

***The Centro Machiavelli was founded as a cooperative of teachers in 1978 in order to provide an adequate response to a growing world-wide interest in Italian language and culture. Method research and its application, together with exchange opportunities, have always been the school's principal objectives. Ever alert to the country's linguistic and cultural developments, the Centro Machiavelli constitutes a constant reference point for students seeking to acquire not only linguistic competence, but also the skills necessary for a full understanding of the Italian society. The school is located in the historic centre of Florence in the district of Santo Spirito, home to artisans and artists, where, being just off the beaten tourist track, the economic and social characteristics of the area have been left intact. The school is in Piazza Santo Spirito itself, one of the finest squares of the city. With its bars and open-air tables, its daily market, workshops and restaurants, it is a favourite haunt of Florentines and thus provides our students with an excellent opportunity to meet them.***

**Machiavelli Center is officially acknowledged by the Ministry of Education.**

## **The Method**

Apart from grammar and syntax, we consider that there are four skills - reading, writing, listening and speaking - which need to be studied and developed right from the first level, to achieve understanding and expression in authentic communicative situations. To this end situations are simulated in the classroom using authentic teaching material. Structures and vocabulary are adapted to the lower levels and become progressively more complex until, at advanced levels, different types of text are used to encourage the recognition and reproduction of different language styles.

## The Courses

### **"A" Intensive - 4 lessons a day**

The study of grammar, syntax and idiomatic forms. Practical usage of what has been studied through controlled exercises with vocabulary work.

### **"B" Semi-intensive - 2 lessons a day**

This course was created to fill language gaps: either in grammar and syntax or in oral and written expression and understanding.

### **"C" Superintensive - 6 lessons a day**

The first four hours are the same as for the intensive course. The last two hours are mainly dedicated to oral expression and comprehension or to the development of specific cultural themes.

### **"D" for "The over 50's Generation" - 3 lessons a day**

This course differs from the others in that participants plan the programme with the teacher to decide on a pace and syllabus which suit their needs and ability.

## Individual Courses

### **"E" Commercial Italian -10 lessons over two weeks**

Acquisition of structures and vocabulary necessary for business negotiations.

### **"F" Art History - 10 lessons over two weeks**

Lessons in the classroom with slides and video, plus guided tours of the works of the artists studied.

### **"G" Private Lessons - 2/4/6/8/ lessons a day, minimum one week**

This course was created for those with little time on their hands to study the language or those who have specific professional or study interests and wish to learn terms and structures related to their field.

## Test

On the first day of the course all students, with the exception of absolute beginners and those who wish to attend individual lessons, undertake a level placement test. Every two weeks there is a test to determine progression to the next level.

Courses "A", "B", "C", "D" are for a minimum of two weeks. There are six levels for every type of course. There are normally 7-8 students in a class, with a maximum of 12.

## Certificates

### **Course attendance certificate.**

At the end of each course, the student receives an attendance certificate indicating the course duration.

### **Certificate of Italian as a Foreign Language**

(CILS) - recognised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Our school is a 'recognised education centre' for the attainment of CILS'.

Lessons take place in the morning and in the afternoon, every day, from Monday to Friday.

Lessons for all courses are 50 minutes long.

## Cultural Activities

### ***Two activities a week***

Seminars on Italian economic, political and social history and the historic-urbanistic evolution of Florence.

Introductory lessons on the Florentine artistic and cultural heritage with slides, video and sightseeing tours with the teacher.

In the summer, there are also recreational activities: walking, excursions, wine tasting and dinners.

The seminar topics can be developed in single-theme courses with programme and prices adjusted according to the particular needs of the student.

## FIRENZE NELL'ARTE

### **Practical Courses in Artists Studios and Artisans Workshops**

We promote a wide range of courses which allow students to become acquainted with the Florentine artistic and cultural heritage in collaboration with artisans and artists.

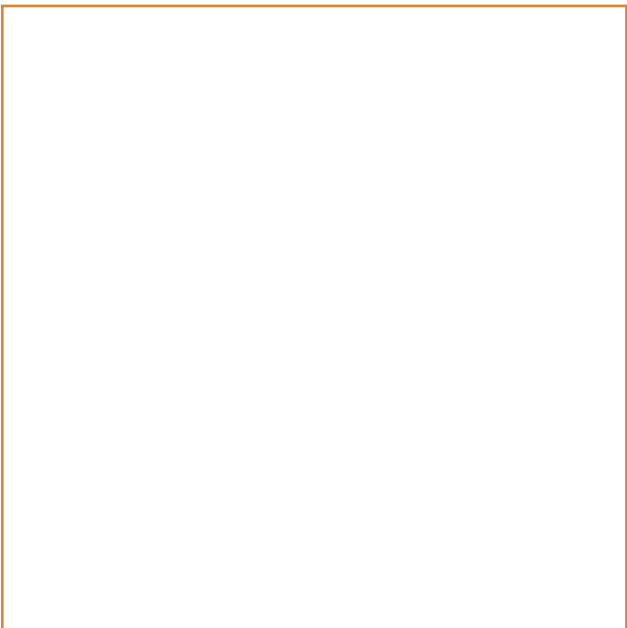
Students can learn or refine an art or craft technique by working in direct contact with the expert in his or her workshop.

## MUSICA E CANTO

### **Courses for opera lovers and singers**

Diction, preparation course for Conservatory admission exam, course of the history of Italian opera and the opera libretto, singing.

**The school office will supply specific information on request.**



## Accommodation

Students can choose from a variety of possibilities: in single or double rooms in shared apartments with use of kitchen, or with half board, or in any category of hotel.

## Tandem

Since 1988 we have been a part of TANDEM®, an international language school network engaged in the research and application of teaching methods based on language and cultural exchange. We offer our students the opportunity to make immediate contact with Italians studying their language through a 'tandem', i.e. two people with different mother tongues who meet up on the basis of shared interests and communicate by alternating these two languages. For its participation in the linguistic education programme for non-EEC students, the **Centro Machiavelli** is recognised by the Comune di Firenze.



### NETWORK

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