

ITALIAN at N.U.I. GALWAY



FIRST YEAR ARTS BOOKLET 2011/12

**ITALIAN,
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES
AND CULTURES**
Top Floor, Arts Millennium Building, NUI, Galway.
Telephone 091 - 493792
Fax 091 - 495501
E-mail italian@nuigalway.ie
Website <http://www.nuigalway.ie/italian>

Introduction Italian at N.U.I. Galway

Almost all students who study Italian in Galway start at **beginners level**, no previous knowledge of the language is required. Students are organized into **small groups** at the start of term and are also assigned **conversation** and **language laboratory** groups. The aim of the course in first year is to give students a good grounding in Italian so that by the end of the year they are able to **read, write and speak the language**.

The course is taught by a combination of lecturers, both **native and non native** speakers, who use the direct method of modern language instruction. Students will gradually be introduced to the main areas of language acquisition and will learn writing, oral, aural and comprehension skills. By the end of the year students should be able to converse and comprehend a variety of topics and situations that are normally encountered in everyday situations at home or abroad. Each learning session is divided between language tuition, grammar, comprehension and oral skills. Audiovisual material is used in order improve oral and comprehension ability.





Course Structure

Language:

- Students attend classes on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday where they learn the basics of Italian grammar. These are the main classes for language tuition and acquisition of knowledge.
- On Friday students can choose to attend a tutorial class which builds up vocabulary and also repeats and revises some of the grammar points covered during the week.

Italian culture and society:

All Arts students attend a culture course on Mondays which introduces students to Italian history, society and culture. During this course students will learn skills such as conducting research in the library, doing an internet project, writing a critical review and working as part of a group project. More details of this course are provided on p. 6.

Language Laboratory:

Each week students will practice their pronunciation and listening comprehension in the language laboratory. This hour gives students the opportunity to use the latest technology in the acquisition of essential language skills.

Conversation Classes:

During these classes students will be introduced to everyday situations of Italian life such as ordering food in a restaurant, booking a ticket and having a basic conversation in Italian. These small group classes give students the opportunity to practice what they have learnt during the week and to develop their oral skills.



WHY STUDY ITALIAN?

Here are just some of the reasons why students choose to study Italian at NUI Galway:

- Because the quality of care, individual attention and successful teaching devoted to students by members of the department ensures that the programme is very rewarding. Italian is taught in **small groups** with students benefiting from greater interaction with lecturers.
- Because it is **enjoyable!** Students are welcome to join the Italian Society, which organizes social and cultural events and provides an ideal opportunity for Irish and Italian students to meet and socialize. Various events are also organized by the Department during the academic year, such as seminars, exhibitions, lectures and social evenings.
- Because of the opportunity to **spend a year of your degree in Italy**, discovering a new and vibrant country.
- Learn many **transferable skills** (including: communication skills; teamwork; problem solving; time management; research; planning and organisation; initiative and creativity)



CONTACTS WITH ITALY

Students are encouraged to spend time in Italy in order to deepen their knowledge of the culture and perfect their command of the language. The Italian Department at N.U.I., Galway, has for many years played an active role in the Socrates (former Erasmus) exchange programme, establishing cooperation links with the following Italian Universities: Roma, Bologna, Torino, Milano, Trento, Urbino, Genova, Udine and Verona. Students who take the B.A. International spend their third year at one of these universities.



COURSE DETAILS

Students who take First Arts Italian follow THREE modules:

<i>Code</i>	<i>Module</i>	<i>Semester</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
IT124	Italian Language 1	1	5
IT125	Italian Language 2	2	5
IT112	Introduction to Italian culture and language	1 and 2	5

<i>Course</i>	<i>Semester</i>	<i>Contact hours/weekly</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
IT124 Italian Language 1	1	5	5
IT125 Italian Language 2	2	5	5

Course Coordinators: *Lindsay Myers & Maria Rosaria Coda for Semester One*
Course Coordinator: *Anne O'Connor for Semester Two.*

Course description: The course, open to all students, both beginners and non beginners, focuses on the four main language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) using regular practice based, as much as possible, on authentic material carefully selected to provide a gradual introduction to the structures and functions of the language. Students will achieve a good level of fluency by the end of the year to enable them to cope with everyday situations in Italy. Students will also be offered additional tuition in the multi-media labs and revision classes are organized during the year to help students learning a new language.

