On the basis of § 25 para. 1 No. 10 Universities Act 2002, BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 120, most recently amended by Federal Law BGBl. I (Federal Law Gazette) No. 134/2008 and § 32 Section "Regulations of Study Law", republished in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 3 February 2006, Issue 16, No. 90, most recently amended by the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 7 May 2008, Issue 42, No. 272, the following is decreed:

Curriculum for the
Master of Arts programme in Italian
at the Faculty of Humanities 2 of the University of Innsbruck

§ 1   Programme objective and qualification profile

(1)   The Master of Arts programme in Italian is included in the group of study programmes of Humanities and Cultural Sciences.

(2)   The programme objective of the Master of Arts programme in Italian is to provide high active competence in the Italian language as well as the ability to perform scientific work independently within the Department's ongoing research activities. The study programme provides in-depth understanding of the language's structures, functions and types of usage, its history and its varieties. It leads to in-depth understanding of Literature in Italian and its analysis based on Literary Studies. Besides, its contents include knowledge and understanding of cultural, historical, political, economic, social and gender-relevant aspects in Italy.

(3)   Qualification profile: Due to the contents and methodological skills provided, the Master of Arts programme in Italian allows access to a broad range of occupational opportunities. During the education of students of the Master of Arts programme in Italian, apart from providing sound subject-specific knowledge, a special focus is put on the development of key qualifications granting open-mindedness and methodological flexibility that allow adaptation to quickly changing requirements on the job.

1. Independent scientific work: Graduates of the Master of Arts programme in Italian are able to elaborate an overview of relevant scientific literature on a topic of Italian Linguistics or Literary Studies and present it coherently. They know how to develop scientific questions relevant for their discipline and acquire the theoretical and empirical-methodological basis for dealing with these questions in a scientific way. Thus, with due supervision and coaching, they may enrich the discipline by new theoretical or empirical findings. Besides, they are able to present such findings in a scientifically professional way. They have an insight to the scientific world, its standards and textual conventions and are also able to elaborate scientific texts in a foreign language. They have enhanced self-organization and self-motivation skills which are necessary for elaborating a thesis, but are also able to work in a team and be part of scientific exchange.

2. Subject-specific competences:

a) Language proficiency competences: Language teaching within this curriculum is based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (cf. Council of Europe. Council for Cultural Co-operation: Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment. 2001). The Master of Arts programme in Italian requires language proficiency equivalent to competence level C1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Upon graduation of the Master of Arts programme in Italian, competence level C2 according to CEFR shall be achieved. For the different language proficiency courses within the curriculum, appropriate descriptors based on the CEFR competence levels explicitly defining the teaching and learning objectives as well as the relevant level in order to pass the course in each language were developed. The objective of university-level language teaching in terms of skills and competences is complex language proficiency oriented towards the descriptions within the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. University-level language competence includes proficiency in the four skills, i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing, which are prerequisites for communicative competence, inter-cultural action and dealing with texts. They are provided in an integrated way. Oral and writing skills are developed systematically and broadened step by step, including fields such as reception and production of texts, languages for special purposes and text transfer (mediation) in order to provide education in preparation for scientific and professional purposes.

b) Linguistic competences: They include competences acquired by the students by studying structures and functions of different synchronic and diachronic fields of language in general and especially of Italian. Graduates of the Master of Arts programme in Italian will be able to analyse language on the basis of systematic linguistics and reflect on their adequate use (Pragmatics, Sociolinguistics). They have scientifically based fundamental knowledge of the most important sub-disciplines of general and language-specific Linguistics as well as enhanced knowledge of several sub-disciplines and the ability to orientate and familiarise themselves with all other sub-disciplines of their field quickly and organise their work independently. They understand the Italian language as the result of a manifold historical development process. They are able to apply the knowledge and skills acquired to specific tasks.

c) Competences in Literary Studies: They are used for critically dealing especially with literary texts from the Italian language and culture area both from a diachronic and a synchronic perspective. The term "Literary" shall be construed in a broader sense including e.g. film, radio play, comics and text music (chanson, opera). Competences in Literary Studies result from sound knowledge of conditions of literary production, historical and social relations and literary traditions. These competences include the ability to deal with theories of literary reflection and apply methods of Literary Studies to the exemplary analysis of concrete literary and non-literary texts.

d) Competences in Cultural Sciences: They result from the acquisition of knowledge about the cultural, political, social, economic and gender-specific context of Italy in past and present. They also include the ability to deal with the specific problems of this language area critically again and again, working on related topics according to scientific criteria.

