



Intermediate Italian I

UNH Course Code: ITA203

Subject Area: Italian Language and Literature

Level: 200

Prerequisites: The equivalent of two semesters of college level Italian

Language of Instruction: Italian

Instructor:

Email:

Contact Hours: 60

Recommended Credits: 4

Description:

This intermediate course aims at improving the four basic skills, reading, speaking, writing and understanding through a direct exposition to Italian language and culture. After reviewing basic grammar and vocabulary, you will be steadily exposed to new and more complex grammar and communicative structures so that you will have more opportunities of interacting accurately and expressively with the host community. In order to develop these skills the primary language of instruction in this course is Italian.

The course combines several integrated approaches aimed at developing your skills. Most in-class time, driven by the structure of the textbook and accompanying workbook, is devoted to speaking and practicing Italian through a combination of group-based and individual activities, focusing on grammatical structures, language functions and vocabulary. Lessons also focus on a wide range of contemporary cultural themes through the use varied materials such as newspaper articles, advertising material and short film clips. Onsite activities such as visits to markets and to the National Library in Florence, and regular conversation exchanges with Italian students, will give you a unique chance to rapidly implement your linguistic development in real-life.

To give you further opportunities to develop your linguistic and intercultural skills in real local-community situations, your professor will assist in arranging conversation exchanges with Italians, either as part of in-class cultural exchanges with local Italians as guests, or during on-site study excursions.

Special extra-curricular activities, organized by various local institutions, will be announced at the start of the semester and your instructor will help you identify which activities would be most useful for you. These and other cultural components of the course will also promote your knowledge of Italy and Italians, as you learn about Italian society, and thus learning Italian gives you a privileged opportunity to develop sensitivity towards cultural differences and to understand the ways in which culture and language interlock. In this sense you will be encouraged to exploit the value of these lessons not just as a useful aid to your progress in other, but as a set of tools for unlocking a wide range of intercultural discoveries whilst living and studying abroad.

By the end of the course, you are expected not simply to be able to demonstrate mastery of the basic grammar and lexical structures, but the growing ability to conduct relatively demanding conversations to express personal ideas and opinions, dreams, hopes and ambitions, and to be able to write short texts that clearly and simply relate personal experiences, impressions and opinions.

Several class sessions will involve simple group discussions and debates on current topics or on movies and newspaper articles, thus increasing the possibilities for developing the skills of self-expression. Particular attention will be devoted to expressing individuals' and other people's ideas and to synthesizing information and opinions.

Learning Objectives:

- to consolidate and build on your grasp of the main grammar and lexical structures of the language
- to express simple ideas and opinions, dreams, hopes and ambitions
- to enrich your vocabulary

- to develop your use of idiomatic expressions
- to understand the main points of a speech on familiar matters and the main points of radio or TV programmes on current affairs
- to narrate a plot or describe a reaction
- to write letters relating personal experiences and impressions.

Instructional Format:

Class meets four times a week for 55 minutes each time. Class time is devoted predominantly to speaking and practicing Italian. Classroom activities are devoted to speaking Italian, and reading and discussing real-life Italian material such as song lyrics and advertising slogans. As particular emphasis is placed on your foreign surroundings, you will learn about the language through assignments and on-site activities, such as visiting the market or asking for directions in the streets. You are expected to commit at least 4–6 hours a week to self study and homework for the duration of the semester.

If you require any special accommodations, please contact your instructor.

Forms of Assessment:

The instructor will use numerous and differentiated forms of assessment to calculate the final grade you receive for this course. For the record, these are listed and weighted below. The content, criteria and specific requirements for each assessment category will be explained in greater detail in class. Whether you plan to transfer letter grades back to your home institution or not, CEA expects that you will complete all graded assessment categories in each course in which you are enrolled. In addition, your work and behavior in this course must fully conform to the regulations of the [CEA Academic Integrity Policy](#) to which you are subject. Finally, all formal written work you carry out in this course (research papers, projects, studies, etc.) must be submitted in electronic format. Your instructor may also require that you hand in a hard copy of such work.

