

Advanced Italian

SECTION I: Course Overview

Course Code: ITA301FCO

Subject Areas: Italian Language and Literature

Prerequisites: Intermediate Italian II or the equivalent of at least four semesters of college level Italian

Language of Instruction: Italian

Contact Hours: 60

Recommended Credits: 3 or 4

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for students who master the grammatical structure of the Italian language and are ready to achieve a higher degree of proficiency in the four basic language skills (reading, listening, speaking, and writing). Emphasis will be given to oral and written exercises, practicing with various kinds of texts and genres (reports, historical and literary texts, expositions and data analyses, movies) giving particular attention to their textual type (narrative, descriptive, argumentative). Students are required to write reports, short essays, plot summaries and reaction papers about movies.

The course combines several integrated approaches aimed at developing advanced language skills. Classroom time is devoted mainly to speaking and practicing Italian through a combination of group-based and individual activities, focusing on grammatical structures, language functions and vocabulary. Sessions also address a range of contemporary cultural themes using newspaper articles, advertising material and short film clips. In addition, onsite activities, regular practice and conversation exchanges with peers and locals will give students the opportunity to rapidly implement in real local-community situations their linguistic advances and newly acquired intercultural competences.

Extra-curricular activities, such as public lectures or film nights organized by various local institutions, will be announced at the start of the semester to foster the knowledge of Italy and the Italians, and develop sensitivity towards cultural differences.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Correctly apply contemporary Italian syntax and morphology in extensive written and spoken production.
- Distinguish styles and genres in a variety of conversations and literary texts.

- Interpret complex readings and their significance.
- Compare and contrast Italian customs, traditions and society to those of your own culture.

SECTION II: Instructor & Course Details

INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

Name:	TBD
Contact Information:	TBD
Class Schedule:	TBD
Term:	Semester

ATTENDANCE POLICY

This course will meet twice weekly for 120 minutes each time, for a total of 28 class sessions. All students are expected to arrive on time and be prepared for the day's class session.

CEA enforces a mandatory attendance policy. You are therefore expected to attend all regularly scheduled class sessions, including any field trips, site visits, guest lectures, etc. that are assigned by the instructor. The table below shows the number of class sessions you may miss before receiving a grade penalty.

ALLOWED ABSENCES – SPRING & FALL SEMESTERS		
Courses Meeting X day(s) Per Week	Allowed Absence(s)	Automatic Failing Grade at X th Absence
Courses meeting 2 day(s) per week	2 Absences	8 th Absence

For every additional absence beyond the allowed number, your final course grade will drop down to the subsequent letter grade (ex: A+ to A). As a student, you should understand that the grade penalties will apply if you are marked absent due to tardiness or leaving class early. In the table below, you will find the grade penalty associated with each excessive absence up to and including automatic course failure.

ATTENDANCE DOCKING PENALTIES								
Absence	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th
Penalty	No Penalty	No Penalty	0.5 Grade Docked	1 Grade Docked	1.5 Grades Docked	2 Grades Docked	2.5 Grades Docked	Automatic Failure
HIGHEST POSSIBLE GRADE AFTER ATTENDANCE PENALTIES								
Grade	A+	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	F

CEA does not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences. As such, no documentation is required for missing class. Similarly, excessive absences, and the grade penalty associated with each, will not be excused even if you are able to provide documentation that shows the absence was beyond your control. You should therefore only miss class when truly needed as illness or other unavoidable factors may force you to miss a class session later in the term.

GRADING & ASSESSMENT

The instructor will assess your progress towards the above-listed learning objectives by using the forms of assessment below. Each of these assessments is weighted and will count towards your final grade. The following section (Assessment Overview) will provide further details for each.

Class Participation	10%
Homework Assignments	10%
Compositions	15%
Final Paper	10%
Presentations (2 for 3 credits, 4 for 4 credits)	20%
Mid-term exam	15%
Final exam	20%

The instructor will calculate your course grades using the CEA Grading Scale shown below. As a CEA student, you should understand that credit transfer decisions—including earned grades for courses taken abroad—are ultimately made by your home institution.

CEA GRADING SCALE			
Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Percentage Range	Quality Points
A+	9.70 – 10.0	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	7.40 – 7.69	74.0 – 76.9%	2.00
C-	7.00 – 7.39	70.0 – 73.9%	1.70
D	6.00 – 6.99	60.0 – 69.9%	1.00
F	0.00 – 5.99	0.00 – 59.9%	0.00
W	Withdrawal	N/A	0.00
INC	Incomplete	N/A	0.00

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

This section provides a brief description of each form of assessment listed above. Your course instructor will provide further details and instructions during class time.

