

Italian 1 Class Description

Students will be introduced to the basic rules of pronunciation, gender, greetings, and numbers. The present tense of regular verbs as well as the common irregular verbs such as avere, essere, fare, and andare will be studied throughout the year. Other grammatical points will include possessive adjectives and direct object pronouns. Vocabulary themes will be colors, calendar, weather, transportation, buildings in a city, descriptive adjectives, family, and leisure time.

The typical Italian 1 student has never studied Italian or has not used or studied the language for such an extended period that it is necessary to start over.

Italian 2 Class Description

Students will be introduced to the simple past tense, the imperfect tense and the difference between the two tenses. Other grammatical points will include reflexive verbs, indirect object pronouns, interrogatives, and adverbs. Vocabulary themes will be food and drink, daily routine, and mass media.

The typical Italian 2 student knows some basic grammar, is comfortable with pronunciation, has a working vocabulary of about two hundred words, and can form simple sentences in the present tense.

Italian 3 Class Description

Students will be introduced to the future tense and the imperative mood. Other grammatical points will include the comparison, the superlative, indefinite adjectives, the use of ne and ci, indefinite pronouns, and the impersonal si. Vocabulary themes will be body parts, vacation, shopping, and housing.

The typical Italian 3 student has completed Italian 1 and 2, has a working vocabulary of hundreds of words, can form simple sentences in the present, past and imperfect tenses, and can answer questions in a controlled setting, using memorized expressions.

Italian 4 Class Description

Students will be introduced to the conditional and conditional past tenses, and the three tenses of the subjunctive mood. Other grammatical points will include relative pronouns and the special use of volerci and metterci. Vocabulary themes will be the environment, the performing arts, social issues, and the workplace.

The typical Italian 4 student has completed Italian 3, is able to participate in simple dialogue, and can generate questions in the target language recognizable by a native speaker.

Italian 5 Class Description

Members taking this course should have completed Italian 3 or 4, or be taking Italian 3 simultaneously. We will focus our discussion on level-appropriate selected topics to be prepared before class or discussed spontaneously. Grammar may be reviewed and emphasized as required by the context. Communication exclusively in Italian will be encouraged. Regular reading of Italian newspapers, magazines and general Italian culture via internet is highly recommended to fuel discussions.

Italian 6 Class Description

Members taking this course should have completed Italian 3 or 4, or be taking Italian 4 simultaneously. Students must feel comfortable carrying on a complex conversation, with a firm foundation in advanced grammatical construction. Communication exclusively in Italian will be encouraged. The main goal of this course is to maintain and improve the members' fluency and competence in speaking and understanding Italian. A literary text will be assigned as preparation for class, with emphasis on reading aloud and spontaneous analysis and discussions regarding the text and related topics.