



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2024/25

Course title: La Nuova Italia B2+

Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of the course is to accompany the learners on a journey to discover current aspects of Italian culture through extracts from contemporary writers. By the end of the course participants should have a clear picture of Italian modern society and be able to contribute effectively to discussions. By exploring selected contemporary texts, participants will build their range of vocabulary, generally be more at ease with cultural topics, and be able to express themselves more fluently and spontaneously.

Participants will mainly develop advanced speaking and reading skills through a series of sessions organised around the critical analysis of language use and meaning. Informal formative feedback will be provided during contact hours. Writing will be optional.

In seminars, participants will have to engage in 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.

Language-specific information:

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.

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

Worksheets, materials and resources are provided by the teacher.