In 2013-2014, faculty members of the Department of French and Italian were, as ever, their productive and accomplished selves – writing books, articles, chapters and reviews, delivering conference papers, developing new courses (including online beginning and intermediate French), receiving grants and prestigious fellowships (including a Guggenheim), and mentoring countless students at the graduate and undergraduate levels. We invite you to learn the specifics by reading the faculty news inside this issue of the Newsletter.

What set 2013-2014 apart from other years were the activities and accomplishments of our graduate students.

Our PhD programs in Italian Studies, French Studies and French Linguistics have entered a new era, where the watchwords are engagement and professionalization. Megan Oprea, French and Italian Graduate Student Organization (FIGSO) President in 2013-2014, directed the organization in what was a decidedly productive year. For example, last spring many of our graduate students took an early interest in their classmates-to-be as they hosted and helped recruit visiting prospective students. Later that term, Sarah Lube Roe, Jocelyn Wright and Adam McBride led several other graduate students in helping undergraduates experience French literature first-hand in last year’s French play production of Molière’s *Le Médecin malgré lui*. Clémence Ozel invited undergraduate and graduate students to look into French culture by organizing the French film series. More recently, groundwork was laid for a new initiative that will allow graduate students to mentor ambitious undergraduates looking to take their research and writing skills to the next level as they prepare for two department-organized Undergraduate Research Days in Spring 2015. In addition to helping undergraduates accelerate their education, our graduate students have continued to take ownership of their own professionalization. With support from the Department and other groups across campus, French and Italian graduate students gained new insights from their distinguished speaker series with visits by Professors Mary Ann Frese Witt, Richard Kern, and Lia Brozgal. Our graduate corps not only received new perspectives from others, but they also took opportunities to share their ideas with the world.

The Working Papers lecture series continues to provide graduate students the opportunity to get constructive feedback on research from their peers as they prepare to present in both domestic and international conferences. And all their hard work is paying off. Our graduate students presented eighteen conference papers in 2013-2014 at some of the larger domestic events, such as conferences of the Modern Language Association and the American Association for Italian Studies, as well as at international venues such as Ghent, Paris, Pisa and Zurich. Finally, we are delighted to announce that Amanda Dalola (French Linguistics) landed a position as an Assistant Professor of French and Linguistics at the University of South Carolina, and that Anne McCreary (French Studies) joined our ranks here as a Lecturer in French.

Those interested in learning more about our graduate students, their interests, accomplishments and aspirations, may visit the department website: https://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/frenchitalian/GraduateProgram/GraduateStudents/list.php

The present academic year is showing every sign of building on the momentum of 2013-2014. We look forward to passing along more exciting news in next year’s Newsletter!
2013 - 2014 Faculty Activities

Daniela Bini published four articles in 2013 and 2014: “‘Cesare ha da muri’ or Cesare Deve Morire in Neapolitan” in Esperienze Letterarie; “South and North: Pulcinella, A Southern Thought” in F. Fonti & M. Johnson eds. L’Italia allo specchio:linguaggio e identità italiane nel pensiero di poeti e scrittori contemporanei; and the publisher Marsilio in Venice; “Ritorni e sconcertanti: un’esigenza espressivistica” in Carlo Michelstaedter, ed. Yvonne Hutter with Nar Fracene Attemo Verlag in Munich; and “High and Low Art, Inadequacy of Words, Self-referentiality in Pasolini’s Che cosa sono le nuvole?” in Italicus in Zibaldone. She also delivered the paper “Materinity and Sexuality: Pirandello’s Constant Obsessions” at the annual Modern Language Association in Chicago. She became an editorial board member of Romance Notes and continued to serve on multiple editorial boards.

Douglas Biow was on leave in 2013-2014 with a Faculty Research Assignment. While on leave, Douglas’s fifth book, *On the Importance of Being an Individual in Renaissance Italy: Men, Their Professions, and Their Beards*, was accepted for publication by the University of Pennsylvania Press for release in January 2015. He also published an article in *Modern Language Notes and a review in American Historical Review*. Additionally, he succeeded in bringing in over $2,000,000 in external funding from the Department of Education and the European Union. Douglas and his wife, Neuburger were awarded a $50,000 course transformation grant from the Provost of UT-Austin. He continued to direct the Center for European Studies, the EU Center of Excellence and the France-UT Institute, and served on many college and university committees. Finally, he continued to develop and teach book-length projects for Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, and the European University. He used very different techniques to collect their dissertation data from Arabic-French bilinguals in France, Anna in the field and Megan using the online survey software Qualtrics. Adam McBride completed his summer research on the acoustics of nasal vowels in French and has been researching his own airflow device.

