

Italian



Course Description

The study of a language other than English contributes to the overall education of students, most particularly in the area of communication, but also in the areas of cross-cultural understanding, cognitive development, literacy and general knowledge. It provides access to the culture of communities which use the language and promotes understanding of different attitudes and values within the wider Australian community and beyond. VCE Italian focuses on student participation in interpersonal communication, interpreting the language of other speakers, and presenting information and ideas in Italian on a range of themes and topics. Students develop and extend skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and viewing in Italian in a range of contexts and develop cultural understanding in interpreting and creating language. Students develop their understanding of the relationships between language and culture in new contexts and consider how these relationships shape communities. Throughout the study students are given opportunities to make connections and comparisons.

Course Structure

The study is made up of four units. Each unit deals with language and specific content contained in the areas of study and is designed to enable students to achieve a set of outcomes for that unit.

There are three prescribed themes for study in VCE Italian:

1. The individual
2. The Italian-speaking communities
3. The world around us.

Unit 1

In this unit students develop an understanding of the language and culture/s of Italian-speaking communities through the study of three or more topics from the prescribed themes. Students access and share useful information on the topics and subtopics through Italian and consolidate and extend vocabulary and grammar knowledge and language skills. They focus on analysing cultural products or practices including visual, spoken or written texts.

Area of Study

1. Interpersonal communication
2. Interpretive communication
3. Presentational communication

Unit 2

In this unit students develop an understanding of aspects of language and culture through the study of three or more topics from the prescribed themes. Students analyse visual, spoken and written texts. They access and share useful information on the topics and subtopics through Italian and consolidate and extend vocabulary, grammar knowledge and language skills.

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Unit 3

In this unit students investigate the way Italian speakers interpret and express ideas and negotiate and persuade in Italian through the study of three or more subtopics from the prescribed themes and topics. Students interpret information, inform others, and reflect upon and develop persuasive arguments. They access and share useful information on the subtopics through Italian and consolidate and extend vocabulary and grammar knowledge and language skills.

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Unit 4

In this unit students investigate aspects of culture through the study of two or more subtopics from the prescribed themes and topics. Students build on their knowledge of Italian-speaking communities, considering cultural perspectives and language and explaining personal observations. Students consolidate and extend vocabulary, grammar knowledge and language skills to investigate the topics through Italian.

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3. Presentational communication

Entry and Recommendations

To enter Unit 1 and 2, students are required to have an average result of "Proficient" in Year 10 Italian assessment tasks. Before attempting Unit 3, students must have a minimum C+ average in Units 1 and 2. Italian is designed for students who will, typically, have studied Italian for at least 400 hours at the completion of Year 12. It is possible, however, that some students with less formal experience will also be able to meet the requirements successfully. Students must also undertake Unit 3 prior to undertaking Unit 4. Language learning requires a student to be committed and dedicated. A strong work ethic is necessary.

Assessment

Satisfactory Completion

Demonstration of achievement of outcomes and satisfactory completion of a unit are determined by evidence gained through the assessment of a range of learning activities and tasks.

Level of Achievement

Unit 1 and 2

- Coursework – Unit 1
 - Role-play
 - Descriptive summary of information
 - Written presentation
 - Examination
- Coursework – Unit 2
 - Personal email response
 - Writing from different perspectives
 - Written narrative of life story
 - Examination

Unit 3 and 4

- Unit 3 School-based Assessment (25%)
 - Role-play
 - Interpretive response
 - Personal, informative or imaginative writing
- Unit 4 School-based Assessment (25%)
 - Interview
 - Written response
 - Evaluative or persuasive written response
- Examination (50%)
 - Oral component
 - Written component