

Italian Language and Culture Courses

Overall descriptors for courses

- [ITLC 100 - Absolute Beginners](#)
- [ITLC 150 - Elementary](#)
- [ITLC 130 - Beginners](#)
- [ITLC 175 - Pre-intermediate](#)

At the end of the course students should be able to:

Skills	Intended Learning Outcomes
Listening	• Understand short, familiar conversations in clear, standard language. • Follow simple directions. • Identify main information in basic messages or recordings.
Speaking	• Ask and answer simple questions about familiar topics. • Talk about family, study, and leisure activities. • Introduce yourself and use greetings and farewells. • Ask for and give directions. • Express agreement or disagreement in simple interactions. • Participate in routine dialogues on familiar topics.
Reading	• Understand short and simple texts. • Find information in simple documents (emails, leaflets, short articles). • Understand basic written instructions.
Writing	• Write simple sentences, notes, and notices. • Fill out basic forms. • Take short notes for immediate needs. • Write simple personal emails. • Produce short, simple texts on familiar subjects.

ITLC 100 – Absolute Beginners

Description

The course provides a foundation in the basic structures and vocabulary of the language. It focuses on developing oral communication skills: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations. The course also includes an introduction to key aspects of Italian culture.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at English-speaking students with no previous knowledge of Italian.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing short emails and short texts.

Language of Instruction

Italian / English

Grading

Pre-session intensive courses: 50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Semester courses: 20% midterm exam, 40% final written exam, 40% final oral exam.

Exam dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Greeting • Asking how someone is • Asking and giving personal information (name, nationality, address, phone number, studies, profession, age, personal tastes) • Introducing someone • Using informal/formal register (<i>tu/Lei</i>)
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	• Inviting someone to do something • Ordering food and drinks • Talking about leisure activities • Expressing likes and dislikes • Writing short texts and emails
Vocabulary	• Classroom language • Alphabet • Numbers • Greetings • Country names, nationalities, languages • Professions and workplaces • Verbs describing free time activities • Parts of the day, days of the week, months • Food and drinks • Meals and places to eat • Places in town • Expressions with <i>avere</i> and <i>essere</i>
Grammar	• Definite and indefinite articles • Gender and number of regular nouns • Singular and plural forms of adjectives • Personal pronouns: subject • Present tense of to be, to have and <i>chiamarsi</i> • Present tense of regular verbs and <i>fare</i> • <i>C'è/ci sono</i> • The verb <i>piacere</i> • Negation <i>non</i> • Prepositions (<i>di, a, in</i>) • Conjunctions (<i>e, ma, però</i>) • Interrogative clauses with <i>che, che cosa, dove, qual, come, di dove, quanti/e, perché</i>
Pronunciation	• Italian graphemes and phonemes • Sounds /k/, /tʃ/ • Sounds /g/, /dʒ/ • Sounds /sk/ e /ʃ/ • Sounds /l/ e /ʎ/ • Sounds /n/ e /ɲ/ • Double consonants • Word stress: tonic stress • Interrogative and declarative intonation
Culture	• Quiz: <i>Conosci l'Italia?</i> • Proxemics: meaning of gestures and distances • Levels of formality in relation to age and social role • Professions and titles: <i>professore, dottore</i> • “New” Italians • Meals and menus • Italian geography



ITLC 150 – Elementary

Description

The course aims to help students acquire new structures of Italian grammar and learn new vocabulary. It focuses on developing communication skills in everyday situations, enabling students to understand and use familiar expressions when interacting with Italian speakers in real life situations. It also introduces key aspects of Italian culture.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at English-speaking students who have a basic knowledge of Italian or have successfully completed the Absolute Beginners course offered by Università Cattolica.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing short emails and short texts.

Language of Instruction

Italian / English

Grading

Pre-session intensive courses: 50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Semester courses: 20% midterm exam, 40% final written exam, 40% final oral exam.