e) Cultural competence: This is the competence required to identify, define and describe the geographical, economic, historical, ethnic and religious, political, socio-cultural and gender-specific circumstances of this culture and language area. Awareness for the manifold circumstances of the culture area studied is raised by comparison to the student's own culture, leading to behaviour within the foreign culture area that takes into account its standards and conventions.

f) Inter- and trans-cultural competence: This is the competence of analysing and creating cultural interaction processes. Constant confrontation with the socio-cultural reality of the Italian language area during the studies leads to the habit of moving in the context of one's own and foreign culture and take into account the different perspectives and traditions of thought flexibly. This implies the necessary open-mindedness and tolerance as

well as fundamental and orientational knowledge. The study programme provides in-depth knowledge of Cultural Studies (methodology, subjects and objectives) and acquaintance with fundamental problems (the notion of culture; approaches of Culture Theory). It allows understanding the Cultural Studies-related dimension of the specific study programme in its historical conditionality and actuality.

g) Media competence: Media competence is acquaintance with culturally significant types of text and media (in the fields of belles lettres, everyday literature, popular culture, film, theatre, music, print and digital media) as well as knowledge and ability to deal with media in general and especially with the media of the target culture. Media competence also includes theoretical-methodological competence in the field of inter-media relations, especially between literature and other forms of art and different medial expressions of discourse phenomena: text, image, sound.

3. Key qualifications and soft skills: Qualifications which students of the Master of Arts programme in Italian acquire besides their subject-specific competences and which allow them to perform professional tasks in different fields of occupation. Among these, the following shall be emphasised:

a) Written and oral expression: During their studies, students of the Master of Arts programme in Italian have to write numerous papers, give presentations in class and submit the result of their work to discussion. Thereby they learn to present a variety of contents, explain complex situations in an intelligible and convincing way, defend their own views, criticise other perspectives, ask relevant questions and give exact answers to questions posed to them. Thus, one of their key competences is communicative competence in Italian and in their mother tongue.

b) Competence to get rid of fixed patterns of thought by thinking in alternatives and being open for unconventional and creative solutions. Intensive, critical and evaluating study of expert literature with its different doctrines, which is characteristic of the Master of Arts programme in Italian, is the best way to establish this competence among the students.

c) Systematic approach to new tasks: In Linguistics and Literary Studies, texts are scientifically analysed. The tasks for the students do not only include dealing with relevant theories but, based on them, elaboration of their own problem-related theoretical approaches. This way, students of the Master of Arts programme in Italian also learn to solve problems systematically and independently as well as to deal critically with their own problem-solving strategies.

d) Thinking in context: By linking their studies of Italian with other fields of knowledge and neighbouring disciplines, the students become able to think in larger contexts and take into account a diversity of aspects when fulfilling their tasks.

e) Independence: During their studies, students of the Master of Arts programme in Italian shall find and gather necessary information independently. The elaboration of their own scientific work requires and fosters the competence of organising one's own work efficiently and performing it proactively. The elaboration of a Master Thesis requires an especially high degree of long-term self-organisation and motivation.

f) Another key qualification is inter- and cross-cultural competence.

g) Teamwork: This ability is developed and fostered especially in seminars but also in other types of courses by carrying out group work.

(4) Fields of occupation and further studies: The subject-specific competences and key qualifications developed during the Master of Arts programme in Italian grant a multi-level education allowing work in fields of occupation with very diverse requirement profiles. Especially, the Master of Arts programme serves as a basis and specific preparation for a Ph.D. study programme and a scientific career.

§ 2 Duration of the programme

The Master of Arts programme in Italian includes 120 ECTS credits (hereinafter abbreviated as ECTS-AP) and thus has a duration of four semesters.

§ 3 Admission

(1) The admission requirement for the Master of Arts programme in Italian is having completed a relevant Bachelor's programme at a university or university of applied sciences or an equivalent study programme at a recognised post-secondary educational institution in Austria or abroad.

(2) In any case, the Bachelor's programme in Italian at the University of Innsbruck is considered a relevant study programme according to section 1.

§ 4 Types of courses and maximum number of participants

(1) **Lectures** (VO) deal with main and/or specific topics of Italian Studies as well as relevant methods and doctrines.

