

EL ITALIANO EN LA CIUDAD DE BAHÍA BLANCA:
MOTIVACIONES PARA SU ESTUDIO Y USOS DE LA LENGUA EN
INSTITUCIONES ÉTNICAS

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ABSTRACT

Bahía Blanca, city located in Argentina, has received, during the first half of the 20th century, a huge number of Italian immigrants. The consequences of that immigration are visible nowadays, due to the existence of a great number of ethnic Italian institutions (national and regional ones). In addition, Italian descendants are interested in the study of Italian language. In this paper we have studied two subjects: linguistic policies in order to observe Italian and dialects use in ethnic associations and descendants' motivations for Italian learning. We have verified that institutions are in favor of Italian's maintenance, while dialects have a restricted use in particular circumstances. In relation to motivations for Italian learning, the main reason is pleasure.