David Birdsong continued his research on linguistic dominance in bilingualism, age of second acquisition and native/non-native language processing and knowledge. His work is represented in several publications that appeared during the 2013-2014 academic year. These include an article on dominance and age in *Applied Linguistics*, two co-authored chapters on assessment of dominance, an article on native/non-native comparisons in Language, Interaction and Acquisition, a chapter on the critical period and a co-authored article on event-related potentials (ERP) evidence for processing focus structure in Studies in Second Language Acquisition. Along with these publications, David presented or co-presented three conference papers, was named to the editorial board of *Briall Research Perspectives on Multilingualism and Second Language Acquisition* and served as the external reviewer for the Humanities Research Laboratory at Lund University in Sweden.

Marc Bizer was graduate adviser in the fall of 2013 and completed a chapter on “Poetry and Modernity” for the Cambridge Companion to French Literature. In December, he was recommended for promotion to associate professor, effective September 1st, 2014. In the spring of 2014, he was on leave with a Faculty Research Assignment, pursuing research on a new book-length project entitled *Toward a New Definition of the Tragic and Tragedy in France*, 1100-1700. In summer 2014, Marc organized a conference session on “Martin Guerre after Thirty: Implications for French Renaissance Literary Studies” in preparation for the 2015 Renaissance Society of America annual meeting in Berlin, Germany.

Carl Blyth published articles on social reading, open education and cultural frames of interpretation. He continued work on his book *Languagculture and Metalinguistic Awareness*, now under contract with John Benjamins. He developed and taught a new graduate seminar on ethnolinguistics, the study of language and cultural values. He gave a plenary talk at the Intercultural Communication Conference at the University of Arizona in January 2014 and delivered the keynote lecture at the Online Learning Conference at Yale in May 2014. He presented five papers for the American Association for Applied Linguistics, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the Modern Language Association, the Computer-Assisted Language Instruction Consortium and the International Association for Language Learning Technology. Last year, he was named a Provost Teaching Fellow. The mission of the English Teaching Leonardo’s early faculty-led initiatives to improve teaching and learning across the university. In addition to his work in the department, Carl served as the Director of the Center for Open Educational Resources and Language Learning (COERLL). The US Department of Education has recently renewed grants to continue COERLL’s funding through 2018.

Barbara Bullock was pleased to report that the students who worked with her had a banner year. Recent PhD Amanda Dalola accepted a position as an Assistant Professor of French and Linguistics at the University of South Carolina. Mark Amengual, who completed his PhD in Hispanic Linguistics under Barbara’s co-supervision, moved to a position in Applied Linguistics at the University of California-Santa Cruz, where he joins former Department of French and Italian professor Bryan Donaldson. Rebekah Post continued working on her thesis, funded by a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant. She recently presented her research at New Ways of Analyzing Variation in Chicago to great acclaim. Barbara and her PhD student, Jenna Nichols, have an article under review now near merger in Frenchville French. Anna Troyansky and Megan Oprea used very different techniques to collect their dissertation data from Arabic-French bilinguals in France, Anna in the field and Megan using the online survey software Qualtrics. Adam McBride completed his summer research on the acoustics of nasal vowels in French and has been researching his own airflow device. Undergraduate French honors student Madeleine Oakley graduated and moved to an internship in Washington, D.C. As for her part, Barbara had a number of articles and chapters appear this past year and delivered several invited talks on empirical approaches to phenomena in bilingual and language contact varieties.

Antonella Del Fattore-Olson, teaching assistant Elisa Valentini and the twenty-six students in the Fall 2013 ITL 348 Italian Drama Workshop class presented four performances in Italian of Filumena Marturano’s three-act play *Eduardo De Filippo*. In Spring 2014, Antonella, along with her PhD student, Jenna Nichols, moved to an internship in Washington, D.C. As for her part, Barbara had a number of articles and chapters appear this past year and delivered several invited talks on empirical approaches to phenomena in bilingual and language contact varieties.