(2) Courses assessed via continuous assessment:

1. **Seminars** (SE) are courses for advanced scientific discussion. The participants are required to perform scientific work independently, particularly in form of a presentation and a written piece of work or equivalent performances. Maximum number of participants: 30

2. **Introductory seminars** (PS) are used to transfer basic knowledge of scientific work, as an introduction to scientific literature and in order to deal with exemplified problems of Italian Studies via presentations, discussions and minor written work (of about 3500 words) or equivalent performances. Maximum number of participants: 30

3. **Tutorials** (UE) are used for science-based transfer of skills (e.g. foreign language acquisition) and/or application of scientific knowledge and methods. Maximum number of participants: 25

4. **Conversation classes** (KO) are used for consolidation of doctrines, research approaches, theories or research subjects via reception and discourse. Maximum number of participants: 30

§ 5 Allocation procedure for courses with a limited number of participants

Admission to courses with a limited number of participants is allocated as follows:

(1) Students who would suffer a prolongation of their studies if not admitted shall be admitted preferentially.

(2) If criterion 1 is insufficient in order to regulate admission to a certain course, students of the Master of Arts programme in Italian and of the Secondary School Teacher Accreditation programme in Italian for whom the course in question is part of a compulsory module shall take precedence over students of the aforementioned programmes for whom the course is part of an elective module.

§ 6 Stay abroad

A stay abroad, i.e. a study visit in Italy is strongly recommended. The objectives of the stay abroad are broadening linguistic and cultural competence as well as gathering international experience.

§ 7 Compulsory and elective modules

(1) The following compulsory modules with a total of 22.5 ECTS-AP shall be taken:

1.	**Compulsory module: Italian I**	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	**UE Oral Language Competence in Italian** Further development of speaking skills at C1+ level.	2	5
b.	**UE Written Language Competence in Italian** Further development of writing skills at C1+ level.	2	5
	Total	**4**	**10**
	Learning outcome of the module: Application of language with speaking and writing skills at C1+ level		
	Registration requirements: none		

2.	**Compulsory module: Italian II**	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	**UE Presentation of Scientific Work in the Foreign Language** Further development of speaking skills at C2 level with a focus on oral presentation of scientific texts.	2	5
b.	**UE Scientific writing in the Foreign Language** Further development of writing skills at C2 level with a focus on elaboration of scientific texts.	2	5
	Total	**4**	**10**
	Learning outcome of the module: Elaboration and presentation of scientific texts in the foreign language at C2 level		
	Registration requirements: Positive evaluation of compulsory module 1		

3.	**Compulsory module: Master Thesis Defense**	SST	ECTS-AP
	Final oral defense of the Master Thesis in front of an examination board in Italian.		2.5
	Total		**2.5**
	Learning outcome of the module: Examination of the Master Thesis in the overall context of the Master of Arts programme, with special focus on theoretical comprehension, methodological issues, communication of findings of the Master Thesis and presentation skills in the foreign language.		
	Registration requirements: Positive evaluation of all other compulsory and elective modules as well as the Master Thesis		

(2) Three elective modules with a total of 60 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the following areas of competence, with at least one elective module being taken from each area of competence:

A. Area of Competence: Linguistics

1.	**Elective module: Thematic Module: Linguistics A**	SST	ECTS-

			AP
a.	**VO Theory and Application - Linguistics:** Scientific presentation of linguistic theories and/or their application.	2	7.5
b.	**SE Theory and Application - Linguistics:** Independent scientific work on a theoretical topic and/or its application.	2	12.5
	Total	**4**	**20**
	Learning outcome of the module: The students have in-depth scientific knowledge of a sub-discipline of Italian Linguistics. During a preparatory lecture they have become acquainted with the discipline's scientific theories. During the seminar they have been introduced to scientific work in the sub-discipline and its application. The seminars are research-driven.		
	Registration requirements: none		

2.	**Elective module: Thematic Module: Linguistics B**	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	**VO Analysis and Interpretation – Linguistics:** Linguistic approach to analysis and interpretation of language and discourse phenomena.	2	7.5
b.	**SE Analysis and Interpretation – Linguistics:** Independent scientific analysis and interpretation of linguistic and/or discourse phenomena of a certain field.	2	12.5
	Total	**4**	**20**
	Learning outcome of the module: The students have in-depth scientific knowledge of methods of linguistic analysis and interpretation as well as their application to language and discourse phenomena in different fields.		
	Registration requirements: none		

