LANGUAGE OF THE MONTH

Italian

Acing Your Language Class
Tips & Best Practices

Student Spotlight

Eating Authentically in Boston & Italy
Restaurant recommendations and recipes to try

Language of the Month
Film Discussion

Agosto, moglie mia non ti conosco.
"August, dear wife, I don’t know you."

Add to Your Playlist and Watchlist
Songs and Movies

Study Abroad

Literature and Authors

ISSUE NO.10
The ERC offers tutoring for Italian! **Peer Tutoring** provides BU students the opportunity to meet with fellow students and ask questions related to their course material. Our tutors are here to guide, encourage, and support you in your learning process.

The ERC also offers **Language Link** for Italian! Language Link hosts several informal, half-hour discussions each week. Sessions are led by a native speaker and are offered at three different levels: beginner, intermediate, and advanced.
Programs Available:
- Padua Italian & European Studies
- Padua Internship
- Padua Management Internship
- Venice Studio Arts

Visit the Study Abroad website to learn more!

October 1: Application deadline for most Spring 2022 programs

Come to the Study Abroad Expo!
Wednesday, September 15
11 AM to 1 PM
Marsh Plaza

Virtual programming will take place the week before and after.
Visit the Study Abroad calendar for updates and other events!
Meet our 2020-2021 Italian Language Link Leader, Michelle. She is currently a second-semester graduate student in COM studying public relations. In her free time, she loves going to the gym, making desserts, and reading books (she's a big Harry Potter fan!).
What do you enjoy most about Language Link and being a Language Link leader?

Language Link is based on sharing the Italian culture and teaching more practical concepts. It is perfect for those who already have a strong basis in the Italian language. The thing I enjoy the most about being a LLL is sharing my culture and seeing my students become more confident with their language abilities.

What advice do you have for someone who's considering Language Link or Peer Tutoring for the first time?

Don't be afraid to put yourself out there. Both Tutoring and LL are safe places where you are free to learn at your own pace. Also, both LL leaders and tutors are there to help you along the way, both as a crutch and a confidant, so don't be scared to ask.

What's a tip/advice you have for people learning either a new language in general or Italian specifically?

Italian is a tough language, so give yourself a break if the process is taking longer than you were expecting. Also, don't be afraid to ask people for help. The whole point of learning a language is being able to communicate with another person. And, once the pandemic is over, travel! It's so much easier to learn a language when you are fully immersed in the culture.
Ferragosto is an Italian holiday occurring on August 15, the same day as the Assumption of Mary. The term “Ferragosto” derives from the Latin phrase, *feriae Augusti* [Augusto’s day-off]. Roman Emperor Augusto introduced *feriae Augusti* to celebrate his victory against Marc Antony in the Battle of Actium. This holiday was established in 18 BCE to give agricultural workers a much-needed day off. To this day, Italians take vacation during the week of Ferragosto.

Italians celebrate Ferragosto with festivals, live music, religious processions, fireworks, and feasts. Ferragosto is also a day where families and friends gather together for barbecues or picnic lunches to celebrate summer.

“*Agosto, moglie mia non ti conosco.*”

**Translation** – “*August, dear wife, I don’t know you.*”

In August, most Italian families, particularly mothers with their children, go to the beach (or generally on vacation), leaving their husbands home. It’s a traditional phrase that generally means that August is the month dedicated to holidays.
Here are some recommendations from Stanley Tucci's show, *Searching for Italy*:

**Armando al Pantheon**
Enjoy a classic Roman lunch here! Tucci ordered a *rigatoni all'amatriciana*, one of Rome's four famous pastas.

**Caseificio Rosola**
Celebrated chef, Massimo Bottura, led Tucci to this creamery in Zocca, a town about 30 miles outside of Bologna. Bottura swears by Rosola's *parmigiano*, which is made from the milk of local Bianca Modenese cows.

If you can't go to Italy anytime soon, try some restaurants from the locations on the next page!
Excursions

**Eataly**
A vibrant Italian marketplace featuring an array of cafes, counters, and restaurants where visitors can enjoy and celebrate Italian biodiversity.

**Boston's North End**
A variety of Italian restaurants, cafes, food markets, and pastry shops can be found in this local neighborhood.

The cannolis from *Bova's Bakery* are to die for!!
Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

In a bowl, place 3 cups flour, the egg yolks, and a pinch of salt. Blend for about 10 minutes into a dough.

