香港中文大學 CUHK | 語言學及現代語言系 Department of Linguistics and Modern Languages

Term 2, 2026 - 2027

Course Code & Title:	ITAL1000- Italian I
Language of Instruction: English	Units: 3

Course Description

As the first in a series of six language courses, this course invites students without prior knowledge of Italian to explore the basic features of the Italian language. Supported by audiovisual aids, students will receive intensive practice mainly in speaking and listening the language but also in some reading and writing Italian through interactive class work, homework and exercises. They will become familiar with the basic concepts of Italian grammar and learn how to interact in some simple everyday situations.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course the students will be able to have a correct pronunciation of the language, as well as getting familiar with its different basic features. They will be able to have a basic conversation and oral understanding about various everyday situations such as introducing themselves and others, greeting, asking and giving information, etc. The same skills will be developed for the written language (reading and writing) but the focus will stay on the oral skills; The course will also give the learners some knowledge of Italy, its culture and lifestyle.

Course Syllabus

Lesson	Speech Acts	Grammar	Culture
Unit 1 First approach	- Greetings - Introducing yourself and others - Nations & nationalities - Ask to repeat an information - Counting to 20 - Check-in at a hotel	Alphabet and sounds, pronunciation, subject pronouns, singular adjectives and nouns, present of *to be* and *to have*, some definite articles	Formal and formal way of greeting, common names; most famous places and food
Unit 2 People and professions	- Ask and give personal information - Ask about language skills of others and provide yours - Talk about profession and place of work - Ask and tell your age - Enroll in a language course	Regular verbs in ARE, some question words, present of *to do*, simple prepositions, plural personal pronouns	Some geographic information about Italy.
Unit 3 Enjoy your meal	- Make an order at bar and restaurant - Express your preferences - Make a phone reservation	Verbs *want*, *can* and *prefer*, plural definite articles	Italian food, drinks and recipes.
Unit 4 Home and hotel	- Describe a house / hotel - Ask assistance in hotel	Verbs in *-ire*, *must*, adverb *molto*	Famous monuments

Course Components							
Teaching Mode							
On-site face-to-face interactive classwork: 100%							
Learning Activities							
Interactive classwork [1] (hr)		Extra-curricular activities (hr)		Web-based teaching (hr)		Homework / Self-study (hr)	
in /	out class	in /	out class	in /	out class	in /	out class
3			0.5		1		3
M			O		M		M

M = Mandatory / O = Optional

[1] Interactive classwork focuses on student-centered activities such as pair work, group work, role-playing and student-teacher interaction.

Assessment Type		
Task nature	Description	Percentage
Participation in class and Homework	Participation 5%, regular homework 5%, attendance /late arrival 5%	15%
Unit 1 and Unit 2 Progress test	Includes: reading comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, writing and listening	25%
Spoken Production and Interaction	Production: 2 to 3 minutes about a topic assigned Interaction: 2 to 3 minutes of dialogue about a topic assigned	20%
Unit 3 and Unit 4 Final test	Includes: reading comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, writing and listening	40%
Important Points to Note for Assessments: All in-class assessments (written and oral) are conducted under **closed-book conditions** unless otherwise announced by the course teachers explicitly. Students are not permitted to consult textbooks, workbooks, notes, dictionaries, handouts, or any other reference materials during the assessment. Mobile phones, smart watches, tablets, laptops, AI tools, and all other electronic devices must be switched off and put away before the assessment begins.		

Notes:

- Students are required to arrive on time.
- Students are required to attend at least 75% of the class. Treat 75% attendance as the minimum, not the maximum.
- **Should a student miss more than 25% of the class, he/she will automatically fail the course.**
- If you are unable to attend, get informed about what content and homework you missed and make it up yourself.

Test 1 and Test 2 include: Reading comprehension, Grammar & Written expression and Listening.

- For missed tests, make-up tests will not be arranged unless the student can provide an official supporting document, such as a medical certificate.

Feedback for Evaluation
Our language programme highly values students' feedback and comments and is happy to use them for reflection on our teaching and improvement. Students are very welcome to provide comments and feedback on the course at any time to their course teacher or the course level coordinator through email or in personal conversation. In addition, students' feedback will be collected in the middle of the term through an open-ended questionnaire and the teacher will discuss the feedback in class and make improvements if necessary. The course will also follow the university's course evaluation exercise at the end of the term, and students' feedback will be used for future course planning and teaching.

Assessment Rubrics				
Grade Descriptors:				
A	**B**	**C**	**D**	**F**
Outstanding performance in all learning outcomes and meeting all specified assessment requirements. Can fully understand and appropriately use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfillment of needs of a concrete type. Can ask and answer questions about personal details in a competent way. Can interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics appropriately.	Good performance in all learning outcomes Can understand and mostly appropriately use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfillment of needs of a concrete type. Can ask and answer questions about personal details in a suitable way. Can interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics mostly appropriately.	Satisfactory performance in the majority of learning outcomes. Can partially understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfillment of needs of a concrete type. Can ask and answer questions about personal details in a basic way. Can interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics partially appropriately.	Barely satisfactory performance in a number of learning outcomes. Can rarely understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfillment of needs of a concrete type. Can hardly ask and answer questions about personal details. Can poorly interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics.	Unsatisfactory performance in a number of learning outcomes and/or failure to meet specified assessment requirements. Cannot understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the fulfillment of needs of a concrete type. Cannot ask and answer questions about personal details. Cannot interact in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics.

Learning Resources
Required Readings and Course Materials: Textbook *Dieci A1* ALMA Edizioni
Recommended Readings & Library Resources: Different audio-visual materials will be provided by the Teacher during the course. A good bilingual dictionary is recommended.

Course Schedule (Subject to change):

Day	Week	Lezione	Content	Assessments	
Jan 14	Week 1	Lezione 1	Intro / Unit 1		
Jan 21	Week 2	Lezione 2	Unit 1		
Jan 28	Week 3	Lezione 3	Unit 1		
Feb 04	Week 4	Lezione 4	Unit 2		
Feb 11	Week 5	Lunar New Year Vacation			
Feb 18	Week 6	Lezione 5	Unit 2		
Feb 25	Week 8	Lezione 6	Unit 2	Progress Test	
Mar 04	Week 9	Lezione 7	Unit 3		
Mar 11	Week 10	Reading Week			
Mar 18	Week 11	Lezione 8	Unit 3		
Mar 25	Week 12	Lezione 9	Unit 3		
Apr 01	Week 13	Lezione 10	Unit 4		
Apr 08	Week 14	Lezione 11	Unit 4		
Apr 15	Week 15	Lezione 12	Oral Exams	Oral Exams	
Apr 22	Week 16	Lezione 13		Final Exam	

Class sections and teachers' contact details:

Class	Time	Classroom	No of weeks	Teacher	Email
ITAL1000	Thursday 09.30-12.15pm	ERB_408	13	Dr. Beatrice De Magistris	beatricedemagistris@cuhk.edu.hk

All course sections comprise **13 teaching weeks (39 contact hours)**. Make-up classes will be arranged whenever necessary to compensate for the shortfall due to public holidays, class suspensions for university events, or other approved situations.

Adverse Weather Arrangements

In the event that a face-to-face class is suspended due to adverse weather conditions, the teacher may, where appropriate, conduct the class online at the scheduled class time. Students will be informed through Blackboard and/or email of any such arrangement. If a student is unable to participate in the online session due to technical difficulties or other unforeseen circumstances, alternative arrangements (e.g. access to lecture recordings, supplementary materials, or make-up arrangements, where applicable) will be provided.

For further information and inquiries, you are welcome to contact:

Contact	Telephone	Email	Office
Mr. Louis MUNSCH (Course Coordinator)	3943 8617	louis.munsch@cuhk.edu.hk	Rm G23, Leung Kau Kui Building (KKB) Office Hours: upon appointment
General Office	3943 9836	lin@cuhk.edu.hk	Rm G17, KK Leung Building Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:30pm Friday: 8:45am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:45pm

Details of Course Website
CUHK Blackboard: https://blackboard.cuhk.edu.hk

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/.

With each assignment, students will be required to submit a signed declaration that they are aware of these policies, regulations, guidelines and procedures.

- In the case of group projects, all members of the group should be asked to sign the declaration, each of whom is responsible and liable to disciplinary actions, irrespective of whether he/she has signed the declaration and whether he/she has contributed, directly or indirectly, to the problematic contents.
- For assignments in the form of a computer-generated document that is principally text-based and submitted via VeriGuide, the statement, in the form of a receipt, will be issued by the system upon students' uploading of the soft copy of the assignment.
- Students are fully aware that their work may be investigated by AI content detection software to determine originality.
- Students are fully aware of the AI approach(es) adopted in the course. In the case where some AI tools are allowed, students have made proper acknowledgment and citations as suggested by the course teacher.

Assignments without a properly signed declaration will not be graded by teachers.
Only the final version of the assignment should be submitted via VeriGuide.

The submission of a piece of work, or a part of a piece of work, for more than one purpose (e.g. to satisfy the requirements in two different courses) without declaration to this effect shall be regarded as having committed undeclared multiple submissions. It is common and acceptable to reuse a turn of phrase or a sentence or two from one's own work; but wholesale reuse is problematic. In any case, agreement from the course teacher(s) concerned should be obtained prior to the submission of the piece of work.

The copyright of the teaching materials, including lecture notes, assignments and examination questions, etc., produced by staff members/ teachers of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) belongs to CUHK. Students may download the teaching materials produced by the staff members/ teachers from the Learning Management Systems, e.g. Blackboard, adopted by CUHK for their own educational use, but shall not distribute/ share/ copy the materials to a third-party without seeking prior permission from the staff members/ teachers concerned.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools in Teaching, Learning and Assessment

All use of AI tools is prohibited in assignments and assessment tasks.

For assignments and assessment tasks that count towards the final course grades, students are not allowed to submit work which is produced with the collaboration of or supported by the use of any generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT)*. Any breach of the regulations will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and will be handled according to the University's *Procedures for Handling Cases of Academic Dishonesty.*
In case of queries, students should seek advice from the course teacher.

For more information, please subscribe to our Instagram accounts!

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