Exam dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	- Talking about daily activities - Asking for and telling the time - Asking for and giving directions - Describing physical appearance and personality - Making, accepting and refusing invitations - Talking about opening times - Talking about family - Talking about past events - Talking about holidays - Describing a holiday - Writing short texts and emails
Vocabulary	- Verbs indicating daily actions - Telling the time - Adverbs of frequency - Parts of the day, days of the week, months and seasons - Places in town and means of transport - Street directions and road signs - Physical appearance and personality - Holidays: types of holidays, accommodation, means of transport - Free time activities - Time expressions: <i>ieri, l'altro ieri, scorso, fa</i> - Family members - Congratulations and wishes for special occasions
Grammar	Prerequisites: All structures covered in previous levels - Present tense: reflexive verbs and some irregular verbs: <i>andare, uscire, venire</i> - Present tense of modal verbs: <i>potere, dovere, volere</i> <i>Passato prossimo</i>: regular, irregular, and reflexive verbs <i>Potere, sapere</i> and <i>conoscere</i> - Reflexive pronouns - Possessive adjectives - Possessive adjectives with family members - Expressions of place: <i>di fronte, vicino, sotto, davanti, accanto</i> - More prepositions - Compound prepositions <i>Questo</i> and <i>quello</i> - Prepositions of time - Interrogative clauses with <i>a che ora, quando, quante volte, quanto</i>
Pronunciation	- Revision and consolidation of phonological features covered in previous levels - Sounds /k/, /l/, /g/ e /p/ - Sounds /sk/ e /f/ - Sounds /t/ e /d/ - Sounds /g/ e /k/ - Sounds /s/ e /z/ - Word stress: tonic stress
Culture	Commuter life



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Italian eating habits• Getting around the city using alternative means of transport• Stereotypes• Family relationships• Italians and holidays |
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ITLC 130 - Beginners

Description

The course provides a foundation in the basic structures and vocabulary of the language. It focuses on developing oral communication skills: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations. The course also includes an introduction to key aspects of Italian culture.

Prerequisites

No previous knowledge of Italian.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing short emails and short texts.

Language of instruction

Italian / English

Grading

50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Exam dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Greeting • Asking how someone is • Asking and giving personal information • Introducing someone • Using informal/formal register (<i>tu/Lei</i>) • Talking about daily activities
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	• Ordering food and drinks • Talking about leisure activities • Expressing likes and dislikes • Asking for and telling the time • Making, accepting and refusing invitations • Describing physical appearance and personality • Writing short texts and emails
Vocabulary	• Classroom language • Alphabet • Numbers • Greetings • Countries, nationalities, languages • Professions and workplaces • Verbs describing daily actions • Parts of the day, days of the week • Food and drinks • Meals • Expressions with <i>avere</i> and <i>essere</i> • Leisure activities • Verbs indicating daily actions • Telling the time • Adverbs of frequency • Physical appearance and personality
Grammar	• Definite and indefinite articles • Gender and number of regular nouns • Singular and plural forms of adjectives • Personal pronouns: subject • Possessive adjectives • Present tense: regular, reflexive and some irregular verbs: <i>essere, avere, fare, andare, uscire, venire</i> • Present tense of modal verbs: <i>potere, dovere, volere</i> • The verb <i>piacere</i> • Negation <i>non</i> • Prepositions (<i>di, a, da</i>) • Conjunctions (<i>e, ma, però</i>) • <i>Questo</i> and <i>quello</i> • Interrogative clauses with <i>che cosa, dove, qual, come, di dove, quanti/e, perché</i> • <i>C'è</i> and <i>ci sono</i>
Pronunciation	• Italian graphemes and phonemes • Sounds /k/, /tʃ/ • Sounds /g/, /dʒ/ • Sounds /sk/, /ʃ/ • Sounds /l/, /ʎ/, /gl/ • Sounds /n/ e /ɲ/ • Double consonants • Word stress: tonic stress • Interrogative and declarative intonation
Culture	• Quiz: <i>Conosci l'Italia?</i>



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proxemics: meaning of gestures and distances• Levels of formality in relation to age and social role• Professions and titles: <i>professore, dottore</i>• “New” Italians• Meals and menus• Italian geography |
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ITLC 175 – Pre-intermediate

Description

The aim of this course is to consolidate the basics of spoken and written Italian and to help students acquire new structures of Italian grammar, learn new vocabulary and explore some aspects of Italian culture. The course is strongly focused on communication: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at students who have a beginner level of Italian or have successfully completed the Beginners course offered by Università Cattolica.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing short emails and short texts.