In another bowl, whisk egg whites until peaks form. Fold in remaining flour, then fold this mixture into the flour/egg yolk dough. Blend till a smooth dough is formed.

Form into small, wreath-shaped cookies, about the size of a quarter. Bake on a cookie sheet covered with parchment paper for 40 minutes in preheated oven.

Remove from oven, let cool.

Blend icing ingredients together untill smooth and top cooled biscuits with the icing. Place cookies on parchment paper untill icing hardens.

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. In a bowl, place 3 cups flour, the egg yolks, and a pinch of salt. Blend for about 10 minutes into a dough.
3. In another bowl, whisk egg whites until peaks form. Fold in remaining flour, then fold this mixture into the flour/egg yolk dough. Blend till a smooth dough is formed.
4. Form into small, wreath-shaped cookies, about the size of a quarter.
5. Bake on a cookie sheet covered with parchment paper for 40 minutes in preheated oven.
6. Remove from oven, let cool.
7. Blend icing ingredients together untill smooth and top cooled biscuits with the icing. Place cookies on parchment paper untill icing hardens.

Ingredients

- For the dough:
  - 10 eggs, separated
  - 2 lbs flour
  - 1 tsp baking soda
  - 3/4 cup anise liqueur
  - 1/2 cup water
  - Pinch of salt
  - Juice of one lemon
- For the icing:
  - Mix 2 cups powdered sugar, 1 tsp vanilla, and 2 tbsp milk.

Link to the recipe [here](#)!
La Grande Bellezza
Jep Gambardella has seduced his way through the lavish nightlife of Rome for decades, but after his 65th birthday and a shock from the past, Jep looks past the nightclubs and parties to find a timeless landscape of absurd, exquisite beauty.

Life is Beautiful
When an open-minded Jewish librarian and his son become victims of the Holocaust, the father uses a mixture of will, humor, and imagination to protect his son from the dangers of camp life.

Dream of Italy
Join Kathy McCabe, Italian travel expert and editor of the award-winning travel newsletter, Dream of Italy, as she explores Italy. Meet Italy’s colorful locals — chefs, artisans, historians — who are deeply connected to their land, carrying on and preserving the traditions of their ancestors.

Stanley Tucci: Searching for Italy
Stanley Tucci travels across Italy to discover the secrets and delights of the country's regional cuisines.
In collaboration with BU Libraries, the ERC presents *Bicycle Thieves*, with special guest Dr. Jim Carter, lecturer in Italian.

**Friday, August 27 @ 3:00 PM ET | Register via Zoom**

**Bicycle Thieves**

In poverty-stricken, postwar Rome, a man is on his first day of a new job, which offers hope of salvation for his desperate family, when the bicycle he depends on is stolen. With his young son in tow, he sets off to track down the thief.

Simple in construction and profoundly rich in human insight, *BICYCLE THIEVES* embodies the greatest strengths of the Italian neorealist movement: emotional clarity, social rectitude, and brutal honesty (IMDb).
LITERATURE

Reading recommendations!

1. **La Divina Commedia** – Dante
   More information on [Goodreads](https://www.goodreads.com)

2. **Se Questo è un Uomo** – Primo Levi
   More information on [Goodreads](https://www.goodreads.com)

3. **Decameron** – Giovanni Boccaccio
   More information on [Goodreads](https://www.goodreads.com)

4. **I Promessi Sposi** – Giovanni Manzoni
   More information on [Goodreads](https://www.goodreads.com)

5. **Il Fu Mattia Pascal** – Luigi Pirandello
   More information on [Goodreads](https://www.goodreads.com)

Check out BU Libraries' **Resource Guide** for Italian Language and Literature!
Check out our Italian Language of the Month playlist on Spotify, which is based on Michelle's recommendations.
This is... Popular Italian Singers

- Listen to Eros Ramazzotti
- Listen to Laura Pausini
- Listen to Elisa
- Listen to Vasco Rossi
- Listen to Jovanotti
- Listen to Ligabue
Activities

*Cruciverba* or *parole cruciate* [crosswords] are a favorite summer pastime in Italy.

Test your Italian with these *crosswords*!

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**Did You Know?**

*Italian regional dialects* differ drastically from one another. People living in the north and south of Italy cannot understand each other when they speak in their regional dialect. Even Italians who live just a few miles from one another may not use the same word to refer to the same object.