3.	**Elective module: Thematic Module: Linguistics C**	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	**VO Langue and parole – Linguistics:** Scientific presentation of language structure and/or application on the example of Italian.	2	7.5
b.	**SE Langue and parole – Linguistics:** Independent scientific work on a topic of Structure and/or Speech Linguistics from the field/on the example of Italian.	2	12.5
	Total	**4**	**20**
	Learning outcome of the module: Due to the analysis of Italian, the students have acquired in-depth awareness of Structure and/or Speech Linguistics.		
	Registration requirements: none		

4.	**Elective module: Thematic Module: Linguistics D**	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	**VO System and Variation – Linguistics:** Scientific presentation of language in its systematic and/or variational aspects on the example of Italian.	2	7.5
b.	**SE System and Variation – Linguistics:** Independent scientific work on a topic from the field of language system and/or varieties of the Italian language.	2	12.5
	Total	**4**	**20**
	Learning outcome of the module: The students have in-depth scientific knowledge of the language system and/or varieties of the Italian language.		
	Registration requirements: none		

B. Area of Competence: Literary Studies

5.	**Elective module: Thematic Module: Literary Studies A**	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	**VO Analysis and Interpretation – Literary Studies:** Scientific presentation of a literary epoch, an author, a genre or a topic.	2	7.5
b.	**SE Analysis and Interpretation – Literary Studies:** Independent scientific work on a literary epoch, an author, a genre or a topic.	2	12.5
	Total	**4**	**20**
	Learning outcome of the module: The students have exemplary in-depth scientific knowledge of a sub-discipline of Italian Literary Studies (epoch, author, genre, topic). During a preparatory lecture they have become acquainted with the discipline's scientific theories. During the seminar they have been introduced to scientific work in the sub-discipline and its application. The seminars are research-driven.		
	Registration requirements: none		

6.	**Elective module: Thematic Module: Literary Studies B**	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	**VO Literature and Culture – Literary Studies:** Scientific presentation of the dynamics among cultural and social phenomena as well as their forms of literary expression	2	7.5
b.	**SE Literature and Culture – Literary Studies:** Independent scientific work on the dynamics among cultural and social phenomena as well as their forms of literary expression	2	12.5
	Total	**4**	**20**
	Learning outcome of the module: The students have in-depth scientific knowledge of the relations among social and cultural phenomena as well as forms of literary expression. During a preparatory lecture they have become acquainted with the discipline's scientific theories. During the seminar they have been introduced to scientific work in the sub-discipline and its application.		

	Registration requirements: none		

7.	**Elective module: Thematic Module: Literary Studies C**	**SST**	**ECTS-AP**
a.	**VO Theory and Application – Literary Studies:** Scientific presentation of theories in Literary Studies and their applications.	2	7.5
b.	**SE Theory and Application – Literary Studies:** Independent scientific work on a theoretical topic and/or its application.	2	12.5
	Total	**4**	**20**
	Learning outcome of the module: The students have in-depth scientific knowledge of literary theories and their application to Italian literature. During a preparatory lecture they have become acquainted with the discipline's scientific theories. During the seminar they have been introduced to scientific work in the sub-discipline and its application.		
	Registration requirements: none		

8.	**Elective module: Thematic Module: Literary Studies D**	**SST**	**ECTS-AP**
a.	**VO Literature and other Arts – Literary Studies:** Scientific presentation of the relations among literature and other arts.	2	7.5
b.	**SE Literature and other Arts – Literary Studies:** Independent scientific work on the relations among literature and other arts.	2	12.5
	Total	**4**	**20**
	Learning outcome of the module: The students have in-depth scientific knowledge of the relations among literature and other arts, gathered on the example of Italian literature.		
	Registration requirements: none		

(3)　Elective modules with a total of 10 ECTS-AP shall be taken from the following modules:

A. Area of Competence: Language Proficiency (second Romance language)

9.	**Elective module: French I**	**SST**	**ECTS-AP**
a.	**UE French I** Broadening of knowledge in the standard language – grammar and vocabulary in contextualised form – topics on B1 level.	4	5
b.	**UE Listening/Speaking I** Understanding spoken language – using the speaking resources acquired orally on B1 level.	2	2.5
c.	**UE Reading/Writing I** Comprehension of written texts in the foreign language – production of texts on B1 level.	2	2.5

	Total	8	10
	Learning outcome of the module: Grammar and basic skills listening/speaking and reading/writing on B1 level.		
	Registration requirements: none		

