Course

The course (75h) will provide students with the preliminary knowledge and basic skills in Italian literature. Half of the course will be dedicated to the fundamentals of metric and stylistic text analysis, while the other half of the course will focus on the history of Italian literature.

Content

The lessons will alternate general concepts of prosody and metrics with reading and analysis of sample texts, representative of the main metric forms and literary genres. The major authors of Italian literature and their most significant works will be contextualized in a diachronic sense through the explanation of some basic concepts of literary culture.

As for the part of the course dedicated to the analysis of the text, special attention will be paid to the following points: textual structure, literary genres; basic metric; metrics forms; basic elements of textual criticism; various kinds of text. The history of Italian literature, on the other hand, will mainly concern the following themes: early Italian literature and the Sicilian poetic school; Dante, Petrarch and Boccaccio; the chivalric poem of Ariosto and Tasso; the Commedia dell’Arte, Goldoni and the reform of the theater; the main nineteenth-century authors: Foscolo, Leopardi, Manzoni, Verga; authors of Decadence: Pascoli and D’Annunzio; the major literary currents of the twentieth century.