

The AP[®] Italian Language and Culture Exam



Earn college credit and advanced standing before going to college!



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How is the AP[®] exam administered?

- AP exams are developed, distributed and graded by the College Board
- Unlike the SAT's, however they are not directly administered by the College Board.
- Each Individual HS offers different numbers and selections of AP exams.
- Therefore, each HS itself is responsible for signing up students, ordering and proctoring the exams



High School's Responsibilities:

The high school AP® Coordinator has the following responsibilities:

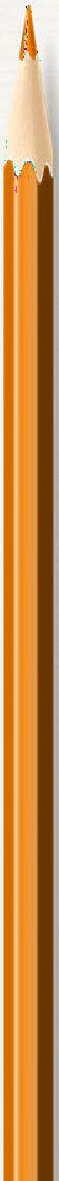
- x Provide registration forms to students
- x Collect fees (Some schools charge additional fees. Fee discounts are available.)
- x Order the appropriate number of exams
- x Ensure a safe environment for test takers
- x Collect and account for all test material
- x Return all exam materials to the College Board



If your HS does not offer an AP Italian course, what can you do?

- ✓ Contact your school's AP® Coordinator and ask if they can order and provide for the AP® Italian exam at your school
- ✓ If they say yes, then follow their procedure for registering and paying for the exam.
- ✓ Keep in mind that deadlines have changed! October 30, 2026, is the deadline for all AP® 2027 exams.
- ✓ The national exam date for the AP® Italian Language & Culture exam is Monday, May 3rd 2027 at 12 pm, local time, at your own high school.
- ✓ If you are thinking of taking our online course or a course at a community college, talk to your counselor about the possibility of obtaining credits.





What if you are homeschooled or your school is not able to proctor the AP Italian exam for you?

- ✓ If you live in Southern California, contact Fondazione Italia at info@fondazione-italia.org and ask for a list of Southern California high schools that offer the AP® Italian exam.
- ✓ If you don't live in California or near a school that offers the exam to outside students, contact the College Board at 888-225-5427. They will give you names of schools near you that may be offering the exam.



Contacting the host school

- x If there is a high school near you that offers AP® Italian contact their AP® Coordinator to see if they will order an exam for you.
- x If the host school agrees to order the exam for you make sure when you register to use your own high school code and NOT, the host school code (this ensures that the visiting student's exam score will be reported to the student's school and not to the host school).



What if schools near you
cannot assist you with
your request?

Contact Fondazione Italia!

info@fondazione-italia.org

+1 310-739-9350.



The College Board strongly encourages schools to assist outside students

- x the AP Program encourages schools to assist homeschooled students and students whose schools do not offer AP courses and exams;
- x schools that do agree to assist you, are allowed to charge additional fees to cover their added costs;
- x if you qualify, there are Federal and State assistance programs to help you pay for the exam.



What's the AP Italian about?

About the AP Italian Language and Culture Course

The AP Italian Language and Culture course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Italian Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Italian.

The AP Italian Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

College Course Equivalent

The AP Italian Language and Culture Course is approximately equivalent to an upper-intermediate college or university course in Italian language and culture.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites; however, students are typically in their fourth year of high school-level Italian language study. In the case of native or heritage speakers, there may be a different pathway of study leading to this course.



What skills does the AP Italian Language and Culture Exam assess?

In today's global community, competence in more than one language is an essential part of communication and cultural understanding. Study of another language not only provides individuals with the ability to express thoughts and ideas for their own purposes but also gives them access to perspectives and knowledge that are only available through the language and culture. Advanced language learning offers social, cultural, academic, and workplace benefits that will serve students throughout their lives. The proficiencies acquired through the study of languages and literatures endow language learners with cognitive, analytical, and communication skills that carry over into many other areas of their academic studies.



The AP Italian Course Approach

The three modes of communication—Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational—defined in the *World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages*, are foundational to the AP Italian Language and Culture course. The AP course provides students with opportunities to demonstrate their proficiency in each of the three modes in the Intermediate to Advanced range, as described in the *ACTFL Performance Descriptors for Language Learners*. As such, the course has been designed to provide advanced high school students with a rich and rigorous opportunity to study the language and culture of the Italian-speaking world.

The AP Italian Language and Culture course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency and recognizes the complex interrelatedness of comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary

usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. Students should learn language structures in context and use them to convey meaning. In standards-based world language classrooms, the instructional focus is on function and not the examination of irregularity and complex grammatical paradigms about the target language. Language structures should be addressed inasmuch as they serve the communicative task and not as an end goal unto themselves. The AP Italian Language and Culture course strives to promote both fluency and accuracy in language use and avoid overemphasis on grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. In order to best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course should be taught primarily in the target language.





AP ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Course Skills

Skill Category 1

Interpretive Communication 1

Comprehend written texts, audio, and visualizations of data.

Skill Category 2

Interpersonal and Presentational Communication 2

Speak and write in interpersonal and presentational contexts.

Skill Category 3

Cultural Understanding 3

Demonstrate cultural understanding.

SKILLS

1.A Recognize explicit meaning.

1.B Interpret meaning.

1.C Synthesize and infer meaning.