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2013 - 2014 Faculty Activities

Adria Frizzi was active in her research and teaching interests in Italian and Latin American modern and contemporary fiction, film, and culture, as well as in translation studies. She is a member of PEN International and the American Literary Translators Association and served on the advisory board of Trym, ‘the International Literary News’. Projects included a proposal for a new graduate seminar on Theory and Practice of Translation and translations of Marina Colasanti (from Portuguese), Rossana Campo (from Italian), and a book on (from Spanish and Italian). In addition to teaching ITL 611C - Intermediate Italian, she screened and selected movies for Cineforum Italiano, the Italian film series.

Nancy Guilloteau and Karen Kelton worked on the development of online beginning and intermediate French courses, funded by the Institute for Teaching, Learning, and Language (ITL). These courses were established in 2012 by The University of Texas Board of Regents. In collaboration with Liberal Arts Instructional Technology Services at The University of Texas at Austin and the Center for Open Educational Resources & Language Learning, these intensive, fully online courses will feature the open access curriculum of French Interactif, including Tex’s French Grammar.

The numerous features available on UT Canvas enable the content to remain interactive within the context of an online, asynchronous environment. As with prior technology projects in lower-division French, this project involves a large team with numerous graduate students who have been involved since Spring 2014. This innovative curriculum will further promote our department’s reputation as a leader in instructional technology in language learning, while affording French graduate students an experience that sets them apart from their peers on the job market.

Jean-Pierre Montreuil spent time in the Cotentin region of Normandy, France recording and interviewing speakers of the Norman language, and collecting materials for an online dialectology database. Jean-Pierre’s project analyzes the phonetic, phonological, morphological, and lexical properties of Norman. His monograph in preparation, provisionally entitled The Phonetics and Phonology of Norman, addresses issues of phonological attrition, elimination of optionality, heterogeneity of speech styles and interaction of dialectal and regional forms. He has upcoming peer-reviewed publications on the Revue de linguistique romane, with the Presses Universitaires de l’Ouest and in the Elsevier Language Sciences Series.

Heather Pelletier, French undergraduate faculty advisor, along with her colleague David Birdsong, interviewed scholarship candidates for the Internships in Francophone Europe (IFE) program during the 2013-2014 academic year. Adrian Narvaez was awarded an IFE scholarship for Fall 2013 and completed his internship in France researching socioeconomic growth. She also recruited students for the departmental honors in French. With Heather’s encouragement and guidance, in spring of 2014 Madeleine Oakley successfully defended her honors thesis on Le comportement des pronoms personnels dans le français parlé au Québec under the direction of Barbara Bullock.

Hervé Picherit finalized his book project, Le livre des écorchés: Proust, Céline et la Grande Guerre in preparation to submit it to press this past year. His scholarly work examines the narrative and philosophical strategies that authors Marcel Proust and Louis-Ferdinand Céline developed in reaction to the social catastrophe of the Great War. He presented his work on Proust and Céline at the Modernist Studies Association Conference in Brighton, England ("Proust’s Madeleine and Céline’s Raspberry: Two Modernist Meals, Two Modernist Movements") and at the inaugural international conference of the Société d’Études Modernistes at the Sorbonne University in Paris, France (“Between Proust’s Way and Céline’s Way: Community, Catastrophe and the Shared Emblem of the Church”). His work on Marcel Proust appeared in the second edition of Oxford University Press’s Dictionary of Aesthetics.

Guy Raffa presented “Dante’s Immortal Remains: From Florentine Martyr to Global Icon” at the Annual Dante Lecture of the Newberry Library’s Center for Renaissance Studies, and he published “Calvino’s Scientific Humanism” in Approaches to Teaching the Works of Italo Calvino (MLA 2013). His essay “What the Head of Hiring at Google Doesn’t Understand About Skills,” based on his experience teaching an Undergraduate Studies signature course, appeared in The Chronicle of Higher Education. His Danewords website received over 700,000 visits in 2013-2014.


Beatriz Schleppe redesigned both the FR 320E - Advanced French I curriculum as well as created new materials and supervised FR 317C - Enhancing French Skills. She updated the course packet for FR 317C - Enhancing French Skills to be ready to upload to the Department of French and Italian website by the end of the Fall 2014 semester.

