



CULTURA ITALIANA AREZZO

ITALIAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL





THE SCHOOL



Cultura Italiana Arezzo is a school and center of activity promoting Italian language and culture. It is a member of ASILS (Association of Schools of Italian as a Second Language designed to guarantee the quality of instruction and professional level of services offered to students) and it is also a member of EDUITALIA (Association of Schools and Universities that offers courses to foreign students and whose mission is to promote the Italian culture, under the patronage of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy).

The school is located in the heart of the city, the *centro*, in a pedestrian area full of shops, cafés and restaurants. Students have free Wi-Fi access, an Internet station, reference material and some space to work in small groups.

WHY AREZZO?

Arezzo is one of the most beautiful towns of Tuscany, along with Siena, Florence, and Cortona, but never feels crowded — and is about half the price. It is neither too big nor too small, has nevertheless almost 100,000 inhabitants, and is therefore very animated and maintains long established traditions. You can find something exciting to do every week and weekend. There is tourism in Arezzo, but it is less intrusive than in other towns. The local people are very friendly and welcoming. Here you will meet genuine people who will be delighted to speak Italian with you.

Arezzo is close to other great sites in Tuscany, which are easily accessible by car, train or bus: less than an hour from Florence, a little bit more than an hour from Siena and Perugia, 30 minutes from Cortona, 60 minutes from Montepulciano and Montalcino, to name a few. Rome is only 70 minutes away with the fastest train. There are dozens of sites within easy reach to make your visit something to treasure.



MUST SEE IN AREZZO:

Its origins date back to Etruscan and Roman times. Several remnants and artefacts can be found in the old city, the *centro storico*, visibly built in a medieval style.

- **Piazza Grande** is one of the most unique piazzas in Italy and the center of many city activities. Museums and churches offer countless masterpieces including frescoes, paintings, sculpture, and stained glass.



- **The Church of St. Francesco** has Piero della Francesca's greatest masterpiece, the fresco cycle of **La Leggenda della Vera Croce** (The Legend of the True Cross), and the **Church of San Domenico** holds a very famous **Crucifix from Cimabue**.

- **The Duomo** (Cathedral) is considered by many one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture in Italy.

- **The Chimera**, a hollow bronze Etruscan statue which dates back to 400 BC, was discovered in Arezzo in 1533 and the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Cosimo I, immediately took the artefact to Florence. Now it is one of Arezzo's symbols and two replicas sit in fountains near the train station and another can be viewed at Porta San Lorentino.



- Arezzo is the home of Guido Monaco, inventor of musical notation, and holds in his honour the annual classical **International Polyphonic Choral Competition** during the beginning of September.



- Arezzo's grand medieval festival celebrates its past by holding **La Giostra del Saracino** (The Joust of the Saracen) in June and September. During the week before the joust, an atmosphere of excitement pervades the city: there are special dinners with as many as a thousand attendees, parades and ceremonies of all sorts.

- On the first Sunday of every month, Arezzo hosts Italy's most important **Fiera Antiquaria** (Antique Fair). Over 100 dealers set up shop selling everything imaginable from furniture to chandeliers to lace to music to copper sinks for washing hair.

- The cuisine of the Aretine province is as varied as the scenery. Arezzo's cuisine is based on the riches of the Val di Chiana to the south with its fruit orchards, grains, corn, and the prized chianina beef, which provides the world's tastiest porterhouse steak, the **bistecca fiorentina**.



COURSES



INTENSIVE COURSES

The intensive courses are designed for groups of 5-10 students of a similar level and include lessons from 9 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. , plus two hours of homework and cultural activities in the afternoon.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Some students prefer to take individual lessons in order to progress faster. The days, duration and number of hours are agreed upon with the school. The course includes participation in the afternoon activities.

SEMI-PRIVATE LESSONS

Semi-private lessons can be organized for two people (couples, friends travelling together, etc.). The days, duration and number of hours are agreed upon with the school. The course includes participation in the afternoon activities.

AFTERNOON AND EVENING COURSES (TWICE OR FOUR TIMES A WEEK)

The afternoon and evening courses are designed for people who cannot attend lessons during the day and are therefore given after 2:00 pm.

LANGUAGE AND MUSIC/CLASSICAL SINGING

For language and music/classical singing, the language courses fall into one of the categories above but the program includes music or singing classes in the afternoon. The lessons, in collaboration with the Music school of Arezzo, are held by professional opera singers and can be organized for various instruments.

LANGUAGE AND COOKING

The basic one- week course includes 3 cooking lessons, 1 wine and local products tasting, 1 visit to the central market of the city.

