GUIDES


An accessible and comprehensive reference book on Italian literature for both specialists and non-specialists. It covers the whole spectrum of Italian literature – from the thirteenth century to the present – with generous attention to contemporary writing.


A survey of sources on the history and criticism of Italian literature. It includes extensive bibliographies on Italian authors and literary issues.


The first part of Beccaro's work is an overview of the Italian literary history. Subsequent chapters look at the trends and authors of each century and provide bibliographical references for further study.

DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS


An excellent dictionary with articles on Italian authors, important writings, literary movements, periods, and schools of thought. Each article has a bibliography of critical studies and English translations of primary texts.

[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – DG 450 .E53 2000]

Over 900 articles covering all aspects of post-Second World War Italian culture. This work is useful for learning about contemporary authors and literature as well as understanding the cultural milieu in which these books were written.

[St. Michael’s 2nd Floor – PQ 4063 .F45 1997]

A feminist perspective on the Italian literary tradition. Articles focus on feminist critiques of major Italian authors and their influence on Italian society. Entries are followed by short bibliographies. Includes index.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – PQ 4037 .L37]

*Letteratura italiana* is both an outstanding history and critique of Italian literature as well as an excellent bio-bibliographical encyclopedia of Italian authors. The bibliographies and general index are extensive.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – PQ 4057 .D48]

Articles provide biographical and critical information on authors and literary subjects. Substantial bibliographies accompany the entries. Includes an author index.

[Robarts Library – PN 41 .E47]

An Italian-language dictionary explaining terms used in literature, literary theory, and criticism.

**HISTORIES AND CHRONOLOGIES**

[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – PQ 4038 .C35]

A single-volume study of Italian literary history from the earliest texts to contemporary works. Each chapter focuses on a particular century and provides a selected bibliography of English and Italian research. Includes index. A very useful starting point for research.

[Robarts Library – PQ 4037 .S9 1995]

History and criticism of Italian literature from Medieval to modern times. Appendices cover topics such as overseas Italian authors. Bibliographies are included.
**Storia della letteratura italiana.** By Emilio Cecchi and Natalino Sapegno. Milano: Garzanti, 1965. 9 volumes.

[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – PQ 4037 .C4]

A slightly dated but still relevant history of Italian literature from its inception to the 20th century. The chapters are arranged by period and offer an in-depth study of the literature of the period by a subject specialist. Includes author and illustration indexes.


[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – PQ 4055 .W6 H57 2000]

A comprehensive history of over 200 Italian women writers and their writings from the Middle Ages to the present. It looks at traditional genres as well as nontraditional forms of literature such as devotional books and letter writing. It includes an extensive bibliography, guides to further reading, and index.


[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – PQ 4037 .D613]

A dated but excellent study of the history and criticism of Italian literature.


[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – PQ 4037 .D68]

This single-volume history of Italian literature covers topics such as authors, literary genres, and important titles. There is an extensive annotated bibliography and an index covering authors, characters, and anonymous works.

**Letteratura italiana: le correnti.** Milano: Marzorati, 1974.

[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – PQ 4037 .L45]

**Letteratura italiana: i contemporanei.** Milano: Marzorati, 1974.

[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – PQ 4037 .L45]

**Letteratura italiana: i maggiori.** Milano: Marzorati, 1974.

[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – PQ 4037 .L45]

**Letteratura italiana: i minori.** Milano: Marzorati, 1974.

[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – PQ 4037 .L46]


[St. Michael's 2nd Floor – PQ 4027 .L4]

A slightly dated but rich library of reference works providing detailed history and analysis on contemporary authors as well as the literary greats and the lesser-known writers of Italy's past. There is also an in-depth study of Italian critics and schools of literary criticism. Articles are by noted experts from Italy and are accompanied by extensive bibliographies.
Each volume provides a historical and critical analysis of the development of Italian literature in a particular region of Italy.

An anthology of poetry, prose, and other types of literature authored by Italian writers. It also includes extracts of writings on the history Italian literature and criticism of Italian writings. It covers Italian literature from its origins to the 1900s. Includes a general index at the end of each volume.

**AUTHORS**

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – PN 501 .E9]

This series on the history and criticism of European literature discusses European authors from the Middle Ages to modern times. The coverage of major Italian authors is extensive and articles are accompanied by bibliographies.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – PQ4063 .I88]

Biographies and criticism of over 50 Italian women writers from the 14th to the 20th century. Each article provide a survey and bibliography of criticism about an author's writings.

**Dizionario biografico degli italiani.** Roma: Istituto della Enciclopedia italiana, 1960-present. 70 volumes
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – CT 1123. D5]

The major biographical encyclopedia for Italy with articles on both historical and contemporary Italian writers. Especially useful for less well-known individuals. Extensive bibliographies. Presently complete to the letter M.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – PQ 4057 .G48]

Biographies and criticism of 20th century Italian writers. Includes bibliographies.