Class Participation (10%): Student participation is mandatory for all courses taken at a CEA Study Center. The instructor will use the rubric below when determining your participation grade. All students should understand that attendance and punctuality are expected and will not count positively toward the participation grade.

CLASS PARTICIPATION GRADING RUBRIC	
Student Participation Level	Grade
You make major & original contributions that spark discussion, offering critical comments clearly based on readings, research, & theoretical course topics.	A+ (10.0 – 9.70)
You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings & independent research.	A/A- (9.69 – 9.00)
You participate voluntarily and make useful contributions that are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings.	B+/B (8.99 – 8.40)
You make voluntary but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings.	B-/C+ (8.39 – 7.70)
You make limited comments only when prompted and do not initiate debate or show a clear awareness of the importance of the readings.	C/C- (7.69 – 7.00)
You very rarely make comments and resist engagement with the subject. You are not prepared for class and/or discussion of course readings.	D (6.99 – 6.00)
You make irrelevant and tangential comments disruptive to class discussion. You are consistently unprepared for class and/or discussion of the course readings.	F (5.99 – 0.00)

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 should be aware that absence from the preceding class is not an excuse for non-preparation. At any point, you may be called upon to respond to questions dealing with material previously assigned by the instructor, who will ask to see your workbook at regular intervals during the course to monitor your performance and progress. Students seeking further clarification on homework instructions or feedback should speak directly with the instructor at the end of the class period.

Compositions (15%): You are requested to write 3 compositions throughout the semester consisting in written responses to texts or videos discussed in class. Each composition is worth 5% of your final grade.

Final Paper (10%): This consists in a lengthy composition on a subject of your choice, to be approved by the instructor. You are required to use proper critical and analytic terms, and make reference to the material discussed in class or assigned as homework.

Independent Presentations (20%): These consist in 4 independent oral pieces, worth 5% each, that you will present to the class, and that will form the basis of discussion. The content, criteria and specific requirements for each presentation will be explained in greater detail in class. **If a student is taking this course for 3 credits, they will only complete two presentations.**

Mid-term (15%) and Final Exam (20%): 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 your teacher during the lessons, by your homework and by your classmates during your Independent Presentations.

REQUIRED READINGS

Depending on the progress and interests of the class, your teacher will distribute copied extracts from the texts cited in the Required Reading 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.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

D. Aust, L. Stuart, *Pronto! Chi ascolta?*, Guerra ed.
S. Bailini, S. Consonno, *Ricette per parlare*, Alma ed.
P. Catizone, C. Humphris, *Volare 3*, Dilit ed.
P. Catizone, C. Humphris, *Volare 4*, Dilit ed.
A. Di Francesco, C.M. Naddeo, *Bar Italia*, Alma ed.
C.M. Naddeo, G. Trama, *Canta che ti passa*, Alma ed.
S. Nocchi, *Italian Grammar in Practice*, Alma ed.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

M. Arnaudo, *La pagina breve: Racconti italiani del novecento*, Cideb Editrice, Genova, 2005.
S. Benni, *Il bar sotto il mare*, Feltrinelli Editore, Milano, 1987.
R. Bozzone Costa, *Viaggio nell'italiano*, Loescher Editore, Torino, 2004.
P. Bultrini, F. Graziani, N. Magnani, C. Marino, C. Sandri, *Italian Espresso II*, Gruppo Italiaidea Alma Edizioni, Firenze.
A. Sabatini, *Chiaroscuro 3: Livello Intermedio*, Vignanuova Edizioni, Firenze, 2004.

Depending on the progress and interests of the class, your teacher will occasionally distribute 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.

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 CEA Resource Center, and a range of computer-assisted language learning resources loaded onto all of the program's PCs.

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 course you want to check the meaning or usage of any new words that you encounter during your travels or in your studies.

Online Reference & Research Tools:

Miscellaneous:

- www.allaboutitaly.com
- www.italianfoodforever.com
- www.romecity.it
- www.romexplorer.com
- www.educational.rai.it

Help with Italian pronunciation online, by means 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.evolpub.com/Italiandialects/ITALhome.html>

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

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

Films: The following films, highly recommended for their insights into contemporary Italian culture as well as language exercises, are available at the CEA Resource Center.