Alexandra Wettlaufer received a Guggenheim Fellowship in April 2014 to work on her manuscript Reading George: Sand, Eliot, and the Novel in France and Britain, 1830-1900 and was awarded a Liberal Arts Council Endowed Teaching Award in May. She published an article on George Sand and the photographer Nadar in George Sand Studies and an article on the French literary critic, Jean-Paul Sartre’s linguistic approach in Word & Image. She continued to serve as Associate Director of the Plan II Honors Program and presented several talks at conferences in the field, including the Keynote Address at the Comparative Literature Conference at Texas Tech University.
New Faculty

Robin Benzrehem is a PhD candidate at the Université Montpellier 3 – Paul Valéry. After teaching English in France, he became an Exchange Lecturer for the Department of French and Italian at The University of Texas at Austin. His research focuses on modern history and popular culture studies. He is also interested in gender studies and sociology. Following a presentation of the paper “John Lennon: Yippie Britannique ou Trotskyste Américain?” at the Centre Malher in the Sorbonne in Paris (June 2013), Robin was also able to complete articles on popular French singers and musicians, to be published in 2015 under the supervision of Oxford faculty member Dr. Michael Abecassis.

Claire Jones received her BA in French at Hamilton College, Clinton, New York and both her MA and PhD at The University of Texas at Austin in French Literature and French Studies respectively. She worked as an Assistant Instructor with the Department of French and Italian from 2005 until completion of her PhD in Spring 2013 and received an appointment as a Lecturer in Fall 2013. She recently published an article, “The Quotidien of Edges in Gérard Gavarry’s Hop là! Un deux trois (2001)”, in Interférences littéraires/Literaire interferenties (June 2014) focused on everyday life in contemporary fiction.

Faculty Retirement

François Lagarde, a native of France, immigrated to the United States at age twenty-five. He earned a BA and an MA from Université Toulouse-Le Mirail, an MA from West Virginia University and a PhD in French from Stanford University. He taught at Wellesley College for three years before joining the Department of French and Italian at The University of Texas at Austin. Lagarde’s areas of academic interest include French Literature of the seventeenth century, in particular, Molière, Pascal and satirical poetry, the Francophone world, specifically the Antilles and Africa (political and literary) as well as French immigration (past and present) to the United States. In 2013, he published Mémoirs et Rwandan witnesses: 1994-2013: Annotated Bibliography, a book on the Rwandan genocide as seen by Francophone and Anglophone journalists, witnesses, polemists, novelists, judges and historians. He was deservedly awarded Associate Professor Emeritus status starting in fall of 2014.

New PhDs

We are pleased to announce three new PhDs in French in 2013-2014:

Anne Gaskill completed and defended her PhD in French Linguistics in December 2013. Her dissertation is titled Italian Metaphony in Optimality Theory with Candidate Chains and was supervised by Professor Jean-Pierre Montreuil.

Amanda Dalola, French Linguistics, successfully defended in May 2014. Her dissertation, titled Un drôle de bruit _hh_: A sociophonetic examination of the production and perception of final vowel devoicing among L1 and L2 speakers of French, was supervised by Professor Barbara Bullock.

Anne McCreary defended her French Studies dissertation in May 2014. Her dissertation, titled Women in Circulation: Tracing Women and Words in Medieval Literary Economies, was supervised by Professor Michael Johnson, with co-supervisor Professor Marc Bizer.

New Students

The Graduate Admissions and Financial Aid committee offered admission to a number of qualified applicants for 2013-2014. Eleven applicants accepted and officially joined the Department for the Fall 2013 term. These new graduate students included Italian Studies students Amanda Bush and Elisa Valentini; French Studies students Audrey Doussot, Nicholas Holterman, Mia Lara Carrillo, Ashley Voeks and Laetitia Zembksi; and French Linguistics students Adrien Lavergne, Fanny Macé, Elizabeth Mayne and Caitlin O’Neil.

Alumni Publications

Sabrina Parent, 2008 PhD in French Research Fellow, Faculté de Philosophie et Lettres at the Université Libre de Bruxelles Cultural Representations of Massacre (July 2014)

Over the past sixty years, the massacre of Thiaroye (Senegal), the 1944 mutiny of African soldiers that was severely suppressed by the French army, has been continuously reinterpreted by artists such as L. S. Senghor, F. Keita, Doumbi-Fakoly, O. Sembene, B. B. Diop, R. Bouchareb, and F. F. Faye. In this book, Parent puts together a history of these representations, characterizing their socio-historical role and the way each document (re-) interprets the events.

