



International House

Accademia Britannica
Roma

Fully Online CELTA Course

FAQ



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Fully Online CELTA – FAQ

Why complete CELTA online at IH Rome?

Moving Online

In early March 2020, we found ourselves in lockdown here in Italy, with two CELTA courses in progress and many candidates enrolled on future courses. We didn't want our candidates' future plans to be delayed indefinitely by waiting for life to go back to "normal". We discussed our options, and, once we received agreement from Cambridge Assessment English, moved all courses online.

Experience

IH Rome has been successfully training teachers for over 40 years and our team of six resident trainers have worked in a variety of contexts throughout the world.

Since March 2020, we have completed two CELTA courses online that were in progress when lockdown started, five fully-online courses, and at the time of writing (September 2020), have two fully-online courses in progress. We also have three more fully-online courses scheduled before the end of 2020. It's been, and continues to be, a busy year!

Flexibility

At IH Rome, we've always offered a variety of options for taking CELTA. Moving online hasn't changed that. You have the option of studying full-time (four full days per week on Zoom for five weeks); part-time (two full days per week on Zoom for 10 weeks); or blended (self-studying on a Cambridge Moodle with one or two half days per week on Zoom).

How can CELTA be completed online?

Before moving online we asked ourselves a number of questions, and these are typically the same questions our potential candidates ask us at interview. Through research and experience we have been able to answer them

“How will the course work online?”

Well, with surprisingly few differences to face-to-face. We've made minor adjustments to our course timetables, primarily to build in Zoom training at the beginning of the course. We've also made minor adjustments to activities we do in input sessions because some activities lend themselves better to face-to-face settings. However, this has also meant we've utilised a number of online tools we weren't previously using. Throughout the course we discuss how and when we'd do things differently if we were in the face-to-face classroom, although we have been pleasantly surprised by the ease with which the teaching tools candidates learn on the course can be transferred from one context to another.

“Will candidates and students bond as they would face-to-face?”

It has been wonderful to see that the rapport between tutors, trainees and students hasn't been compromised. We actively encourage candidates to create a WhatsApp group to support one another and chat as they would if in a coffee shop outside of the school. Trainees also meet in their own Zoom meetings for further practice and to have some well-deserved down time to catch up with one another. We've had great feedback from students too, who often find that they are more engaged in online lessons.

“Is learning online boring?”

In a word, “No”! Don't worry, we won't be lecturing at you for hours, and neither will you be lecturing to your students. Despite working online, the course will be just as communicative and collaborative as any face-to-face course. Zoom allows for pair work just as much as face-to-face teaching does. In many ways, pair work is more easily managed on Zoom as there are fewer distractions, with students in their own pairs in their own virtual rooms. Teachers can visit the learners to make sure they're on task and to support them when needed. As tutors, we'll ensure you're also learning in a communicative way, as we teach you in much the same way you'll be teaching your learners.

“Will my teaching skills be transferable to the face-to-face classroom?”

Absolutely! You will be teaching lessons using all of the same skills you would face-to-face. Your tutors will also be assessing you on exactly the same criteria. As with face-to-face courses, all your students will be real students, and, now that we're online, we're able to welcome students from all over the world.

“Will I receive the same certificate if taking the course face-to-face?”

Yes! Whether you do your course online, face-to-face, or blended, you'll receive exactly the same certificate from Cambridge Assessment English on successful completion of the course.

**What are you waiting for?
Join us for CELTA at IH Rome from the
comfort of your home!**



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