

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?

- x AP exams are developed, printed, distributed and graded by the College Board.
- x Unlike the SAT's, however, they are not directly administered by the College Board.
- x Each individual HS offers a different number and selection of AP exams.
- x Therefore the 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! November 15, 2023, is the deadline for all AP® 2024 exams.
- ✓ The national exam date for the AP® Italian Language & Culture exam is Monday, May 13th 2024 at 12 pm PST 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.

We will follow up with the
College Board to try to find a
school for you.



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.





Course Skills

Skill Category 1

Comprehend Text 1

Comprehend written, audio, audiovisual, and visual text (text, pictures, and numbers).

Skill Category 2

Make Connections 2

Make interdisciplinary and cultural connections.

Skill Category 3

Interpret Text 3

Interpret the content of written or audio text (words).

Skill Category 4

Make Meanings 4

Make meanings from words and expressions.

Skill Category 5

Speak to Others 5

Communicate interpersonally by speaking with others.

Skill Category 6

Write to Others 6

Communicate interpersonally by writing to others.

Skill Category 7

Present Orally 7

Communicate through spoken presentations.

Skill Category 8

Present in Writing 8

Communicate through written presentations.

SKILLS

1.A Describe the literal meaning of the text.

2.A Make cultural connections.

3.A Interpret the distinguishing features of a text.

4.A Determine the meaning of familiar and unfamiliar words.

5.A Understand and apply appropriate communication strategies in interpersonal speaking.

6.A Understand and apply appropriate communication strategies in interpersonal writing.

7.A Plan and research an issue or topic for presentational speaking.

8.A Plan and research an issue or topic for presentational writing.

1.B Describe data.

2.B Make connections in and across disciplines.

3.B Interpret the meaning of a text.

4.B Use words appropriate for a given context.

5.B Understand and apply appropriate and varied syntactical expressions in interpersonal speaking.

6.B Understand and apply appropriate and varied syntactical expressions in interpersonal writing.

7.B Use appropriate vocal and visual strategies to communicate an idea in presentational speaking.

8.B Use appropriate writing strategies to communicate an idea in presentational writing.

7.C Use appropriate language and vocabulary for the intended audience in presentational speaking.

8.C Understand and apply appropriate and varied syntactical expressions in presentational writing.

7.D Express a perspective with details and examples to illustrate an opinion or idea in presentational speaking.

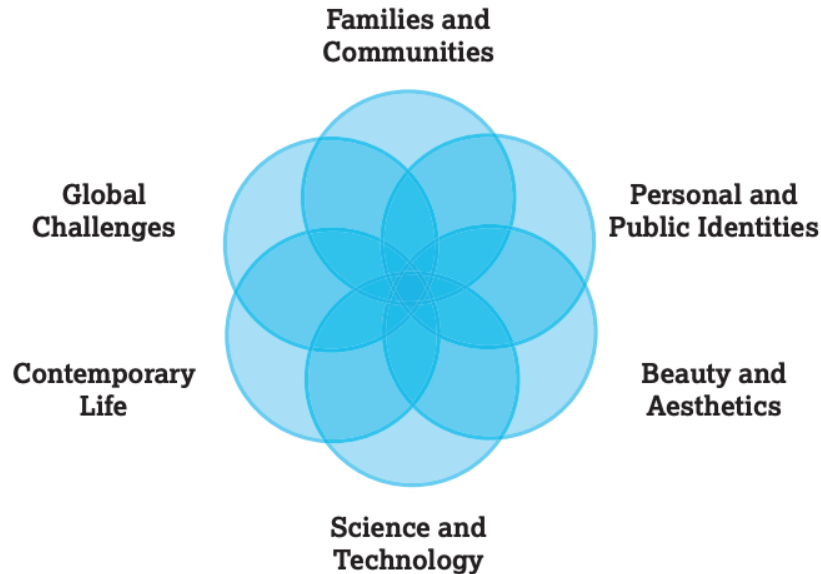
8.D Express a perspective with details and examples to illustrate an opinion or idea in written presentations.