Richard Gray, 2006 PhD in French Associate Director of French, Carson-Newman College Francophone African Poetry and Drama: A cultural history since the 1960s (June 2014)

Scholars examining literature from former French colonies sometimes view it wrongly as simply an outgrowth of colonial literature. By suggesting new ways to understand the multiple voices present, this book explores how Francophone African poetry and theatre in particular, since the 1960s, constitute both an organic cultural product and a reflection of the diverse African cultures in which they originate.
Conference Participation

Amanda Bush: The American Associate of Italian Studies Conference - Zurich, Switzerland
Paola D’Amora: South Central Modern Languages Association - New Orleans, Louisiana
Amanda Dalola: Modern Languages Association - Chicago, Illinois
Audrey Doussot: Illustrative and Narrative Construction - Paris, France
Stephanie Hotz: The North East Modern Languages Association 45th Annual Convention - Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
Sarah Lube Roe: The Newberry 2014 Graduate Multidisciplinary Conference - Chicago, Illinois
Ettore Marchetti: New Trends in Modern and Contemporary Italian Cinema - Bloomington, Indiana
Jenna Nichols: The 44th Annual Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages - London, Ontario
Rebekah Post: The 28th Annual Symposium on Arabic Linguistics - Gainesville, Florida and the 44th Annual Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages - London, Ontario
Matthew Rabatin: The North East Modern Languages Association 45th Annual Convention - Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
Stephanie Russo: Contrastive Linguistics and Diachrony - Ghent, Belgium and the Chronos II Conference - Pisa, Italy
Nicholas Spinelli: The 39th Annual Nineteenth Century French Studies Colloquium - Richmond, Virginia
Ryan Swanke: No Man's Land at the University of Pennsylvania - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Ashley Voeks: The South Central Renaissance Conference, Tuscon, Arizona

FIGSO Activities

The French and Italian Graduate Student Organization (FIGSO) is the Department of French and Italian’s graduate student-led organization. Megan Oprea was the acting President of FIGSO during 2013-2014 and led the organization during one of the busiest years yet! The Speaker Series, run by Amanda Dalola, Stephanie Hotz, Jenna Nichols and Joseylyn Wright, featured distinguished guests from all across the country in Spring 2014. The series started in February, and Dr. Richard Kern, Professor at the University of California, Berkeley, gave a talk entitled “Medium and Addresivity in French Online Exchange.” Dr. Mary-Anne Frese Witt, Professor at North Carolina State University, gave a lecture in March on the genesis of Sei personaggi in cerca d’autore and its impact on the French “new” theater. The series concluded in April with Dr. Lia Brozgal, Assistant Professor at the University of California, Los Angeles with her speech entitled, “Framing Colonial Violence: October 17 and Documentary Film.”

Hosted and sponsored by the Department of French and Italian, the Speaker Series was also generously funded by the Department of Germanic Studies, the Center for European Studies, the Program in Comparative Literature and the Harry Ransom Center.

In addition to the Speaker Series, FIGSO held four Working Papers Series sessions, participated in Explore UT, and held social activities during our annual Department of French and Italian Campus Visit for newly admitted students. The Working Papers Series presentations, organized by Valérie Masson and Viola Green, allowed graduate students to practice and get feedback before going on to present at conferences.

French & Italian National Honor Societies

Pi Delta Phi National French Honor Society

The Department is an acting member of the Pi Delta Phi National French Honor Society. The society was formed to acknowledge superior scholastic performance in the field of French language, literature and culture. It encourages a greater interest in and a deeper understanding of French culture, art and history.

Students majoring in French or with a French concentration who distinguish themselves for their outstanding performance in French are eligible for induction into the honor society at the end of their undergraduate careers. Here are the inductees for the 2013 - 2014 academic year:

Soﬁa Aluma
Catherine Cannata
Jasmine Castellanos
Margaret Conyngham
Lawrence Crook
Brooke Currie
Kendall DeBoer
Aaron Fluit
Elizabeth Gray
Anne Le
Mirna Reyna
Amanda Stoll
Sofia Uchoa

Gamma Kappa Alpha National Italian Honor Society

The Department is an acting member of the Gamma Kappa Alpha National Italian Honor Society. Gamma Kappa Alpha is the only Italian honor society in the United States and Canada and has over ﬁfty chapters in North America. The society was formed to acknowledge superior scholastic performance in the ﬁeld of Italian language, literature and culture. It encourages a greater interest in and a deeper understanding of Italian culture, art and history.

