The study of Italian in the target language encourages students to gain a deep appreciation of the language, culture and literature through active participation and meaningful experience with the culture on its own terms. Italian courses at Williams are therefore conducted exclusively in Italian in order to enhance and reinforce the emotive and cognitive involvement of the students as they are introduced to the Italian world-view in a lively and natural manner. Students desirous of more contact with Italian are encouraged to attend the weekly Italian Table in the designated college dining hall. More information can be found at cfllc.williams.edu/italian.

RLIT 99  (W)  Independent Study: Italian
Open to upperclass students. Students interested in doing an independent project (99) during Winter Study must make prior arrangements with a faculty sponsor. The student and professor then complete the independent study proposal form available online. The deadline is typically in late September. Proposals are reviewed by the pertinent department and the Winter Study Committee. Students will be notified if their proposal is approved prior to the Winter Study registration period.

Class Format: independent study
Grading: pass/fail only
Distributions: (D1)

Winter 2020
IND Section: 01    TBA     Jennifer L. French

RLIT 101  (F)  Elementary Italian
This course is designed for beginners. Its goal is to give students the opportunity to develop a basic oral/aural and reading/writing proficiency in Italian. During the semester you will be given training in grammar, pronunciation, aural-oral skills, reading and writing in Italian through the study of a wide range of communication patterns and real-life situations. At the end of the semester you will be able to use Italian to talk about yourself, to describe your family, your town, your friends and to discuss about your interests. You will also be able to talk in Italian about present and past events and to converse with your peers about your daily activities. Your listening skills will allow you to understand short dialogues and conversations, to watch clips from mainstream Italian films, and to write short compositions. Conducted entirely in Italian.

Class Format: five hours a week with the professor
Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on participation, homework, compositions, quizzes, an oral exam, oral presentation, midterm and final exams
Extra Info: students registered for RLIT 101-102 are required to attend and pass the sustaining program during the winter study period; credit granted only if both semesters (RLIT 101 and 102) are taken
Prerequisites: none; not open to those who have had one year or more of high school Italian
Enrollment Limit: 20
Enrollment Preferences: instructor will prioritize on the basis of study abroad plans and year at Williams
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D1)
RLIT 102 (S) Elementary Italian

This course is designed for beginners who have already some basic knowledge of Italian. Its goal is to give students the opportunity to review and expand their oral/aural and reading/writing proficiency in Italian. During the semester you will continue to learn grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, while improving your aural-oral skills, reading and writing in Italian. To achieve these goals, you will be presented with a wide range of communication patterns and real-life situations. At the end of the semester you will be able to use Italian to talk about yourself, your life, to describe your town and its history, your dreams and interests, and to express your opinion on complex topics. You will also be able to talk in Italian about present, past, and future events and to express doubts and hopes. You will be able to understand more complex conversations and clips from mainstream Italian films, and to write longer compositions. Conducted entirely in Italian.

Class Format: five hours a week with the professor

Requirements/Evaluation: evaluation will be based on participation, homework, compositions, quizzes, an oral exam, oral presentation, midterm and final exams

Extra Info: students registered for RLIT 101-102 are required to attend and pass the sustaining program during the winter study period; credit granted only if both semesters (RLIT 101 and 102) are taken

Prerequisites: RLIT 101; not open to those who have had one year or more of high school Italian

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: instructor will prioritize on the basis of study abroad plans and year at Williams

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)

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Spring 2020

LEC Section: 01  MWF 10:00 am - 1:05 pm  Michele Monserrati

RLIT 105 (F) Pathway to Proficiency

The course taught in Italian aims primarily at fine-tuning the student’s speaking, reading and writing ability, while providing an introduction to the formal study of Italian culture and society through the analysis of short literary texts, articles, films, and plays. Students will review and expand the grammar structures learned in the previous semesters with the goal of achieving a higher level of fluency and sophistication in language production. Italian 105 is intended for study-abroad returnees and other advanced speakers; students who have been particularly successful in Italian 101-102 are also encouraged to enroll.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: oral presentations, midterm and final exams, tests, compositions, participation

Prerequisites: RLIT 101/102 or by permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: none

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D1)