

Italian for foreign students as of academic year 2011/2012

Politecnico di Torino considers it fundamental that all its foreign students have a basic knowledge of Italian. This can be proven through certification issued by other institutions that meets the requirements established in these regulations, or by passing the final exam of one of the Italian courses provided by the Politecnico Language Center (CLA).

The following rules apply to foreign students enrolled on a first and second level program at Politecnico di Torino and are valid as of academic year 2011/2012. They do not apply to students holding any of the certificates listed in the ministry regulations (MIUR) “Rules for the admission of foreign students on university courses 2011-2014”, protocol n.602 of 18 May 2011 (art I.10).

Foreign student: the term defines those students whose nationality is not Italian, holding a non-Italian high school certificate.

Entry on the study plan:

From academic year 2011/2012 all foreign students must have the course *Italian Language* or *Lingua Italiana* in their study plan, so that it can appear on any certificate issued as an exam passed, with the following rules according to each specific case:

- DEGREE COURSES

- 1. foreign students enrolled on a three-year degree course entirely taught in English.** These students must sit **Italian language - first level** (which certifies a CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) level A1,) within the first year of enrolment at Politecnico. In order to help these students, Politecnico **allows them to substitute any one optional course of their choice with this exam** (the optional course must be the 1st year optional course for Engineering courses, or the free credits of the 3rd year for the inter-faculty Architecture courses). The course chosen is therefore part of their study plan and counts toward the 180 credits required for graduation; it is automatically entered into their study plan on enrollment.

As it is a policy of Politecnico to guarantee access to optional courses, students wishing to take one may request substitution at the registrar's office, but they must submit an equivalent certificate of proficiency in Italian. In this case the Italian credits will be counted as surplus and the students will graduate with 186 ECTS (credits).

Students already holding certification may choose to use it in place of an optional course or to enter the Italian exam as surplus, maintaining the possibility of attending an optional course; this must be specified at the registrar's office during enrollment.

- 2. foreign students enrolled on a three-year degree course taught in Italian or taught in English for the first year only.** These students must take **'Lingua italiana – secondo livello'** (which certifies a CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) level A2) but the course will be counted as surplus and the students will graduate with 186 ECTS (credits). The course is automatically entered into their study plan during enrollment.

- MASTER'S DEGREE COURSES:

The following rules apply only to foreign students holding a foreign three-year degree (attained abroad); they do not apply to foreign students who have attained a three-year degree at Politecnico or another Italian university.

1. foreign students enrolled on a second level degree course entirely taught in English:

these students are strongly encouraged to pass 'Italian language – first level' (which certifies a CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) level A1). The exam will be counted as a surplus exam (therefore the students will graduate with 126 ECTS (credits). The course is entered into their study plan at the registrar's office during enrollment.

2. foreign students enrolled on a second level degree course taught in Italian:

These students must take 'Italian Language – second level' (which certifies a CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) level A2.). The exam must be passed before submission of the final project application form (i.e. it is considered a requirement for graduation) and it will be counted as a surplus exam (therefore the students will graduate with 126 ECTS (credits). The course is entered into their study plan at the registrar's office during enrollment.

Course characteristics:

As different levels of proficiency in Italian are required depending on what language the degree courses are taught in, two Italian courses will be instituted, with levels established according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

- '*Italian language – first level*', 6 university credits, for degree courses taught fully in English
- '*Italian language – second level*', 6 university credits, for degree courses taught in Italian or for students who attend only the first year in English.

The course will end with a final exam, with the result PASS or FAIL. If the exam is passed, it will be entered into the student's academic record and the student will thus have certification.

It is not possible to put both courses on a study plan. Students wishing to attend the higher level Italian course although the regulations require them to take the lower level exam must request the change at their Faculty Academic Office.

Course dates: the Language Center will deliver intensive courses in September (before the beginning of the first semester lessons) and February. All students (enrolled and International students in the frame of an exchange programme students) may attend the courses. Italian courses will also be organized during the first and second semester.

Examinations: there will be an exam at the end of each September and February intensive course. Further exams will follow the general regulations for exam sessions. The other Italian courses delivered during the year will follow the same rules as curricular courses and therefore their exam dates will be scheduled in the usual examination periods:

- One exam date during the winter session (February-March)
- One exam date during the summer session (June-July)

- One exam date during the autumn session (September)

Students must sign up for the exam through their home page on the student portal. The exam will be registered electronically. The exam must be passed by the end of the academic year.

Italian certification:

Politecnico di Torino accepts certificates of proficiency in Italian issued by assessment authorities acknowledged by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education:

- 1) Università degli studi di Roma Tre;
- 2) Università per stranieri di Perugia;
- 3) Università per stranieri di Siena;
- 4) Università per stranieri non statale e legalmente riconosciuta “Dante Alighieri” di Reggio Calabria
- 5) Società Dante Alighieri (PLIDA).

Politecnico also accepts certificates issued by embassies, Italian “istituti di cultura” or universities certifying the conclusion of courses which require a final examination (certificates of attendance will not be accepted) and that state the level of proficiency attained through the course (A1, A2 or higher, as described in the CEFR). Students must present their certificates at their Faculty Academic Office, which will register the exam and establish which of the two courses (*‘Italian language – first level’* or *‘Italian language – second level’*) must be entered into their study plan.