The society recognizes outstanding undergraduate scholarship in the Italian language with the annual Gamma Kappa Alpha Award for Scholarship. Students majoring in Italian or with an Italian concentration who distinguish themselves for their outstanding performance in Italian are eligible for induction in the honor society at the end of their undergraduate careers. Here are the inductees for the 2013 - 2014 academic year:

Caitlin Adams
Margaret Cerutti
Elizabeth Fenley

Honors Thesis Program

In Spring 2013, Madeleine Oakley received one of the ﬁrst Internship in Francophone Europe scholarships awarded by the Department. In Spring 2014, while completing double majors in French and linguistics, she successfully defended her French honors thesis, Le Comportement des pronoms personnels dans le français parlé au Québec under the direction of Barbara Bullock. Madeleine graduated with university honors in spring of 2014 with a double major in French and linguistics and completed departmental honors in French.
Lyon Summer Study Abroad Program

The Lyon Program, offered in cooperation with the Université Jean Moulin in Lyon, France, was started in 1996 with the support of Professor Dina Sherzer, the department chair at that time, by Professor François Lagarde who with other distinguished faculty Thomas Vessely and Carl Blyth directed the program from 1997-2003. Karen Kelton took the helm in 2004 and continues to expertly direct the program.

The thirty-two students who participated in the 2014 program from May 20th through July 6th first spent five days in Paris touring monuments, museums, and neighborhoods studying the history of the city before traveling to Lyon where they lived for six weeks with French host families and attended classes in the mornings at the Université Jean Moulin. Students took one language class, either FR 317C Enhancing French Skills or FR 322E Advanced French II, and all were enrolled in F C 340M Continuity and Change in Modern France. Marylène Meunier from Lyon 3 taught FR 322E, Nora Megharbi taught FR 317C, and Karen Kelton taught F C 340M which included independent projects on cultural topics of particular interest to the students, ranging from French attitudes to the European Union to comparisons of advertising, taxes and public health initiatives in France and the U.S.

Weekend excursions included a one-day trip to Pérignes and the Beaujolais wine country and three-day trips to the Alps (Annecy and Chamonix, including the Aiguille du Midi), to the Camargue (Saintes Maries de la Mer) and to Provence (the Palais des Papes in Avignon, Arles, and the Pont du Gard). Weekday afternoons, students visited many sites in Lyon: Fourvière and the Musée Gallo-romain, Vieux Lyon, the Musée des Beaux Arts, a Guignol puppet show, trompe l’oeil murals, the Maison des Canuts silk workshop, the Institut Lumière and the Centre d’Histoire de la Résistance et de la Déportation. Other adventures included visiting the Saint Antoine market on the Saône and an afternoon cruise on the Saône and Rhône rivers to see the new urban development at the Confluence. The program ended with a memorable farewell dinner for the participants and their host families at the legendary Brasserie Georges.

The College of Liberal Arts awarded sixteen students in the 2014 program generous scholarships from the Elizabeth Clark Maret Endowment and the Dr. Bailey R. Collins/Ellene Collins Ward/Mary Sue Collins Hibbs Scholarship Fund. Students also received substantial departmental scholarships from the Julia Walther/Julia Scarbrough Fisher Endowed Fund and the Julia Scarbrough Fisher Study Abroad Endowment Fund.

For more information, see the program website: http://www.utesas.edu/cola/depts/frenchitalian/frenchstudyabroad/

Rome Summer Study Abroad Program

The Rome Study Program gives students of all majors the opportunity to spend six weeks in Rome, Italy, during the first summer session, earn UT course credit and visit some of the most beautiful sites in Italy on weekends. Some of the guided field trips included on the 2014 program were the Galleria Borghese, Foro Romano, Colosseus, a tour of the churches with Caravaggio paintings, Villa Farnesina (Rome), Villa Adriana and Villa d’Este (Tivoli), and Osta Antica.

In 2014, twenty-six students from UT-Austin enrolled in the program. Italian families hosted the students, providing an in-depth experience of the Italian lifestyle and language. Students spent their class time from Monday to Thursday in the Palazzo Anti-Matte, a majestic Baroque palace in the center of Rome.