Appealing a Grade:

Any grade dispute you have during the course must immediately be addressed with the instructor and definitively resolved before the last week of class. Only end-of-term assignments graded after the end of your program can be formally appealed.

Students wishing to appeal the grade of an end-of-term assignment must do so within the 30 day period following the official release of grades by submitting the “Grade Appeal Form” to the Academic Dean. The appeal procedure and the grade re-evaluation it requires does not guarantee a change in grade, and could result in an increase or decrease in the final grade given. Any change is subject to a ruling by the course instructor, in consultation with the Academic Dean, and must be based on the academic evidence provided to support the appeal. The instructor’s ruling on this matter is final.

Upon receiving the results of the review and decision by the instructor, the Academic Dean will inform the student of the result of the appeal. The grade received by the student as a result of the Grade Appeal is final and may not be appealed further.

Class Participation	10%
Homework Assignments	10%
Quizzes	10/0%
Independent Presentations	20%
Team Project	10%
Midterm oral exam	10%
Midterm written exam	10%
Final oral exam	10%
Final written exam	10%

Class Participation (10%):When determining your class participation grade, traditional criteria such as material preparation, completed reading before class, and collaborative group work are all evaluated. But it is the active, meaningful and informed verbal and written contribution that you make that is most important to your overall

participation grade. Whereas attendance and punctuality are expected and will not count positively towards the grade, laxity in these areas will have a negative effect on your grade. The instructor will use the following specific criteria when calculating your class participation grade:

Criteria for Assessing Class Participation	Grade
You make major and original contributions that spark discussion, offering both critical and analytical comments clearly based on readings and research and displaying a working knowledge of theoretical issues.	A+ (9.70–10.00)
You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings and independent research.	A-/A (9.00–9.69)
You participate voluntarily and make useful contributions that are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings.	B/B+ (8.40–89.90)
You make voluntary but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings.	C+/B- (7.70–8.39)
You make limited comments only when prompted and do not initiate debate or show a clear awareness of the importance of the readings.	C (7.00–7.69)
You very rarely make comments and resist engagement with the subject, attending class having manifestly done little if any preparation.	D (6.00–6.69)
You make irrelevant and tangential comments disruptive to class discussion, a result of frequent absence and complete un-preparedness.	F (0–5.90)

Cell phones:

During class time, all mobile phones must be switched off. In case of family emergency, students can keep their phones on (silent mode) after asking for permission before class starts.

Laptops:

Responsible use of laptop computers during class is encouraged, and so when required by your professor you must be prepared to turn them off and/or close them during certain activities.

Homework Assignments (10%): Assignments and workbook exercises (set out in the Assignment column of the course content) will be corrected at the beginning of each class. You are responsible for all assigned work and you should be aware that absence from the preceding class is not an excuse for non-preparation. All assignments are subject to change based on class progress, and you will be normally told in the preceding class of such changes. You can e-mail your instructor to find out about the assigned homework. At any point, you may be called upon to respond to questions dealing with material previously assigned by the instructor. If you wish to have your homework further explained by the instructor, please bring it to her attention at the end of the class period. Your instructor will ask to see your workbook at regular intervals during the course in order to monitor your performance and your progress

Quizzes (10%): The quizzes are mandatory and will give you the opportunity during the semester to review and test the progress you are making in using Italian grammar and syntax.

Independent Presentations (20%): These are four short independent written pieces, worth 5% each, that you will read to the class, and that will form the basis of discussion. The content, criteria and specific requirements for each assessment category will be explained in greater detail in class.

Team Project (10%): Students will work in teams of three or four to perform a basic oral presentation for their classmates. Each team will write down the presentation script and present it in advance to the teacher for a final correction. The text will include acquired vocabulary and demonstrate as far as possible your command of the Italian language. This is a very important exercise and it should be taken very seriously since it will count towards the 10% of the total grade. As this is a course for absolute beginners the presentation ought to be a rudimentary presentation of basic statements about a chosen topic, and each member of the group should take responsibility for a separate aspect of that information (historical, statistical, cultural, etc).