**Dizionario degli scrittori italiani d'oggi.** Cosenza: Pellegrini, 1969.
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – Z 2350 .D58]

Brief entries on Italian writers active from 1940 – 1970.
One of the largest online collections of scholarly literary criticism. An excellent starting point for literary researchers. It provides biographical and bibliographical information as well as excerpts of criticism of writers' works.

**FINDING JOURNAL ARTICLES**

To find articles in scholarly journals, the best place to go is an article database. To find articles related to your subject area, go to [www.library.utoronto.ca](http://www.library.utoronto.ca/), click the **Subjects A to Z** link, and scroll down to your subject area (i.e. *Italian Studies*). Click GO. You’ll find a list of databases containing scholarly articles, as well as other online resources such as encyclopedias and research guides.

**MLA International Bibliography.**

[Available online (1921 - present) for UofT use: http://www.library.utoronto.ca. Search “all e-resources” for MLA. Click on “go.”]

The most important index to articles and books on literature and related topics published in the European languages (including Italian) that have been published since 1963. It is the best source for looking up current and retrospective scholarship on Italy's literature, criticism, literary history, and comparisons of authors' works.

**FRANCIS**

[Available online (1984 - present) for UofT use: http://www.library.utoronto.ca. Search “all e-resources” for FRANCIS. Click on “go.”]

A general index to the humanities and social sciences with strong coverage of European literature, including that of Italy. An excellent source for finding articles that cross multiple disciplines (e.g., literature and history). Especially good for scholarly non-English language European journals.


An annual publication with lengthy essays which summarize the past year's scholarship in each modern language and literature. There is a substantial section on Italian literature.


Indexes articles in more than 1500 international journals on Italian language, literature, and philology. Robarts Library has volumes covering 1991 to 2003.
BIBLIOGRAPHIES

**Italian Studies Web: Literature**  
[Available online: http://www.library.yale.edu/wess/culture.html]

A gateway to online portals, listservs, newsgroups, reference works, and electronic texts for Italian language and literature.

**Biblioteche virtuali in lingua italiana**  
[Available online: http://www.librialice.it/virtual/net.vir/vnetita.htm]

An extensive online bibliography of links to virtual libraries of Italian literature and literature in Italian dialects. Includes annotations. Italian only.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – Z 2351 .F7]

This bibliography is dated but still useful for looking up retrospective sources on Italian literature, philology, and language. No annotations.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – Z 2354 .C8L47]

Cudini looks at the writers, literature, and literary theories of Italy and provides bibliographical sources on each topic. Includes an author index.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – Z 2354 .T7H43]

Entries in this annotated bibliography are arranged by the year of the translation's first publication, then alphabetically by main entry. Important works are accompanied by short biographies and critical analyses. There are indexes of authors, titles, translators, publishers, and periodicals.

[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – Z 2351 .L48]

An annual index to over 150 Italian periodicals. It includes citations for periodicals on the history and criticism of Italian literature. Excellent for finding recently published sources.

**La rassegna della letteratura italiana.** Firenze: Sansoni, 1893 – present.  
[Robarts Library – PQ 4001 .R37]

Each issue of this periodical is accompanied by a listing of detailed critical evaluations of books and articles related to the history and criticism of Italian literature.
**FINDING BOOK REVIEWS**

**Italian Books and Periodicals.** Rome: Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Information and Copyright Services, 1958-.
[Robarts 4th Floor Reference Area – Z 2345 .I89]

The English edition of the monthly *Libri e Riviste d'Italia*. Lengthy book reviews and the equivalent of current contents for periodicals in all fields, with occasional annotations.

**ONLINE TEXT ARCHIVES**

**Biblioteca Italiana.**
[Available online: http://www.bibliotecaitaliana.it]

**Electronic Text Collections in Western European Literature: Italian Literature**
[Available online: http://www.lib.virginia.edu/wess/etexts.html#italian]

Links to websites providing texts of Italian prose and poetry and further background information.

**The Oxford Text Archive.**
[Available online: http://ota.ahds.ac.uk/]

The archive includes fictional and non-fictional works that can be looked up using the site search engine or browsed by author, title, or language of work. Italian authors included in this text archive include Verga, Machiavelli, Buonarroti, Petrarca, and Pulci.

**Biblioteca Angelo Monteverdi**
[Available online: http://bam.let.uniroma1.it/inrete/inrete.htm]

A searchable online library of 158,000 works on Romance-language literature and related disciplines such as literary theory and history. The coverage of Italian literature is extensive.