent research project, etc.
- Full reasons (academic and personal) for registering for the distance learning mode of study rather than by standard full or part-time on-campus options. In particular, how you will be able to carry out your project in your chosen location.
- Access to local library facilities (where needed)
- Access to IT facilities
- Access to communications, including e-mail and visual communication media e.g. Skype and Facetime
- Access to facilities to support any study-related disability (where appropriate)

You can upload this information at the time of application - when asked to provide supporting documentation - or via your applicant portal once you have submitted your application.

For all applicants:

When clicking on the Apply Now button you will be directed to an application specifically designed for the programme you wish to apply for where you will create an account with the University application system and submit your application and supporting documents online. Further information regarding how to apply online can be found on the [How to apply pages \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx)

[Apply now \(https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/CALo88.htm\)](https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/CALo88.htm)

Research interests of staff

- **Italian politics, Italian media, political communication, populism and neo-nationalism in Europe.**
Contact: Dr Daniele Albertazzi
Email: d.albertazzi@bham.ac.uk
- **Italian cinema; 20th- and 21st-century Italian poetry and narrative; cultural theory, especially theories of conflict, opposition, power and privacy; religion in Italian and European cinema; interdisciplinary practice in Italy since 1900.**
Contact: Dr Clodagh Brook
Tel: +44 (0)121 414 7504
Email: c.j.brook@bham.ac.uk
- **The Age of Romanticism in Italy; the reception of Dante in the 19th century; 20th-century fiction; critical theory in Italy; the relation between oral**

and written literature; the work of Umberto Eco.

Contact: Professor Michael Caesar

Tel: +44 (0)121 414 5931

Email: m.p.caesar@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:m.p.caesar@bham.ac.uk>)

- **Autobiography; the work of Giacomo Leopardi; Leopardi in the European context.**

Contact: Dr Franco D'Intino

Tel: +44 (0)121 414 5930

Email: f.dintino@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:f.dintino@bham.ac.uk>)

- **Medieval literature and Italian diachronic linguistics.**

Contact: Dr Paolo De Ventura

Tel: +44 (0)121 414 5935

Email: p.deventura@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:p.deventura@bham.ac.uk>)

- **Renaissance literature; the relation between literature and the visual arts; chivalric romance, particularly Ariosto; the concept of grazia; the debate about women in the Renaissance; contemporary women's writing.**

Contact: Dr Ita Mac Carthy

Tel: +44 (0)121 414 5930

Email: italian@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:italian@bham.ac.uk>)

- **Literary studies; Cultural studies; Gender and Sexuality studies 19th century, 20th century and contemporary**

Contact: Dr Charlotte Ross

Tel: +44 (0)121 414 7505

Email: c.e.ross@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:c.e.ross@bham.ac.uk>)

Related research

- [Leopardi Centre \(/research/activity/leopardi/index.aspx\)](/research/activity/leopardi/index.aspx)

Employability

The University of Birmingham has been ranked 8th in the UK and 60th in the world for post-qualification employability in the latest global survey of universities commissioned by the International Herald Tribune.

Your degree will provide excellent preparation for employment and this will be further enhanced by the employability skills training offered through the College of Arts and Law Graduate School.

Adobe Flash Player or QuickTime is required for video playback. [Get the latest Flash Player](#) [Get the latest version of QuickTime](#)

Birmingham's Modern Languages postgraduates develop excellent communication skills, whilst cultural awareness and foreign language skills are highly sought after by employers. Postgraduates in Modern Languages also have a range of transferable skills including the ability to gather and interpret information, organisational skills and the ability to work well with others. Such skills can be used in a variety of occupations.

Over the past five years, over 94% of Modern Languages postgraduates were in work and/or further study six months after graduation. Some of our language graduates train to become professional linguists such as translators and interpreters. Others graduates enter employment where their language skills may be advantageous but not central to their role ? for example, within international organisations, the Civil Service and in the travel and hospitality industry. Employers that graduates have gone on to work for include: Arts and Humanities Research Council; Deloitte; Tate Britain Gallery; University of Manchester; and Zamyn (a communications agency).