

ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (ITALIAN L2)

A1 LEVEL INTENSIVE PRE-COURSE (BEGINNER)

Objectives

- Develop skills and competencies to communicate in simple everyday situations to satisfy practical and immediate needs.
- Become familiar with Italian pronunciation and writing.

Duration and Features

The A1 intensive course lasts **2 weeks** and includes **20 hours of lessons per week**, for a total of **40 hours**.

This course serves as preparation for the **A2 level course**.

The course takes place **before the start of the regular courses at the University of Verona**, in both the **first and second semester**.

A2 LEVEL SEMESTER COURSE (ELEMENTARY)

Objectives

- Understand and produce frequently used sentences and expressions related to areas of immediate relevance (basic personal information, family, shopping, local geography, study, and work).
- Communicate in routine situations and describe personal experiences, one's surroundings, and matters related to immediate needs in an appropriate way.

Duration and Features

The course lasts **10 weeks** and includes **8 hours of lessons per week**, for a total of **80 hours**.

B1 LEVEL SEMESTER COURSE (INTERMEDIATE)

Objectives

- Initiate, maintain and conclude short and simple conversations.
- Understand routine spoken exchanges.
- Exchange ideas about familiar topics.
- Describe experiences, dreams, hopes, and explain opinions, plans and intentions.

Duration and Features

The course lasts **10 weeks** and includes **8 hours of lessons per week**, for a total of **80 hours**.

B2 LEVEL SEMESTER COURSE (UPPER-INTERMEDIATE)

Objectives

- Discuss complex topics.
- Explain viewpoints by presenting advantages and disadvantages.
- Interact fluently with native speakers.
- Produce clear and detailed written essays.

Duration and Features

The course lasts **10 weeks** and includes **8 hours of lessons per week**, for a total of **80 hours**.

C1 LEVEL SEMESTER COURSE (ADVANCED)

Objectives

- Understand long and complex texts.
- Use language flexibly for social, professional, and academic purposes.
- Reflect on language varieties and linguistic variations.
- Produce clear well-structured essays.

Duration and Features

The course lasts **10 weeks** and includes **8 hours of lessons per week**, for a total of **80 hours**.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE CERTIFICATION EXAM

EXAM FORMAT AND ECTS CREDIT AWARD

To be eligible for the final examination, students must register through the Cineca system within the deadlines specified in the General Calendar (see the General Calendar published on the CLA website).

A1 LEVEL

The examination consists of:

- Computer-based test

A2, B1, B2, C1 LEVELS

The examination consists of three parts:

- Computer-based test
- Written test
- Speaking test

Examinations are held exclusively on the scheduled dates, which are announced several months in advance. Only registered candidates are allowed to take the exam.

Only one level examination may be taken in each exam session. If you pass the exam, you may take the next higher level in the following session. If you do not pass, you may retake the same level in the next available session.

If you pass the computer-based test (minimum score: 50/100 in each section) but do not pass the written or speaking test (minimum score: 60/100), the results of the computer-based test will remain valid for one year.

ECTS Credits

ECTS credits are awarded after successfully completing the examination:

- Erasmus students should refer to the table published in the “Documents” section of the University of Verona Exchange Students webpage. The recognition of these credits always depends on the student’s home university.
- For regular students of the University of Verona, the awarding of ECTS credits is determined by the relevant Academic Department Office.

IMPORTANT: For the computer-based test, candidates must arrive **5 minutes before** the scheduled starting time. For the listening section, candidates must use their own wired earphones with a **3.5 mm jack** (AirPods and Bluetooth headphones are not permitted). Candidates without suitable earphones will not be allowed to take the test.

A1 LEVEL

COMPUTER-BASED TEST

The test consists of:

Listening Comprehension (LC)

- 2 listening tests:
 - 5 short dialogues with multiple-choice questions (3 options)
 - 1 dialogue followed by 5 multiple-choice questions (3 options)
- Duration: **20 minutes**

Reading Comprehension (RC)

- 2 reading tests:
 - 5 sentences with a matching exercise (3 options)
 - 1 text (email) with 5 multiple-choice questions (3 options)
- Duration: **20 minutes**

Use of Language (UL)

- 2 language-use tests:
 - 10 grammar completion questions (3 options)
 - 10 matching questions (12 options)
- Duration: **20 minutes**

A2 LEVEL

COMPUTER-BASED TEST

The test consists of:

Listening Comprehension (LC)

- 2 listening tests featuring non-authentic recordings lasting approximately 1–2 minutes
- 10 True/False questions
- 5 multiple-choice questions (3 options)
- Questions follow the order of the recording
- Duration: **20 minutes**

Reading Comprehension (RC)

- 2 reading tests based on texts of 150–250 words
- 5 multiple-choice questions (3 options)
- 5 True/False questions
- Questions follow the order of the text
- Duration: **20 minutes**

Use of Language (UL)