Students are free to choose their own topic but it should be linked to the host city or Italy in some way – possible topics will be discussed with the class teacher at the start of the course. You must provide a handout for your

classmates, comprising an outline or summary of your presentation and a specialized vocabulary list. If your presentation is dependent upon images you are strongly encouraged to use software such as PowerPoint and other visual aids for your discussion. Just bring your presentation on a USB and load it onto the classroom PC a few minutes before the class starts.

Finally, you should be prepared to try and answer any questions fielded by your classmates about the meaning of any of the words used in your presentations. It will be important for everyone in the class to understand the meaning and usage of these vocabulary items since they will be incorporated by your instructor into the ongoing curriculum and included on the midterm and final examinations. Suggested team project titles include *La famiglia italiana, il cibo in Italia, le regioni d'Italia, la moda, la città di Firenze*. Other topics can be suggested according to your personal interests.

Mid-term (oral portion 10% and written portion 10%) and Final Exam (oral portion 10% and written portion 10%): The midterm and final exams are designed to establish and communicate to you the progress you are making towards meeting the course learning objectives listed above. They are comprised of questions and exercises that test your abilities in important areas of competency outlined in the learning objectives above. These tests will also incorporate idioms and vocabulary items introduced by you and your classmates during your Team Project.

CEA Grading Scale				
Letter Grade	Numerical Grade Low Range	Numerical Grade High Range	Percentage Range	Quality Points
A+	9.70	10.00	97.0 - 100%	4.00
A	9.40	9.69	94.0 - 96.9%	4.00
A-	9.00	9.39	90.0 – 93.9%	3.70
B+	8.70	8.99	87.0 – 89.9%	3.30
B	8.40	8.69	84.0 – 86.9%	3.00
B-	8.00	8.39	80.0 – 83.9%	2.70
C+	7.70	7.99	77.0 – 79.9%	2.30
C	7.00	7.69	70.0 – 76.9%	2.00
D	6.00	6.99	60.0 – 69.9%	1.00
F	0.00	5.99	0 - 59.9%	0.00
W	Withdrawal			0.00
INC	Incomplete			0.00

Monitoring Progress:

Your progress will be constantly monitored during the semester, and feedback will be offered throughout. Furthermore your instructor is available to meet you after class by appointment when necessary.

CEA Attendance Policy:

Every student is expected to attend all scheduled class sessions on time and be thoroughly prepared for the day’s class activities. In compliance with NEASC and UNH accreditation requirements, CEA instructors compile regular attendance records for every course and take these records into account when evaluating student participation and performance.

- In this course, a maximum of seven days of accumulated absences due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transport delay and other related impediments will be tolerated.
- Your final course grade will drop one full letter grade (e.g. A+ to B+) for missing eight days of class, regardless of the reason for your absence.
- Your final course grade will drop another full letter grade (e.g. B+ to C+) for missing nine days of class, regardless of the reason for your absence.
- Your final course grade will drop a another full letter grade (e.g. C+ to D) for missing ten days of class, regardless of the reason for your absence.
- If your absences exceed ten (10) days of class, you will automatically fail this course (e.g., D to F; miss ten (11 or more days to receive an “F”).

Furthermore, to comply with immigration and financial regulations, you must maintain full-time student status and attend at least 12 hours of class every week. Consequently, the Dean and Program Director will dismiss from all CEA courses, programs, activities and housing any student who fails to maintain full-time status.

Arriving Late for Class:

A student consistently arriving late for class displays an unacceptably deficient degree of participation, and an unacceptable lack of respect for his instructor and his fellow students. Instructors will reflect students' persistent lateness by deducting percentage points from the total 10% earmarked for Participation as indicated on the syllabus. Please note that missing a significant portion of one of your classes can be considered a full absence at the discretion of the professor. Always communicate to your teacher if you need to leave early due to illness, or if you are late due to serious, unforeseen circumstances.

