

# LANGUAGE COURSES BY THE SEA



PICCOLA UNIVERSITA' ITALIANA

PER STRANIERI - TROPEA



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY AND RESEARCH

RECOGNIZED (PRESA D'ATTO) PROT. 23860/P FROM 30/11/2004



The perfect place to combine work with pleasure!



## ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSES

- Recognized by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research
- Approved by the Swedish (CSN) and Norwegian (Lånekassen) National Agency for higher Education
- Recognized for academic credits by several US-universities
- Accredited courses in **Mini-groups** with 3 to max. 6 persons
- Specialisation in **cultural** subject areas possible:
  - Italian literature
  - Italian contemporary history
  - Italian art history
  - Italian music history
  - Italian opera
  - Italian architecture
- Specialisation in **business** subject areas possible:
  - Commercial Italian
  - Juridical Italian
  - Italian for the tourism industry
  - Italian for interpreters
  - Medical Italian
- Custom tailored preparatory courses for Italian exams: CILS, CELI, etc.
- Italian + catamaran sailing, windsurfing, scuba diving, MTB and painting
- Custom tailored program for seniors
- Sailing Trip plus language course "L'Italiano Navigando"
- USA Study Abroad Programs



## AIRFARES

Reasonable charter- or scheduled flights upon request



## HOLIDAY FLATS

Accommodation in beautiful apartments in Tropea

We look forward to your request!



## GROUP OFFERS

### Special rates

for school, university, institute and company groups

## PRICES

Language courses in mini-groups + single room accommodation + 2 transfers or 2 excursions

1 week from 534 €  
2 weeks from 748 €



## PICCOLA UNIVERSITA' ITALIANA

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## PICCOLA UNIVERSITA' ITALIANA

The Centro di Lingua & Cultura Italiana in Tropea, not far from the Capo Vaticano, is made up of a team of proficient language teachers, all of whom are native speakers with a university degree. We specialise in teaching our mother tongue to foreign students, working people and lovers of the Italian language and culture. If lively, effective Italian classes, held in a friendly and communicative atmosphere right in the heart of one of Italy's most beautiful cultivated rural areas are what you would like to experience - this is the place for you!

## THE CENTRE

In 1993 the Centre was founded as "Caffè Culturale". In 2004 the name was changed to "Piccola Università Italiana" it has been recognized with presa d'atto prot 23860/P from 30.11.04 by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research. The Centre is located in the heart of Tropea in a beautiful house typical of the area. Lessons are held in classrooms or else out on the terrace.



## TROPEA IN SOUTHERN ITALY

Tropea is a charming, medieval town with a population of 7,000. Located on the isthmus of the Italian 'boot', it lies on the same latitude as the famous Aeolian Islands. Italians affectionately refer to Tropea as the "Pearl of Calabria". Here, you find unspoilt natural landscape with lush green vegetation, forming a magnificent contrast with the deep blue, crystal-clear water of the sea. Tropea was built on a 42 m high rock and never fails to charm everyone with its romantic, winding streets. Visitors enjoy very good shopping facilities, the picturesque market place as well as numerous cosy cafés and trattorias. Beautiful sandy bays, a wide range of sporting activities, and many places of interest provide abundant variety for all those who wish to take part in the local cultural life and enjoy sports. Tropea still belongs to the Italians and is not yet overcrowded with tourists, giving the students ample opportunity to listen to and practise the language they are learning.

The ideal place to combine studies and holidays!





## THE COURSES

### A. Conversation Course (2 hours a day/5 days a week):

Classes Monday - Friday 11:10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or 6:10 - 8:00 p.m., 2 teaching units of 55 minutes each, **in small groups of 3 to max. 6 students**. For students of intermediate and advanced levels, newspaper reading and discussion on topics such as art, culture, politics and social matters. Duration: 2, 4, 6 and 8 weeks.

### B. Main Course - mini-groups (4 hours a day/5 days a week):

Classes Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m., 4 teaching units of 55 minutes each with a 20 minute break, **small groups of 3 to max. 6 students**. Teaching covers grammar and practical exercises, vocabulary and idiomatic expressions, oral and written style, regional studies. Intermediate and advanced classes also include newspaper reading and discussions on topics such as art, culture, politics and social matters. Duration: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8 weeks.

