



Italian Language and Culture

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What will you learn from this Elective?	<p>This Trinity Elective aims to deliver foundational knowledge of Italian language and culture through addressing key societal themes relevant to contemporary Italy. Its goal is to ensure that students grasp the essentials for effective communication, through the investigation of relevant societal challenges and cultural topics. A key cultural theme will be explored in its linguistic context at both Beginners and Advanced.</p> <p>Beginners Level: This Trinity Elective offers you the opportunity to learn the basics of Italian. Designed for complete beginners, this module is at A1 common European proficiency level. Not suitable for post- beginners.</p> <p>Advanced Level: This Trinity Elective provides the opportunity for learners who have already passed Leaving Certificate or equivalent in Italian to bring their language skills to the next level. Designed to enhance your spoken and written fluency, it is pitched at a B2 common European proficiency level.</p> <p><i>Please note: You may select either beginners or advanced but not both.</i></p>
Student Workload	<p>The Italian Language & Culture Elective incorporates a blended delivery model. Each module will involve about 100 hours of student work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 9 x 2-hour face-to-face classes (18 contact hours)- 82 hours of self-directed activities, including online activities, advance reading and assessment preparation).
Assessment Components	<p>100% continuous assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 30% 5 language quizzes• 30% Participation in online discussion board on the specific cultural/linguistic themes addressed in the module (5 original posts & 5 comments on peer posts)• 10% Reflective Learning Journal (5 responses to prompts designed to guide you in the process of reflection on your language learning experience)• 30% Presentation – An oral pre-recorded and time ‘Pecha Kucha’ style presentation and its written script that will examine a key cultural issue identified in the module uploaded to Blackboard. <p>A ‘Pecha Kucha’ (or 20x20) presentation involves preparing 20 slides which appear for 20 seconds, accompanied by a narrative. Very much</p>

	<p>in the same family as presentation styles such as lightning talks or the ‘thesis in three’ format, Pecha Kucha is a rigid and fast-moving oral presentation format for individual learners which employs 20, mostly visual, slides which are shown for strictly 20 seconds each (6 minutes and 40 seconds in total). This format keeps presentations concise, fun and fast-moving. It has been described as a kind of visual haiku, a way to deliver a more striking or memorable talk rather than using more conventional presentation methods. Students are requested to present on any topic of their choice, using this visual slide format as their prompts. Pecha Kucha presentations can be delivered synchronously, live or via video calling applications, or asynchronously as a pre-recorded and timed slide/audio presentation which is then uploaded to Blackboard for assessment. In the preparation of a Pecha Kucha presentation, learners must select images and address issues of copyright, visibility etc., craft a script or story that maintains their listeners’ attention, and manage the technical details of a timed and pre-recorded slide presentation. These are valuable transferable skills which are gained during the assessment preparation.</p>
Indicative Reading List	<p>Bauer, Laurie & Peter Trudgill. (1998). Language Myths. London: Penguin.</p> <p>Hogan-Brun, Gabrielle (2017). Linguanomics: The Market Potential of Multilingualism. London: Bloomsbury Academic.</p> <p>Pinker, Stephen. (2011). Words and Rules: The Ingredients of Language. New York: HarperCollins.</p> <p><i>This reading list will give you an indication of the types of materials you will be using in this class. A full reading list will be provided to enrolled students.</i></p>
Level Requirements	<p>Please note that the Beginner modules (A1 common European proficiency level) are suitable only for complete beginners without any prior linguistic knowledge. Advanced modules (B2 common European proficiency level) are suitable for students who have passed their Leaving Certificate examination or equivalent. Language and Culture Trinity Electives may not be taken by native speakers. We require students to declare linguistic proficiency accurately, according to these guidelines. Applications will be screened following enrolment. If students enrol for a language module that does not match their proficiency then they will be allocated randomly to any Trinity Elective in which places are available.</p>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. Communicate appropriately in the target language with other learners as well as native or competent speakers of the language, to a level approximately equivalent to CEFR level A1 for complete beginners or CEFR level B2 for non-beginners (see below for level- specific descriptions):

[A1 Complete Beginners: Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type; introduce him/herself and others; ask and answer questions about personal details; engage in simple interactions with other speakers.]

[B2 Non-beginners: Understand the main ideas of complex text on concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation; interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity; produce clear, detailed text and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.]

2. Demonstrate a knowledge and a critical understanding of the cultures and societies of countries in which a target language is spoken.
3. Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the linguistic structures, styles, registers and, as appropriate, varieties of the target language and identify how these differ from a student's first language.
4. Demonstrate an ability to critically reflect on language learning
5. Exploit, for a variety of purposes online and in class, a range of materials and other stimuli appropriate to the proficiency level attained (A1 or B2).