

Italian Language Levels 1-2 (Summer)

Italian 11 & Italian 12

Professor Eleonora Giorgetti

Course description

This course is designed to provide students with a general knowledge of Italian language. They will be able to express themselves in a simple, fluid and clear manner, write on familiar topics of daily life, express their opinions, and describe projects and actions. Students will also understand the essentials points of oral communication spoken in standard Italian, and will elaborate upon personal experiences, events, hopes and ambitions, both in written and oral form.

All four abilities (writing, speaking, listening, and reading) will be developed in each class also with the support of authentic materials, such as Italian movies, videos, TV programs, music videos, songs, etc. The course uses a communication-based approach: students will engage in daily role-plays, group activities, games, class discussions and exchanges with native speakers.

Out of class activities enforce observation and communication skills and facilitate the students' immersion in Italian culture. Each course is 5.0 quarter/3.3 semester units: lower-division.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of level 2 students will be able to:

- Master basic Italian spelling and pronunciation
- Recognize and use elementary Italian grammar and syntax structures, especially the use of nouns and adjectives and verbs in present, future, conditional and past forms, and basic idiomatic expressions
- Read and comprehend simple texts on daily life, descriptions of people and places and events in the present and in the past
- Participate in simple conversations on topics found in everyday situations, such as at restaurants, shops and markets, including sharing personal information about oneself, family, food, past times, etc.
- Employ simple transactional language, such as telling time, expressing and inquiring about likes/dislikes, inviting someone to do something, expressing wishes and desires
- talk about one's daily life, family, personal background, present and past experiences
- Master basic notions of Italian culture, geography, history
- Write simple texts on daily life in the U.S.A. and in Italy, descriptions of people and places, present and past experiences and personal plans
- Master a body of basic socio-cultural information, including an introduction to the idea of formal and informal register within Italian culture.

Required Texts

- *Avanti!*, 2nd edition, textbook and workbook, McGraw Hill, New York, 2008
- Class Reader

Grade Breakdown

Level 1		Level 2	
Participation	20%	Participation	20%
Quiz 1	10%	Quiz 2	10%
Oral Presentation 1	15%	Oral Presentation 2	15%
Test 1	20%	Test 2	20%
Final Exam 1 (Written)	20%	Final Exam 2 (Written)	20%
Final Exam 1 (Oral)	15%	Final Exam 2 (Oral)	15%

Italian Language Levels 2-3 (Summer)

Italian 12 & Italian 13

Professor Cinzia Pace

Course description

This course enhances Italian composition and conversation for students who possess skills developed during limited previous formal or informal language study. Reading increasingly complex Italian texts on different subjects introduces specialized vocabulary and phraseology. Writing competence progresses from simple phrases and expressions containing information on family, life conditions, education, and jobs, brief descriptions of past events and activities, to clear and precise descriptions and explanations on various topics supporting and developing ideas. Students develop vocabulary for expressing themselves on topics dealing with daily activities and study the derivation and composition of words. They read simple and linear factual texts on subjects of daily life, descriptions of events, argumentative texts with familiar subjects, and feelings and wishes in letters and personal texts. Each course is 5.0 quarter/3.3 semester units: lower-division.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of level 3, students will be able to:

- Read argumentative texts, articles and reports relative to the contemporary world.
- Understand familiar topics and follow conversations between native speakers.
- Produce linear and precise descriptions on familiar topics, storytelling of past experiences, and descriptions of real or imaginary facts.
- Comprehend the fundamental ideas of complex texts on abstract and concrete topics.
- Orate in a fluid, clear and articulated manner.

The reading, listening, writing and speaking skills will be implemented and developed through different inputs and practices (e.g. articles, videos, films, songs, role-plays, strategic interaction, debates, blog posts writing, project works, use of the web technology and other hands-on activities).

Required Texts

- *Avanti!*, 2nd edition, textbook and workbook, Aski J., Musumeci D., McGraw Hill, New York, 2008
- Class Reader

Grade Breakdown

Level 2		Level 3	
Participation	20%	Participation	20%
Quiz 1	10%	Quiz 2	10%
Oral Presentation 1	15%	Oral Presentation 2	15%
Test 1	20%	Test 2	20%
Final Exam 1 (Written)	20%	Final Exam 2 (Written)	20%
Final Exam 1 (Oral)	15%	Final Exam 2 (Oral)	15%

Italian Language Levels 3-4 (Summer)

