

F.A.Q.

What do I have to do before coming to Parma?

An important opportunity you may choose is to attend the Italian on line courses on the European Union website (OLS) <http://erasmusplusols.eu/it>. This is extremely important for students who have a level of Italian that does not reach the B1.

What level of language competence must I have attained before arriving at Parma University?

The A2 level will be sufficient.

Nonetheless, it is important to know that in order to attend the courses of any subject in Italian and to sit for the oral or written exams in Italian, the A2 level is not enough. This is the reason why our university offers you the opportunity to improve your Italian by attending the courses of Italian for study purposes which are due to start on 19th September and/or on 13th February and the other modules according to the schedule and timetable provided on these pages.

This is why we **warmly recommend** taking care carefully of your language instruction in Italian starting from the first days of your arrival at our University. Do not forget that if you pass the Italian exams, you will acquire 4 ECTS for any Italian course and exam you are going to attend and pass.

For **Erasmus students** whose level of Italian is lower than A2 no courses are provided.

Foreign students (non-Erasmus), after having taken an entry test at the beginning of September at their Departments, will be contacted by Giovanna Pelizza and she will advise you about the best ways to improve your Italian.

These courses are **free of charge**.

How can I improve my Italian competence level?

Our University offers you Italian courses especially tailored for study purposes. These courses will prepare you to attend and understand both the classes given in Italian and to sit the exams set by every department. Remember that in order to attend the Italian language classes you will have to sit an Entry-test. This will happen during the week before the courses start.

How can I sign up for the Italian courses?

The placement test you will sit is going to become your official registration for the courses.

Is there a placement test?

Yes, there is. It has to be taken on arrival. The date and the place are published in the section ““Related pages””.

How does the Academic Year work?

The Academic Year is divided into two semesters. Each Semester is made of two time spans and it may change for every Department. The Italian classes' calendar will be:

- **1st Semester**, 1st part: from the 19th September to 14th October; 2nd part from 20th October to 7th December
- **2nd Semester**, 1st part: from 13th February to 13th March; 2nd part from 17th March to 12th May

When do the Italian courses start?

- 1st Semester: 19th of September 2015
- 2nd Semester: 13th of February 2016

Important: please remember that these two days are extremely important for your stay in Parma: in fact you will attend your first Italian language class and you will receive **important** and **necessary information** to take the most advantage from the courses and to know the rules applied to these courses. Both events will take place in Aula Ferrari in Via D'Azeglio 85.

How are the courses divided?

There are two courses for each Semester called Lingua italiana per stranieri I (one) and II (two):

- the first one is going to be **intensive**: (i.e.: two hour classes four times a week)
- the second one is going to be **extensive** (i.e.: two hour classes twice a week)

How will I know which level I have to attend?

Before the courses start, the students' lists for every class will be published here. So do not forget to check this webpage.

Where and when do the Italian classes take place?

All the classes take place in the Via D'Azeglio / Via Kennedy University area. The timetable and the classrooms are published here:

1. [First Semester Timetable](#)
2. [Second Semester Timetable](#)

Do the Italian courses have their Official Codes?

Yes. You can find them on your Italian Teachers' webpages clicking on the exam you have chosen:

- [Prof. Marco Mezzadri](#)
- [Dott.ssa Giovanna Pelizza](#)

How many ECTS will I gain for each Italian exam I pass?

4 Ects (in Italian: CFU)

What is the "CFU"?

It is the same as Ects. 1 CFU is equivalent to 1 Ects.

Do I need a book in order to follow the Italian classes?

Yes.

Is attendance mandatory?

Yes. Once you are enrolled for the course in order to sit the final exam and get the 4 ECTS, your attendance will be monitored by having you sign during the lessons.

Can I miss some classes?

Yes. You can miss no more than 3 classes. Late arrivals will be monitored and summed up to the amount of time of 3 classes.

What should I do in order to subscribe for the exams?

