

Italian Linguistics III (A000731)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
 Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

Offering	Language	Teaching Method	Hours
A (semester 1)	Italian	seminar: coached	5.0 h
		exercises	
		seminar	7.5 h
		lecture	17.5 h
		guided self-study	7.5 h
		self-reliant study activities	7.5 h

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Greco, Alessandro	LW06	staff member
Crocco, Claudia	LW06	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

Programme	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Dutch - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject English - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Latin - Italian)	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

Italian

Keywords

Sociolinguistics, contemporary Italian, language variation, dialect/standard contact, standardization, regional Italian, register, CMC, written and oral Italian

Position of the course

This advanced course deepens students' understanding in the sociolinguistic situation of contemporary Italian.

The course focuses on:

- a) the Italian repertoire
- b) the restandardization of Italian

The course is intended for students who have already gained a thorough knowledge of the structure of Italian (Italian linguistics I and II).

During the course the teacher makes use of an academic register and the appropriate linguistic terminology.

The course is linked to the core competences of the Bachelor Program in Linguistics and Literature.

Contents

The course aims to familiarize students with the sociolinguistic situation of Italian.

1 lesson blocks = 1hour 15min.

This course covers the following topics:

- Linguistic repertoire of Italian: varieties, models, linguistic consequences of the political unification of Italy, language contact between standard language and dialects (6 blocks lecture + 2 bl. seminar: analysis of texts)
- Standardization of Italian: standard Italian, neo-standard Italian, regional standards, pronunciation of contemporary Italian, linguistic features of Old Italian in contemporary spoken Italian, (6 blocks lecture + 2 block seminar: analysis of texts)
- Selected topics (themes can vary year by year): e.g. language in the new media (Computer Mediated Communication), language contact between English and Italian; code-switching and language shift, etc. (2 blocks lecture + 6 block seminar: analysis of texts)

Total: 14 blocks lecture + 10 blocks seminar

- The theory is illustrated by means of a series of texts taken from newspapers, magazines, Internet, corpora of Italian, etc.
- Each student will also give a brief presentation in which she / he will analyze and discuss with the other students and the teacher

The preparation of the presentation (selection of texts, analysis, language use) is done under the supervision of the assistant.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed the courses Italian Linguistics I and II and Italian language proficiency I, II and III or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

- 1 Language skills: correct written and oral language use in Italian.
- 2 Language skills: correct oral and written reproduction of the linguistic terminology
- 3 Language skills: correct language use in the oral and written report on a read academic text (e.g. chapter of handbook or scientific article)
- 4 Understanding of the theory: understanding and correct reproduction of the linguistic concepts and theories seen during the course (study materials and lessons)
- 5 Understanding of the theory: understanding and correct reproduction of the information concerning the historical background of the current linguistic situation of Italy (study materials and lessons)
- 6 Understanding of the theory: understanding and correct reproduction of the information concerning the historical milestones of the formation of the standard (study materials and lessons)
- 7 Understanding of the theory: insight of the main characteristics of the different regional and social varieties compared to those of the standard and neo-standard varieties
- 8 Applications: accurate written and oral application of the (general and language-specific) linguistic concepts presented during the course
- 9 Applications: recognize the varieties of Italian authentic texts based on linguistic characteristics
- 10 Research skills: understand and report correctly on a read academic text
- 11 Research skills: a critical approach to scientific texts. The content of academic texts in a critical way to connect to the content of the lectures

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, lecture, seminar, self-reliant study activities, seminar: coached exercises

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lectures: during the lectures the students are supposed to take notes in addition to textbook and study materials provided by the lecturer.
- Guided self-study: students must independently a) find and analyze a number of Italian texts, b) study a number of scientific articles

- Seminar (coached exercises): exercises and/or guided reading of texts. Students can also solve the exercises in groups and can ask questions.
- Seminar: lecture where the lecturer gives examples of text analysis.
- Guided exercises: analysis of authentic texts in Italian, under the guidance of the lecturer. Students can solve the exercises in groups, and discuss and ask questions.
- Group work: Presentation and discussion in the classroom with the teacher and fellow students

Learning materials and price

The subject matter of the exam will be taken from:

- Material which is given in class (photocopies) or via Minerva: scientific articles, (hand)book chapters, etc.
- Powerpoint presentations.

Cost: 15 EUR

References

- Tullio De Mauro, 1963, *Storia linguistica dell'Italia unita*, Bari: Laterza.
- Francesco Bruni, 1997, *L'italiano nelle regioni. Lingua nazionale e identità regionali*, Torino: UTET.

Course content-related study coaching

- Specific questions can be asked during the lecturer's office hours (by appointment)

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Open book examination, oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Open book examination, participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Continuous assessment = 50% of the final result

- Written exam: open book exam = 40% of the final result
- short essays = 10% of the final result

Evaluation Methods

- Oral exam:

Oral examination (40% of the final result): open question with preparation (10 min.) and discussion of the answer. The oral exam tests the following incompetencies:

- language proficiency
- understanding of the theory
- application of the theory
- research skills

- Continuous assessment

Written open book test (40% of the end result; dictionary allowed). The student must analyze and compare texts and argue for the proposed analysis. The open book exam evaluates the following competences:

- language proficiency
- understanding of the theory
- application of the theory.
- research skills

- 10% of the final result:

- participation and exercises (analysis of texts and fragments)
- short assignments: e.g. composition of a short text on a linguistic subject + active participation in classes and extra activities (e.g. guest lectures).

NOTE: Permanent evaluation is compulsory.

Students that do not take part to the permanent evaluation cannot pass the exam

during the first exam periode and will receive 9/20. During the exam in the second exam periode, these students will receive additional questions which replace the permanent evaluation.

Calculation of the examination mark

Permanent assessment (50%)

Final exams (50%)

Facilities for Working Students

Working students can arrange a personalized study programme with the lecturer. The programma will include scientific articles, book or handbook chapters that can be autonomously studied. The permanent evaluation will be replaced by paper on a topic related to the content of the course.

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy