



University  
of Exeter



# Evening language programme 2025/26

## Course title: Italian Beginner Part I (A1.1)

### Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of the course is to offer an introduction to Italian language for a range of basic communication purposes. Therefore, by the end of the course participants will be able to:

1. Understand basic notices, instructions or information.
2. Complete basic forms, and write notes including times, dates and places.
3. Take part in a basic factual conversation on a predictable topic.

Participants will develop some basic reading, listening, speaking and writing skills through a series of task-oriented sessions and will be provided with informal formative feedback during contact hours. The completion level of the course is broadly equivalent to the *A1.1* level of the [Common European Framework](#).

In seminars, participants will have to engage in practical exercises and group interaction in order to develop relevant language-specific learning strategies. The role of the instructor is to facilitate this process, provide useful tools and encourage participants to become independent learners and basic users of the languages too.

### Language-specific information:

Italian is often cited as being the major modern language most similar to the Latin of the Roman empire. With 85 million speakers worldwide and 67 million speakers in Europe alone, Italian is the second-most-widely spoken native language in the European Union and the British Council has named Italian as one of the ten most important languages to the UK over the next twenty years. It is an official language in Italy, Switzerland, San Marino, and the Vatican, with significant communities in many others, including the United States. Driven by trade in the Middle Ages, Italian became the *lingua franca* in much of Europe and the Mediterranean, replacing its predecessor Latin. In modern times, loanwords from Italian persist in many languages, especially in areas such as the arts, music, and cooking.

### Prerequisite:

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for complete beginners who wish to explore Italian for the first time.

### Coursebook and/or learning resources:

To be confirmed by the teacher.