**LETTER OF INTENT – 1**

(**New Degree Program)**

1. Institution submitting request: **University of Arkansas, Fayetteville**

2. Education Program Contact person/title: Dr. Jim Gigantino,

Interim Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

3. Telephone number/e-mail address: 479-575-2151/ [jgiganti@uark.edu](mailto:jgiganti@uark.edu)

4. Proposed Name of Certificate or Degree Program: **Italian, Bachelor of Arts**

5. Proposed Effective Date: **Fall 2023**

6. Requested CIP Code: **16.0902 Italian Language and Literature**

7. Program Description:

The Italian Program at the University of Arkansas challenges students to think critically about the literary and cultural history which founds Italian and Italian American studies by integrating language acquisition and intercultural competence through the classroom and co-curricular activities on campus and through global experiences and high-impact practices such as study abroad (Rome Center and other programs), internships ([Italy-America Chamber of Commerce of Texas](https://www.iacctexas.com/), [Ferrero Rocher](https://www.ferrerorocher.com/us/en/), [Italian Trade Agency – Chicago](https://www.ice.it/en/markets/usa/chicago/ita-chicago-sector-websites)), and service learning ([LiberaTerra](https://www.liberaterra.it/it/)).[[1]](#footnote-1) Beyond the more traditional outcomes of language learning and through the most up-to-date tools in foreign language pedagogy, our program encourages the importance of Italian for interdisciplinary study. Our end goal is to create global citizens who are prepared to embrace the principal aspects of Italian society and who have critically explored their native language and culture. An Italian major is a wonderful complementary course of study to numerous fields: Architecture, Art History, English, History, International Relations, International Business, Music, Philosophy, etc. A student can decide on one of two concentrations:

**Transnational Studies Concentration**

The Italian Transnational Studies concentration is a cross-discipline exploration of various areas relating to Italian and Italian American culture. It is aimed at students who are not necessarily dedicated to achieving advanced language proficiency but desire a comprehensive understanding of Italian literature, history, art, culture, and civilization enhancing their philosophy of global citizenry and diversity. This interdisciplinary enterprise includes a basis of Italian language courses paired with Italian-focused courses taught in English from a variety of departments and programs across campus: Architecture, Art History, Classics, English, History, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Philosophy, and Political Science.

**Literary and Cultural Studies Concentration**

The Italian Literary and Cultural Studies concentration is designed to be a launching pad for a more in-depth analysis of Italy’s great literary and cultural tradition. The program encourages independent and innovative thinking and research founded in the Humanities. It is aimed at students interested in achieving a high level of proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking in Italian. In addition to the studying language, coursework encompasses the literary and artistic aspects of Italian culture and their contributions to the world, milestones and major events in Italian history, modern Italian culture, current events, and politics.

8. Mode of Delivery (mark all that apply):

**X On-Campus**

**\_\_\_ Off-Campus Location**

Provide address of off-campus location

Students will also be able to enroll in courses at the University of Arkansas Rome Center.

Provide a copy of the e-mail notification to other institutions in the state notifying them of the proposed program. Please inform institutions not to send the response to “Reply All”. If you receive an objection/concern(s) from an institution, reply to the institution and copy ADHE on the email. That institution should respond and copy ADHE. If the objection/concern(s) cannot be resolved, ADHE may intervene.

Submit copy of written notification to Higher Learning Commission (HLC) if notification required by HLC for a program offered at an off-campus location.

Indicate distance of proposed site from main campus.

**Distance Technology** (50% of program offered by distance technology)

Submit copy of written notification to HLC if notification is required by HLC for a program offered by distance technology.

9. List existing certificate or degree programs that support the proposed program:

* Architecture
* Art History
* Classics Studies
* English
* English/Creative Writing/Translation
* History
* Medieval & Renaissance Studies
* Music
* Philosophy
* Political Science
* Rome Center
* World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

10. President/Chancellor Approval Date: 01/04/2023

11. Academic Affairs Officer: Dr. Terry Martin, Interim Provost Date: 12/12/2022

1. The UofA Rome Center is another avenue for the Italian Program to send students wanting an internship or research experience. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)