## VIA Italian Language & Culture for Undergraduates COURSE SYLLABUS

Fall Semester 2023

Course Title: Italian Language & Culture Credits: 3

Section Meeting Times + Locations Faculty

XXXX Studio: M,W,Th Franca Stocco

8:30 – 9:45/10:00 [francastocco@ufl.vicenza.it](mailto:francastocco@ufl.vicenza.it) Room: VIA Studio

Vicenza Institute of Architecture – University of Florida Contrà SS. Apostoli 51-5

36100 Vicenza - Italia

Office Hours: Every morning, Mon to Fri 10:00-11:00 (after Italian class).

## Syllabus GOALS

The goal of this Italian Language and Culture Class for beginners is to provide you with the elementary structure necessary to enable you to understand the culture of the people who speaks this language as well as the culture of contemporary Italy.

# REQUIRED TEXTS & COURSE CONTENT

No text book is required. “Lezioni di Italiano” is the reference handout given to each student.

It is organized in 11 chapters beginning with the chapter that introduces the fundaments of Italian pronunciation and expressions for getting acquainted.

Basic elements are the same from chapter to chapter without imposing, however, a rigorous organization of the chapter. As a matter of fact, each chapter takes its natural course according to the topics and structures presented.

It is however strongly recommended to purchase a pocket dictionary Italiano-Inglese / English-Italian.

The basic chapter elements are the following:

* Rapidi scambi: short conversational exchanges to focus on the topic and situation related to the chapter. The “Rapidi scambi” *(“Quick conversation”)* are for the students to be memorized and then encouraged to repeat them and act them in class.
* Come si dice? A list of words and expressions – taken directly from rapidi scambi – presenting new vocabulary in an active and communicative framework.
* Parole nel contesto introduces new vocabulary and grammar structures.
* Facciamo pratica! A set of exercises and activities follows the introduction of each chapter. The “facciamo pratica” *(“let’s practice”)* sections can be brief when a single point is practiced in context or can be ample to encourage the students to practice the new language elements while reinforcing the control of those previously learned.

During the “facciamo pratica” sections the students are encouraged to learn and memorize new vocabulary as well.

Through the semester the instructor will also provide you with readings in class such as “Storie per Principianti dalla A alla Z: A come amore, B come bello, C come caffè” …. A for love, B for beautiful, C for coffee … each letter a word, each word a story, whoch allows the absolute beginner student to read a story in Italian. The stories are set in typical Italian cities and places, with elements of culture and society. The stories are followed by exercises and culture insights.

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| **COMPETENCIES** | **GRAMMAR** | **VOCABULARY** |

*Lezione 1 – Cominciamo!*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Italian alphabet | Pronunciation of C and G | Cognates & Patterns |
| Pronunciation, spelling, cognates and | Subject pronouns | Greetings |
| meaning | Present tense of Stare | Adverbs with *Stare* |
| Introducing yourself | “Chiamarsi” and first conjugation of | Idioms with present tense Stare |
| Asking about someone else health | verbs | Numbers from 0 to 50 |
| Ordering in a café | Forms of address, formal and informal | Magic word *“vorrei”* – all necessary vocabulary to order breakfast in a café |

*Lezione 2* - Presentiamoci bene!

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| *Introducing yourself*  *Starting to describe yourself and other people or objects*  *Beginning to make short sentences Describing your day* | Present indicative of Essere C’è – ci sono – ecco!  Negative and Interrogative expressions Present Indicative of Avere  Idioms with Avere  Present Indicative of –Are verbs Verbi Irregolari: Present Indicative of Andare  Prepositions with Andare | *Interrogative questions with essere: chi-cosa-come-quando-dove*  *Idioms with avere: ho fame, ho sete, ho sonno, etc.*  *Most common verbs conjugated with - ARE*  *Means of transportation Prepositions a and in*  *Exercises in class to memorize new words.* |

*Lezione 3 - Parliamo di noi!*

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| *Describe yourself and places* | Nouns and gender | *Adjectives and their opposites* |
| *Asking about someone’s place of origin* | Indefinite articles | *Adjectives of nationality* |
| *Descriptions with colours* | Plural forms of nouns | *Adjectives describing colours* |
| *Telling time* | Definite articles | *Exercises in class to memorize new* |
|  | Adjectives | *words.* |
|  | Position of descriptive adjectives | *Transformation of sentences from plural* |
|  |  | *to singular and vice versa to become* |
|  |  | *familiar with nouns, articles, conjugation* |
|  |  | *of verbs.* |
|  |  | *What time is it? Che ora è?* |
|  |  | *Colours and clothing.* |
|  |  | *“Test psicologico” to talk about us.* |

*Lezione 4* - Dove siamo!