Distinguished Senior Lecturer Antonella Del Fattone-Olson, the program’s creator and director, taught ITC 349 Rome in Words, Images and Music. The course, taught in English, briefly sketched the rich life of the Eternal City through literary texts, architecture, painting, sculpture, lyric opera and cinema. Some of the artists studied were Ovid, Virgil, Michelangelo, Raphael, Bernini, Puccini, Moravia and Fellini. The course’s content was enhanced by visits to several important sites in Rome as well as several guest speakers’ presentations, including those by writer Dacia Maraini, directors Luca Ragazzi and Gustav Hofer and professor Karim Hannachi.

The College of Liberal Arts was able to provide generous scholarships to twenty-two deserving students participating in the program thanks to the Elizabeth Clark Maret Endowment and the Dr. Bailey R. Collins/Ellene Collins Ward/Mary Sue Collins Hibbs Scholarship Fund.

For more information, see the program website: http://sites.google.com/site/romestudyprogram/Home
Internships in Francophone Europe

Internships in Francophone Europe (IFE) program is a French not-for-profit educational organization which offers field study and internship programs in Paris, Strasbourg, and Brussels. Since its creation, IFE has developed close relations with a number of leading American colleges and universities, including The University of Texas at Austin. This program makes use of the professional workplace as an ideal crossroad for encountering France, Belgium and Europe today, as well as an opportunity to carry out a field research project related to the student intern’s academic or career goals. Each program includes intensive classroom preparation, a three-month, full-time internship chosen to match each student’s objectives, a guided independent study on a topic closely tied to the intern’s mission, and a structured framework of accompaniment throughout the semester. Students from all major fields and career tracks are welcome. Applications for scholarship opportunities are posted in the early part of each spring semester.

Encouragement of our French majors to participate in IFE programs, along with significant scholarship support from the Julia Walther/Julia Scarbrough Fisher Endowed Fund, is an initiative of retired Senior Lecturer Thomas Vessely. To date, Dr. Vessely’s foresight and dedication to our students and Mrs. Walther’s legacy have enabled three French majors to accomplish this dream. Thanks to the Julia Walther/Julia Fisher endowment, the Department of French and Italian is able to offer at least one French major an IFE scholarship each semester.

Adrian Navaez, a double major in French and economics, was the recipient of a Department of French and Italian Fall 2013 IFE scholarship. To utilize both majors, the study of the French language and his interest in international political economies, he was placed as a research associate with the Paris-based think tank Confrontations Europe, which specializes in current European socioeconomic affairs. Adrian’s research tasks focused on the problems and prospects of economic growth in the current European situation. During his internship, he prepared syntheses and working notes based on reading assigned literature and attending lectures and seminars. As a research assignment, Adrian was asked to compare and assess the same questions of growth from the perspective of current U.S. experience. He also assisted his supervisor and others in preparing presentations in this thematic area for use in a program of citizens’ forums Confrontations Europe launched to sponsor public debate on growth and the economic future in Europe. Adrian took full part in the life of the organization, whether on the administrative side preparing for events and activities, or on the scientific side, participating in meetings and colloquia. Confrontations Europe also asked Adrian to read and research in the area of political crisis, again with a clear focus on comparisons with current U.S. events and similar issues in a number of European countries. After returning to Austin, Adrian completed his studies at UT in Summer 2014, receiving a BA in French and a BA in Economics. We applaud Adrian’s hard work and hope that his IFE experience will serve him well in his future endeavors.

French and Italian Film Series

In 2013-2014, the French Film Series attracted an average of 80 students per screening. The goal of the Film Series was to introduce students to Francophone films (from Canada, France, and Belgium) that are not easily accessible in the US. Students appreciated the diversity of genre that was offered as well as the opportunity to discover actors and actresses who are famous overseas. A total of five French films were screened. Among the most successful screenings were Monsieur Lazhar (2011) and La promesse (1996.)

Cineforum Italiano, the Italian film series organized by Adria Frizzi, aimed to give students a glimpse into contemporary Italian culture and cinema by screening an eclectic mix of films by established as well as emerging filmmakers and showcasing a new generation of actors. Fall 2013 films screened included: Reality (2012), Io sono Li (2011), Focaccia Blues (2009), Diabolik (1968) and Tre uomini e una gamba (1997). Spring 2014 films in the Cineforum Italiano series included La Grande Bellezza (2013), Bianco e Nero (2008), Romano di una Strage (2012), Come Non Detto (2012), Il Comandante la Cicogna (2012) and Non ci resta che piangere (1984). More details can be found on our departmental website’s calendar of events:

https://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/frenchitalian/events/upcoming.php
Center for Open Educational Resources and Language Learning

