

Our research culture

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 cinema
- Auteur studies
- Gender and sexuality studies

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** (</research/activity/leopardi/index.aspx>) 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.