Italian

Degree conferred
Bachelor of Arts

Languages of study
Study in Italian

Commencement of studies
Commencement of studies in the Autumn Semester (September) or in the Spring Semester (February)

Access to further studies
Master

If you have an interest in Italian language and literature, acquiring methods for analysing poetry, narrative and theatre texts will help you appreciate all the more masterpieces of the Italian language by Dante and Petrarch through to Leopardi and Montale, as well as contemporary language and literature. This bachelor programme provides also an introduction to Italian philology and to the history of the Italian language, while specific lectures on literary history focus on the key moments of the all tradition, from Middle Ages to 20th century. Armed with this knowledge, you will be able to critically analyse all Italian literary texts.
This course mainly features seminars, which encourage active participation and learning. All lectures, seminars, exercises and exams are delivered in Italian.
At the University of Fribourg, this course follows the principles of the school of analysis founded by eminent researchers, such as Gianfranco Contini, Giuseppe Billanovich, Giovanni Pozzi and Aldo Menichetti.

Profile of the study programme

Italian literary and philological studies at the University of Fribourg have a long tradition, marked notably by the work of eminent scholars, such as Gianfranco Contini, Giuseppe Billanovich and Giovanni Pozzi. In Fribourg, these eminent researchers founded a genuine school of analysis of literary texts. Using methods of philological research and formalist and stylistic criticism, combined with the historical dimension of literary discourse, this approach has achieved and continues to achieve extremely original results. Within the Faculty of Humanities, the Department of Italian follows the principles of this school, characterised by attention to ties between the theoretical and historical aspects of literary experience.
The historical dimension, which covers eight centuries of Italian literary production, is taught by two professors. Based on key points of their research and taking into account the latest critical orientations, they provide a systematic framework for study of the Italian literary tradition along with an in-depth examination of the period from the Middle Ages through to the Renaissance, and of the modern and contemporary periods from the 16th to the 21st centuries. A third professor focuses on philology of literary texts and on the history of the language.
Theoretical perspectives aim to approach the different literary genres, both in poetry and prose. Rigorous learning of metrics, rhetoric, stylistics, narratology and history of language make up the bases for all literary approaches and research.
In both teaching and research, members of staff are attentive to the constitutive role that the Italian language and culture play in Switzerland and to the literary and intellectual heritage they possess.

Fribourg profile
The bachelor study programme offers teaching in literature and philology characterised by its attention to the specific methods of analysing poetry and prose. An introduction to Italian philology and to the history of the language provides the necessary knowledge with which to handle all literary texts. Lectures on the history of literature provide the essential references to Italian tradition; in addition, specific lessons offer an approach to all of the key moments in this history, involving a critical comparison of the masterpieces in Italian, from Dante and Petrarca, to Leopardi and Montale. In addition, several courses and seminars explore the multiple facets of contemporary language and literature, as well as the Italian theatre tradition of the modern and contemporary periods, from the 16th century to the present.
From the first semester, teaching is mainly in the form of seminars, which encourages active participation and learning on the part of students and stimulates them to develop their potential through individual work or work in small groups.
Throughout the three-year bachelor's course, students will have the possibility of choosing from several lectures and seminars each semester within the same module. Lectures and seminars are in Italian. Students must also write their work and take their exams in Italian.

Learning outcomes and career openings
The bachelor's course is organised into basic modules (lectures and seminars to analyse poetry and prose) and orientation modules (philology and history of the language, theatre literature, literary history, etc.). With the skills acquired at the end of the bachelor's course, students will be able to work independently on ancient and contemporary literary works and have a critical approach to Italian literature. Mastery of several analytical instruments is essential for understanding the structures and functions of the language and texts.

This study programme opens up possibilities in a number of professions, in addition to teaching, for example written journalism, audio-visual media (radio, TV, Internet), the book and publishing sectors, archives and libraries, translation, administration, organisation of cultural events, etc.

Studies organisation

Structure of studies

120 ECTS credits + 60 ECTS credits in a minor study programme freely chosen, 6 semesters

Curriculum

http://studies.unifr.ch/go/aVOzt

Comments

Basic knowledge of Latin is required. Students who did not take this language at an academic upper secondary school can attend the special lessons that are built into the curriculum.

Admission

The following **Swiss school-leaving certificates** grant **admission to bachelor programmes** at the University of Fribourg:

- Swiss academic Maturity Certificate
- Federal vocational or specialised Baccalaureate + supplementary examination of the Swiss Maturity Commission (passerelle)
- Bachelor Degree from a Swiss university, from an accredited Swiss university of applied sciences (HES/FH) or from a Swiss university of teacher education (HEP/PH)

A **complete list of all further recognised Swiss school-leaving certificates** is to be found on the webpages of swissuniversities (*in French and German only*): https://studies.unifr.ch/go/fr-admission-swisscertificates; https://studies.unifr.ch/go/de-admission-swisscertificates
Foreign upper secondary school-leaving certificates are recognised only if they correspond substantially to the Swiss Maturity Certificate. They must qualify as general education. Foreign school-leaving certificates are considered to be general education if, among other things, the last three years of schooling include at least six general education subjects, independent from each other, in accordance with the following list:

1. Language of instruction (at the school)
2. Second language (a foreign language)
3. Mathematics
4. Natural sciences (biology or chemistry or physics)
5. Humanities and social sciences (geography or history or economics/law)
6. Elective (computer sciences or philosophy or an additional language or an additional subject from category 4 or 5)

The general **admission** requirements to the **bachelor programmes** at the University of Fribourg for holders of foreign school-leaving certificates as well as the **admission requirements for individual countries** are to be found on the webpages of swissuniversities: https://studies.unifr.ch/go/en-admission-countries
In addition, applicants with foreign school-leaving certificates must present **proof of sufficient language skills in French or German**.
All guidelines are available at *(only in French and German)*: https://studies.unifr.ch/go/adm-guidelines

The assessment of foreign school-leaving certificates is based on the «Recommendations for the Assessment of Foreign Upper Secondary School-Leaving Certificates» adopted by the Chamber of universities of swissuniversities on 21.11.2024 (https://studies.unifr.ch/go/swissuniversities24fr; https://studies.unifr.ch/go/swissuniversities24de). The admission requirements are valid for the respective academic year. The Rectorat of the University of Fribourg reserves the right to change these requirements at any time.

Alternatives

Also offered as a minor study programme (60/30 ECTS credits).

Contact

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