

Italian Survival Course 2025 - 2026

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Mission

This online course will help students interact and socialize during their first weeks in Italy, offering a basic knowledge of Italian language and culture.

Audience

This course is addressed to 1st year students (BSc, MSc, University Master and SDA Programs students) and incoming Double Degree students.

Teaching Mode

The course is available online in a self-learning mode. Students will be able to access the materials and study according to their own pace and time.

Course outline

The Italian online survival course is an introduction to Italian language. It is designed to help students familiarize with the language, pronunciation and words and help them interact in the most frequent daily situations. Basic vocabulary and grammar will be introduced in order to enable students to understand spoken and written Italian. The course is available online in a self-learning mode. Students will be able to access the materials and study according to their own pace and time.

Course program

The course program is made of five units, organized with explanatory videos and a series of related linguistic activities. Each unit revolves around a learning theme providing a springboard for students to develop listening, reading and writing skills. The workload is approximately one hour per unit, but students will be able to repeat each single unit until they feel they have properly learned and assimilated the contents. The units will start with a short explanatory video, followed by audiofiles, flashcards, exercises, grammar, games and a glossary, that will recap all the vocabulary connected to the different learning themes.

Unit	Topics and functions	Vocabulary and grammar
1	Greetings, nationalities, personal data Aspects of Italian culture	Chiamarsi, scusi/scusa/grazie, piacere, saluti Personal pronouns and pronunciation
2	Introducing oneself Writing a short e-mail of greetings	Present tense of avere and essere Key words and questions
3	Asking for and giving directions	Numbers 1-2020, common verbs
4	Shopping	At the bar, at the bookshop Number and gender agreement of nouns
5	Health and fitness	Human body, vocabulary related to health and well being, verb stare