If you have totalised the right amount of classes attended you can subscribe on the on-line platform Esse3, You can check time and place here:

- [Exams' calendar 2016/2017](#)

Why are the Italian exams so close to the end of the courses?

Because the professors of your Departments have to know your Italian competence level as soon as possible in order to decide how you can sit the exams of your Degree Course.

What happens if I do not pass the Italian exams in December or May?

You can sit them again in January or June. The dates are published on the Exams' schedule

- [Exams' calendar 2016/2017](#)

Can I sit the exams directly in January or June?

No. For **Erasmus Student** it is compulsory to sit the exams in December or May. January and June sessions are **only** for students who failed the exams in the previous sessions.

Foreign students who are enrolled for a full Degree Course do not have to follow this rule.

What about if I am ill on the exams' day?

If you are ill you can hand in a medical certificate attesting your illness to the Department front-office, Via D'Azeglio 85 (second floor). You may also send it by e-mail to your Italian teacher: giovanna.pelizza@unipr.it

Can I sit more than one Italian exam?

Yes. However, of course it must be of a higher level. I.e.: If you pass the B1 exam, you can attend the B2 course and sit as well the B2 exam on the fixed dates.

You can sit up to three exams of Lingua italiana per stranieri: Lingua italiana per stranieri I, Lingua italiana per stranieri II and Lingua italiana per stranieri III. The third exam can be sit only by students who start from the A2+ level and who are staying for the whole Academic Year. These students must of course have passed the the A2+ and B1 exams before sitting for the B2.

What happens if I do not pass the exams on the second time as well?

Your Department will inform you accordingly.

Who is going to transmit my Italian Exams results to my Department?

Your Italian teacher.

Is it mandatory to attend the on-line tutored course?

No. The on-line materials are very important in your learning Italian for study purposes, but you can decide if to take advantage of this learning opportunity totally, in part, or at all.

Which is the website for the on-line courses?

You can find all the materials here: [Elly](#)

How can I have access to the on-line materials?

During the first Italian class you will be given all the information needed.

I do not have a PC. How can I attend the on-line courses?

In the Department building in Via D'Azeglio 85 on the second floor there is a multimedia lab with eight computers available.

What other kind of help, apart from the face-to-face and on-line course, for improving my Italian Language competence, may I find at the University of Parma?

Your Italian teacher will give you advice for further learning possibilities which also consists of tailored seminars.

Where can I find the office of my Italian Teacher?

Her office is in the department on the second floor of Via D'Azeglio 85, not far from the classrooms where you go for Italian classes. Remember to check her receiving hours on her site: [Giovanna Pelizza](#)

Is there a library where to study?

Yes. The Paolotti Library is in Via D'Azeglio 85 close to the LASS Department

Are there other places where I can study?

Yes, In the building in Via D'Azeglio and in the nearby Via Kennedy there are places where you can study. They are near the classrooms where you attend your courses.

Where can I find information about my student life at the University of Parma?

- [Università di Parma](#)
- [Università di Parma](#) (in English)
- [General information on how to enrol](#)
- [Erasmus & International Home](#)
- [ESN-ASSI Parma: Students' Erasmus Group in di Parma](#)

To whom may I turn, if I have any kind of bureaucratic problem concerning my university life in Parma?

For all bureaucratic and administrative problems turn to the **Erasmus & International Home** in Piazzale San Francesco, 3.

For any didactic problem related to courses other than the Italian language ones, turn to the Erasmus Representative in your Department.

Where can I find any information about events, housing, jobs for students, etc.?

At the [Informagiovani](#) in Via Melloni 1/B

In Parma, is there a local newspaper?

Yes. The [Gazzetta di Parma](#) . Read it quite often if you want to be informed about what is going on in town.

Other local newspapers are:

- <http://www.parmaonline.info/>
- <http://www.parmaquotidiano.info/>
- <http://www.ilmattinodiparma.it/>