

Spring 2021



Discover Italian

ITAL 120

ONLINE

MTWTh: 1:00 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.

Section #: 34405D

MTWTh: 4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Section #: 34407D

TWThF: 11:00 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Section #: 34409D



USC University of Southern California

ITAL 120: Italian I

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Welcome to your first semester of Italian at USC! After the successful completion of this course, you will be able to perform the following tasks:

- Introduce and talk about yourself, other people and your immediate environment (e.g., hobbies, likes/dislikes, your daily routine, your home and campus), using simple sentences and memorized phrases;
- Begin and maintain conversations by using memorized language and asking some simple questions;
- Report basic information about your activities in the present;
- Write one-page compositions on controlled topics (self, friends and family, routine, chores, etc.), using simple sentences;
- Listen to simple dialogues and short descriptions and identify and demonstrate comprehension of the main facts;
- Identify the text type and extract information from short readings (such as menus, ads, web pages and forms), and react or reply to this information;
- Identify some aspects of Italian culture and daily life (such as family, university, food and practices), as well as key products of certain regions in Italy.

OUR APPROACH TO TEACHING LANGUAGES

At our institution we utilize ACTFL and the National Standards to organize the acquisition of Italian language around five key notions: **communication**; **cultures**; **connections**; **comparisons**; and **communities**. Thus, our goal is for you to develop the following abilities:

1. To communicate in Italian (**communication**);
2. To appreciate and understand Italian cultural products, perspectives, and practices (**cultures**);
3. To connect the study of Italian to other fields of knowledge, so that you can deepen your understanding of those disciplines and appreciate their specific features (**connections**);
4. To better understand how language and culture work by contrasting your own culture to Italian culture (**comparisons**);
5. To use Italian and the knowledge you will gain in this course beyond the university setting and in the society at large (**communities**).

More specifically, for point 1 above (**communication**) you will develop competence in listening, speaking, reading and writing in Italian. In order to develop these skills, you will be

actively engaged in authentic communicative activities that have real world relevance. Role-plays, pair- and group-work and interactions with your instructor will provide you with numerous opportunities to interact in Italian with other learners. Authentic materials, such as ads, brochures, videos, songs, newspaper and magazine articles, will be used to expose you to contemporary Italian language and culture. Our courses are student-centered, so you will have many occasions to practice your developing linguistic skills on a daily-basis. Most of our lessons will be spent helping you acquire and practice the linguistic structures, vocabulary, and cultural skills that you will need to function in various real-world, communicative contexts. Pair- and group-work will give everyone a chance to participate actively and simultaneously during the lesson. It also will give you a chance to practice your conversational skills more freely and without the fear of making errors. Your instructor will explain and clarify any confusing points, if needed.

ITALIAN 120 LANGUAGE PRACTICUM: OPTIONAL CONCURRENT ITAL 012X

Need more practice? Please consider enrolling in the one day a week, one-unit, credit/no credit ITAL 012X: Italian 120 Language Practicum. This course provides students with a better understanding of English grammar as it relates to Italian in order to improve students' Italian language skills. The course emphasizes similarities, differences, and pitfalls, and it provides learning strategies such as semantic mapping for generating and organizing ideas, amongst others. Repetition and study habits will also be addressed.

STUDY ABROAD: ROME, FLORENCE AND MILAN

Dornsife's Department of French and Italian and Overseas Studies have numerous study abroad options to fit into almost every student's course plan and to help accelerate language study. Whether you are interested in a Maymester (ITAL 347), a semester of Italian in a four-week summer program (Rome ISP), a semester or an entire academic year in Milan or Florence, you have options! Please feel free to talk with your instructor or email fortney@usc.edu.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL

For Italian 120 you will need to purchase access to Percorsi 2020 through LingroLearning and three fifteen-minute online conversations on TalkAbroad.

a. PERCORSI 2020 (Authors: Francesca ITALIANO and Irene MARCHEGIANI)

Students should purchase access to Percorsi 2020 through LingroLearning. Subscriptions are available directly at lingrolearning.com. You will receive information on Blackboard and during the lesson on how to enroll in the proper section.

You will need the following course ID to register:

b. TALKABROAD

You will receive information on Blackboard and during the lesson on how to register for three fifteen-minute online conversations on TalkAbroad.