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Other courses

The Istituto also offers other types of language courses, such as customized courses for corporations, one-on-one classes, courses of Italian for Special Purposes, as well as a variety of courses on Italian culture and civilization — from Latin to Art History, from Ancient Rome to Italian Cuisine. Please consult our website for up-to-date information: www.iicvancouver.esteri.it

Registration and course regulations

- Course fees vary according to the type and duration of each course. Unless otherwise specified, course fees do not include textbooks.
- All registration fees are payable by cash or cheque made out to “IIC Vancouver.”
- Students are required to pay the full course fee **before the course starting date**. Cheques may be mailed or delivered and will not be cashed until the course is confirmed.
- The Istituto reserves the right to discontinue or rearrange classes. A course may be cancelled if an insufficient number of students register. In this event, uncashed cheques will be returned.
- No refund will be issued after registration (except in case of course cancellation — see above). No prorated refunds will be issued to those students who start a course late or leave before the course is completed.
- Certificates of attendance are issued to students who have attended no less than 80% of their course.
- Any class that may coincide with a statutory holiday will be rescheduled.
- Textbooks required for the classes can be purchased at the Istituto on the first day of the course.

Who we are

Established in 1980, the Istituto Italiano di Cultura (IIC) in Vancouver is part of a worldwide network of 90 Italian government offices on five continents. The Istituto in Vancouver organizes and funds a vast array of free cultural events to promote Italian culture. Our calendar of events is available through our mailing list and on our website: www.iicvancouver.esteri.it

Contact us

Istituto Italiano di Cultura Vancouver
Suite 500
510 West Hastings Street
Vancouver BC V6B 1L8

Tel 604-688-0809
iicvancouver@esteri.it
www.iicvancouver.esteri.it

[facebook](#) Join us! Look us up under
“Italian Cultural Institute in Vancouver”

Hours of operation

Monday to Thursday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am – 1:00 pm 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Where we are



Istituto Italiano di Cultura Vancouver

Language Courses



Learn Italian from real Italians.

Every year **half a million students** attend Italian language courses outside Italy, in every country around the world. Italian is a language of culture, of study, and of work — and it's real classy!

Why choose to study Italian at the Istituto?

- We are the only cultural institution of the Italian government in Western Canada, as well as the only one to organize official examinations of Italian as a Foreign Language.
- Classes are held in our downtown premises and are kept small (no more than 12 students).
- Our teachers are native Italian speakers with specific qualifications and experience to teach Italian as a Foreign Language.
- Students taking our courses practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with particular attention given to conversation. From the very beginning of the course, learners are immersed in Italian language and culture, exposed to multimedia resources and encouraged to actively use what they learn.
- Our online placement test enables our teachers to identify the right course for each student.
- Our students have access to many scholarship opportunities to study in Italy at one of the many private language schools.
- All students registered in our courses receive a complimentary membership with the Istituto.
- Students have access to our book clubs, film clubs and other cultural courses open to our members.
- Students are invited to attend all cultural activities organized by the Istituto.
- Students are also welcome to use the Istituto's library resources, which include a large section of Italian as a Second Language books as well as audiobooks and over 1,000 titles of fiction in Italian or translated into English. Our multimedia collection, open to all members and students, has hundreds of recent movies and documentaries on DVD, mostly with English subtitles.

Our sessions

Regular courses at the Istituto are divided into seven levels and are offered in four yearly sessions:

- Winter session: mid-January to late March
- Spring session: early April to late June
- Summer session: early July to early September
- Fall session: mid-September to mid-December

BEGINNERS 1

Learn how to master pronunciation and intonation rules, introduce yourself, ask and answer questions about personal details such as: where you are from, where you live, what you do in your free time. Basic elements of the language will be introduced, and emphasis will be placed on speaking and listening.



BEGINNERS 2

This course will teach you how to understand and use everyday expressions and basic phrases aimed to satisfy immediate needs in common situations and contexts. You will be able to talk about family, weather, and holidays. You will read short and simple texts and write simple notes and messages related to familiar topics and activities.

INTERMEDIATE 1

Learn how to handle short social exchanges and catch the main points in clear and simple messages and announcements. You will be able to express tastes and preferences, make polite requests and master common expressions related to food, shopping and local geography.

INTERMEDIATE 2

At this level, you will be able to extract and request information while travelling (on menus, brochures, timetables, or in email), describe situations that are happening or have already happened, and compare people and objects.



Our course levels

Our Institute offers Italian courses at all levels, from Beginners 1 to Advanced PLUS. All courses at the Istituto are based on the **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)**, a guideline used to describe achievements of learners of foreign languages across Europe. Our Beginners 1 through Conversation 1 courses cover the CEFR level A1; the Intermediate 1 and 2, and Conversation 2 courses cover the CEFR level A2; and the Advanced courses (incl. Conversation 3) cover the CEFR level B1. The textbook used is "Espresso", levels 1 through 3 (Alma Edizioni).



ADVANCED 1

By following this course you will learn how to express future intentions, make requests and support with reasons your personal opinions. You will be able to write simple texts, such as a thank-you letter.

ADVANCED 2

This course will enable you to understand the main points of clear and standard speech and of many radio and TV programs on familiar topics. You will feel comfortable participating in conversations on everyday life.

ADVANCED PLUS

In this course, you will approach a diversity of literary genres, while analysing oral and written texts and gaining deeper understanding of the most complex structures in the Italian language. The subject matter under examination will shift from session to session.

CONVERSATION 1

This course offers the opportunity to enhance your basic communicative skills by reinforcing the language structures and vocabulary learned at the Beginners level. It is an ideal option for students who want to practice the fundamentals of the language before facing more complex linguistic tools. No textbook is required — a selection of authentic materials will be provided by the instructor.

CONVERSATION 2

In this course you will practice an intermediate-level language by reading, listening and speaking, using known grammatical structures. The instructor will select songs, newspaper articles and movies aimed to stimulate in-class conversation (no textbook required).

CONVERSATION 3

This conversation-oriented course aims to polish speaking skills and broaden cultural exposure. Learners will engage in a selection of TV programs, movies, songs/opera arias, literary excerpts and short stories (no textbook required).