Missing Examinations:

Students who miss mid-term or final examination at the assigned hours will not be permitted to sit a make-up examination without written permission from the Academic Dean. Permission will rarely be granted. It might be granted in the case of instances of serious, documented illness (see the attendance policy for more details), but never for travel. Examinations will not be rescheduled under any circumstances, except in cases of genuine emergencies. Such cases should be taken to the Academic Dean in writing. Missing an examination for whatever reason is effectively an absence from class.

Required Readings:

Required readings will come from the following course textbook. The required course textbook must be acquired at Paperback Exchange bookstore, located on Via delle Oche. Each student must have their own copy. The price is approximately 20 euro.

Nocchi, S., *Italian Grammar in Practice: Exercises, Tests, Games*, Alma Edizioni, Firenze, 2002.

Depending on the progress and interests of the class, your teacher will occasionally hand out copied extracts from the texts cited in the Recommended Readings list below. In addition, you are highly recommended to purchase an Italian/English-English/Italian dictionary, and to bring it with you to all lessons. Consult your instructor for recommendations.

Recommended readings:

All of the following books are available in the Language Section of the CEA Resource Center:

Arnauco, M., *La pagina breve: Racconti italiani del novecento*, Cideb Editrice, Genova, 2005.

Benni, S., *Il bar sotto il mare*, Feltrinelli Editore, Milano, 1987.

Bozzone Costa, R., *Viaggio nell'italiano*, Loescher Editore, Torino, 2004.

Di Francesco, A. and C. M. Naddeo, *Bar Italia*, Alma Edizioni, Firenze, 2002.

Gruppo Meta, *Uno*, Bonacci editore, Roma, 1992.

Mazzetti, A. and M. Falcinelli, B. Servadio, *Qui Italia*, Primo livello, Le Monnier, Firenze, 1993.

Mazzetti, A. and M. Falcinelli, B. Servadio, *Qui Italia*, Le Monnier, Firenze, 2002.

Mezzadri, M., *Essential Italian Grammar in Practice*, Guerra Edizioni, Perugia, 2000.

Naddeo, C. M. and G. Trama, *Canta che ti passa*, Alma Edizioni, Firenze, 2000.

Sabatini, A., *Chiaroscuro 3: Livello Intermedio*, Vignanuova Edizioni, Firenze, 2004.

Santi, C. and C. Ermini, S. Valdisserrri, *Idea Uno*, Progetto Lingua, Firenze, 2004.

Tartaglione, R. and S. Nocchi, *Grammatica avanzata della lingua italiana*, Alma Edizioni, Firenze 2006.

Bultrini P., Graziani F., Magnani N., *Italian Espresso I*, Gruppo Italiaidea, Alma Edizioni, Firenze.

In addition to recommended readings, you will find information about the many libraries, documentation centers, research institutes and archival materials located here in the city and accessible to CEA students in a folder found in the Resource Center. Direct access to additional resources and databanks are available to you through the online library of the University of New Haven.

Self Study:

While we emphasize collaborative and communicative methodology in the classroom, we also highly encourage you to pursue several self study hours each week, exploiting the range of Italian books, articles and DVD films available in the Resource Center.

Quaderno Personale:

You are encouraged to keep a personal notebook of new vocabulary and idiomatic expressions as you come across them, including those introduced by your classmates during the presentations of the Team Projects. Feel free to share this with your instructor if at any point during the semester you want to check the meaning or usage of any new words that you spot during your travels or in your studies.

Online Reference & Research Tools:

You will find links to all of these sites and many more on desktop of all of the PCs at the CEA Florence Center.