10.	**Elective module: Spanish I**	SST	ECTS-AP
a.	**UE Spanish I** Broadening of knowledge in the standard language – grammar and vocabulary in contextualised form – topics on B1 level.	4	5
b.	**UE Listening/Speaking I** Understanding spoken language – using the speaking resources acquired orally on B1 level.	2	2.5
c.	**UE Reading/Writing I** Comprehension of written texts in the foreign language – production of texts on B1 level.	2	2.5
	Total	**8**	**10**
	Learning outcome of the module: Grammar and basic skills listening/speaking and reading/writing on B1 level.		
	Registration requirements: none		

B. Master Conversation Class

11.	**Elective module: Master Conversation Class**	SST	ECTS-AP
	KO Master Conversation Class: Discussion of ongoing Master Theses.	2	5
	Total	**2**	**5**
	Learning outcome of the module: Enhanced ability for scientific work; consolidated ability for knowledge administration and organisation; improved writing skills.		
	Registration requirements: none		

C. Module(s) at the Faculty of Humanities 2, especially in the Area of Competence Gender Studies

12.	**Elective module: Language and Gender**	SST	ECTS-AP
	PS Sexus and Genus: Linguistic fundamentals of old and new gender discourses; contrastive and translation-relevant analysis of grammatical and pragmatic aspects of (linguistic) marks of gender in the languages of the world both from diachronic and synchronic perspective.	2	5
	Total	**2**	**5**
	Learning outcome of the module: Understanding of interactions among language and perception as well as social and linguistic change; sensitisation for differences between scientific and ideological argumentation.		

| | **Registration requirements:** none | | |

13.	**Elective module: Gender Studies (Advanced)**	**SST**	**ECTS-AP**
a.	**KO Gender and Culture** The capacity to reflect on gender and gender relations in language, its representations in the media and cultural texts is enhanced on the basis of exemplary topics and from a subject-specific point of view.	2	3.5
b.	**VO The Gender Aspect in Cultural Sciences** The lecture deals with a general topic of Cultural Sciences (e.g. childhood, beauty, sexuality, death, war, [transport] technology, dichotomy of body and soul) taking into account the gender aspect.	1	1.5
	Total	**3**	**5**
	Learning outcome of the module: Capacity to describe and reflect on 'gender', gender relations and gender differences in language, its representations in the media and cultural texts.		
	Registration requirements: none		

14./ 15.	**Elective module: Module from other Master Programmes**	**SST**	**ECTS-AP**
	A maximum of two modules with a total of 5 ECTS-AP each or one module with a total of 10 ECTS-AP may be taken from the Master of Arts programmes of the Faculty of Humanities 2 of the University of Innsbruck.		
	Total		**5/5**
	Learning outcome of the module: According to the learning outcome defined for the module, an insight to another discipline is gathered.		
	Registration requirements: The registration requirements established in the relevant curricula shall be complied with.		

§ 8 Master Thesis

(1) A Master Thesis with a total of 27.5 ECTS-AP shall be elaborated. The Master Thesis is a scientific piece of work that proves the ability to work on a scientific topic independently and in a justifiable way in terms of content and methodology. The Master Thesis shall be written in Italian.

(2) The topic of the Master Thesis shall be taken from the fields of Linguistics or Literary Studies.

(3) The student has the right to propose a topic for his/her Master Thesis or choose a topic out of a number of proposals.

§ 9 Examination Regulations

(1) All modules except the module Master Thesis Defense are completed by successful completion of the courses included.

(2) Course examinations are:

1. Examinations that prove the knowledge and skills provided by a certain lecture, with the assessment taking place in a single examination at the end of the lecture. If a reading list is specified for the lecture, it shall be part of the examination subjects. Before starting the course, the course lecturer shall specify and declare which type of examination (written and/or oral) will take place.

2. Courses assessed via continuous assessment, which are assessed according to the participants' regular written and/or oral contributions. Before starting the course, the course lecturer shall specify and publish the assessment criteria.

(3)   The assessment of the final module Master Thesis Defense shall take place in form of an oral examination in front of an examination board of three examiners.

§ 10 Academic Degree

The academic degree "Master of Arts", abbreviated as "MA" shall be conferred upon graduates of the Master of Arts programme in Italian.

§ 11 Coming into force

This curriculum comes into force on 1 October 2009.

For the Curriculum Committee: For the Senate:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Sigurd Scheichl   Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ivo Hajnal