Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Course
Italian Linguistics II (A001859)

Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020
A (semester 2) Italian seminar: coached exercises
self-reliant study activities
lecture
guided self-study

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

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Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020
Palmieri, Maria Giuseppina LW06 staff member
Crocco, Claudia LW06 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020
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
Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology 5 A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature 5 A

Teaching languages
Italian

Keywords
Italian, linguistics, spoken language, syntax, semantics, pragmatics

Position of the course
This advanced course wants to familiarize the student with the linguistic structure of the simple sentence in contemporary Italian.
The course focuses on:
a) Syntax and information structure in the sentence
b) Syntax in the spoken language
c) History of the Italian language

Contents
The course aims to complete, develop and deepen the linguistic knowledge of the fundamental Italian language structures. The course will focus on the study of syntax, especially in the spoken language (dialogue).
The course covers the following topics
• Syntactic analysis of the sentence: X-bar theory, semantic roles, transitive, intransitive and reflexive sentences, highlighted word order and information structure
• Analysis of syntax in the spoken language (dialogue)
The students will listen to and transcribe authentic audio clips from dialogues from corpora (CLIPS, API etc.). The excerpts are in standard language or in a regional standard language. The fragments are analyzed on the level of syntax and information

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structure. For the analysis, the program for speech analysis "Praat" is used (during certain lessons the students will work with a PC).

During this course, students will also further develop their language skills.

- Reading skills: reading the syllabus and the presentations
- Listening skills: listening to the lessons and to the authentic audio fragments
- Writing skills: transcription of audio fragments; exercises / tests with open questions
- Speaking skills: oral discussion of fragments / exercises

In BA2, students also complete the study of the external history of Italian. The period XIV-XX century is tackled in BA2. The external history is offered on the basis of the syllabus (self-study). Reference to the history of the language is also made during lectures and seminars (study of the syllabus under the supervision of the assistant).

Initial competences
To have successfully completed the course Italian Language proficiency I, II and III or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means. Expected language proficiency level: B1

Final competences
1 The student reaches the language proficiency level B1+
   The student can understand the main idea of a complex text, including technical discussions of linguistics. He / she can respond spontaneously in a normal exchange with native speakers. He / she can produce clear, structured (oral and written) texts on a linguistic topic. Can compare various points of view and options in an argumentation.
   • Reading skills: independent reading of the syllabus; reading the presentations (self-study; lectures)
   • Listening skills: listening to dialogical audio clips; understanding the questions during the seminars / permanent evaluation moments (seminars; self-study)
   • Writing skills: transcription of audio clips; exercises with open questions (tutorials; guided exercises; written permanent evaluation and exam)
   • Speaking skills: oral discussion of exercises (seminars, oral continuous assessment)
2 The student correctly uses the linguistic terminology
3 Insight into the theory: The student understands the most important points from the content of the lesson and the syllabus
4 Insight into the theory: The student can recognize the syntactic structures that are discussed in the lessons (transitive, intransitive and reflexive sentences, marked word order and information structure)
5 Application of the theory: The student can independently analyze a dialogical fragment and can explain the most important syntactic properties of the fragment
6 Research skills: the student can annotate an audio file with Praat (spoken language analysis program) and has insight into the problems of the spoken language annotation and analysis

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Guided self-study, lecture, 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 study (independently and/or under the guidance of an assistant) the syllabus and analyze a number of texts

Seminar (coached exercises): exercises and/or guided reading of texts. Students can also solve the exercises in groups and can ask questions.

Learning materials and price
- Handbook (the chapters that have to been known are appointed in the lessons) (20 €):
  Carlo Cecchetto, 2002, "Introduzione alla sintassi. La teoria dei principi e dei parametri. Milano: LED"
- Extra material that will be handed out in the lessons (fotocopies) or through Minerva: 2/3 articles + book chapters
- Powerpoint-presentations

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Cost: 25-30 EUR

References

Dictionaries
- Tullio de Mauro, Grande dizionario italiano dell’uso, Torino, UTET, 2008.

Grammars
- Giuseppe Patota, Grammatica di riferimento della lingua italiana per stranieri, Firenze, Le Monnier (Società Dante Alighieri), 2003.
- Lorenzo Renzi, Giampaolo Salvi, Anna Cardinaletti (a cura di), Grande grammatica italiana di consultazione, Bologna, il Mulino, 2001, 3 voll.

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
Written examination with open questions, written examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination with open questions, written examination, oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Written examination with open questions, oral 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

Assessment moment
Permanent evaluation = 50% of the final result
Written exam final = 50% of the final result

The following evaluation methods evaluate the language level of the student:
• Listening skills: understanding the questions during the seminars / permanent evaluation moments (seminars; oral permanent evaluation)
• Writing skills: exercises with open questions (seminars, written permanent evaluation and exam)
• Speaking skills: oral discussion of exercises (seminars, oral continuous assessment)

Evaluation form
Periodical:
• Written final exam (40% final result; monolingual Italian dictionary allowed) with open questions
Permanent evaluation:
• 20% of the final result: Paper / written test with open question
• 20% of the final result: oral test about syntax (by appointment if needed)
• 20% of the end result: Transcription of audio-clips; assignments about guest lectures

ATTENTION: Participation in the permanent evaluation is mandatory.
Those who have not taken part in the permanent evaluation cannot pass the exam in the first session and receive the highest deliberable mark (9/20). In the second session this permanent evaluation is replaced by an extra exercise during the exam.

Calculation of the examination mark
• Permanent evaluation (60%)
• Periodical (40%)
For each exam / test / continuous assessment 20% (10% vocabulary + 10% grammar) of the points are allocated based on language proficiency

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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 an exercise (at home) and by an additional open question (during the final exam). For the additional question the working student will receive 30 minutes extra time.