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
- Class Reader

Grade Breakdown

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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
• Class Reader

Grade Breakdown

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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 OOAII 😊: OBSERVE, OPEN, ANALYZE, ACCEPT, and IMPROVE

Required Texts
• Reader

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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 tests 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

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%            |
Italian Language Levels 5-6 (Summer)
Italian 15 & Italian 16
Professor Simona Baldacci

Course description
A completion, review and further study of the whole grammar, this course aims to develop a written and reading mastery of many different types of texts (from colloquial to literary styles) and it will focus on the reading, discussion, and analysis (both written and oral) of a 20th-century Italian novel, Una storia semplice, by Leonardo Sciascia.

Students will be able to express themselves in long discourses with natural fluidity, to comprehend native speakers, to fully understand socio-linguistic and socio-cultural implications of Italian language and to respond in an appropriate manner.

The city of Florence will become a cultural laboratory where language will be studied in context. The city represents a composite of contemporary Italian culture that students will discover through out-of-class activities, projects, and visits. Each course is 5.0 quarter/3.3 semester units: lower-division.

Learning Outcomes
By the end of the course students will be able to
- Communicate thoughts, ideas, and opinions in spoken and written Italian in the range of Intermediate-High to Advanced-Mid level.
- Recognize distinctive productions and communicative practices in Italian and identify their relationships with Italian culture (attitudes, values and beliefs).
- Read, comprehend, and analyze a wide range of texts in Italian from various fields of knowledge at an advanced level.
- Recognize the regional, historical, geographical, and cultural particularities of texts and materials.
- Interact communicatively within a community of practice, registers and cultural contexts at an advanced level.
- Examine and produce coherent analyses of literary/cultural topics through research and critical thinking, demonstrating relevant use of textual evidence and documentation.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of Italian culture within the broader framework of global perspectives in a multicultural world.

Required Texts
- Dispensa integrativa.

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Revised 9/2014
Italian Language Levels 6-7 (Summer)
Italian 16 & Italian 101
Professor Simona Baldacci

Course description
A completion, review and further study of the whole grammar, the L6 course aims to develop a written and reading mastery of many different types of texts (from colloquial to literary styles).

Students will be able to express themselves in long discourses with natural fluidity, to comprehend native speakers, to understand fully the socio-linguistic and socio-cultural implications and to respond in an appropriate manner.

The second part of this course (corresponding to the L7 level) will focus on the reading, discussion, and analysis (both written and oral) of representative samples of 20th-century Italian literature and of the novel Carta Bianca by Carlo Lucarelli. Readings, homework, and in- and out-of-class activities are designed to help students expand their knowledge of Italian language and grammar, and to enable them to read works by contemporary Italian authors as well as to write compositions in prose and poetry. The emphasis is on writing techniques, grammar and style. Each course is 5.0 quarter/3.3 semester units: Level 6 is lower-division, Level 7 is upper-division.

Required Texts
- Dispensa integrativa.
- Dispensa di letteratura italiana

Grade Breakdown

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Guidelines for essays and exams
1. Students will write the first draft of their essays (tesina) in class. Drafts will be graded and returned with suggestions for revision. Students will then turn in a revised version of their essays for which they will receive a maximum of five extra points to be added to their grade for the assignment. Please be aware that the language tutor is not allowed to help students revise their essays. Students are allowed to use a bilingual dictionary and the literature reader in class.
2. The revised essays for the L7 section must be typed (Times New Roman 12, double spaced).
3. Grading for essays and L7 final exam:
   - Content 30%
   - Fluency and syntax 20%
   - Grammar 30%
   - Vocabulary and orthography 20%
4. Plagiarism is firmly condemned by UC (please see the Academic Handbook for further details) and will result in a ‘0’ for the assignment as well as referral to UCEAP. Do not correct your essays with the help of your Italian families or friends and remember to quote your sources.
5. The final exam of the L7 section will include both an extensive writing assignment and a grammar section. You will be allowed to use a bilingual dictionary for the exam.

Revised 9/2014