2.A Use language that aligns with the communicative purpose and context.

2.B Make communication comprehensible for the intended audience.

2.C Share ideas, information, and opinions about familiar and researched topics.

2.D Apply organizational and rhetorical strategies.

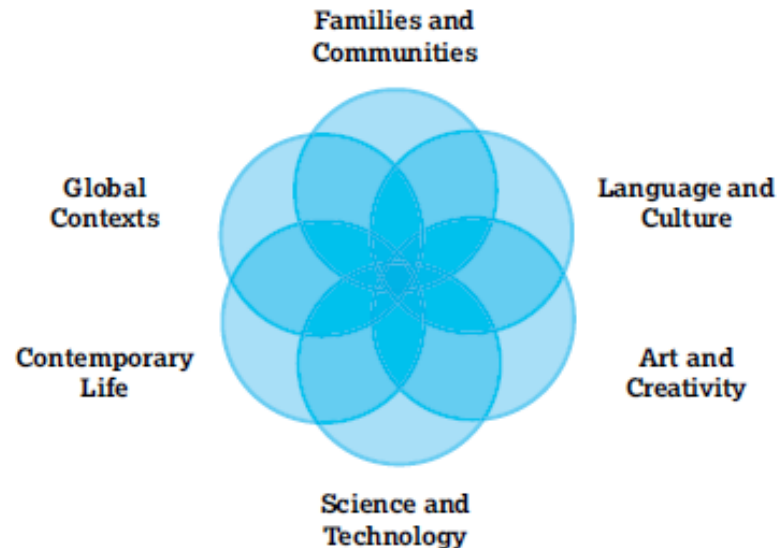
3.A Make connections within and across cultures.



What are the themes of the AP Italian Course and Exam?

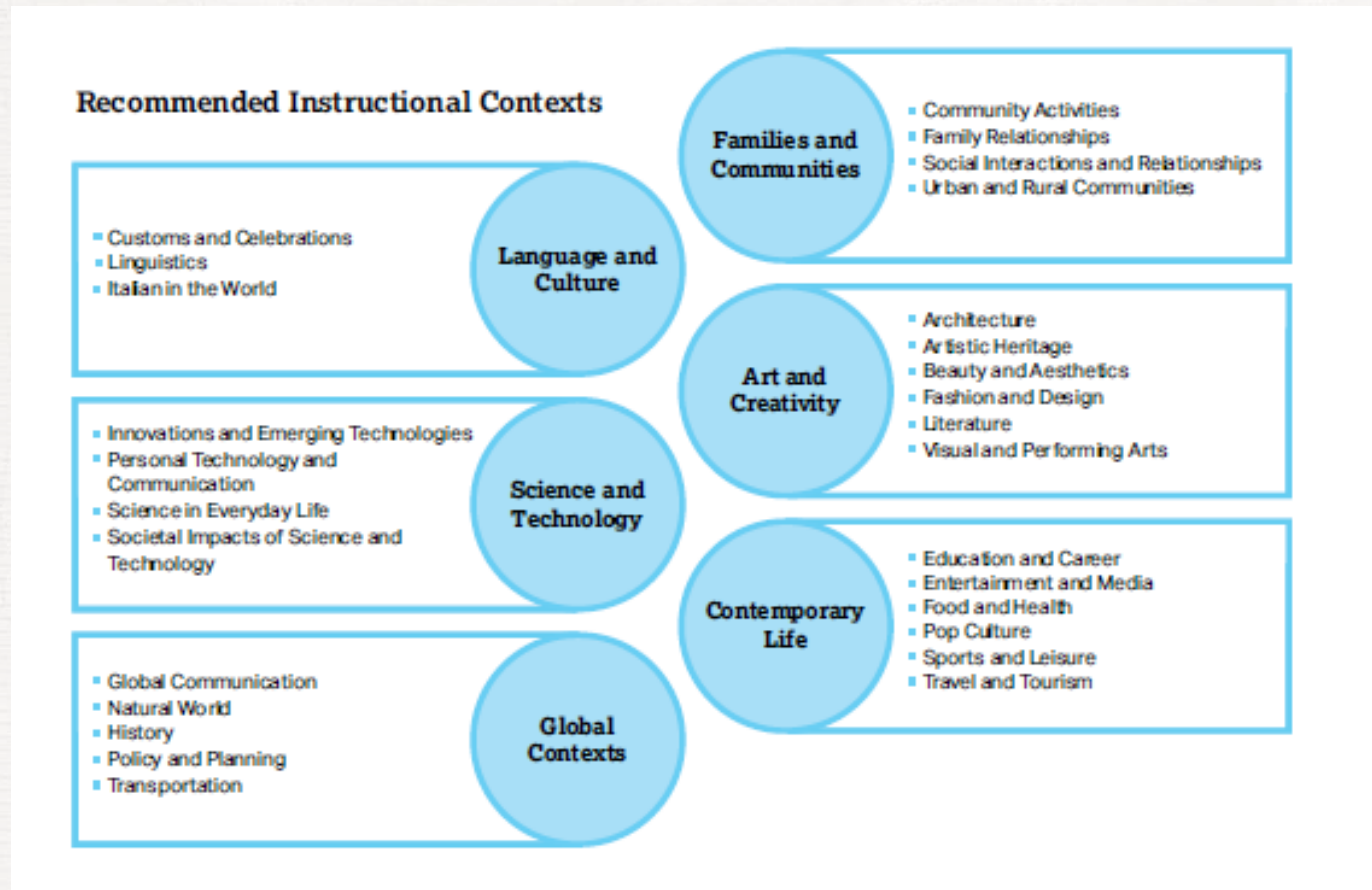
Units

To provide context and content for students to develop their skills in the modes of communication, the course takes a thematic approach. There are six course units: Families and Communities, Language and Culture, Art and Creativity, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, and Global Contexts.



