

Italian



Introduction

- A Beautiful Language
- A New Language
- A Useful Language
- A Rich and Vibrant Culture

Italian at NUIG has an outstanding international reputation for teaching excellence. We're proud of the personal attention and pastoral care that our students enjoy and experience. Italian language classes are small, providing the ideal environment for the teaching and learning of a second language, and ensure the close interaction between staff and students, an essential requirement in language acquisition. Italy is one of the largest economies in Europe and a significant trading partner for Ireland. It has a thriving cultural and design industry, with 70% of the art world heritage located in Italy. Learning Italian in NUI Galway means learning a beautiful new language and immersing yourself in a rich and vibrant culture.

- **First Year Italian** See our video on First Year Italian: <https://youtu.be/KDqBlqqyDio>
- No experience necessary! You start from scratch, but by the end of the year you should be able to speak and understand every-day, conversational Italian.
- Learning takes place in small groups.
- You will have access to native speakers and the latest language learning technology.
- Learning is based on communication – get to know your classmates while learning and speaking the language.

IT 1100 (15 credits) Course description: This is a year-long course: in semesters 1 and 2, students attend classes that develop the four main language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) using regular practice based on authentic material carefully selected to provide a gradual introduction to the structures and functions of the language. Students will achieve a good level of fluency by the end of the year to enable them to cope with everyday situations in Italy and

conduct a conversation in Italian. Students will interact with native speakers and will benefit from multi-media tuition and small tutorials to help with learning a new language.

IT1101 (5 credits) Italy at the Movies. In this course you will learn about Italian history, culture and society through the study of important Italian films. The module introduces students to defining aspects of 20th Century Italian history and society by watching and analysing a variety of Italian films.

Why study Italian?

- Italian is taught in small groups: students benefit from greater interaction with lecturers and receive personal attention.
- Because it is enjoyable! Fun, lively classes with teachers who have won European awards for creativity and innovation in language teaching.
- Because of the opportunity to spend a year of your degree in Italy, discovering a new and vibrant country. Learning a language provides a gateway to a country's history, culture and society.
- Learn many transferrable skills (including: communication skills; teamwork; problem solving; time management; research; planning and organisation; initiative and creativity)
- Add a new language to your CV - learning a new language is an excellent transferrable skill
- Almost all students who study Italian start at BEGINNERS level
- Italy has a particularly rich cultural heritage in literature, architecture, music, sculpture and painting. Italy is a world leader in the culinary arts, fashion, interior design, graphic design, the automotive industry, and tourism.



Click here to access a short film about studying Italian at university: [Choose Italian](#)

A Degree in Italian

In **Year 2**, students continue with the study of language (15 credits). In addition they will do 15 credits of culture. Modules in the cultural component of Year 2 include the study of Dante's *Inferno*, Italian Short Stories, the adaptation of novels into films, Exploring Italian Arts, Translation Techniques and the module Applied Language Skills, in which students of Italian are paired with Erasmus students from Italy for a truly cross-cultural experience.

In **Year 3** most students go abroad for placement in a university or on work placements. We have a broad range of student exchanges for third year students under the Erasmus Programme with universities in Italy such as Bologna, Milan, Turin, Urbino, Udine and Verona amongst others.

Some students go directly into final year and complete their degree in 3 years.

In **Year 4** students continue with the study of the language (15 credits) and Italian culture (15 credits). Modules in the culture component include the study of: Italian Children's

Literature, Italian Modernism and Postmodernism, the literature and history of emotion, and the module “Community Based Learning” where students are introduced to the teaching of Italian as a second language in first semester and have the opportunity to put this introduction to practice by teaching Italian in a number of selected primary schools in Galway.

For more information on our degree programme see our webpage and student booklets: [Italian @ NUIG](#)

Degree Combinations

You can choose to study Italian with any subjects in the College of Arts except Gaelic and Philosophy. You can also combine Italian with Law and with a variety of BA connect programmes and BA Degrees such as Children’s Studies, Global Languages, Creative Writing, Human Rights, Performing Arts Studies, Film Studies, Journalism.

Studying a language

- 95% of our students start at beginners level without previous knowledge of the language.
- Some students study Italian with other languages such as Spanish, French, and German.
- Other students combine the study of a language with subjects such as law, psychology, history, creative writing, journalism.
- In our globalised world, there is a huge demand for people with proficiency in more than one language.
- Increasingly, people find themselves working in a multilingual or multicultural environment, where language skills are essential.



A little language can make a lot of difference

'Languages teach you adaptability and communication skills. Learning how to interact with speakers of other languages means you are less likely to be stuck in one mode of thinking. It can help you see things from a range of perspectives - making you more adaptable, creative, and insightful.'

- Studying Italian at NUI Galway – a student’s perspective:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t8_HAmxpv6A&feature=emb_title

- Studying Italian at NUI Galway – an introduction from Prof. Paolo Bartoloni:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISLWnZ1BchQ>

Learning and Teaching

Over the coming academic year Italian will be taught in a blended fashion with a mixture of classroom and online learning.

For **IT1100** (the year-long Italian language course) you will have 4 hours of teaching and learning on campus and three hours of related activities online. **On campus** – On Tuesday from 3-5; Wednesday 2-3; Thursday 9-10 you will be in a small language group learning the language and practising pronunciation and communication. **Online** – Students will complete set tasks online and should expect to spend 3 hours a week online consolidating the activities they have learned in class.

Assessment for this course takes the form of continuous assessment – you will complete language tasks and activities every week which go towards your final mark. There will be various language tests throughout the year to examine competence in the different aspects of language learning (reading, writing, listening speaking). Depending on the circumstances, these will either take place in class or online.

IT1101 (Italy at the Movies) will be delivered in person and online. Lecturers will provide students with introductions to the films and will guide them through how to analyse important features of movies. Students will learn about the societal and historical issues that feature in the Italian films and will then watch the films and complete a diary relating to each film studied. The diaries are uploaded onto Blackboard where you receive feedback from the lecturers. The course is assessed 100% by the film diaries you submit and there are 9 films and 9 diaries in total over the course of first year.

Questions?

Join our Live Introductory Question and Answer Sessions

- In the Live Introductory Lecture and Question and Answer Sessions we will introduce the Italian first year course and answer any questions that you might have about studying Italian in NUI Galway. The live sessions take place on
 - **Thursday 23rd September 9-10;**
 - **Friday 24th September 2-3**

With this link: <https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/6c304b98aa244a3c80b47f4d66736f7c>

You can also contact us directly

- **Administration:** Italian@nuigalway.ie
- **First Year Co-ordinator:** Prof. Anne O'Connor (anne.oconnor@nuigalway.ie)

Discipline Webpage: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/italian/>

First Year Student Handbook: <http://www.nuigalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/language-literatures-culture/disciplines/italian/undergraduate/ba-joint-honours/first-year/>

First year TIMETABLE for Italian:

[http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/collegeofartssocialsciencescelticstudies/schools/languages/italian/1st-Year-\(Italian-Timetable\).pdf](http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/collegeofartssocialsciencescelticstudies/schools/languages/italian/1st-Year-(Italian-Timetable).pdf)