



ITALIAN ACADEMY

YEAR 2020/21 CURRICULUM

BASED ON THE COMMON EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK OF
REFERENCES FOR LANGUAGES SYSTEM

ABSOLUTE BEGINNER CURRICULUM

YEAR 2020/2021

COURSE STRUCTURE

10 weeks - 10 hours of in-class lessons
- 10 hours of study activities - 2 hours of review sessions.

The initial focus of the course is learning about the building blocks of Italian language and making sense of its structure. As we progress, we introduce in-class multimedia activities and online review sessions to enhance your learning and build conversational skills.

CORE SKILLS

To acquire A1 skill level based on the Common European Framework of References for Languages system.

COURSE OUTCOME

By the end of this course you will be able

- to understand sentences and expressions related to areas such as shopping, family, employment, etc.
- to describe in simple terms aspects of your background, immediate environment, and immediate needs.

A1 Basic User Level

TOPICS

ITALIAN SOUNDS

Pronunciation of vowels and phonetic rules for the letter groups *c, g* followed by *i* and *e*.

GENDER AND NUMBER

The vowel-ending system of Italian nouns. Rules and usage of masculine and feminine, singular and plural words. Vocabulary for travelling, eating, shopping and introductions.

THE DEFINITE ARTICLE 'IL' (THE)

Functions and forms of the definite article 'il' (the). Its usage and pronunciation. Basic exceptions.

THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE 'UN' (A)

Functions and forms of the definite article 'un' (a). Its usage and pronunciation.

QUESTION WORDS

The words to ask questions similarities and differences in their usage between Italian and English. Simple phrase formation.

TIME AND NUMBERS

Numbers and how they sound. How to tell time.

CALENDAR

The days of the week, the months and the vocabulary needed to talk about appointments, schedules, work hours, reservations and so forth.

ADJECTIVES & COMPARISONS

Forming adjectives and how they agree in gender and number with nouns. The anomaly of adjectives ending in -e. Comparisons, rules and usage. The cases of *quello* (that), *buono* (good) and *bello* (beautiful).

POSSESSIVES

Forming possessives and how these adjectives agree with the object and not the person. The use of possessives with family members.

ESSERE AND AVERE

The role of subject pronouns in verb conjugation. The forms and usage of *essere* and *avere*. Understanding and practicing the situations when *essere* and *avere* can be used.

INTRODUCTION TO VERB FORMATION

Understanding infinitive verbs - their role in the three conjugation system. Introduction to key regular verbs in the present tense that have been grouped in situational clusters - key verbs for making introductions and reservations; key verbs for shopping; key verbs for travelling and so forth.

Each topic is followed up by online multimedia activities - audio conversations, situational videos and interactive in-class and online activities - to enhance your learning and build your conversational skills.



ABSOLUTE BEGINNER

The highest achievements always start with the inquiring mind of an absolute beginner.

Francesco Fattorusso

BEGINNER PLUS CURRICULUM

YEAR 2020/2021

COURSE STRUCTURE

10 weeks - 10 hours of in-class lessons -
10 hours of study activities - 2 hours of
review sessions.

CORE SKILLS

To acquire A2 skill level based on the
Common European Framework of
References for Languages system.

COURSE OUTCOME

By the end of this course you will be
able

- to understand sentences and expressions related to areas such as shopping, family, employment, etc. (making travel arrangements, ordering meals, and making purchases, etc)
- to communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters
- to describe in simple terms aspects of your background to make introductions talking about your family, your work your likes and dislikes.

A2 Basic User Level

TOPICS

KEY VERBS 2

Conversational sessions on key verbs for ordering food; making reservations; introductions.

KEY VERBS 3

Conversational sessions on key verbs for shopping at a grocery store and in a clothing store.

IRREGULAR VERBS

Conjugating irregular verbs and their irregular stems.

VERBS WITH -ISC - IN THE STEM

How to use *capire* (to understand), *finire* (to finish) and *preferire* (to prefer).

FARE, ANDARE AND VENIRE

Asking about and telling your plans using the irregular verbs - *fare* (to do/make), *andare* (to go) and *venire* (to come).

STARE, RESTARE AND USCIRE

Talking about staying in a place and going out with the irregular verbs *stare* (variant of to be), *restare* (to stay), *uscire* (to go out).

MODAL VERBS

Dovere (have to), *potere* (can) and *volere* (to want). Roles, functions and how to conjugate these modal verbs. The wider meaning of *can* compared to *potere*. The use of *volere* in polite offering. The wider meaning of *dovere* compared to the English *to have to*.

SAPERE AND CONOSCERE

Uses, similarities and differences between the two key irregular verbs *sapere* (can and to know) and *conoscere* (to be familiar with).

THE RESOURCEFUL RIUSCIRE

How to pronounce *riuscire* (to succeed in, to be able to) and its uses. How the use and meaning of *riuscire* is connected to the English verb *can*.

REFLEXIVE VERBS - INTRODUCTION

Roles and functions of reflexive verbs in the present tense. Forming reflexive verbs and the use of their reflexive pronouns. Grouping reflexive verbs - reflexives describing body postures; reflexives describing routine actions; reflexives describing emotions and feelings.

Each topic is followed up by online multimedia activities - audio conversations, situational videos and interactive in-class and online activities - to enhance your learning and build your conversational skills.



Beginner
PLUS

Being a beginner plus is all about taking the next step toward the fulfillment of your goals..

Francesco Fattorusso