Method of assessment and examination: Continuous assessment is a central part of the course and students will hand in homework each week which will be corrected by the lecturer. At the end of each semester, there is a written language paper and a lab test. For a more detailed breakdown of marks see **Allocation of marks (p. 7)**

Languages of instruction: English and Italian

Core texts: *Parliamo Italiano, Student Book.*

<i>Course</i>	<i>Semester</i>	<i>Contact hours/weekly</i>	<i>ECTS</i>
IT112 Introduction to Italian Culture and Language	1 & 2	1	5

This is a year-long course which is divided into two parts:

- **Part One: Introduction to Italian Culture**

Lectures take place on Monday 12-1 in Charles McMunn Theatre in the Concourse.

Course Coordinators: Lindsay Myers & Maria Rosaria Coda for Semester One

Course Coordinator: Anne O'Connor for Semester Two.

Course description: This course is designed to give students an idea of some of the main trends in Italian history, society and culture. It gives students a better understanding of the country behind the Italian language and gives a context to many issues students will encounter in Italian society today.

The course also aims to give students a grounding in research skills which will help them in their time at university. In order to achieve this student are given various tasks during the year, some to be done in an individual capacity, others to be completed in groups. These tasks are intended to introduce students to the many areas of research available to them, from the library, to the web, from group work to individual analysis. Students will also be taught how to write a critical commentary on a film and further instruction will be given on how to write and reference sources. There is no written exam in the summer for this course.

Methods of assessment and examination:

Library worksheet – 15%
 History Quiz – 20%
 Cinema Assignment – 35%
 Internet Project – 30%

Language of instruction: English

Texts: Handouts and reading lists will be supplied where necessary.

Assignments: All assignments for this course must be submitted to the Italian Department Secretary, (Ms. M. Logan , Room 310, Arts Millennium Building, top floor), and students must sign the register to show that their essay(s) have been received.

Note - essays sent by e-mail will NOT BE ACCEPTED.

- **Part Two: Introduction to Spoken Italian**

Students choose a conversation class which fits in with their timetable from the three classes available. These classes take place on Monday 3-4, Thursday 1-2, and Friday 9-10.

Lecturers: Italian Language Assistants

Course description: This course helps students to develop their spoken Italian so that at the end of the year they are able to conduct a conversation in Italian.

Method of assessment and examination: Attendance and participation in conversation classes (20%) and an end of year oral exam (80%)

Languages of instruction: Italian

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Regular **attendance** is mandatory in First Year Italian and a proportion of the final marks will be given for this requirement
- Students must obtain a **minimum of 40%** in the language modules in order to progress to Second Year Italian.

ALLOCATION OF MARKS FOR 1BA ITALIAN COURSES

IT 124: Italian Language 1 (Semester 1): 5 credits

Division of marks: Mid term test – 15%
Lab test – 10%
Continuous Assessment – 15%
Christmas exam – 60%

IT 125: Italian Language 2 (Semester 2): 5 credits

Division of marks: Lab test – 15%
Continuous Assessment – 15%
Summer exam – 70%

IT 112: Introduction to Italian Language and Culture (Semesters 1 & 2): 5 credits

Part One (50%): Library worksheet – 15%
History Quiz – 20%
Cinema Assignment – 35%
Internet Project – 30%

Part Two (50%): Oral exam – 80%
Attendance and participation in conversation classes – 20%

SEMESTER DATES

First Year Students

		2011/12
<u>First Semester</u>		
Registration and Teaching begins		Monday, 12th September, 2011
Teaching ends		Friday, 2 nd December, 2011
Christmas Vacation		Saturday, 17th December, 2011 - Sunday, 8th January, 2012
<u>Second Semester</u>		2012
Teaching begins		Monday, 9th January, 2012
Teaching ends for Easter and teaching is finished for the Semester)		Friday, 30 th March, 2012
Easter vacation and Study Week		Saturday, 31 st March – Monday 16 th April, 2012
Examinations begin		Tuesday, 17 th April, 2012
Examinations end		Friday, 18 th May, 2012

Easter in 2012 is on 8th April

CONTACT DETAILS

Head of Discipline

Professor Paolo Bartoloni

Office: Room 311, Arts Millennium Building

Tel: 091 492392

E-mail: paolo.bartoloni@nuigalway.ie

First Year Coordinator

Dr. Anne O'Connor

Office: Room 333, Arts Millennium Building

Tel: 091 493794

E-mail: anne.oconnor@nuigalway.ie

Administrative Assistant

Margaret Logan

Office: Room 310, Arts Millennium Building

Tel: 091 493792

E-mail: margaret.logan@nuigalway.ie

Office hours: Monday to Friday 9.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.

Exams:

Please note that the dates for in-class tests and the oral exam will be communicated to you in class and are also given on the syllabus for each semester. Please put these dates in your diaries immediately.

It is your responsibility to make sure that you are in Galway for all exams.

