



World Politics and International Relations
Department of Political and Social Sciences
Università degli Studi di Pavia

Language Courses for WPIR Students

WPIR students may take include up to 24 credits of language courses in their study plan. To this end, they may use any of the following slots in their study plan:

- The 6 free-choice credits in their first year;
- The 6 free-choice credits in their second year;
- The 12 credits in their second year reserved for any combination of internships, training courses or languages (as a matter of student choice).

NB: *It is important to plan your inclusion of languages in your study plan at the beginning of your first year of study.* This is because basic and intermediate language courses are normally arranged so as to be studied in successive years: the basic course is located in the SECOND semester (and is therefore normally taken in the first year), whereas the intermediate course is located in the FIRST semester (and therefore normally taken in the second year).

For example: suppose you wish to take both “Arabic 1” (a second semester course) and “Arabic 2” (a first-semester course). In this case, you need to include “Arabic 1” in your *first* year of study, either as a free-choice exam (*esame a scelta libera*) or as an extra exam (*esame in sovrannumero*). Later, at the beginning of the second year, you may, if you wish, move the “Arabic 1” exam into the 2nd-year 12-credit slot for languages or internships, freeing up all of the 12 free-choice credits for other courses. (If this sounds complicated, we are available to give advice!)

Italian language for non-Italian students

Non-Italian students may choose basic Italian (6 credits) and/or intermediate Italian (6 credits). These courses are offered outside the Department by the University’s *Centro linguistico*. For more information: http://cla.unipv.it/?page_id=171. Pay careful attention to the timetables for these courses. In some cases, they are offered as intensive courses outside term time, or in the early evening during term time.

If you choose to gain credits with Italian language courses of the *Centro linguistico*, you should be aware that those courses do not contribute to your average mark for the degree course as a whole. Because the *Centro linguistico* is not a regular University Department, the University assigns only credits without an exam mark. So, if you include Italian in your study plan, your final transcript will include only the number of credits (assuming you pass the exam) and a qualitative assessment for the Italian language course (e.g. “good”, “very good”, “excellent”).

Other languages

Within the Department, students may choose any language other than English at a level not already covered as part of their first degree (for example, if you already took “French 1 and French 2”, or equivalent courses, as part of your first degree, you may not take “French 1 and French 2” as part of the Master course in World Politics and International Relations).

NB: *all language teaching in the Department of Political and Social Sciences currently involves teaching from Italian rather than from English.* It is therefore necessary to have a basic working knowledge of Italian in order to benefit from these courses. Note also that when searching for the language options online in order to insert them into your study plan, you will need to find their Italian names: for example, “Lingua francese 2”, or “Lingua araba 3”.

European and Non-European Languages

The Department currently offers the following courses:

French 1 (6 credits)
French 2 (6 credits)
German 1 (6 credits)
German 2 (6 credits)
Spanish 1 (6 credits)
Spanish 2 (6 credits)
Arabic 1 (6 credits)
Arabic 2 (6 credits)
Arabic 3 (6 credits)
Arabic Advanced Level 1 (9 credits)
Arabic Advanced Level 2 (9 credits)
Chinese 1 (6 credits)
Chinese 2 (6 credits)
Chinese 3 (6 credits)
Chinese Advanced Level 1 (9 credits)
Chinese Advanced Level 2 (9 credits)
Japanese 1 (6 credits)
Japanese 2 (6 credits)
Japanese 3 (6 credits)
Japanese Advanced Level 1 (9 credits)
Japanese Advanced Level 2 (9 credits)

All language teaching in the Department can be supplemented by additional teaching by language assistants of the *Centro Linguistico*. The office hours of the language assistants (*collaboratori ed esperti linguistici - CEL*) can be found here: http://cla.unipv.it/?page_id=292.

The *Centro Linguistico* (<http://cla.unipv.it/>) also offers students resources for self-learning (*auto-apprendimento*).