The Department of Italian Studies at New York University is the largest free-standing Italian department in North America. It is one of the few in the country to offer a complete program of study in Italian language, culture, history, and society, from the elementary to the graduate level. Students are taught by faculty rated #1 nationally in terms of research quality and can choose among an unparalleled variety of courses, from Dante to contemporary cinema and society; from women writers of the Renaissance to futurist performance art.

A Top-Rated Department

The Department of Italian Studies is renowned for its commitment to high-quality instruction and research. The faculty is highly regarded in the field and has produced many accomplished scholars. The Department is also home to a vibrant community of students and scholars who are dedicated to the study of Italian language and culture.

Experience Casa Italiana

The Department is located in beautiful Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò, a landmark townhouse with real Village charm. Through its vibrant year-round program of events, Casa Italiana has established itself as the main hub for Italian culture in New York. Students who join the Department at once benefit from a place that enriches their academic life with its wide-ranging program of film screenings, lectures, concerts, art shows, and more.

Career Prospects

Knowing a foreign language sets you apart in your employment search. Italian, in particular, has been ranked among the top foreign languages that translate into income boost (Forbes) and is particularly apt for a wide range of professional paths: fashion and design, European Union political and economic policy, tourism, wine and food sectors, art history, curatorial and museum studies. To help students with their career prospects, Casa Italiana sponsors an annual Italian Job and Internship Fair featuring companies looking for students with Italian language skills.

Study Abroad at NYU Florence

La Pietra, NYU’s center for study abroad in Italy, is a magnificent Renaissance estate consisting of five historic villas on 57-acres of olive groves and gardens. Located on a hillside just outside the old walls of Florence, La Pietra houses a notable art collection and one of the most beautiful Renaissance gardens in Italy. It also offers a number of unique opportunities for language and cultural immersion.

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Largest free-standing Italian Department in North America, rated #1 in the nation for citations of faculty research.

Located in Casa Italiana, a landmarked West Village townhouse and vibrant cultural center.

Highly interactive language program built on advanced methodologies & state-of-the-art technological infrastructure.

Opportunity to study at NYU’s stunning Villa La Pietra in Florence, the heart of Tuscany.

Unparalleled interdisciplinary course offerings, including: Art History, History, Cinema Studies, Comparative Literature, Gender Studies, European Studies.

Italian makes an excellent double major—it is an ideal complement for a number of disciplines: Global Liberal Studies, Economics, Media and Communications, History, Politics, International Relations, European Studies, Architecture, etc.

Learn about a culture that was formative in the history of the West: Italy has the most UNESCO world heritage sites and is the birthplace of the Renaissance and humanism.

Italian is an asset for careers in fashion and design, film and media, museum science and art history, finance and economics, wine and food sectors, music and performance, tourism, and more.

Our one-year Master’s program at Villa La Pietra Florence enables interested students to get both a BA and MA in less time and at reduced cost.

Dedicated initiatives for your professional & academic progress, such as an annual Italian Job Fair and a department-specific undergraduate conference.