

ITALIAN (EDEXCEL)



WHAT IS THE COURSE ABOUT?

The aims of the course are to enable the students to:

- enhance their linguistic skills and promote and develop their capacity for critical thinking on the basis of their knowledge and understanding of the language, culture and society of Italy and the Italian speaking world
- develop control of the language system to convey meaning, using spoken and written skills, including an extended range of vocabulary, for both practical and intellectual purposes as increasingly confident, accurate and independent users of Italian
- engage critically with intellectually stimulating texts, films and other materials in the original language, developing an appreciation of sophisticated and creative uses of Italian and understanding them within their cultural and social context.

The exam board is EDEXCEL; this course is linear, with 3 papers to be sat at the end of Year 13: Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Translation (2 hours, paper code: 9IN0/01) Paper 2: Written response to works and Translation (2 hours and 40 min, paper code: 9IN0/02) Paper 3: Speaking (21-23 minutes, paper code: 9IN0/03)

WHAT TOPICS WILL BE COVERED?

- 1) *Theme 1: changes within Italian society (changes within the Italian family, education, world of work)*
- 2) *Theme 2: political and artistic culture within the context of Italian speaking countries and/or communities (music, media, cultural heritage).*
- 3) *Theme 3: Italy: a society in evolution (positive impact and problems caused by immigration, the North/South divide)*
- 4) *Theme 4: from Fascism to nowadays (the advent of Mussolini, Fascism during the Second World War, the six nations).*

In addition, students will study two discrete Italian works: either two literary texts, or one literary text and one film (all taken from the prescribed literary texts and films list provided by the exam board).

Finally, each student is required to undertake an independent research project that must relate to the Italian-speaking cultural and/or social context; it should be based on a subject of interest of the students' choosing, but may be on any of the four themes of study of the specification.

WHAT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES?

There is a wide range of job opportunities. They fall broadly into two categories:

- (a) those directly concerned with languages, e.g. teaching, interpreting and translating.
- (b) those with fluency in a foreign language is an additional required skill: e.g. in accountancy, law, insurance, marketing, banking, tourism and travel, secretarial work and librarianship.