



UNIVERSITÀ  
CATTOLICA  
del Sacro Cuore

## Course information

### Why take a course in Italian language?

As soon as you arrive in Italy you will be required to deal with many everyday situations within the university and outside e.g. with the teaching staff and International Student Services (ISS), with your landlord, at public offices etc. There will be moments when you will need to know what to do and how to say many things. To do this efficiently you will need to listen, speak, read and write so that you can communicate successfully with the Italians you meet.

Our Italian language courses are intended to help you make your stay the best experience possible. You will be able to learn and/or extend your knowledge of the language and life in Italy, which will give you the necessary tools to better communicate with the Italian people.

### How and where to learn?

You will learn Italian taught by a team of qualified and experienced Italian teachers. The courses are designed on the basis of the Common European Framework. Our teaching staff know what difficulties you are likely to encounter and will be able to point you in the right direction to optimise your learning curve. You will learn in lessons offering contexts that involve students, meaning your participation is essential. The materials and activities, e.g. role-plays and group work, are carefully selected to give you the opportunity to communicate effectively.

### How to get your credits?

The pre-session intensive and semester courses correspond to ECTS which home universities will recognize. The pre session intensive and semester courses correspond to 6 ECTS each course. ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY, Students WILL NEED TO ATTEND A MINIMUM OF 75% OF THE COURSE TO BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THE FINAL EXAM. Università Cattolica only provides students with an attendance certificate, which is issued, when the final examination is considered a "pass" (minimum score of 18/30). The examination contains a written and oral section to check learning outcomes.

Students will be given all necessary information about the exams during the course.

**The final exams may only be taken on the day and at the time scheduled in the programme.**

### How will you be assigned to the right course/level?

- Through the on-line placement test, which gives us specific information about your general competence in Italian;
- With an oral test in Milan, (usually upon arrival) in order to know more about your listening/comprehension and speaking skills;
- You will then be assigned to the appropriate class/level, which could be different from your expectation/selfevaluation.

Students who want to change level, need to discuss it with Professor Barbara Bettinelli, the Italian Language Coordinator.



UNIVERSITÀ  
CATTOLICA  
del Sacro Cuore

## **PRE-SESSION INTENSIVE COURSE**

The pre-session intensive language course starts at the beginning of each semester in September and in February. It consists of 44 units and is worth 6 ECTS credits. This course is especially suited for:

- Students with no prior knowledge of Italian who take the UCSC INTERNATIONAL CURRICULUM;
- Students with prior knowledge in Italian planning on taking UCSC UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC CURRICULUM and need to brush up on their skills before the beginning of the semester.

## **SEMESTER COURSE**

The semester course is organized to go along with the first and second semester calendar of the academic year for a total of 44 units worth a total of 6 ECTS credits. It is meant to provide linguistic support to students taking UCSC regular courses taught in Italian, or to provide in-depth practice of Italian language for those wanting to complement the skills studied during the intensive course. Although the semester course is a stand-alone course, it is advised, at least for those taking the UCSC INTERNATIONAL CURRICULUM to enroll both in the pre-session intensive and the semester course to maximize their Italian language learning experience during their studies at Università Cattolica.