



Curriculum-to-Career Mapping Framework

Italian

Prepared for: Bentley University, Department of Modern Languages
Prepared by: Ashley M. Voeks, Ph.D.
September 15, 2025

Introduction

Description

Based on syllabi shared by faculty in the Department of Modern Languages, this framework highlights the career-relevant skills students develop through classroom activities and learning outcomes in language courses. It translates those skills into market-ready language that students can use on resumes, in interviews, and in networking conversations. In addition to serving students, the framework provides faculty with a resource to integrate career-readiness messaging into their teaching and advising.

Impact

Using this framework helps:

- **Students** see the professional value of their coursework and gain confidence in presenting themselves as career ready.
- **Faculty** make the career relevance of assignments explicit, reinforcing connections between academic work and professional competencies.
- **Advisors** support language students more effectively with tailored examples of the skills developed in language programs.
- **The department** strengthen its advocacy for language programs by showing clear evidence of how its courses develop in-demand, marketable skills.

Note to faculty

This framework is designed as a flexible resource, not a script. You can reference it when writing recommendation letters, advising students, or discussing assignments in ways that connect academic skills to career readiness. Students benefit most when these connections are reinforced consistently and authentically. You don't need to change your teaching — instead, use this as a tool to make visible what students are already accomplishing in your courses and to help them communicate those strengths with confidence.

MLIT 101 – Discovering Italian I

Professor Dalsant

Course Activity/Outcome	Career-Ready Skill(s)	Skill(s) in the Market
Practiced Italian vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure through regular digital assignments in VHL Supersite.	Technology Digital literacy Time management Accountability	Managed weekly deliverables in digital platforms, meeting strict deadlines and demonstrating digital fluency.
Participated in five structured conversation practices with a native Italian speaker.	Communication Professionalism Active listening Time management	Coordinated and conducted one-on-one meetings requiring active listening, clear communication, and professionalism in real-time interactions.
Developed fluency and confidence through spontaneous speaking in mini-dialogues, group work, and partner interviews	Presentation skills Performance under pressure	Strengthened oral communication and adaptability by articulating ideas clearly in unscripted, real-time conversations.
Prepared and delivered an in-class final project with a pre-recorded group itinerary presentation in Italian.	Teamwork/collaboration Presentation skills	Built collaboration and presentation skills by creating and delivering a multi-part group project simulating a real-world planning scenario.
Attended and reflected on co-curricular Italian cultural events (e.g., Language Corners, film nights)	Cultural awareness Community engagement	Enhanced cultural awareness through active participation in community-based language and culture events.
Completed oral midterm and final exams simulating structured interviews and conversations.	Communication Professionalism Public speaking Performance under pressure	Facilitated structured conversations, demonstrating poise and clear communication in high-pressure settings.

MLIT 102 – Discovering Italian II

Professor Dalsant

Course Activity/Outcome	Career-Ready Skill(s)	Skill(s) in the Market
Completed structured conversation sessions with native Italian speakers through the CLIC Language Partner program.	Communication Professionalism Active listening Time management	Coordinated and conducted one-on-one meetings requiring active listening, clear communication, and professionalism in real-time interactions.

Delivered a group presentation on diversity in Italian music using curated multimedia and interactive components.	Teamwork/collaboration Presentation skills Cultural awareness	Strengthened collaboration and presentation skills by integrating multimedia and interactive elements to communicate complex cultural topics effectively.
Completed weekly online assignments and assessments using the VHL learning platform with strict deadlines.	Technology Digital literacy Time management Accountability	Managed weekly deliverables in digital platforms, meeting strict deadlines and demonstrating digital fluency.
Participated in class-wide and small group discussions conducted exclusively in Italian.	Communication Teamwork/collaboration Initiative	Engaged in a fast-paced, immersive learning environment requiring clear communication, active participation, and collaboration.
Drafted and edited short essays in Italian with structured paragraphs and thematic focus	Written communication Attention to detail	Strengthened written communication by producing concise, well-organized essays that demonstrated clarity, cohesion, and attention to thematic focus.
Completed oral midterm and final through mini-dialogue performance with a partner.	Presentation skills Teamwork collaboration	Strengthened presentation skills by delivering unrehearsed peer dialogues that required situational fluency and coordination.
Analyzed song lyrics and short films to interpret cultural meaning and make cross-cultural comparisons.	Critical thinking Cultural analysis	Built critical thinking and cultural analysis skills by interpreting media artifacts and comparing perspectives across cultures.

