



## *Intermediate Italian I*

### SECTION I: Course Overview

**UNH Course Code:** ITA201FCO

**Subject Area:** Italian Language and Literature

**Prerequisites:** The equivalent of two semesters of college-level Italian

**Language of Instruction:** Italian

**Contact Hours:** 45/60

**Recommended Credits:** 3/4

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This intermediate Italian course aims at improving the four basic language skills (reading, speaking, writing and understanding) through a direct exposition to Italian language and culture. After reviewing basic grammar and vocabulary, students will be steadily exposed to new and more complex grammar and communicative structures in order to more accurately and expressively interact with the host community.

The course combines several integrated approaches aimed at developing students' 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, on-site 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.

This course is offered as a 3 or 4 credit course. Students can see the difference between the two offerings in the forms of assessment.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Communicate in written and oral form in Italian at the low-intermediate level as evaluated by ACTFL standards.
- Interpret with increased understanding of simple, connected texts related to topics in Italian culture.

- Identify regional differences of expression.
- Contrast Italian perspectives to those commonly held in your own culture.

## SECTION II: Instructor & Course Details

### INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Name:</b>                | <b>TBD</b>      |
| <b>Contact Information:</b> | <b>TBD</b>      |
| <b>Class Schedule:</b>      | <b>TBD</b>      |
| <b>Term:</b>                | <b>Semester</b> |

### 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 <sup>th</sup> Absence |
| Courses meeting 2 day(s) per week          | 2 Absences         | 8 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | 4 <sup>th</sup> | 5 <sup>th</sup>   | 6 <sup>th</sup> | 7 <sup>th</sup>   | 8 <sup>th</sup>   |
| 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.

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Class Participation</b>           | <b>10%</b> |
| <b>Homework Assignments</b>          | <b>15%</b> |
| <b>Independent Presentations (4)</b> | <b>20%</b> |
| <b>Activities (2)</b>                | <b>20%</b> |
| <b>Mid-term exam</b>                 | <b>15%</b> |
| <b>Final exam</b>                    | <b>20%</b> |

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. | <b>A+</b><br>(10.0 – 9.70)   |
| You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings & independent research.                               | <b>A/A-</b><br>(9.69 – 9.00) |
|   | <b>B+/B</b>                  |

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| You participate voluntarily and make useful contributions that are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings.                   | (8.99 – 8.40)                 |
| You make voluntary but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings.  | <b>B-/C+</b><br>(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.                            | <b>C/C-</b><br>(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.                      | <b>D</b><br>(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. | <b>F</b><br>(5.99 – 0.00)     |

**Homework Assignments (15%):** Assignments and workbook exercises (set out in the Assignment column of the course content) will be corrected at the beginning of each class. The instructor will provide further instructions and suggestions about topics for written compositions. 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.

**Independent Presentations (20%):** This FOA is designed to test your correct use of the Italian grammar, as well as your vocabulary, verbal fluency and pronunciation. It consists in three oral presentations (they can also be dialogues with a maximum of 3 people) and an additional final presentation about a cultural topic. The first two presentations are worth 5% each while the final presentation will be worth 10% of the overall grade. The topics, content, criteria and specific requirements for the presentations will be explained in greater detail in class. Students taking this course for three credits will choose one of the first two presentations. Speak with the instructor to determine which you will complete. All students will complete the final presentation.

**Activities (20%):** This FOA is designed to test your verbal fluency and ability to apply conversational Italian in everyday situations. You will participate in on-site activities using templates provided by your instructor and will afterwards present your result in class. During these activities you will work in teams, and you will get in touch with real cultural aspects of Italian life. Students taking this course for three credits will choose one of these two activities. Speak with your instructor to determine which you will complete.

**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.

### I. REQUIRED TEXTS:

- M. Bali, L. Ziglio, *New Italian Espresso* vol. II, Alma ed. 2021
- S. Bailini, S. Consonno, *Ricette per parlare*, Alma ed. 2017
- A. Di Francesco, C.M. Naddeo, *Bar Italia*, Alma ed. 2003
- S. Nocchi, *Italian Grammar in Practice*, Alma ed. 2016

### 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. 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 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:**

Miscellaneous:

- [www.allaboutitaly.com](http://www.allaboutitaly.com)
- [www.italianfoodforever.com](http://www.italianfoodforever.com)
- [www.romecity.it](http://www.romecity.it)
- [www.romexplorer.com](http://www.romexplorer.com)
- [www.educational.rai.it](http://www.educational.rai.it)

Help with Italian pronunciation online, by means of clever drawings:

- [www.cyberitalian.com](http://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/HandsigsGB.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 student 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.

| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>COURSE CALENDAR</b><br/><i>Intermediate Italian I</i></p> |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| Session   | Topics   | Activity  | Assignments   |
| Week 1  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mi chiamo...</b><br/><b>Introducing oneself to the class</b></p>                 | <p style="text-align: center;">Pronunciation<br/>Useful sentences to know or introduce a person</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;">Review<br/>Greeting people &amp; introducing oneself<br/>Nomi articoli aggettivi<br/>Present tense of regular and irregular verbs</p>                              |
| Week 2  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>La mia giornata tipica a Roma</b></p>  | <p style="text-align: center;">Vocabulary of daily life<br/>To build a sentence<br/><br/><i>How often do you...?</i><br/>Small group discussions on your habits</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;">Review<br/>Reflexive verbs<br/>Irregular verbs<br/>Write a text of 150 words on your daily life in U.S.A.</p>  |
| Week 3  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>In vacanza!</b></p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FOA Independent presentation #1:</b><br/>Talk about your last vacation, where and when you have gone, with whom, and tell an episode.<br/><br/>Talking about facts in the past<br/>Listen to a dialogue in the past tense: global comprehension</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Review of <i>Passato Prossimo</i><br/><i>Passato Prossimo</i> of reflexive verbs</p>   |
| Week 4  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sapori d'Italia: fare la spesa</b><br/><br/><b>Fare acquisti: fare spese</b></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Listening: Global comprehension<br/>Morpho-syntactic analysis</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;">Direct pronouns<br/>The pronoun <i>ne</i><br/>Direct pronouns with the past tense<br/>Indirect pronouns</p>  |
| Week 5  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>In vacanza</b></p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FOA Independent presentation #2:</b><br/><b>Interview</b><br/>You're a journalist, write 6 questions addressing what life was like 15 years ago and how it has changed. Then interview a classmate</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Imperfetto and Passato prossimo</i><br/><br/>Write a text of 150 words to your best friend talking about your childhood and your relationship with animals.</p> |

|               |                                     |   |  |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
|               |                                     | Talking about your childhood<br>Listen a dialogue : morpho-syntactic analysis   |  |
| <b>Week 6</b> | <b>Studiare all'estero</b>          | Talking about your studies and your abroad experience in Rome   | <i>Trapassato Prossimo:</i><br>introduction  |
| <b>Week 7</b> |                                     | <b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>   |  |
| <b>Week 8</b> | <b>La moda italiana</b>             | Fashion in Italy<br>Small group discussions on fashion in Italy<br><br><b>FOA Activity #1:</b><br><i>In libreria</i><br>Talk about your favorite reading and suggest a book to read to your classmates  | Introduction of the Future tense:<br>forms and use<br>If-clauses with future<br>Talking about future projects<br>Write an email of 200 words to a friend. He/she is coming in Rome next semester. Talk about your study abroad experience. How you plan your days, what you are studying, what you like, what you do during the weekend, and suggestions to live well in Rome. |
| <b>Week 9</b> | <b>L'importante è mangiar bene!</b> | To suggest something<br>To talk about food and good food<br>To talk about your food habit<br>To express your necessities<br><b>FOA &amp; Independent presentation #3:</b><br>prepare an Italian dish, and make a video while you cook. Explain in Italian all the phases of the recipe. | Informal imperative with pronouns<br>Informal negative imperative<br>Write the instructions to: book a flight and take a plane, make a reservation and arrive to an hotel, make an appointment and meet someone, drive a car, prepare a <i>tiramisù</i>  |



|         |  |   |   |
|---------|--|---|---|
| Week 10 | <b>Mens sana</b>                             | Reading a recipe<br>Morpho-syntactic analysis<br>Explain to the class your favorite Italian recipe  | Formal imperative<br>Formal imperative with pronouns<br>Combined pronouns   |
| Week 11 | <b>Chi ho conosciuto a Roma...</b>           | Describe a person physically and temperamentally<br>Propose and suggest something to someone  | <i>Condizionale presente</i> : forms and uses<br>Wishes and expectations: If you were to live in Europe, to which region or city would you move to?<br>Why? 200 words |
| Week 12 | <b>Spero di farcela!</b>                     | Idiomatic expressions<br><br><b>FOA &amp; Activity #2:</b><br>Go to a neighbourhood in Rome (as assigned by your instructor) and present it to the class. Take a video while you walk and explain the history, daily life and what you like best  | Combined pronouns with verbs<br>Phrasal verb  |
| Week 13 | <b>Penso che sia...</b><br><br><b>Review</b> | Esprimere opinioni<br>Reading: morpho-syntactic analysis<br><br><b>Final presentation</b><br>With 2 classmates, stage 3 typical situations that you have seen in Italy: how Italians order at the restaurant, how they behave on the bus, how parents talk to their children, how they drive, etc. comparing them with the way you do the same things in the United States.<br>Write the text, and act Italian! | Present Subjunctive<br>Write your point of view on a topic assigned by your instructor or chosen by yourself. 250 words   |
| Week 14 | <b>Review</b>                                | Final presentations (continued)<br><br>Final Exam Review  | Bring in review questions you have for the final exam   |
| Week 15 | <b>FINAL EXAM</b>                            |   |   |

## 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](#)