- 2 language-use tests:
 - 10 grammar completion questions (3 options)
 - 10 matching questions (12 options)
- Duration: **20 minutes**

WRITTEN TEST

Written composition with the following characteristics:

- Text types: narrative, email/letter, descriptive
- Length: approximately **150 words**
- Time allowed: **60 minutes**
- Assessment criteria:
 - relevance to the task
 - grammatical accuracy
 - spelling
 - vocabulary

SPEAKING TEST

Oral interview with the following characteristics:

- Conducted in pairs

The test includes:

- Personal presentation
- Description of a picture
- Role-play of a communicative situation
- Duration: **15 minutes**

Assessment criteria:

- Communicative skills
- Pronunciation
- Fluency
- Grammatical accuracy
- Vocabulary

B1 LEVEL

COMPUTER-BASED TEST

The test consists of:

- **2 Listening Comprehension (LC) tests:** non-authentic audio recordings lasting approximately 3–4 minutes; 10 True/False questions presented in the same order as the recording. **Time:** 20 minutes
- **1 Reading Comprehension (RC) test:** texts of 300–350 words; either 5 multiple-choice questions (3 options) or 10 True/False questions, presented in the same order as the text. **Time:** 20 minutes

- **2 Language Use (LU) tests:** 10 grammar gap-fill questions with multiple-choice answers (3 options) plus 1 grammar and vocabulary cloze test with 10 gaps (13 answer options). **Time:** 20 minutes

WRITTEN EXAM

Written composition with the following characteristics:

- Text types: narrative, letter, descriptive text
- Length: approximately 200 words
- Time allowed: 60 minutes
- Assessment criteria: relevance to the prompt, grammatical accuracy, spelling, vocabulary, cohesion, and overall writing style.

ORAL EXAM

Oral interview with the following characteristics:

- Conducted in pairs

The test consists of:

- A personal introduction, description of a picture, and simulation of a communicative situation (role-play)
- Duration: 15 minutes
- Assessment criteria: communicative skills, pronunciation, fluency, grammatical accuracy, and vocabulary.

B2 LEVEL

COMPUTER-BASED TEST

The test consists of:

- **1 Listening Comprehension (LC) test:** authentic audio recordings lasting approximately 4 minutes; 10 True/False questions presented in the same order as the recording. **Time:** 20 minutes
- **1 Reading Comprehension (RC) test:** texts of 450–500 words; 5 multiple-choice questions (3 options), presented in the same order as the text. **Time:** 20 minutes
- **2 Language Use (LU) tests:** 10 verb-completion questions with multiple-choice answers (4 options) plus 1 grammar and vocabulary cloze test with 10 gaps (15 answer options). **Time:** 20 minutes

WRITTEN EXAM

Written composition with the following characteristics:

- Text types: narrative, argumentative and descriptive.
- Length: approximately 350 words
- Time allowed: 90 minutes
- Assessment criteria: relevance to the prompt, grammatical accuracy, spelling, vocabulary, cohesion, and overall writing style.

ORAL EXAM

Interview with the following characteristics:

- Conducted in pairs

The test consists of:

- A monologue based on prompts provided by the examiner
- An argumentative dialogue based on prompts provided by the examiner
- Duration: 20 minutes
- Assessment criteria: communicative skills, pronunciation, fluency, grammatical accuracy, and vocabulary.

C1 LEVEL

COMPUTER-BASED TEST

The test consists of:

- **1 Listening Comprehension (LC) test:** authentic audio recordings lasting 5–6 minutes; 10 True/False questions. **Time:** 20 minutes
- **1 Reading Comprehension (RC) test:** 5 multiple-choice questions (4 options). **Time:** 20 minutes
- **2 Language Use (LU) tests:** 10 grammar gap-fill questions with multiple-choice answers (4 options) plus 1 vocabulary cloze test with 10 gaps (15 answer options). **Time:** 20 minutes

WRITTEN EXAM

Written composition with the following characteristics:

- Text types: formal letter, argumentative essay
- Length: at least 350 words
- Time allowed: 90 minutes
- Assessment criteria: relevance to the prompt, grammatical accuracy, spelling, vocabulary, cohesion, and overall writing style.

ORAL EXAM

Interview with the following characteristics:

- Conducted in pairs

Candidates must demonstrate the ability to participate actively and effectively in a conversation with their partner-candidate.

The oral examination consists of:

1. An interview with the examiner based on the description and discussion of materials provided by the examiner (for example: describing and comparing two photographs, describing the content of a short current affairs text, or commenting on a table or graph), supported by guiding questions.

2. A role-play with another candidate, in which the examiner assigns roles within situations requiring participants to make decisions and justify them.

Additional information:

- Examination materials are provided approximately 15 minutes before the beginning of the oral test.
- Duration: 20 minutes

Assessment criteria: communicative skills, pronunciation, fluency, grammatical accuracy and vocabulary.