Italian 13 & Italian 14

Professor Cristina Villa

Course description

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a sound basis for communicating effectively and accurately in Italian. Emphasis is on the fundamentals of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. “Real-life” activities will expose students to day-to-day contexts likely to be encountered outside the classroom environment reinforcing grammatical structures learned in class and increasing functional skills. In fact, students will review and complete the study of Italian grammar and will be exposed to a broad spectrum of language in order to reinforce their written and spoken skills. Students will also be introduced to Italian life and culture (society, cinema, television, literature, music, sport, and art). We will visit famous Florentine monuments and museums and use them as a source of inspiration while enhancing our power of observation and creativity. We will listen to such famous Italian singers and bands as Jovanotti, Malika Ayane, Biagio Antonacci. Elisa, Gino Paoli, Subsonica, Vasco Rossi, Fabrizio De André, Francesco De Gregori, Caparezza, etc. We will also watch clips from classic and contemporary Italian films, *Fortapasc*, *Un americano a Roma*, *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*, *Benvenuti al sud*, *Bianco e nero*, *Le mine vaganti* etc. Students will also create and contribute to our class blog by posting comments, observations, photos, and videos of their time in Florence. They will also post their weekly compositions in our journal and writers’ corner (“diario e piccolo angolo di scrittura creativa”). Each course is 5.0 quarter/3.3 semester units: lower-division.

Learning outcomes

Students will be able to

- Understand and speak conversational Italian
- Discuss in depth different topics related to Italian society and culture
- Clearly and logically express their ideas in written texts
- Read texts in Italian in a variety of genres
- Give clear descriptions on different topics (cinema, food and diet, theatre and opera, traditions, migration, young people and unemployment), and logically develop their ideas
- Produce precise, detailed, and articulated texts on a wide array of topics while expressing opinions on current events
- Explain pros and cons of the various options
- Create short stories in Italian
- Search, read, and analyze current Italian events in magazines, newspapers, Internet, etc.
- Master a body of notions of Italian culture and society and make a constructive comparison with their own
- Use their power of observation and analysis to communicate effectively with “the other”, a foreign culture
- Engage in a process of cultural and personal growth
- Adapt to new contexts using tolerance, acceptance, and constant improvement

Our motto OAAI ☺ : OBSERVE, OPEN, ANALYZE, ACCEPT, and IMPROVE

Required Texts

- *Avanti!*, 2nd edition, textbook and workbook, McGraw Hill, New York, 2008.
- Reader

Grade Breakdown

Level 3		Level 4	
Participation	20%	Participation	20%
Quiz 1	10%	Quiz 2	10%
Oral Presentation 1	15%	Oral Presentation 2	15%
Test 1	20%	Test 2	20%
Final Exam 1 (Written)	20%	Final Exam 2 (Written)	20%
Final Exam 1 (Oral)	15%	Final Exam 2 (Oral)	15%

Italian Language Levels 4-5 (Summer)

Italian 14 & Italian 15

Professor Marcella Delitala

Course description

Starting from a revision of the previous grammar curriculum, this class aims to approach the more complex structures of the Italian language in order to increase the students' speaking, listening, writing, and reading skills. Throughout the course, students will produce clear and articulated texts on a wide array of topics and express opinions of current and past events. They will be engaged in individual readings, class discussions, and analyses (both written and oral) of contemporary texts.

All four abilities (writing, speaking, listening, reading) will be developed in each class also with the support of authentic written and audiovisual materials, such as Italian movies, YouTube videos, TV programs, music videos, songs, newspapers, literary texts, etc. The course uses a communication-based approach; students will engage in daily role-plays, group activities, games, text analyses, and class discussions.

Out of class activities are designed to take full advantage of the city of Florence and will provide opportunities for interaction and enhancement of language skills, as well as immersion in Italian culture. Each course is 5.0 quarter/3.3 semester units: lower-division.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the quarter students can:

- Read complex texts on both concrete and abstract topics and discuss the main ideas
- Read and analyze fairly complex written Italian texts intended for native speakers
- Use the language in a flexible and efficient manner
- Interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity with native speakers
- Control the discursive structures, connectives, and mechanisms of cohesion of spoken and written Italian
- Understand spoken Italian in a variety of both predictable and unpredictable linguistic situations
- Express themselves in a variety of situations where a fair amount of detail is necessary
- Produce clear, detailed texts on a wide range of subjects
- Illustrate contrasting viewpoints on an issue or argument at stake
- Write both formally and informally on a variety of topics, using the appropriate register
- Recognize the socio-linguistic and socio-cultural implications of communicative contexts
- Adapt their learning style to diverse cultural contexts

Required Texts

- *Ponti!*, 3rd edition, E.Tognozzi- G. Cavatorta, Textbook and Students Activity Manual, Heinle, Cengage Learning, 2013
- Dispensa integrativa.

Grade Breakdown

Level 4)		Level 5	
Participation	20%	Participation	20%
Quiz 1	10%	Quiz 2	10%
Oral Presentation 1	15%	Oral Presentation 2	15%
Test 1	20%	Test 2	20%
Final Exam 1 (Written)	20%	Final Exam 2 (Written)	20%
Final Exam 1 (Oral)	15%	Final Exam 2 (Oral)	15%