



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2024/25

Course title: Italian Upper-Intermediate through culture B2+

Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of the course is to help the learner to further develop Italian listening, oral and reading skills, as well as to gain a deeper understanding of the culture of Italian speakers. By the end of the course participants should be able to express themselves more fluently and spontaneously and contribute effectively to discussions. Through the study of culture (e.g. literature, poetry, music, history etc) participants will build their range of vocabulary, immerse themselves more easily in texts of native standard, and generally be more at ease with cultural topics.

Participants will mainly develop advanced listening, speaking and reading skills through a series of task-oriented sessions and will be provided with informal formative feedback during contact hours. Writing will be optional.

In seminars, participants will have to engage in practical exercises and group interaction in order to develop relevant language-specific learning strategies. The role of the instructor is to facilitate this process, provide useful tools and encourage participants to become independent learners and advanced users of the language, too.

Language-specific information:

Italian is often cited as being the major modern language most similar to the Latin of the Roman empire. With 85 million speakers worldwide and 67 million speakers in Europe alone, Italian is the second-most-widely spoken native language in the

European Union and the British Council has named Italian as one of the ten most important languages to the UK over the next twenty years. It is an official language in Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, and the Vatican, with significant communities in many others, including the United States. Driven by trade in the Middle Ages, Italian became the *lingua franca* in much of Europe and the Mediterranean, replacing its predecessor Latin. In modern times, loanwords from Italian persist in many languages, especially in areas such as the arts, music, and cooking.

Prerequisite:

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for language learners who have completed an Italian B1.2 course, have an A'level or equivalent.

Technical requirements:

-PC, laptop or tablet with camera and microphone

-Stable internet connection

Delivery will be via Zoom

Once the course is confirmed, your teacher will send you an invitation for the first online session. You can expect to receive this invitation one day before the first session.

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

Worksheets, materials and resources are provided by the teacher.