

ITALIAN PLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS – Fall 2023

Dear Prospective Italian Student,

We are delighted that you are interested in taking Italian classes at Bard. For us to determine the best level in which to place you, please complete the following two steps between now and the end of L&T at your convenience. You will need to take the placement test before registration advising on August 31:

1. ***Immersion Speaking Test.*** This placement tool for your listening and speaking abilities has two parts:

In Part One, you will be asked to listen to about 30 sentences of varying difficulty and complexity. Once you hear a sentence, you will be asked to REPEAT and RECORD as much as you can remember of that sentence, and then to move on to the next sentence. No worries if you don't remember everything—this test is designed around the idea of measuring how well someone can store and retrieve Spanish sentences in their short-term memory, and based on that, estimate their speaking ability. So just concentrate and try your best!

In Part Two, you will be presented with 3 prompts depending on your level (i.e. tell us about your family, your college experience, favorite book, etc.). You will have 30 seconds to think about what you want to say, and then you will be given a minute or so to answer the prompt. Again, don't worry! Simply talk about whatever comes to mind.

Specific instructions:

- Placement tests are by invitation only. Please contact Prof. Franco Baldasso baldasso@bard.edu who will send you link and specific instructions for the placement test.
2. Finally, an in-person meeting with Prof. Franco Baldasso (baldasso@bard.edu). During Registration Advising on Thursday, August 31 I will be available to meet you in person and look over your placement test to help match you with the appropriate Italian class. Please contact me to schedule an appointment. For now, you can work on your placement test. I look forward to meeting you at the end of L&T.

Courses offered in Italian this semester are:

- **ITAL 201: Intermediate Italian**
Taught by Prof. Karen Raizen, kraizen@bard.edu
- **ITAL 235: Advanced Review: Imagining Italian Cities**
- **ITAL 331: Democracy and Defeat: Italy after Fascism**
Taught by Prof. Franco Baldasso, baldasso@bard.edu

Elementary Italian will be offered in the Spring of 2024.