

Italian A Level

Course description:

The Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in Italian has been developed to inspire all students who have an appreciation of the language, literature, film and culture of the Italian-speaking world. It is a motivating course of study that enables you to develop an advanced level of knowledge and understanding of the Italian language, the culture of Italy, as well as practical and valuable language and transferable study skills. This course will help you to prepare for higher education and enhance your employability profile. Inspiring and engaging themes provide clear links to some of the most fundamental and interesting aspects of Italian culture. The course has a straightforward structure with four engaging themes – *I cambiamenti della società italiana; La cultura politica ed artistica nei Paesi di lingua italiana; L'Italia: una società in evoluzione; Dal Fascismo ai giorni nostri.*

Qualifications required:

Minimum entry requirements apply. We prefer candidates to have a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Italian. If you are a fluent native speaker with no formal qualifications, please speak to Mrs Briggs or Miss Romano.

Aims of the course:

- Develop spontaneity and grammatical understanding.
- Enable students to develop ideas and use language to persuade and analyse and give critical responses in their writing and speaking.
- Develop awareness of Italian culture through a rich choice of literary texts and films including both contemporary and classical titles.

Future prospects:

You can progress on to:

- Italian or other language degree courses.
- A wide range of careers including translating, interpreting, international business, sales, and teaching.
- A language is an excellent addition to wide range of subjects, from medicine to business, and will enhance your employability.

Student feedback:

'Italian is a challenging course which I enjoy because it covers a wide variety of cultural as well as linguistic learning.'

'I am pleased to be developing my communication skills and feel that my English vocabulary is increasing too!'

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Features of the course:

- enhance linguistic skills and capacity for critical thinking
- develop control of the language to convey meaning, using spoken and written skills
- learn skills and communication strategies to sustain communication and build fluency and confidence
- develop the ability to interact effectively with users of Italian in speech and in writing
- engage critically with intellectually stimulating texts, films and other materials in the original language
- equip students with transferable skills such as autonomy, resourcefulness, creativity, critical thinking, and linguistic, cultural and cognitive flexibility

ASSESSMENTS

Paper 1: Listening, reading and translation

Section A: Listening (30 marks)

A listening assessment based on a recording that features male and female Italian speakers. Students will respond to comprehension questions based on a variety of contexts and sources.

Section B: Reading (30 marks)

A reading assessment based on a variety of text types and genres where students must respond to comprehension questions.

Section C: Translation into English (20 marks) An unseen passage to be translated from Italian to English.

Paper 2: Written response to works and translation

Section A: Translation (20 marks)

Students translate an unseen passage from English into Italian.

Section B: Written response to works (literary texts) (50 marks) Students must write an extended response on the literary text studied. Students select one question from a choice of two for each of their chosen literary text(s).

Section C: Written response to works (films) (50 marks) Students who answer only one question from a literary text in Section B must now write an extended response on the film studied.

Paper 3: Speaking

An 21-23 minute assessment, following 5 minutes preparation time.

Task 1 (discussion on a theme)

Students discuss one theme from the specification based on a stimulus containing two different statements.

Task 2, Part 1 (independent research presentation)

Students present a summary of at least two of the written sources they have used for their research and give a personal response to what they have read.

Task 2, Part 2 (discussion on independent research)
Students answer questions on their presentation and then have a wider discussion on their research.

Methods of Assessment:

Italian is a linear qualification.

Paper 1, 40%; Paper 2, 30%; Paper 3, 30% of total A level marks.