Language of instruction

Italian / English

Grading

50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Exam dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Asking for and giving directions • Buying food • Expressing likes and dislikes • Expressing preferences • Talking about past events • Talking about holidays • Talking about family • Shopping for clothes • Asking for and giving information about prices and sizes • Comparing things • Writing messages, emails and simple texts
Vocabulary	• Places in town • Street directions • Food and dishes • Shops • Food containers • Measurement units: <i>grammo, etto, chilo, litro</i> • Types of holidays, accommodation, means of transport • Free time activities • Time expressions: <i>ieri, l'altro ieri, scorso, fa</i> • Family members • Months and seasons • Congratulations and wishes for special occasions • Clothing and accessories • Colours
Grammar	Prerequisites: All structures covered in previous levels • Imperative of regular and some irregular verbs • <i>C'è</i> and <i>ci sono</i> • <i>Passato prossimo</i> of regular, irregular, and reflexive verbs • <i>Sapere, potere</i> and <i>conoscere</i> • More prepositions • Expressions of place: <i>di fronte, vicino, sotto, davanti, accanto</i> • Compound prepositions • Partitive use of <i>di</i> • Personal pronouns: direct object • Possessive adjectives with family members • Prepositions of time • Comparatives • Interrogative clauses with <i>quanto</i>, • <i>Passato prossimo</i> of <i>piacere</i>*
Pronunciation	Revision and consolidation of phonological features covered in previous levels • Sounds /l/, /ʎ/ • Double consonants • Word stress: tonic stress



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Culture	• Means of transport and sustainable mobility • Getting around the city • Shops and shopkeepers • Transactional interactions • Types of holidays and tourism • Public and religious holidays and related gastronomic and social traditions
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* Semester courses only

Overall descriptors for courses

- [ITLC 210 – Lower intermediate](#)
- [ITLC 250 - Intermediate](#)

At the end of the course students should be able to:

Skills	Intended Learning Outcomes
Listening	• Understand the main points of short, simple, and clear messages and announcements. • Identify the topic of a discussion, provided that standard language is used and pronunciation is clear. • Identify the main points of short, clear, and simple messages and announcements.
Speaking	• Describe, ask, and answer simple questions about people, habits, work, and free time. • Describe and ask questions about plans and arrangements, and past activities. • Describe objects and things in a simple way and make comparisons. • Express opinions about a person or a situation. • Describe events, people, places, activities, personal experiences, and abilities.
Reading	• Understand short and simple texts. • Find specific information in simple everyday material. • Understand short, simple, personal letters and emails.
Writing	• Write short, simple notes and messages. • Write simple personal letters and emails. • Report simple information from short everyday texts.

ITLC 210 - Lower Intermediate

Description

The aim of this course is to help students acquire new structures of Italian grammar, learn new vocabulary and explore aspects of Italian culture. The course is strongly focused on communication: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at students who have a pre-intermediate level of Italian or have successfully completed the Pre-intermediate course offered by Università Cattolica.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing short emails and short texts.