LANGUAGE AND ART HISTORY

The course combines intensive language classes in the morning with art history lessons in class and guided tours in the afternoon. The full course is organized in two weeks: the first one is dedicated to the Middle Ages while the second one to the Renaissance. It is also possible to attend just one week and cover only one of the historical/art periods.

(Minimum language level required: B1)

LANGUAGE AND GOLDSMITH'S ART

The basic two-week course combines an intensive language course with 6 goldsmithing lessons which will take place in a goldsmith's workshop.

LANGUAGE AND SCULPTURE

The basic two-week course combines an intensive language course with 6 sculpture lessons.

SKYPE LESSONS

These are individual skype lessons to continue learning the language and to stay in touch with Italy once back home. The days and times of the lessons will be agreed upon with the teacher. The school offers special prices for ex students.

PREPARATION FOR THE CILS/CELI EXAMS

The school offers special courses to help students prepare for the CILS* and CELI* exams organized by the University of Siena and University of Perugia and held everywhere in the world. The CILS and CELI certifications are necessary to study in Italian Universities, for example, and can be required to work in an Italian company.

* CILS: Certificazione di Italiano come Lingua Straniera dell'Università per Stranieri di Siena

* CELI: Certificato di conoscenza della Lingua Italiana dell'Università per Stranieri di Perugia

SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships are offered by the school through the Italian Cultural Institutes, the Italian Department or Languages Department at Universities, the Embassies and Consulates.



SPECIAL COURSES

MINIMUM LANGUAGE LEVEL REQUIRED B1

A new type of course for those who want to learn the language with an innovative and stimulating approach. The participants will have a chance to deepen their lexical and grammatical knowledge and reflect over the language and its numerous aspects through the analysis of original texts such as songs, novels and scripts.

The lessons, which are very dynamic, require the active participation of the students and encourage linguistic, social and intercultural reflections.

HISTORY OF THE SANREMO MUSIC FESTIVAL

A journey through the Italian history and society from the fifties to today with the songs of the Sanremo Music Festival.

This is a one-week course consisting of daily lessons of 3 hours.

The lessons include the analysis of the most famous songs of the Festival and some newspaper articles throughout the years with an in-depth study of grammatical structures. The topics and the materials chosen will be used to deeply study the Italian society, culture and history offering a well-structured and detailed picture of what Italy has been from the postwar period to today.



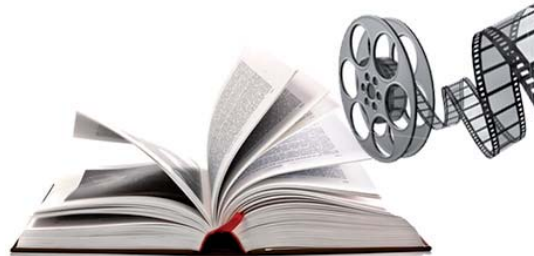
CINEMA AND LITERATURE

Italian films based on Italian novels.

This is a two-week course consisting of daily lessons of 4 hours.

It is divided in modules and in each one a book and the film based on it will be analyzed.

During the lessons extracts from novels will be studied with particular attention to linguistic structures, the development of a screenplay and the language differences between novels and films.



TEACHING METHOD

Cultura Italiana Arezzo is a school where **teaching and training** go hand in hand. The training materializes in two fundamental moments: the preparation of trainees for the prestigious **DITALS Certification (didactics of Italian as a foreign language)** and the continuous meetings and debates of the internal teachers over the most recent teaching approaches, methods and techniques.

GLOBAL APPROACH

Communication is interpreted in all its **linguistic, textual, lexical, conversational, pragmatic and sociocultural complexity**. The morphosyntactic aspect still plays an important role but “ grammar rules” are no longer presented and imposed by the teacher who, on the contrary, encourages students to continuously reflect on the language and discover its structural regularities and irregularities. Students are invited to work on **different kinds of texts** in order to come into contact, even from inside a class, with the “linguistic” world awaiting them outside and also to facilitate different learning styles. Therefore, the teacher becomes the **facilitator** and his/her most ambitious objective is to make students become **independent learners**.

This teaching method, which we like to call “**global**”, has led our teachers to rely on some definitely innovative textbooks thanks to which students are immersed in an active and vital dimension full of engaging input, challenging tasks, authentic situations, plausible and not pretentious contexts which can be easily found outside the school reality.

