

A Proposal for an Undergraduate Concentration in Italian Studies

*An interdisciplinary, liberal arts approach to an appreciation of the
Italian language and culture and its presence in the United States for
John Carroll undergraduate students*



Developed through the
Bishop Anthony M. Pilla Program in
Italian American Studies at
John Carroll University

Santa Casciani, Director

VISION STATEMENT AND RATIONALE

The Bishop Anthony M. Pilla Program in Italian American Studies was established at John Carroll University to enhance the understanding of the ways in which the Italian presence in the United States has contributed to American intellectual history, culture, philosophy, religion and science. It is the only program in the United States that concentrates on an interdisciplinary undergraduate liberal arts approach to attaining this goal. The Bishop Pilla Program aspires to be a pioneer in creating an undergraduate interdisciplinary liberal arts program, marked by academic rigor and integrity and in accord with the Catholic and Jesuit nature and mission of John Carroll University.

To this end, the Program seeks to implement an undergraduate Concentration in Italian Studies, open to undergraduate students of all majors.

The concentration will expose students to various perspectives of the Italian legacy and its effect on American culture by utilizing an interdisciplinary approach to teaching. Italians and Italian Americans have touched every aspect of American history and culture, from the humanities and the social sciences to the natural sciences and the economic sphere. To give students a cross-sectional view of this influence, it is a primary concern of the Program to implement faculty from many departments within the College of Arts and Sciences as well as the faculty of the Boler School of Business in teaching the courses that constitute the Concentration in Italian Studies. To date, the Departments of Classical and Modern Languages and Cultures, Art History and History offer courses acceptable to the proposed concentration curriculum.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Italian Studies Committee, located organizationally under the Bishop Pilla Program, will develop and maintain the Italian Studies Concentration. The committee is currently comprised of nine faculty members and administrators and includes:

- Santa Casciani (Coordinator) Classical & Modern Languages & Cultures
Director, Bishop Pilla Program
- David Anderson Classical & Modern Languages & Cultures
Chairperson
- Antonio Pérez-Romero Classical & Modern Languages & Cultures
- Giuseppina Mileti Classical & Modern Languages & Cultures
- Sr. Mary Ann Flannery Communications
Chairperson
- Francesco Cesareo History
Director, Institute of Catholic Studies
- Nicholas Santilli Psychology
Chairperson
- Brenda Wirkus Philosophy
Chairperson

As mentioned previously, the committee is located organizationally under the Bishop Pilla Program and is mediated by the coordinator, who will report to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The Italian Studies Concentration (ISC) is open to undergraduate students of all majors. Students must satisfactorily complete (A.) the Concentration Core, which consists of a minimum of 21 credit hours. Students are encouraged but not required to supplement their studies with (B.) additional ISC courses and (C.) a study abroad immersion experience in Italy.

A. The Concentration Core

The Concentration Core consists of two broad categories of required courses: those that satisfy the Italian language component (6 credit hours) and those that satisfy the cultural component (15 credit hours.) Of all courses completed in the concentration, at least 9 credit hours must be at the 300 level or higher and at least 9 hours must be taken outside of the department of Classical and Modern Languages and Cultures.

The Italian Language Requirement (6 Credit Hours)

The language component requires a two-semester sequence of Italian language courses, at the 200 level or higher. This requirement will normally be fulfilled by IT201-202, but may be fulfilled by a two-course sequence of IT courses at a higher level. The two-course beginning Italian sequence, IT101-102, is a prerequisite.