Language of instruction

Italian

Grading

50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Exam dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Giving personal information • Talking about likes and dislikes • Talking about events in the past • Describing flats and houses
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	• Talking about past habits • Describing past situations • Talking about one's childhood • Describing traditional and modern objects • Talking about the weather • Writing messages, emails and simple texts • Completing a form • Understanding and giving orders, recommendations and instructions* • Talking about free time* • Inviting, accepting and refusing invitations*
Vocabulary	• Personal information • Daily routine • Films • Types of houses • Home features and furniture • Opposite pairs of common adjectives • English verbs used in Italian • The weather • Idiomatic expressions using weather words • Feelings • Technology* • Free time activities*
Grammar	Prerequisites: all grammatical structures covered in previous levels • <i>Passato prossimo</i> of <i>piacere</i> • Progressive form with <i>stare</i> + <i>gerundio</i> • Past tense: <i>imperfetto</i> of regular and irregular verbs • <i>Passato prossimo</i> and <i>imperfetto</i> • Direct pronouns • <i>Essere</i> and <i>avere</i> with <i>finire</i>, <i>cominciare</i>, <i>cambiare</i> and <i>passare</i> • <i>Passato prossimo</i> with direct pronouns • <i>Quello</i> and <i>bello</i> • Relative pronouns: <i>che</i> • Indefinite pronouns: <i>qualcuno</i>, <i>qualcosa</i>, <i>nessuno</i> and <i>niente</i> • Interrogative clauses with <i>da/ per quanto tempo</i> • <i>Già</i>, <i>appena</i>, <i>non ancora</i> • Imperative with <i>tu</i> and <i>voi</i>* • Indirect pronouns * • Imperative with reflexive, direct and indirect pronouns * • Infinitive with direct and indirect pronouns * • <i>Ti va di</i> *
Culture	• Cinema and Italian films • Italians and their homes • Italy's recent history • Social media language*

* Semester courses only



ITLC 225 - Intermediate

Description

The aim of this course is to help students acquire new structures of Italian grammar, learn new vocabulary and explore aspects of Italian culture. The course is strongly focused on communication: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at students who have a lower-intermediate of Italian or have successfully completed the Lower Intermediate course offered by Università Cattolica.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing short emails and short texts.

Language of instruction

Italian

Grading

50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Exam Dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Understanding and giving orders, recommendations and instructions formally and informally* • Talking about free time* • Inviting, accepting and refusing invitations* • Talking about health • Giving advice • Making polite requests • Expressing a possibility or making an assumption • Expressing the consequences of a hypothesis • Talking about future plans and events • Making comparisons • Talking about work • Asking and giving information about TV programmes • Writing messages, emails and simple texts
Vocabulary	• Technology* • Free time activities * • Health problems • Medicines and remedies • Parts of the body • Sports and sports places • The world of work • TV programmes
Grammar	Prerequisites: all grammatical structures covered in previous levels • Imperative with <i>tu</i> and <i>voi</i>* • Indirect pronouns* • Imperative with reflexive, direct and indirect pronouns * • Infinitive with direct and indirect pronouns • <i>Ti va di</i> * • <i>Superlativo assoluto</i> and <i>relativo</i> • <i>Pensare di</i> and <i>cercare di</i> + infinitive • Formal imperative • Formal imperative with direct and indirect pronouns • Present conditional: regular, irregular and modal verbs • Conditional sentences: first type • Regular and irregular comparatives (minority, majority and equality) • Partitive use of <i>ne</i> • <i>Buono, bravo</i> and <i>bene</i>
Culture	• Italian social media language* • Italian lifestyles • How Italians spend their free time • Jobs of the future • <i>Generazione Mille Euro</i>

*Semester courses only

Overall descriptors for courses

- [ITLC 325 – Upper Intermediate 1](#)
- [ITLC 400 – Upper Intermediate 2](#)

At the end of the course students should be able to:

Skills	Intended Learning Outcomes
Listening	• Understand the main points of a clear speech in standard language. • Follow a lesson on a topic within one's own field. • Understand the main points of television or radio news or recorded audio materials in standard language.
Speaking	• Describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions. • Give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. • Narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions. • Develop an argument with sufficient clarity or give a short, prepared presentation.
Reading	• Read simple, straightforward texts related to one's field of interest. • Scan longer texts for specific information and retrieve information to complete specific tasks. • Understand significant information in official documents and personal correspondence (procedures, routes, regulations, rules; events, feelings, desires).
Writing	• Write coherent and cohesive texts such as descriptions, reports of experiences, or stories, expressing feelings and impressions. • Write short and simple essays or reports on topics of interest. • Summarize or report information in writing with reasonable confidence.
Integrated study skills	• Take notes or record a list of key points during a lesson. • Summarize information. • Paraphrase short written passages in a simple way.