- *La Famiglia*, Ettore Scola, 1987
- *I Cento Passi*, Tullio Marco Giordana, 2000
- *Notte prima degli esami*, Fausto Brizzi, 2006

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

In order to ensure you success abroad, CEA has provided the academic resources listed below. In addition to these resources, each CEA Study Center provides students with a physical library and study areas for group work. The Academic Affairs Office at each CEA Study Center also compiles a bank of detailed information regarding libraries, documentation centers, research institutes, and archival materials located in the host city.

- **UNH Online Library:** As a CEA student, you will be given access to the online library of CEA's School of Record, the University of New Haven (UNH). You can use this online library to access databases and additional resources while performing research abroad. You may access the UNH online library [here](#) or through your MyCEA Account. You must comply with UNH Policies regarding library usage.
- **CEAClassroom – Moodle:** CEA instructors use Moodle, an interactive virtual learning environment. This web-based platform provides you with constant and direct access to the course syllabus, daily schedule of class lectures and assignments, non-textbook required readings, and additional resources. Moodle includes the normal array of forums, up-loadable and downloadable databases, wikis, and related academic support designed for helping you achieve the learning objectives listed in this syllabus.

During the first week of class, CEA academic staff and/or faculty will help you navigate through the many functions and resources Moodle provides. While you may print a hard copy version of the syllabus, you should always check Moodle for the most up-to-date information regarding this course. The instructor will use Moodle to make announcements and updates to the course and/or syllabus. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to all Moodle materials and that you monitor Moodle on a daily basis in case there are any changes made to course assignments or scheduling.

To access Moodle: Please log-in to your MyCEA account using your normal username and password. Click on the "Academics" tab. There you will see a link above your schedule that says "View Online Courses" select this link to be taken to your Moodle environment.

**COURSE CALENDAR
ADVANCED ITALIAN**

SESSION	TOPICS	ACTIVITY	ACTIVITIES & ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1	Benvenuti!	Introducing oneself to the class and ask for information	Review of Indicativo past tenses : Imperfetto, passato prossimo e trapassato prossimo
Week 2	In libreria	FOA: Independent presentation #1 Your favourite writers or books and wich are your criteria when you buy a new book	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction Passato remoto • Talking about the past
Week 3	Invito alla lettura	Morpho-syntactic analysis Read an extract of a novel	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistency of Indicative present and past tenses (<i>concordanze</i>)
Week 4	Un consiglio	FOA Composition#1 (You are the author) Continue the story... chapter 2	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Condizionale presente</i> • Asking and giving advices • Express wishes and desires

Week 5	Mi sarebbe piaciuto	FOA Independent Presentation #2: Talk about your expectations in your study abroad experience	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Condizionale passato</i> • Not realized actions • The future in the past
Week 6	Nord o Sud? Lecture and Discussion	Read the article on Italian geographic and cultural differences FOA Composition #2 Write some of the things you'll like to do during your Rome stay, expressing wishes and expectations	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on Italian dialects and linguistic register • <i>Discorso diretto e indiretto</i>
Week 7	REVIEW MIDTERM EXAM		
Week 8	Imparare una lingua straniera	Read the article Morpho –syntactic analysis FOA Independent Presentation #3 Consigli pratici per imparare le lingue	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relative pronouns • Connettivi e segnali discorsivi
Week 9	Stereotipi e luoghi comuni	FOA Composition #3 Write about the main differences in between your country and Italy	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Congiuntivo presente</i> • <i>Congiuntivo passato</i>

Week 10	Pensavo che fosse...	Read the article Morpho-syntactic analysis	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Congiuntivo imperfetto</i> • <i>Congiuntivo trapassato</i>
Week 11	L'uomo e l'ambiente	FOA Independent presentation #4 On site activity – choose in between one of your favourite places in your host city and make a video presentation including historical information	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Periodo ipotetico del 2° e 3° tipo</i>
Week 12	Il cinema italiano	Extracts of some Italian movies ‘The winner is..?’	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistency of Subjunctive present and past tenses (concordanze)
Week 13	Italia da scoprire	The language of the body: ‘Italian Gesture Rap’ FOA Final Paper The topic is to be discussed with the instructor (it needs to refer to the material covered in the course)	Assignment review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbi pronominali • Italian gestures
Week 14	FINAL EXAM		

SECTION III: CEA Academic Policies

The policies listed in this section outline general expectations for CEA students. You should carefully review these policies to ensure success in your courses and during your time abroad. Furthermore, as a participant in the CEA program, you are expected to review and understand all CEA Student Policies, including the academic policies outlined on our website. CEA reserves the right to change, update, revise, or amend existing policies and/or procedures at any time. For the most up to date policies, please review the policies on our website.

Class & Instructor Policies can be found [here](#)

General Academic Policies can be found [here](#)