The Culture Requirement (15 Credit Hours)

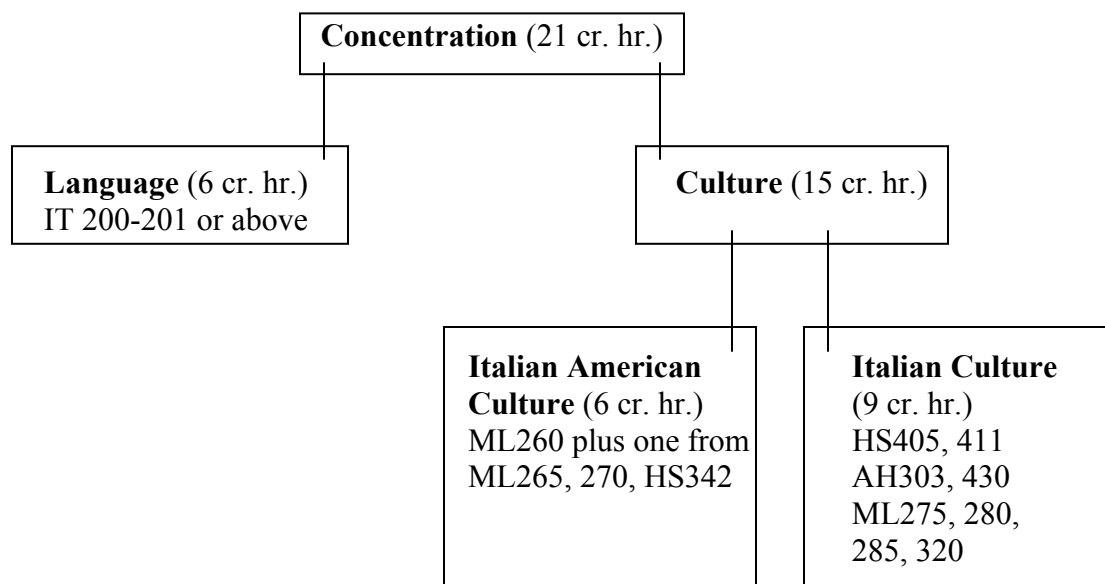
The cultural component requires students to complete 9 credit hours in courses that address Italian culture and 6 credit hours in courses that address Italian American culture.

Italian Culture (9 credit hours)

Three courses from: AH303, 430; HS405, 411; ML275, 280, 285, 320

Italian American Culture (6 credit hours)

Two courses: ML260 and one selected from HS342, ML265 and ML270.



Encouraged but not required components of the concentration curriculum:

B. Elective Courses

Although not required for the completion of the Concentration, the student is encouraged to take additional IASC-approved courses to strengthen his or her understanding of the Italian and Italian American experience. These courses will further broaden the interdisciplinary base of study prescribed in the Concentration Core.

C. Study Abroad Experience

The study abroad experience is not a requirement for the completion of the Concentration, but students are greatly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. The Bishop Pilla Program is currently working to establish a John Carroll University campus in Italy, based at the Pontificia Università Urbaniana in Vatican City. Under the auspices of the Urbaniana, John Carroll students will live and study in Rome for one semester or one academic year.

Academic Advising

All academic advisors will be made aware of the requirements to complete the Concentration in Italian Studies, and courses within the concentration curriculum will be posted each semester. Although the Committee believes both students and advisors will easily understand the requirements to complete the Concentration, the Committee will designate faculty members who are available to provide academic advice to any Italian Studies Concentration student or students considering the Concentration.

Certificate of Completion

Upon completion of the concentration core, a Certificate in Italian Studies will be granted and it will be duly noted on the student's transcript as an area of concentration.

ISC COURSES CURRENTLY OFFERED

Courses satisfying the Italian culture component:

HS405: Rome: City of Emperors, Popes, & Saints
HS411: Renaissance Europe
AH303: Italian Renaissance Art
AH430: Leonardo, Michelangelo, & Rafael
ML275: Modern Italy & Ignazio Silone
ML280: The Mosaic of Sicily: Art, History, & Literature
ML285: Literary Women, Science, & Religion in Early Mod. Italy
ML320: Dante's Divine Comedy

Courses satisfying the Italian American culture component:

ML260: Italian American Culture & Civ. through Literature
ML265: Italian & Italian American Spirituality through Lit & Film
ML270: Faith, Reason, & Art in Italian & Ital American Literature
HS342: Immigrant America

Courses satisfying the language requirement:

IT 201-202, 291-292, 301-302, 391-392