ITLC 325 – Upper Intermediate 1

Description

The aim of this course is to help students become independent users of the language, learn new vocabulary and explore aspects of Italian culture. The course is strongly focused on communication: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at students who have an intermediate level of Italian or have successfully completed the Intermediate course offered by Università Cattolica.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing emails and straightforward connected texts on a range of familiar subjects.

Language of instruction

Italian

Grading

50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Exam dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Talking about yourself, your preferences and tastes • Comparing your life in Italy and in your country • Talking about news • Understanding and talking about past events • Describing people's physical appearance and personality • Expressing feelings and emotions
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	• Describing holidays places and activities • Talking about feelings • Making predictions • Giving advice and making suggestions
Vocabulary	• Appearance, clothing, and personality • Idioms of personality and emotions • News and media • Security and safety • Sports and free time activities • Traffic and means of transport • City sights • Food and cooking: <i>piccante, insipido, friggere, bollire, arrostito</i> • Adverbs ending in <i>-mente</i> • Modifying suffixes: diminutives, augmentatives, and pejoratives • Adjectives ending in <i>-abile</i> and <i>-ibile</i>
Grammar	Prerequisites: all grammatical structures covered in previous levels • <i>Essere</i> and <i>avere</i> with <i>aumentare, diminuire, terminare, mutare</i> • Past of modal verbs • Verbs followed by prepositions • Linking words: <i>anzi, piuttosto che, invece di</i> • <i>Passato prossimo</i> and <i>imperfetto</i> • <i>Trapassato prossimo</i> • <i>Ci</i> • Future to make predictions • Review and new uses of <i>ne</i> • <i>Ne</i> vs <i>ci</i> • Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns • Passive form
Culture	• Regions and tourist destinations • Italian landscape • Local food products • Famous Italian people • Italian crime stories • Italian historical city centres



ITLC 400 – Upper Intermediate 2

Description

The aim of this course is to help students become independent users of the language, learn new vocabulary and explore aspects of Italian culture. The course is strongly focused on communication: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at students who have an upper Intermediate level of Italian or have successfully completed the Upper Intermediate 1 course offered by Università Cattolica.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing emails and straightforward connected texts on a range of familiar subjects.

Language of instruction

Italian

Grading

50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Exam dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Expressing opinions on the use of cell phones and social media • Talking about hobbies and passions • Persuading someone to do something • Expressing agreement and disagreement on what to do after graduation • Talking about work • Taking part in a job interview
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	• Expressing opinions comparing employment in Italy and in one's country • Writing a cover letter or an introducing e-mail • Giving advice and expressing opinions about work in general • Complaining in formal situations • Writing a letter of complaint • Expressing and justifying opinions
Vocabulary	• Social media • Free time: hobbies, sports and entertainment • Cinema and movies • Personality traits used in the workplace: <i>affidabile, puntuale, responsabile, flessibile</i> • Business vocabulary: <i>retribuzione, automunito, pluriennale</i> • Opening and closing phrases and other formal expressions used in e-mails • Proverbs and idioms • Relationships with family, partners and roommates.
Grammar	Prerequisites: all grammatical structures covered in previous levels • Present subjunctive of <i>essere</i> and <i>avere</i> • Subjunctive with verbs of opinion • Combined pronouns and agreement with <i>passato prossimo</i> and <i>trapassato prossimo</i> • <i>Superlativo assoluto</i> and <i>relativo</i> • Verbs followed by prepositions • Imperative with direct and indirect pronouns • Relative pronouns • Subjunctive vs <i>di</i> + infinitive • Subjunctive vs indicative • Pronouns <i>la</i> vs <i>le</i> • Subjunctive with impersonal expressions • Indefinite adjectives and pronouns: <i>alcuni, nessuno, ognuno, qualsiasi</i> • Italian phrasal verbs: <i>mettere giù, tirare su, far fuori, buttarsi giù</i> • Present gerund • Concessive clauses with subjunctive or gerund
Culture	• Famous Italian movies, directors and actors • Women, young people and the work market • Being a good neighbour and social life in the city • The Italian family: past, present and future