ITALIAN LANGUAGE TEST AND ORIENTATION INTERVIEW

In order to fit students' needs and put them in the study group most appropriate to their level of language proficiency, an Italian language test has been developed in compliance with the levels described in the **Common European Framework for languages** (A1-Breakthrough, A2- Survival, B1- Threshold, B2- Vantage, C1- Advanced, C2- Proficiency) . The orientation interview before the beginning of the lessons is necessary to make decisions about the course contents according to one's motivation and needs.



ACTIVITIES

The activities organized by the school in the afternoon are fundamental and allow the students to make the most of their language course. They include various guided tours of the city of Arezzo and its numerous attractions, film projections, outings to interesting villages in the province such as Cortona, Anghiari, Castiglion Fiorentino, Poppi, Stia, Monte San Savino, Lucignano and many other places. Visits to *agriturismi* are also possible to sample typical food and taste local wines as well as visits to craftsmen such as goldsmiths. The school offers also seminars about Italian literature, art history, Italian cinema, history of Italian theatre and phonetics. All seminars are given by qualified teachers.





COOKING LESSONS

Every week students will be able to take part in a cooking lesson. In a familiar and at the same time professional environment, they will prepare traditional Italian and Tuscan dishes.

Following the lesson there will be a dinner in which all the participants will taste the foods prepared with the chef.



ACCOMMODATION

One of the services offered by Cultura Italiana Arezzo is the search for an accommodation for the entire duration of your stay. We provide different kinds of accommodation, both in the historical center, which is just a few steps away from the School, and in the Tuscan countryside.



FAMILY STAY

Staying with a family is the best way to practice in real life what you learn during your Italian lessons!

Our host families usually consist of one or two people who rent rooms to foreign students and welcome the opportunity to get to know them.

You can stay in a single or double room with or without the use of the kitchen. Some accommodation have also a private bathroom. The breakfast and meals are not included but some families offer half-board on request.

The price includes bed linen, towels, the use of the common areas and kitchen if requested.

SHARED APARTMENT

You have the option of sharing an apartment with other students from the school. You then have a single or a double room, and the price includes bed linen, towels and the use of the kitchen and common areas.

INDEPENDENT FLAT

You can rent an independent flat, fully equipped, with one or more bedrooms.

HOTELS AND B&Bs

Some students choose to stay in a hotel or B&B. We have negotiated special prices for our students in a few B&Bs located in the centre of town.

VILLAS AND FARMHOUSES

For those who want to combine language learning with a holiday in the Tuscan countryside, the school is in contact with some farmhouses that are very close to town and offer special prices for our students.





REGISTRATION AND GENERAL CONDITIONS

Registering for one of our courses is very easy:

Fill in and send the application form to the school along with the payment of 130-euro deposit.

You can choose one of the following options to pay the deposit:

- 1) *On line by Credit Card (Visa o Master card)*
- 2) *By Bank Transfer to Cultura Italiana Arezzo snc*

Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena

Agenzia Sede

Corso Italia, 221- 52100 Arezzo (Italy)

IBAN: IT 71 X 01030 14100 000003971059

BIC: PASCITMMARE

- 3) *International bank or postal money order to:*

CULTURA ITALIANA AREZZO

Corso Italia, 258

I-52100 Arezzo

As soon as we receive your deposit, we will confirm your registration and your accommodation, if requested.

The balance of the course fee must be settled on the first day of your course.

General conditions

If you decide to cancel or to change the date of your course your deposit will not be refunded but it will be valid for a subsequent course within 12 months.

In the event of irregular attendance or interruption of the course by the student, no refund or discount will be applied.

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.



APPLICATION FORM

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Sex _____ Date of Birth (dd / mm / yyyy) _____

E-mail _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province/Region _____

Postal/ZipCode _____ Country _____

Profession _____ Mother Tongue _____

Other Languages _____

I hereby register for the following course:

- Intensive Private Lessons Semi-private lessons Skype lessons
 Afternoon and evening courses: a) 2 Lessons per week b) 4 Lessons per week
 Cinema and literature History of the Sanremo Music Festival
 Language and cooking Language and art history Language and goldsmith's art
 Language and sculpture

Starting date (DD / MM / YYYY) _____ Number of weeks _____

Accommodation

- Not requested Flat shared with others Independent flat
 Family Family (private bathroom) Family (without use of kitchen)
 Hotel B&B

Have you ever studied Italian? Yes No

How long have you studied Italian? _____

If yes, how do you assess your knowledge of the language?

- (A1) Beginner (A2) Elementary (B1) Intermediate (B2) Upper intermediate
 (C1) Proficiency (C2) Mastery

Do you have special requests?

In order to validate the registration, a deposit of €130 is required.

I would like to pay by:

- Credit Card Bank Transfer International bank or postal money order





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