

Italian: Language and Society (A005839)

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

Credits 4.0 **Study time 120 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2) Dutch Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

De Cristofaro, Elisa	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
Izzo, Giuliano	LW22	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	4	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	4	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)	4	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	4	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	4	A

Teaching languages

Italian, Dutch

Keywords

Italian, vocabulary, speaking skills, reading skills, academic writing

Position of the course

The study unit "Italian: Language and society" focuses on developing students' speaking and writing skills in Italian, while also expanding their vocabulary. Through guided conversation exercises and discussions on contemporary topics related to Italian society, students will strengthen their ability to communicate effectively and appropriately in various contexts. Vocabulary growth is supported through targeted reading assignments, including two books and a selection of shorter texts. Writing skills are further developed with particular attention to academic writing in Italian. Exchange students may take this course unit.

Contents

The study unit "Italian: Language and society" offers a set of varied oral and written activities based on current topics of particular relevance to Italian language and society. Students are encouraged to inform themselves about the topics covered in class, to learn more about related topics, and to engage with Italian current affairs. Students are supervised from close-up to improve their speaking and conversation skills. The course also integrates the following elements: extension of thematic vocabulary and communicative functions and expressions. Furthermore the basic principles of academic writing are learnt and applied. Students are also required to read independently two Italian books.

Initial competences

The final objectives of the various Italian study units of the first bachelor year and of semester 1 of the second bachelor year.

Final competences

- 1 Having a command of Italian at B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages for reading, oral skills (production and interaction), writing skills and vocabulary [B.1.2; assessed]
- 2 Having knowledge and understanding of the use of connectors to achieve relational coherence when writing a text and of the use of different techniques to increase information density in a text [B.1.6; assessed]
- 3 Having knowledge and understanding of the cultural and institutional context of the language areas concerned and for the intercultural relations and differences, and applying these in the interpretation, translation and production of written and oral text. [B.1.6; assessed]
- 4 Using a broad knowledge of different social domains in oral production [B.1.8; assessed]
- 5 Expressing oneself in academic writing in Italian [B.6.3/B.2.3; assessed]
- 6 Having knowledge of relevant dictionaries, reference works and electronic aids, using them adequately and efficiently, and critically evaluating them; displaying intellectual curiosity and a lifelong learning attitude [B.6.5/B.3.4; not assessed]

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminar: students apply knowledge and practice (writing and oral) skills.

Peer teaching: active participation in oral and conversational skills in small groups.

Independent work: students prepare texts and translations that are discussed in class and must also produce some writing assignments. Students are expected to process learning material independently.

Lesson recordings: there are no lecture recordings available due to the interactive nature of the course.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Van Dale Beeldwoordenboek Nederlands/Italiaans

Indicative price: € 21

Optional: no

Author : Van Dale

ISBN : 978-9-46077-661-8

Additional information: already bought for "Italian: language proficiency II"

Type: Slides

Name: Italian: Language & Society

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Other

Name: BOOK: Fabio Geda (2017). Nel mare ci sono i coccodrilli. Storia vera di Enaiatollah Akbari. Baldini & Castoldi

Indicative price: € 14

Optional: no

Author : Fabio Geda

ISBN : 978-8-89388-010-7

Type: Other

Name: BOOK: Marco Balzano (2018). Resto Qui. Einaudi

Indicative price: € 14

Optional: no

References

- Cerruti, M. & Cini, M. (2007) *Introduzione elementare alla scrittura accademica*.
Laterza
Serianni, L. (2015) *Leggere, scrivere, argomentare. Prove ragionate di scrittura*.
Laterza

Course content-related study coaching

Feedback during the lectures. Students can contact the teacher during the hours and by email.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment, Written assessment

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

Skills test, Oral assessment, Presentation, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Skills test, Presentation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

AI cannot be used for the tasks that are part of the final evaluation.

Calculation of the examination mark

CONT. ASS. 40%

End-of-Term ass. 60%

Facilities for Working Students

Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance

Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during or after office hours