MLIT 201 – Intermediate Italian I

Professor Dalsant

Course Activity/Outcome	Career-Ready Skill(s)	Skill(s) in the Market
Participated in structured conversation practices with native speakers through the CLIC Language Partner program.	Communication Professionalism Active listening Time management	Coordinated and conducted one-on-one meetings requiring active listening, clear communication, and professionalism in real-time interactions.
Delivered a group oral presentation on an Italian	Teamwork/collaboration Presentation skills Cultural awareness	Strengthened collaboration and presentation skills by synthesizing research and

region's geography, culture, and history.		communicating cultural insights clearly to an audience.
Composed two multi-paragraph essays in Italian on familiar and cultural topics.	Written communication Cultural awareness	Strengthened written communication and cultural awareness by producing organized, coherent essays on cultural themes.
Engaged in class discussions on art, politics, literature, and social issues in both Italy and the U.S.	Communication Cultural analysis	Built communication and cultural analysis skills by comparing and articulating complex topics across Italian and U.S. contexts.
Completed weekly grammar, listening, and vocabulary exercises via the Supersite platform.	Technology Digital literacy Time management Accountability	Managed weekly deliverables in digital platforms, meeting strict deadlines and demonstrating digital fluency.
Analyzed and responded to three literary or cultural readings, including a poem by a Syrian author and short stories by Igiaba Scego and Kossi Komla-Ebri.	Critical thinking Written communication	Strengthened critical thinking and writing skills by interpreting diverse cultural texts.
Conducted peer interviews and mock oral exams based on films and readings.	Teamwork/collaboration Communication	Built collaboration and communication skills by engaging in spontaneous oral exchanges, demonstrating adaptability and quick thinking in professional-style interactions.
Attended co-curricular Italian cultural activities such as film nights and language corners.	Cultural awareness Community engagement	Enhanced cultural awareness through active participation in community-based language and culture events.

MLIT 305 – Migration in Italian Culture

Professor Dalsant

Course Activity/Outcome	Career-Ready Skill(s)	Skill(s) in the Market
Analyzing historical and contemporary migration patterns to and from Italy through interdisciplinary texts and media.	Critical thinking Cultural awareness	Strengthened critical thinking and cultural awareness by researching migration trends across texts and media.
Engaging with primary sources, scholarly articles,	Research Cultural analysis	Built research and cultural analysis skills by examining

and cultural materials to explore evolving notions of Italian identity.		primary and secondary sources for insights into shifting cultural identities.
Developing comparative perspectives on migration experiences across time and cultural contexts.	Comparative analysis	Strengthened comparative analysis skills by evaluating migration experiences across historical and cultural contexts.
Participating in weekly reading responses and in-depth classroom discussions based on assigned texts and media.	Communication Time management	Strengthened communication and time management skills by preparing weekly written responses and contributing actively to structured discussions.
Researching and delivering a final project or presentation connecting themes of migration and identity to broader societal issues.	Research Project management Presentation skills	Managed a long-term research project from proposal to completion, integrating complex themes and presenting findings clearly in written and oral formats.
Synthesizing insights from literature, film, music, and scholarly discourse into written and oral analysis.	Information synthesis Communication	Strengthened communication and analytical skills by synthesizing insights across multiple media forms to create clear, culturally informed analyses.
Critically examining race, ethnicity, and representation in Italian and Italian-American cultural narratives.	Critical thinking Cultural analysis	Built critical thinking and cultural analysis skills by assessing representations of identity and race in literature and media.