GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

History and Culture of Italy: Introduction (A005726)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 3.0 **Study time 90 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	Italian	Gent	lecture	0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Bonciarelli, Sarah	LW07	staff member
Santi, Mara	LW07	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Italian)	3	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	3	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	3	A

Teaching languages

Italian

Keywords

Italy, geography, history, society, economy, political geography, external history of the Italian language.

Position of the course

This course aims to provide the students with a historical framework apt to explain the Italian society, language and culture.

Contents

The course consists of two parts.
The first part provides a general introduction to the Italian geography, history, society, economy, political geography. Moreover, some of the most important aspects of contemporary Italian society will be discussed.
The second part provides an overview of the external history of the Italian language, covering the period going from the first literary texts to the Italian Unification in the 19th century.

Initial competences

To have completed the course Italian Language Proficiency I and Italian Language

Proficiency II or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

1 To have an active knowledge of the main lines of Italian history and about some prominent (cultural-) historical figures and phenomena.
2 To have an active knowledge of the main aspects of Italy's geography and political geography.
3 To have an active knowledge of the main aspects of the Italian society and economy and of some prominent figures and events.
4 To have active knowledge of the main lines of the external history of the Italian language (milestones, texts and authors).
5 To give prove of intellectual curiosity and commitment to lifelong learning with regard to Italian language, history, society and culture.
6 Advanced language proficiency and active language skills in Italian (B1).

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Formal lecture: 16 class timeslots
No group division
Teaching period: weeks 1–8 of the 2nd semester
The classes are not recorded
No lecture recordings are provided for this course (interactive teaching format).
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Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Il magnifico viaggio, Giunti, Firenze
Indicative price: € 175
Optional: no
Language : Other
Author : Roberto Carnero, Giuseppe Iannaccone
Available in the Library : Yes
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly

Type: Syllabus

Name: Storia esterna della lingua italiana
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Other
Number of Pages : 36
Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Slides

Name: Power Point Presentaties
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Other
Number of Slides : 150
Available on Ufora : Yes

References

cfr. teaching materials

Course content-related study coaching

Individual support: by appointment
- Part 1: Mara Santi: mara.santi@ugent.be
- Part 2: Sarah Bonciarelli: sarah.bonciarelli@ugent.be

Tutoring by native speakers trainees. Group tutorial to prepare the lessons/the assignments; individual tutoring or in small groups to practise the language orally; ad hoc tutorial to practise or repeat specific parts of the grammar.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions, Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions, Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

End of term assessment. Written test with multiple choice and open questions

Calculation of the examination mark

End-of-term assessment = 11 points for the 1st and 9 for the 2nd part
Students who do not obtain a passing grade in both parts can no longer pass the course as a whole. If, in such a case, the final score would nevertheless be 10 or more out of 20, it will be reduced to the highest non-passing grade (i.e. 9/20).

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:
Class attendance is recommended to successfully complete the course
No additional supporting teaching material is provided. Support is provided in the form of tutorials with native speakers and internships.
Supporting teaching material is provided (specify what exactly: slides, recordings, an online
Lectures will not be recorded but sufficient online learning material will be provided
It is possible to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period
Possibility to receive feedback at another time: by appointment