

PhD Scholarship in Italian Studies at the University of Birmingham (October 2013)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates in any area of Italian Studies for a fully-funded AHRC doctoral award in Italian Studies in the College of Arts and Law at the University of Birmingham. The award, made under the AHRC Block Grant Partnership scheme, must be taken up on 1 October 2013, and will be held, subject to satisfactory progress, for a period of three years. The award covers fees and the prescribed maintenance rate (in 2012/13: £13,590 per annum). For other funding opportunities, see our [funding and scholarships page \(/schools/calgs/scholarships/index.aspx\)](/schools/calgs/scholarships/index.aspx).

Full guidance for applicants is available at [www.birmingham.ac.uk/ahrc \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/ahrc\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/ahrc). Applications (including submission of references) must be received via the online application system by 9 JANUARY 2014, we advise potential candidates to submit well in advance, so that we can make sure that the application is strong in its presentation and complete in its documentation. Expressions of interest and informal enquiries can be addressed to Paolo De Ventura ([p.deventura@bham.ac.uk \(mailto:p.deventura@bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:p.deventura@bham.ac.uk)), or to an individual member of staff as prospective supervisor.

In Italian Studies, we have an excellent 5* research record and our research was rated world-leading or of international importance in the last RAE (50%).

In 2013, we have a large research community, with 12 research postgraduates (many with funding), 8 lecturers actively engaged in research, three research fellows and one teaching fellow. This makes the environment a lively and ambitious one. Our postgraduates are actively involved with Italian Studies and its research.

Italian Studies is home to two significant funded projects: [Interdisciplinary Italy 1900-2015: art, music, text \(AHRC\) \(/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/research/interdisciplinary-italy.aspx\)](/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/research/interdisciplinary-italy.aspx) and the [Zibaldone Project \(/research/activity/leopardi/projects/index.aspx\)](/research/activity/leopardi/projects/index.aspx). It is home too, to the [Leopardi Centre \(/research/activity/leopardi/index.aspx\)](/research/activity/leopardi/index.aspx).

Work in Italian studies at Birmingham is organised in three main areas, in each of which there are a number of focal points connected with the on-going research of current members of staff and postgraduate students.

Literary studies

- Orality, textuality and performance from the Middle Ages to the present
- Reception history
- Dante and the medieval period
- The 18th and 19th centuries
- Italian writing from 1900 to the present

Political Science

- Contemporary Italian and Swiss Politics
- Populist and "outsider" parties in comparative perspective

Film theory and cultural theory

- History of the cinema
- Auteur studies
- Gender and sexuality studies women's writing
- Gender and sexuality studies
- Textual editing
- Translation studies
- Linguistic and discourse analysis, linguistic criticism
- Foreign language pedagogy

Postgraduate students, as well as receiving expert tuition from specialists in their field, take an active part in all of the Department's research initiatives. These include research seminars with invited outside speakers, study days, symposia on broad interdisciplinary topics, and student-organised postgraduate conferences. The Leopardi Centre at Birmingham has its own programme of visiting fellows, lectures and conferences on a wide range of topics, which all postgraduates are encouraged to take part in.

There is also the possibility of joint supervisions for interdisciplinary and comparative topics (e.g. with French, Italian, Spanish, Russian; English; History).

Potential applicants seeking supervisors are advised to visit the [Staff \(/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/staff/index.aspx\)](/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/staff/index.aspx), [Research \(/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/research/index.aspx\)](/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/research/index.aspx), and [Postgraduate Study \(/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/postgraduate/index.aspx\)](/schools/lcahm/departments/italian/postgraduate/index.aspx) pages of our website.