Overall descriptors for courses

- [ITLC 425 – Pre-advanced 1](#)
- [ITLC 450 – Pre-advanced 2](#)

At the end of the course students should be able to:

Skills	Intended Learning Outcomes
Listening	- Follow lively conversations between native speakers. - Understand the essential points of lectures, speeches, and presentations of an academic or professional nature, even when they are conceptually and linguistically complex. - Understand almost all radio broadcasts (including TV programs and news) or other recorded audio material in standard language, identifying the speaker's mood and attitude.
Speaking	- Produce clear and detailed descriptions on a wide range of topics related to one's field of interest. - Present arguments in a clear and systematic way, explaining and supporting one's point of view. - Give presentations with fluency and ease of expression.
Reading	- Read with a high degree of independence, adapting reading style and speed to different texts and purposes. - Quickly identify the content and relevance of new information in articles and reports related to professional or academic topics. - Understand specialized articles related to one's own field or partially outside one's area of interest. - Understand fairly long and complex instructions within one's field of expertise.
Writing	- Write clear and well-structured texts on a variety of subjects of interest. - Write essays or reports developing an argument in a systematic way. - Summarize information and arguments from various sources. - Write clear and precise accounts of events, experiences, and descriptions, producing coherent texts that follow appropriate conventions. - Write reviews of films, books, or theatrical performances.
Integrated study skills	- Take notes on points considered important during a well-structured lecture. - Summarize a wide range of informative texts, as well as the plot and sequences of a film, commenting on and analysing contrasting viewpoints and key themes.



ITLC 425 – Pre-advanced 1

Description

The aim of this course is to help students become independent users of the language, learn new vocabulary and explore aspects of Italian culture. The course is strongly focused on communication: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at students who have an upper Intermediate level of Italian or have successfully completed the Upper Intermediate 2 course offered by Università Cattolica.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing clear and well-structured texts on a variety of subjects of interest.

Language of instruction

Italian

Grading

50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Exam Dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Understanding a conversation and identifying different points of view • Understanding an article on current topics • Formulating rules and expressing obligation • Expressing hypotheses or unlikely conditions • Understanding a radio programme • Identifying thesis, arguments and counterarguments in a text • Understanding an article about social and gender roles in modern society • Understanding an interview • Collecting and reporting information from different sources • Understanding newspaper headlines • Understanding a chart or a graph • Taking notes and writing book reviews • Reading and discussing books
Vocabulary	• Environmental issues: pollution and traffic • Traffic and mobility • Colloquial expressions: <i>fregarsi qualcosa, mica sono sordo, andiamo bene, non andiamo da nessuna parte</i> • Causative verbs in -izzare: <i>sensibilizzare, ottimizzare, automatizzare</i> • Adjectives formed from nouns • Discourse markers to express agreement, disagreement, doubts and disbelief • Word family from padre: <i>patria, paternale, patrimonio</i> • Connectors to structure arguments: <i>in primo luogo, inoltre, di conseguenza, per concludere</i> • Connectors used with subjunctive • Personality adjectives • Metaphorical expressions: <i>essere alla mano, essere un pezzo di pane</i> • Literary genres • Adjectives to describe books: <i>avvincente, melenso</i>
Grammar	• Prerequisites: all grammatical structures covered in previous levels • Passive modals of obligation: <i>deve essere finito, dovevano essere fatti, va fatto, vanno detti</i> • Imperfect subjunctive • Conditional clauses: possibility • Present vs imperfect subjunctive • Subjunctive with indefinites • Gerund to express hypotheses • Definite articles with place names • Past subjunctive • Present vs past subjunctive • Subjunctive in indirect questions • <i>Che + subjunctive vs di + infinitive</i> • <i>Passato remoto</i> • <i>Passato remoto, imperfetto e trapassato prossimo</i> • Past infinitive • Past conditional • Future in the past • Tense sequencing (indicative and subjunctive): contemporaneity and posteriority
Culture	• Environmental problems, pollution and waste of resources • The new Italian family: extended families, multicultural and mixed families