Miscellaneous:

www.allaboutitaly.com

www.italianfoodforever.com

www.florenceforfun.org

www.educational.rai.it

Help with Italian pronunciation online, with the help of clever drawings:

www.cyberitalian.com

A site for researching travel and events throughout Italy:

<http://www.giraitalia.it>

Italian dialects, with a description and a map to show what is spoken and where:

<http://www.evolvepub.com/Italiandialects/ITALhome.html>

Over 60 RealVideo clips with notes (in Italian) about regional differences, how to make the gesture, appropriate usage, and type (i.e., colloquial, vulgar, or trivial):

<http://www.eurocosm.com/Eurocosm/AppEC/Pdcd/Handsignals/HandsigsGB.asp>

The renowned writer Beppe Severgnini's columns in the Italian national daily *Corriere della Sera*:

<http://www.corriere.it/solferino/severgnini>

Films:

The following films, highly recommended for the insights into contemporary Italian culture as well as language exercises, are available at the Resource Center for in-house viewing.

Io non ho paura, Gabriele Salvatores, 2003

I Cento Passi, Tullio Marco Giordana, 2000

L'uomo perfetto, Luca Lucini, 2005

**Intermediate Italian I
Course Content:**

Session	Topic	Activity	Student Assignment
1	Review of present tense of regular and irregular verbs	Ciao! Mi presento! Introduce yourself to the class	Workbook: Exercises on present tense (regular and irregular verbs).
2	Review of modal verbs (volere, potere, dovere)	Progetti per il semestre!	Workbook: Exercises on modal verbs.
3	Review of nouns and adjectives	Un giorno a Firenze! Prime impressioni sulla città	Exercises on nouns and adjectives
4	Direct Object pronouns Vocabulary: going to the market and buying goods.	Prepariamoci per fare la spesa!	Worksheets: vocabulary and expressions related to markets, making <i>lista della spesa</i> , direct pronouns
5	Conversation practice at the market asking for goods and prices.	Una visita al mercato di S. Ambrogio	Exercises on reflexive verbs; Memorize the most common reflexive verbs. Workbook: Exercises on verb <i>piacere</i> and the indirect pronouns
6	Review of present reflexive verbs Speaking about daily routine Verb <i>piacere</i> and indirect pronouns	La mia giornata tipica!	Prepare for the quiz!
7	Consolidation	QUIZ 1	Consolidation
8	Review of Passato prossimo Past time expressions	Write a letter or postcards to a friend describing your last trip	Workbook: exercises on passato prossimo Review of the irregular past participles
9	Describing people and landscape Past tenses: passato prossimo and imperfect. Reading excerpts from "Seta" di Alessandro Baricco	I viaggiatori nel passato clip dal film "Seta" tratto dal romanzo di Alessandro Baricco	Memorize all the new expressions and words Written essay
10	Past tenses: passato prossimo and imperfect.	Firenze com'era... La famiglia Alinari Visit at the the Alinari Museum Look and describe old photos of Florence	Workbook: exercises on past tenses. Reading a short tale. Prepare for the Independent Presentation # 1
11	Consolidation	Independent presentation # 1: Tell the class about your favourite vacation	Memorize all the new expressions and words
12	Direct object pronouns and passato prossimo Prepositions C'è- ci sono	Musica! Italian songs – listening and discussion	Workbook: exercises on most common prepositions and the use of <i>c'è – ci sono</i> Worksheets: vocabulary and expressions related to cinema and movies
13	Addressing people formally	Andiamo insieme in libreria	Worksheets: vocabulary and expressions related to books
14	Consolidation	Al cinema! Viewing of an Italian movie 1	Worksheets: vocabulary and expression