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

Course Themes

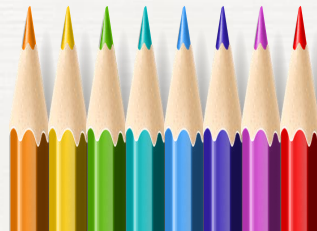
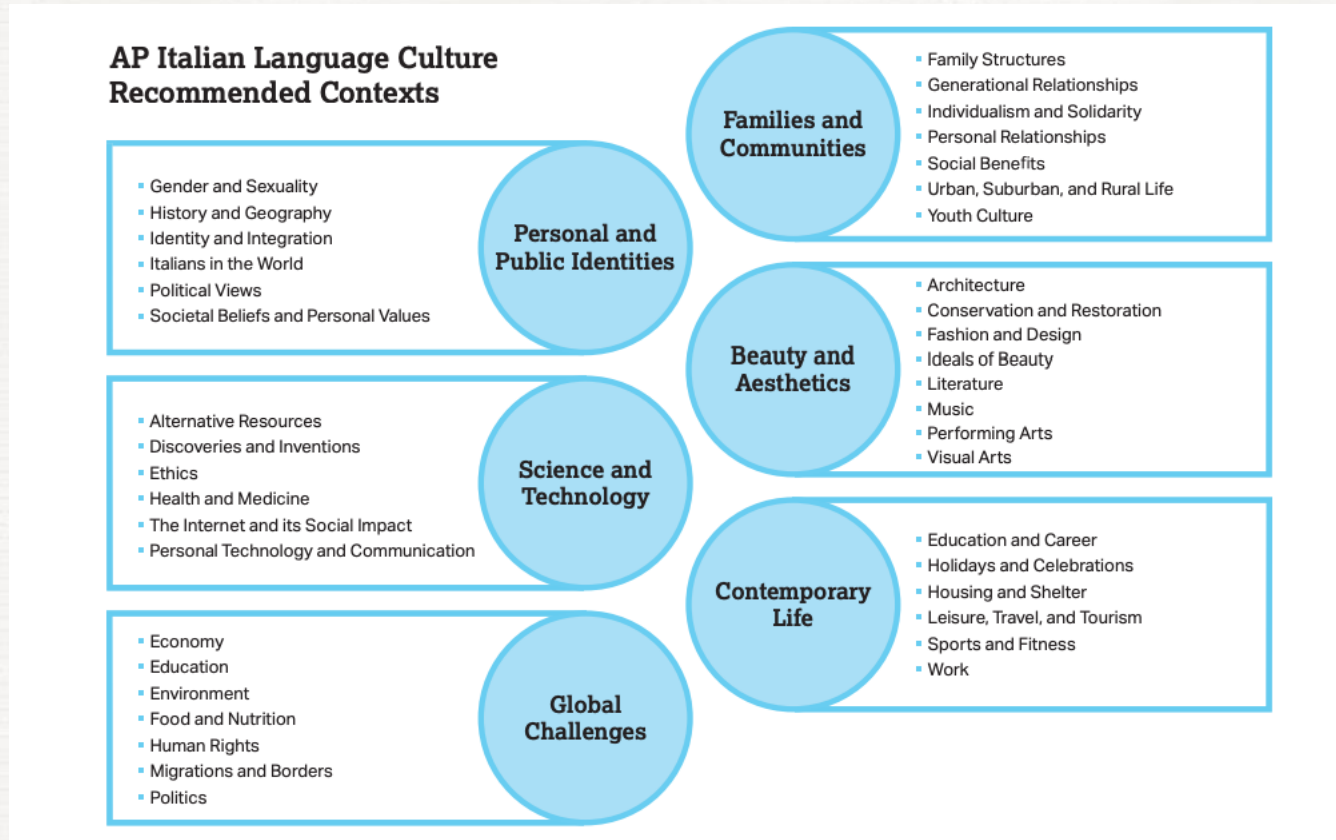
To provide context and content for students to develop their skills in the modes of communication, the course takes a thematic approach. There are six required course themes: Families and Communities, Personal and Public Identities, Beauty and Aesthetics, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, and Global Challenges.



Within each of these themes, there are five to seven recommended contexts. The course is organized thematically into six units. Each unit targets a primary theme but also connects to additional recommended contexts for those themes. Teaching to multiple themes in every unit ensures a rich curriculum that will spiral, as the themes are revisited through a variety of lenses throughout the course. This allows students to experience the study of language and culture in a variety of authentic and engaging ways and allows 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 provided by the unit guides that follow ensures that all the required course themes are addressed multiple times in a scaffolded manner.



What contexts should you be able to be tested on?



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 just over 3 hours long and includes 65 multiple-choice questions and 4 free-response 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	Part A: Multiple-choice questions	30	23%	40 minutes
	Interpretive Communication: Print texts			
I	Part B: Multiple-choice questions	35	27%	55 minutes
	Interpretive Communication: Print and audio texts combined and audio texts			
II	Free-response questions	4	50%	88 minutes
	Question 1: Email Reply		12.5%	15 minutes
	Question 2: Argumentative Essay		12.5%	55 minutes
	Question 3: Conversation		12.5%	18 minutes
	Question 4: Cultural Comparison		12.5%	

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

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

1. Families in Different Societies
2. The Influence of Language and Culture on Identity
3. Influences of Beauty and Art
4. How Science and Technology Affect Our Lives
5. Factors That Impact the Quality of Life
6. Environmental, Political, and Societal Challenges

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



 CollegeBoardAP[®]

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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 online course**
- x Practice on your own or with a private teacher using ACE THE AP ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE EXAM (5th Edition) available from Edizioni Farinelli at <http://www.edizionifarinelli.com>
- 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!