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immigration and its impact on the labour market• Stereotypes and racial prejudice in contemporary society• Social change and demographic transformations• Statistical data on Italian population• Mass communication: internet, television, radio, newspapers, social media• The portrayal of women in Italian media |
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ITLC 450 PRE-ADVANCED 2

Description

The aim of this course is to help students become independent users of the language, learn new vocabulary and explore aspects of Italian culture. The course is strongly focused on communication: students will learn the language they need to interact with Italian speakers in real life situations.

Prerequisites

The course is aimed at students who have a pre-advanced level of Italian or have successfully completed the Pre-advanced 1 course offered by Università Cattolica.

Teaching method

Role plays, pair-work, group-work, simulations of real-life situations, reading and listening comprehension tasks, writing clear and well-structured texts on a variety of subjects of interest.

Language of instruction

Italian

Grading

50% final written exam, 50% final oral exam.

Exam dates

Exam dates will be announced at the beginning of the course.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students will need to attend a minimum of 75% of the course to be allowed to take the final exam.

Credits

6 ECTS

Syllabus

Functions	• Understanding a text about Italian culture • Understanding an interview about a book • Presenting a UNESCO world heritage site • Creating an imaginary interview with an Italian historical figure • Talking about Italian cinema, theatre and arts • Making assumptions and plans, talking about probable events and future plans • Understanding the main points of lectures, speeches, and • Complex academic or professional presentations • Reporting what someone said or wrote • Participating effectively in discussions on various topics: art, culture, interculturality, history and society • Understanding and producing different types of texts: expository, descriptive, narrative and argumentative
Vocabulary	• Historical, cultural periods: <i>barocco, romanticismo</i> • Arts and theatre • Exhibitions and festivals • Synonyms of <i>dire</i>: <i>affermare, sostenere, asserire, ribattere, interrogarsi su</i> • Literary review: <i>ambientazione, voce narrante, intreccio narrativo</i> • Discourse markers to give examples, attract attention, and soften statements: <i>per così dire, si intende, come si può vedere, mettiamo che, poniamo che, in un certo senso, diciamo</i> • Discourse markers to regain the floor: <i>per tornare al tema, stavo dicendo, volevo dire</i> • Discourse markers used to resume, clarify, state viewpoints and object: <i>in sintesi, in breve</i> • Quantitative adjectives: <i>discreto, cospicuo, contenuto, esiguo</i> • Time expressions in reported speech: <i>il giorno precedente, il mese dopo, in quel momento</i>
Grammar	Prerequisites: all grammatical structures covered in previous levels • Past perfect subjunctive • Tense sequencing (subjunctive): contemporaneity and anteriority • Subjunctive in indirect questions • Impersonal <i>si</i> • Present and past gerund • Conditional sentences: reality, possibility, impossibility • <i>Futuro anteriore</i> (temporal use and making predictions) • Advanced article use and omission: <i>la Roma dei Papi, Unità d'Italia, Relazioni tra Italia e Germania</i> • Attributive and predicative adjectives: <i>uomo povero, pover'uomo</i> • Reported speech • Syntactic functions of punctuation • Revision and consolidation of verb tenses and moods
Culture	• History of Italian culture • Italy's contribution to world culture • Italian Nobel prize winners • Protection of Italy's artistic and natural heritage • Archaeology and major works of art • Food in Italian culture, cinema, literature, and visual arts • Food consumption in Italy



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Films genres• Literary genres• Italian contemporary social trends |
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