

Alyssa Micheli

*Dialogo della institution delle donne: A Translation and Commentary on the Figure of the
Widow in Sixteenth Century Italy*

The purpose of my project is to write an original literary translation of a section of *Dialogo della institution delle donne* written by Ludovico Dolce in 1545. It is part of the genre of Italian conduct literature that described how the ideal woman should behave during specific periods of her life. Specifically, I will translate Dolce's third and final section on the widow from sixteenth century Italian into contemporary English. To do this, I will rely on my own native knowledge of English and advanced education in Italian, as well as working closely with my advisor, a native Italian speaker, in overcoming linguistic and stylistic difficulties. Supplemental notes providing clarifying and contextualizing information relevant to the reader's understanding and an introduction including a historical context of the figure of the woman, a commentary on translation, and a brief biography of Dolce will accompany my work. Additionally, my project will conclude with an analysis of the figure of the widow based on what I have learned while writing the translation. Through this work, I will be contributing to the body of Renaissance literature that has been translated into English, particularly in the limited domain of advice books for widows.