Honors Program in Italian Studies

The Honors Program in Italian Studies requires 15 courses in all, to be completed with an average GPA of at least 3.7.

The Honors Program shares the following 13 course requirements with the current major:

1) one course in linguistics (CAS LX 250) or comparative literature (CAS XL 222)
2) two language courses: CAS LI 303; and 304 or 305
3) six literature courses: CAS LI 350, 351, 352, and three courses from 450, 452, 459, 553, 555, 556, 590
4) two cultural courses from CAS LI 340, 349, 452, 473, 540
5) two additional CAS LI courses, or two related courses from other departments chosen with advisor’s approval. Students may use the two related courses, along with one other cultural offering from the same department (instead of a second LI cultural course in #4 above), to form a three-course interdisciplinary component to their Italian Studies major.

The Honors Program would additionally require two electives from the following options:
   (a) Two additional advanced (400 or 500-level) literature courses. (In one of these extra courses, honors students will also meet regularly with the instructor for further discussion and work on the course materials.)
   (b) Honors research for two semesters

Honors students may count courses taken abroad with the approval of their faculty advisor. They are strongly encouraged to spend a semester of study in Padova.

Procedure for applying for the honors program: A student may apply to the honors program no sooner than the end of sophomore year and no later than the beginning of the spring semester of junior year. For admission into the program, students must have completed at least 4 courses listed in (1-3). Qualifications for admission into the honors program include a GPA of at least 3.65 in all CAS courses—and a minimum GPA of 3.7 in the set of courses satisfying requirements for the major—that the student has taken as of the time of application.

Plan for co-curricular activities: Meetings of Italian honors students (and honors students in joint majors including Italian) will take place several times each semester. Activities may include colloquia (for which we would request funding from the CAS to invite speakers) as well as presentations, question-and-answer sessions, panel discussions with BU faculty, and museum visits. We will maintain an email list of honors students, and we will inform them of other Italian cultural events (both at BU and in the Boston area) that may be of interest. In addition, honors students will be our candidates for post-graduate apprentice-teaching positions in the regions of Piedmont and Lombardy, according to the terms of a recent accord between the Italian Studies section and the Consul-General of Italy in Boston.