

Italian Linguistics: Prosody and Language Variation (A006678)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	English, Italian	Gent	lecture	0.0h
			group work	0.0h
			seminar	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Magistro, Giuseppe LW06 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Linguistics and Literature)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Italian)	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

Italian, English

Keywords

Prosody, rhythm, intonation, form, functions, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, dialogical speech

Position of the course

This specialized course deepens student's understanding of the phonology of the Italian and other languages and the relationship between syntax and phonology.

The course focuses on:

- a) acoustic phonetics
- b) intonation and rhythm
- c) functions of prosody

Exchange students may take up this course unit, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required. Knowledge of Italian and English is required.

Contents

This course covers the following topics:

- introduction to acoustic phonetics
- Intonation:structure and functions
- The relationship between intonation, syntax and information structure
- prosody in society

The theory is illustrated by means of a series of examples.

Initial competences

Knowledge of syntax, phonology and pragmatics at BA-level.

Final competences

- 1 Insight into the theory: The student uses the linguistic terminology correctly. He/she understands the most important points of phonological theory and of the relationship between phonology and phonetics, and phonology and syntax
- 2 Insight into the theory: The student can relate the content of the course to insights gained in other linguistics courses
- 3 Application of the theory: The student can independently analyze an audio fragment and can explain the most important prosodic properties of the fragment
- 4 Research skills: The student can conduct a structured discussion in which he analyzes a theme and compares different possible analyses
- 5 Research skills: the student can independently search for, consult and critically report on scientific sources

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

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

No lecture recordings are provided for this course (interactive teaching format).

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Selected chapters from handbooks distributed during the course

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Number of Pages : 100

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : Yes

Type: Slides

Name: Slides of the course

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Other

Available on Ufora : Yes

Additional information: The material of the course is in English and Italian

Type: Reader

Name: Scientific articles

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Number of Pages : 100

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : Yes

References

- Albano Leoni, F., and Maturi, P. (2018), Manuale di fonetica, Roma: Carocci.
- Nespor, M. and I. Vogel (1986) Prosodic Phonology. Dordrecht: Foris.
- Nespor, M., 1993, Fonologia, Bologna: Il Mulino.
- Ladd, D. R., (2008), Intonational Phonology, 2nd edition, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Ladefoged, P., Johnson, K. (2015), A course in phonetics. Australia:

Wadsworth.

- Sorianello, P., 2006, Prosodia, Roma: Carocci.

Course content-related study coaching

Specific questions can be asked during lecturer's office hours (by appointment)

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Oral assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Continuous assessment = 50% of the final result

- 1 active participation to the classes
- 2 research tasks

Calculation of the examination mark

- continuous assessment: 50%
- oral examination: 50%

Facilities for Working Students

- Class attendance is recommended to successfully complete the course.
- Class attendance needs to be discussed with the teacher.
- No online/digital facilities (lectures take place on campus, without recordings).
- It is possible to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period.
- Possibility to make an appointment for feedback.