Each unit presents a primary theme that connects to several recommended instructional contexts. Teaching to multiple recommended contexts in each unit ensures a rich curriculum, as students will examine each context from a variety of perspectives. This allows students to experience the study of language and culture in a variety of authentic and engaging ways and teachers to consider the interests and needs of their students when designing instruction. While teachers may organize the course thematically in any way they choose, following the recommended course design in the units described below ensures that all the concepts presented in the units are addressed multiple times in a scaffolded manner.

What contexts should you be able to be tested on?



ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Related to the thematic units are essential questions designed to spark curiosity and encourage students to investigate and express different views on real-world issues, make connections to other disciplines, and compare aspects of the target culture(s) to their own. Essential questions also lend themselves well to interdisciplinary inquiry, asking students to apply skills and perspectives across content areas. Examples of essential questions appear in the unit guide openers.

Modes of Communication

As students work with the course thematic units and consider essential questions, they do so while engaging in the three modes of communication—Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational. The development of skills in each of these modes forms the core of the units, as students build skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing tasks of increasing levels of complexity. Students are expected to build skills in the following areas:

- Interpretive Communication of text, audio, and images, including visualizations of data
- Spoken Interpersonal Communication
- Written Interpersonal Communication
- Spoken Presentational Communication
- Written Presentational Communication



Task Types

As students work with the modes of communication, they practice various task types that familiarize them with what will be on the exam while helping them build linguistic skills and cultural competencies. The order of the following task types is not representative of the exam. For more detailed information on exam order, please see the [Exam Overview](#) section.

Task Type	Mode of Communication	Source Format
Audio and Chart	Interpretive	Audio and image
Audio Report	Interpretive	Audio
Instructional Guidance	Interpretive	Audio
Interview	Interpretive	Audio
Presentation	Interpretive	Audio
Article	Interpretive	Text
Article and Chart	Interpretive	Text and image
Literary Text	Interpretive	Text
Promotional Material	Interpretive	Text and image
Argumentative Essay	Presentational – written	Audio, text, and image
Project Presentation	Presentational – spoken	Text and image
Project Q&A	Interpersonal – spoken	Audio

Exam Overview

Structure and Scoring



How is the exam structured?

The AP Italian Language and Culture Exam assesses student understanding of the skills and learning objectives outlined in the course framework. The exam is around two and a half hours long and includes 3 free-response questions and 55 multiple-choice questions. The details of the exam, including exam weighting and timing, can be found below.

Section	Question Type	Number of Questions	Exam Weighting	Timing
I	Free-response questions	3	50%	65–70 minutes
	Question 1: Project Presentation		20%	
	Question 2: Project Q&A (4 questions)		15%	
	Question 3: Argumentative Essay		15%	
II	Multiple-choice questions	55	50%	80 minutes
	Part A: Listening	25	25%	40 minutes
	Part B: Reading	30	25%	40 minutes

How does Fondazione Italia's course help me pass the exam?

The exam assesses skills developed in each of the six thematic units:

1. Families and Communities
2. Language and Culture
3. Art and Creativity
4. Science and Technology
5. Contemporary Life
6. Global Contexts

These SIX units will be spread out through 16 two hour classes, enhanced by mock tests, exercises, oral and written practices, plus bonus strategies to ACE the AP® Italian Exam!!!



Scoring

Using and Interpreting AP Scores

The extensive work done by college faculty and AP teachers in the development of the course and exam and throughout the scoring process ensures that AP Exam scores accurately represent students' achievement in the equivalent college course. Frequent and regular research studies establish the validity of AP scores as follows:

AP Score	Credit Recommendation	College Grade Equivalent
5	Extremely well qualified	A
4	Well qualified	A–, B+, B
3	Qualified	B–, C+, C
2	Possibly qualified	n/a
1	No recommendation	n/a





AP[®]

Click



AP[®] Italian Language and Culture

COURSE AND EXAM DESCRIPTION



How will I receive my score?

- X You must have a College Board account in order to access your AP® scores.
- X Scores are posted in July



How can I prepare for the exam?

- x **Enroll in Fondazione Italia's AP® Italian Prep 1 and 2 online course**
- x Practice on your own or with a private teacher.
- x Take a class at a community college



Got questions?

Contact Fondazione Italia

info@fondazione-italia.org

Tel: +1 310-739-9350

www.italianfoundation.org



Good luck! Buona Fortuna!

