

Lecture Course



Santa Reparata International School of Art
Course Syllabus

Summer Course

Course Title: Beginning Italian Language

Course number: ITAL 101

Credits: 3, Contact Hours: 45

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Designed for students who have never studied the language before, this is an entry level Italian language course. The goal of the course is to obtain a basic but solid understanding of the Italian language through listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Upon completion of this course, students should have the basic communications skills needed for day-to-day activities.

2. CONTENT INTRODUCTION

The course will focus on grammar and vocabulary as well as conversation so that students will be able to express themselves in everyday situations. A basic knowledge of Italian will be developed through listening, reading, writing and speaking skills. The classes will be taught primarily in Italian with only supplemental explanations in English. Emphasis will be placed on understanding grammatical rules and building vocabulary.

3. COURSE RATIONALE

This is a beginning level Italian language course, for students who do not already have a basic knowledge of Italian.

4. PREREQUISITES:

None

5. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Learn basic pronunciation of the language
- Become familiar with the Italian alphabet and numbers
- Express simple phrases and sentence structure in present and past tense: e.g. how to greet, to introduce themselves, to tell the time, to talk about their experiences
- Learn vocabulary for everyday situations
- Write a variety of simple compositions about their everyday life
- Know the main social customs and daily life in Italy

6. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

“Un tuffo nell’azzurro. Corso di Italiano per Stranieri, 1”, by D. Amati e P. Bacci
An Italian dictionary and a book of Italian verbs are also recommended.

Aprox. cost : € 16,00

7. GRADING POLICY AND EVALUATION PROCEDURES

The course is structured with 8 hours per week of classroom instruction.

Classes are organized around grammar; vocabulary and conversation topics with special attention to daily situations and travel in Italy; as well as how to ask for information or directions; use transportation; order food, book hotels, museums etc.

Also, students will have the opportunity to confront their own culture with the Italian culture as discussions will be taken from local newspapers, television and Italian magazines

GRADING POLICY

A	Excellent 4.0 (grade points awarded) 95% percentage of 100%
A-	3.7, (90% to 94%)
B+	3.3 (87% to 89%)
B	Above Average 3.0 (83% to 86%)
B-	2.7 (80% to 82%)
C+	2.3 (77% to 79%)
C	Average 2.0 (73% to 76%)
C-	1.7 (70% to 72%)
D	Below Average 1.0 (60% to 69%)
F	Failure 0.0 (59% and below)
W	Withdrawal 0.0

Students' grades will be calculated using the following formula:

20% *Homework and creative projects*

20% *Quizzes*

20% *Classroom participation.*

25% *Final exam*

15% *Class attendance*

How to study for this course

1. Complete all your homework
2. Rewrite your notes when you get home
3. Create vocabulary flashcards and have your room mate quiz you
4. Attend tutoring session
5. Take advantage of the opportunities you have to practice the language. This might mean speaking to Barbara, Marta or Anamaria in Italian, asking for water in a restaurant, or just using "grazie" and "prego" and greeting some one with a "buongiorno" instead of a "hello"
6. Use DVDs and CDs (available in library) to practice your listening skills

Don't be afraid to make mistakes when speaking!

Remember the objective is to communicate.

8. EXAMS

There is a Final Exam for this course. No make-ups are admitted for the exams and the dates of the exams CANNOT be changed for any reason, if a student misses the Final exam the final grade will be "F".

Quizzes

Quizzes will be every other week.

Extra credit

Students may receive extra credit for the following:

- . essay of 100 words or more
- . Italian film (written and made by students, 10/15 minutes)
- . Italian song (written text and musical recordings)
- . book report

Homework: will be given everyday with writing exercises on the textbook or short compositions.

9. ATTENDANCE AND BEHAVIOR POLICY

Students who miss more than 1 class with no penalty to their grade. Students who miss more than 1 class will have their grade lowered by one letter grade for each additional absence. For example, if you have an "A" in this class and you are absent 2 times you will receive a "B" in the course.

If you are absent more than 3 times you will receive an "F" on your transcript.

- Tardiness: After 20 minutes into class time, students are considered absent.
- Students who leave 20 minutes before class time ends will be considered absent
- Excused absences require a doctor's note or a written note from the Director.
- Arriving in class unprepared to work is considered an unexcused absence.
- The use of cellular phones is prohibited during class time.

Students are expected to participate in class, act responsibly, and behave properly while on the school premises. Classrooms are to be left in order and clean. Students must take care of equipment and materials and promptly report any damage and/or loss.

10. SAMPLE COURSE CALENDAR

Beginning Italian Language.

1st week:

Presentarsi (INTRODUCING YOURSELF)

The Italian alphabet and correct pronunciation.

Personal pronouns, verbs *essere* (to be) and *avere* (to have), nationality adjectives, interrogative adverbs, numbers.

Salutarsi e conoscersi (GREETINGS AND GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER)

Definite and indefinite articles, demonstrative adjective-pronoun *questo* (this), prepositions *a, in, di* (to/in/at, of/from), interrogative particles *che, che cosa, chi, quanti, come, dove* (what, who, how, where, how many), present tense and use of the verbs *avere, stare* (to stay), *parlare* (to speak/talk), *fare* (to do/make), *lavorare* (to work)

2nd week :

Ordinare al bar o al ristorante (ORDERING IN A BAR AND IN A RESTAURANT)

Regular present tense verbs ending in *-ere*: use and constructions of verbs *prendere* (to take), *volere* (to want) and *preferire* (to prefer)

Tempo libero e lavoro (FREE TIME AND WORK)

Plural nouns and articles; article-noun-adjective agreement, expressions and use of *bene* (well) and *buono* (good/nice); main questions with interrogative adverbs *quale* (which), *quanto* (how much) present tense of some verbs of the three conjugations; constructions of the verbs *andare* (to go), *giocare* (to play), *uscire* (to go out);

3rd week :

Vivere a Firenze (LIVING IN FLORENCE)

Directions; the negative forms *no, non, non...mai*; constructions of the verb *piacere*: *mi piace-non mi piace* (I like-I don't like); indirect singular pronouns; interrogative adverb *perche'* (why)

Il tempo e lo spazio (TIME AND SPACE)

How to ask and to say the time, days of the week; place and time indications.

All'albergo (IN HOTEL)

constructions *c'è* (there is) and *ci sono* (there are); modal irregular verbs *potere* (can) and *dovere* (must); use of prepositions and articles: months names: numbers and numeral adjectives.

4th week :**Andiamo in vacanza! (LET'S GO ON HOLIDAYS!)**

Past tense *passato prossimo*, main regular and irregular verbs.

Reflexive verbs: direct pronouns.

General review.

Final Exam: August 2nd.

11. DISCLAIMER

This Syllabus may be amended as the course proceeds. You will be notified if changes are made.