			related to the movie
15	Let's talk about the movie!	Al cinema! Viewing of an Italian movie 2	Written essay 1
16	Prepositions	I negozi in Italia!	Workbook: exercises on prepositions
17	Vocabulary: clothes	I vestiti e la moda	Workbook: exercises on the verb piacere and indirect pronouns Prepare for the Quiz!
18	Consolidation	Quiz 2	Consolidation
19	Conditional tense for polite requests and giving/ asking advises	Un Consiglio... In pairs, ask for and offer advice to a friend and then to a person you don't know	Exercises on conditional . Vocabulary and expressions related to <i>Le vacanze</i>
20	CI as adverb of place Prepositions	In giro in Italia!	Workbook: exercises on <i>CI</i> and prepositions
21	Consolidation	Language Exchange with Italian students!	Memorize all the new expressions and words!
22	Present Continuous (the verb stare+ the gerund) Stare per+infinitive To tell a plot!	Independent Presentation 2 "Il mio libro/film preferito!"	Workbook: exercises on present continuous and verb stare+infinitive
23	Review of all problematic homework assignments.	REVIEW!	Worksheets for the review
24	ORAL MIDTERM EXAM		
25	WRITTEN MIDTERM EXAM		
26	Express personal opinions Present subjunctive: how and when use it Express personal opinions	Le mie vacanze! Conversation session: what did you do during break? Travelling in Italy or Europe: during the break, write a description of a region you have visited and present it to the class	Workbook: exercises on present subjunctive.
27	Present Subjunctive Indefinite adjectives and pronouns	Independent Presentation 3 "A special moment during break!"	Workbook: exercises on present subjunctive, indefinite adjectives and pronouns
28	Prepositions	Talking about... Il pro e il contro: In-class conversation session/debate. Today we will split into 2 main groups a debate a topical issue.	.Prepare Team Project Presentation #2
29	Past subjunctive	In edicola! Italian newspapers!	Workbook: exercises on present and past subjunctive. Written essay
30	Outdoors!	Andiamo tutti insieme.....	Prepare for the quiz!

31	Consolidation	Quiz 3	Consolidation
32	Imperative tense	Pronto! Phone-calls in Italian	Workbook: exercises on imperative tense.
33	Imperative tense	Dal dottore!	Workbook: exercises on imperative formal and informal. Vocabulary and expression related to <i>The human body</i>
34	Verbs and prepositions	Gli italiani e la gestualità!	Expression related to the language gestures Prepare your Independent Presentation # 3
35	Consolidation	Independent Presentation #3 “Un’ intervista a...”	Consolidation
36	Future tense	MUSICA! Italian songs: listening and discussion	Workbook: exercise on future tense
37	Future tense If clause with future	Il mondo tra 100 anni! In-class conversation session/debate. Today we will split into 2 main groups a debate a topical issue.	Workbook: exercise on future tense and if clause with future
38	Consolidation	Al cinema! Viewing of an Italian movie 1	Worksheets: vocabulary and expression related to the movie
39	Consolidation Let’s talk about the movie!	Al cinema! Viewing of an Italian movie 2	Written essay
40	Outdoors!	TREASURE HUNT!	Memorize all the new words! Prepare for the Quiz!
41	Consolidation	Quiz 4	Consolidation
42	Consolidation	Language Exchange with Italian students!	Memorize all the new expressions and words!
43	Double object pronouns Let’s talk about special events in Italy	Un anno in Italia!	Worksheets for double object pronouns
44	Double object pronouns Traditional Italian food and recipes!	Mangiare e bere in Italia!	Write a recipe of your country!
45	Let’s talk about italian superstitions	Sei supertizioso?	Memorize all the new expressions and words!
46	Relative pronouns	I miei amici!	Worksheet for relative pronouns
47	Relative pronouns	Musica!	Worksheet for relative pronouns and prepare your Independent Presentation # 4
48	Consolidation	Independent presentation # 4	Memorize all the new expressions and words!

49	Consolidation	Clip of an Italian movie!	Memorize all the new expressions and words!
50	Consolidation	Role play: questions and answers with a classmate about future plans after the semester in Italy	Prepare your Team Project Presentation
51	Consolidation	TEAM PROJECT! 1	Memorize all the new expressions and words!
52	Consolidation	TEAM PROJECT! 2	Memorize all the new expressions and words!
53	Review of all problematic homework assignments.	Review for final exam	Worksheets for the review
54	ORAL FINAL EXAM I		
55	ORAL FINAL EXAM II		
56	WRITTEN FINAL EXAM		