The Center for Open Educational Resources & Language Learning (COERLL) is one of sixteen National Foreign Language Resource Centers funded by the US Department of Education. Carl Blyth is the Director of COERLL and Associate Professor of French Linguistics in the Department of French and Italian. The overall mission of these federally-funded centers is to improve the teaching and learning of foreign languages by producing resources (materials and best practices) that can be profitably employed in a variety of settings. COERLL's work is organized around seven basic areas:

- Applied linguistic research
- Teaching materials
- Language assessment
- Teacher development
- Less commonly taught languages
- K-12 initiatives
- Outreach and dissemination.

COERLL's mission is to produce and disseminate Open Educational Resources (OER) for the Internet public (e.g., online language courses, reference grammars, assessment tools, corpora, etc.). The term OER refers to any educational material offered freely for anyone to use, typically involving some permission to remix, improve and redistribute. Thus, COERLL seeks to promote a culture of collaboration that lies at the heart of the Open Education movement. In addition, COERLL aims to reframe foreign language education in terms of bilingualism and/or multilingualism. As such, all COERLL resources strive to represent more accurately language development and performance along dialectal and proficiency continua.

Dr. Blyth recently announced that COERLL has been awarded a four-year Title VI grant by the Department of Education to continue the operation of the Center. The $750,000 grant will allow COERLL to develop and disseminate OER in several languages such as Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Czech, French, K'iche' Mayan, Persian, Portuguese and Turkish. COERLL will also join forces with UT's Pan-American Center and the National Heritage Language Resource Center (UCLA) to develop OER for heritage Spanish speakers. Finally, COERLL's research agenda will also join forces with UT-Pan American and the National Heritage Language Resource Center (NHLC) to develop and disseminate OER in several languages such as Arabic, Chinese, French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese and Russian. COERLL's work is organized around seven basic areas:

- Outreach and dissemination.
- K-12 initiatives
- Language assessment
- Teacher development
- Less commonly taught languages
- Applied linguistic research
- Teaching materials

Center for European Studies

Douglas Biow, Director for the Center for European Studies (CES) and Professor of Medieval and Renaissance Studies with the Department of French and Italian, is pleased to announce that CES received a Title VI grant from the Department of Education, thus making UT's CES once more a National Resource Center with Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships. The total award from the Department of Education comes to $1,972,000 over the next four years. This funding, along with the European Union Center of Excellence grant (which CES also won for the 2014-15 year, funded at 90,000 Euros), will support a host of existing and new activities dedicated to European and Italian Studies. To this end, over the next four years CES will, among other things:

- Build technology-assisted European language programs for hybrid courses (based on distance and on-site technology-mediated interaction) with COERLL, as well as train high school and university teachers in the programs through vigorous outreach initiatives and workshops.
- Offer at least 5 FLAS awards to graduate students and 5 FLAS awards to undergraduate students annually, along with at least 2 summer FLAS awards.
- Create with the LBJ School of Public Affairs, as well as the Strauss Center and Clements Center, the new “Austin Forum in Diplomacy and Strategy.”
- In collaboration with the Center for Russia, East European, and Eurasian Studies (CREEES), introduce new less commonly taught languages (LCTLs) into our European Studies regular course offerings and establish a new consortium with other flagship state universities to increase the number of LCTLs available for students through strategic resource-sharing collaborations.
- Create new courses through curricular enhancement across campus focusing on two key professional schools: the McCombs School of Business and LBJ School of Public Affairs.
- Create new courses with a focus on Europe in Anthropology, Business, and Political Science with curricular development grants.
- Build durable connections with professional schools and existing Title VI NRCs on campus to promote interdisciplinary and transnational research with a focus on Europe through conferences, events, workshops, lectures, and curriculum development.
- Enhance our existing and extensive outreach program with UT's Hemispheres focusing on K-12 education, teacher training, area studies and language education, the business community, local colleges eligible for Title III and Title V funding, Minority-Serving Institutions, Colleges of Education and the general public.
- Continue to forge our existing collaborations with Minority-Serving Institutions and establish new ones through course offerings, course development, mentorships, visiting lectures and conference workshops.
- Develop our extensive business outreach program with a new workshop with IC2, the UT economic incubator.
- Award research/travel grants for faculty and PhD students at UT.

Department of French and Italian