

# Thatcher Italian Language Program

**Thatcher Language & Culture Programs** provide an experience that includes both academic and social components. Whether you choose to live in Thatcher Residence Hall or not, you will become part of a connected living and learning community where students across Thatcher Programs share interests and meet in community spaces for fun, music, games and food. It is an opportunity that offers students the chance to explore world languages and cultures. **If you are passionate and want to immerse yourself in an interactive cultural experience, then consider joining the Italian Language Program.**

## Fall 2019

Thatcher Italian Language Program includes a weekly two hour, two credit course where students of a variety of proficiency levels practice and improve their conversational skills while learning about Italian culture, history, and politics in a dynamic, relaxed, and student-centered classroom setting.

The course adopts an interdisciplinary approach that allows students to expand their critical awareness of historical, social and cultural aspects of Italy. Students enrolled in the program have the opportunity to analyze a wide range of Italian visual and written texts in order to refine their critical cultural analysis skills. These texts range from news articles, songs, movies, TV shows and advertisements to presentations by invited speakers.

### **Students in Thatcher Italian Language Program will:**

- Participate in a variety of structured social and cultural activities, both on and off campus, such as participating in culinary classes, movie screening, hikes, concerts, and Italian conferences in the Five Colleges.
- Engage in structured cultural and social activities including a Community Night where students will socialize with students from the other Thatcher Language and Culture Programs.

Students will be required to attend all social and cultural events as well as collaborating with their peers and actively participating in classroom activities. There are no exams in this course.

Both Italian major and non-major students from a variety of disciplines can enroll in Thatcher Italian Language Program. Students add Italian fluency to their professional training and some students become double majors. The course also provides students the chance to be prepared if they choose to study abroad and also offers a community space where students can return to after studying in Italy so they stay connected to both the Italian language and culture.

If you are interested in participating in this program, please make sure you have read the Thatcher Language and Culture Programs detailed explanation and then click here to start your application. If you have any questions, please contact: Cara Takakjian [ctakakjian@umass.edu](mailto:ctakakjian@umass.edu)

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE AT MIDNIGHT ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>**