### C. Intensive Course 20 + 6 (B. Main Course + 6 Private Lessons):

The students attend the main course, followed by 2 teaching units of 55 minutes each of individual teaching on 3 afternoons each week. This course allows the individual's specific educational targets to be dealt with in detail, i.e. a tailor-made teaching programme is set up at the beginning of the course, focusing on various different topics as required: literature and film history, music, media, commercial Italian or technical Italian for students working in the tourist industry. A very effective course for motivated participants. Duration: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 or 8 weeks.



## PRIVATE TUITION

### D. Two-to-One:

If there are two of you at the same language level, we offer you a very favourable alternative to individual tuition. The two of you will be trained by one teacher following a programme customized to your requirements. This course is not only particularly suitable for work colleagues, but is also very popular with couples and friends. Duration: 1 week or longer.

### E. Individual Tuition:

The most effective form of teaching for students who wish to achieve maximum results in the shortest time possible. Customized to the student's individual requirements, the course either focuses on everyday Italian or on Italian for specific purposes. Duration: 1 week or longer.

## SPECIAL COURSES

Also available are Italian language courses which place special emphasis on the vocabulary used in the tourist industry as well as on commercial Italian for import/export.

## WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM OUR COURSES?

Our instruction is designed for employees of international companies needing Italian in their daily work, for university students of Romance or linguistics, but also for persons wishing to learn Italian for a better understanding of our country's culture and lifestyle.



## CLASS ALLOCATION

In order to give our students ample opportunity to practise speaking, the number of participants is limited to a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 students per group. On the first morning at school, all participants will take a short written and oral grading test on the grounds of which the students will be assigned to one of six performance levels: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2. If, after having done the test, there won't be a class (3-6 students) for a student with his own level he/she will do the Two-to-One Course or Individual lessons. In this case the number of lessons will be reduced by half. The course, in fact is aimed to satisfy the individual needs of the student placing him only in his own level.

## C.I.L.S. PREPARATORY COURSE

We also offer a preparatory course for the C.I.L.S. examination of the University of Siena. This certificate of Italian as a foreign language is recognised by the Italian Foreign Trade Ministry. The examinations are held two times a year. Our examination preparation consists of one extra hour of individual instruction every day which may be added to all types of course.

#### TEACHING MATERIAL

We constantly revise our teaching materials to ensure that they are up-to-date. In addition, authentic materials are used in the language courses as well: slides, video tapes, radio recordings, newspaper articles, literary texts, songs, etc.



#### TEACHING METHOD

We teach according to the direct method, i.e. Italian is spoken all the time. This is the best way to develop your listening and speaking skills. The classes consist of 2 hours grammar teaching per day and related exercises. You will be provided with a systematic overview of the structure of the Italian language to enable you to write and speak correctly. The remaining class hours are dedicated to communication skills to help you gain confidence in speaking Italian as quickly as possible. Furthermore, we will provide you with the most important background information about Italy to support your study of the Italian language. Enjoy a "guided tour" through the complex and very often contradictory aspects of Italian life and history, through its past and the present, which also has so many varied facets. An ultra-modern video system with large screen and tape recorders is available to accompany and aid instruction.



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#### SPORT ACTIVITIES

Sports enthusiasts can enjoy mountain biking, catamaran sailing and surfing, diving at Capo Vaticano, tennis, volleyball and horseriding (on the beach during the off-season).



#### CULTURAL EVENTS

On Sunday evening we invite you for a welcome drink and on Monday evening we start with a video evening to introduce you to Calabria and the Tyrrhenian coast. The geographic situation of Tropea and its history are excellent starting points if you wish to discover Italy's roots. Popular places for excursions are, among others, the city of Reggio Calabria and its archaeological museum, the volcanic island of Stromboli with its active volcano which gave the island its name, as well as the culturally interesting city of Taormina on Sicily.



#### SPARE TIME ACTIVITIES

The picturesque villages and fruit and olive groves in the vicinity of Tropea are ideal places to go for a walk; old churches, castles and caves are just waiting to be discovered. The narrow, quiet side roads provide safe routes for breath-taking panoramic bike or mountain-bike rides. Either bring your own or borrow one from the school free of charge (limited in number). Spend your spare time swimming or sunbathing on Tropea's beautiful beach, only a 10 minutes walk from the school. Discover (against payment of a small fee) the numerous quiet sandy bays around Tropea in our small motor boat or rowing boat - whichever you prefer! And if that were not enough, the school also organises social activities at regular intervals, such as festivals, dinner parties and excursions along the coast or inland, e.g. to the Aspromonte National Park. If you wish to discover the island on your own, you can hire a moped or a car at favourable rates.



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