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| *Description of places and situations* | Present Indicative of regular –Ere verbs | *Most common -Ere verbs* |
| *Understanding the usage of* | Present Indicative of regular –Ire verbs | *Most common -Ire verbs* |
| *prepositions* | Simple prepositions | *Prepositions and idioms* |
| *Learning to make sentences* | Irregular –Ire verbs: Uscire and Venire | *Numbers from 50 to 100* |
|  | Continuing past tense expressed with | *Bigger number!* |
|  | preposition “Da” | *All expressions related to the verb* |
|  |  | *Leaving: lasciare, uscire, partire and* |
|  |  | *andare via.* |

*Lezione 5 - Mi scusi, posso?*

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| *Descriptions of yourself, places and situations*  *Being able to ask information Being able to order in a shop Being able to ask permissions*  *How to use the modal verbs (volere, potere, dovere)* | Adverbs and adjectives expressing quantity: Molto, Tanto, Troppo, Poco Present Indicative of Volere  Present Indicative of Potere, Dovere Present Indicative of Bere Possessive Adjectives and Pronouns | *Molto tanto troppo poco*  *Idiomatic expression It takes: ci vuole… Exercises in class to memorize possessive adjectives*  *Exercises in class to memorize conjugation of modal verbs* |

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*Lezione 6 - Questo o quello? Che bello!*

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| *Improve the conversations* | The demonstrative Adjective Questo | *Free time activities* |
| *Learning to indicate objects* | The adjective and demonstrative | *Objects* |
| *Expressing to know a precise fact or* | pronouns Quello and Bello | *Food* |
| *piece of information* | Questo and Quello as demonstrative | *Interrogatives: com’è, con chi, di che* |
| *Expressing to know how to do* | pronouns | *cosa, quanto è, perché, dove, come* |
| *something* | Present Indicative of Sapere and | *Exercises in class* |
| *Expressing to know a person* | Conoscere |  |
| *Expressing to be acquainted with a* | Direct Object Pronouns: Lo, La, Li, Le |  |
| *place* | Ecco + object pronouns! |  |
| *Expressing to be familiar with or have a* |  |  |
| *general knowledge of a certain field* |  |  |

*Lezione 7 – Cosa fai? Che tempo fa?*

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| *To talk about the weather* | Irregular –Are verbs: Fare, Dare and | *Idioms with fare* |
| *To talk about activities* | review of Stare | *Idioms with dare* |
| *To talk about professions* | Idioms with Fare, Dare and Stare | *Idioms with stare* |
| *Planning to go somewhere* | Present Indicative of Dire and Parlare | *Weather expressions* |
| *Improving skills in conversation* | The adverb Ci | *Define professions*  *Expressions with dire and parlare* |

*Lezione 8 – Adesso basta!*

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| *Giving orders … Giving advises …* | I Informal Imperative of –Are verbs Informal Imperative of Stare, Andare, Dare and Fare  Informal Imperative of –Ere and –Ire verbs | *Exercises in class to memorize conjugation of imperative tense and new words* |

*Lezione 9 – Cosa hai fatto ieri? Dove sei stato/a?*

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| *Being able to express an action of the past* | Passato Prossimo (Present Perfect) With Avere  Adverbs with the Passato Prossimo Passato Prossimo (Present Perfect) with Essere | *Expressions of time Adverbs of time Readings in class* |

*Lezione 10 – Oggi mi sono alzata presto!*

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| *Describing your day and your actions Describing actions involving two people* | Reflexive verbs  Present Indicative and Present Perfect The reciprocal construction | *Most common reflexive verbs*  *Most common reflexive with reciprocal constructions* |

*Lezione 11 – Mi piace la pizza! E a te, cosa piace?*

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| *Expressing one’s likes and dislikes* | Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns. Mi, Ti, Ci Vi  Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns: Summary  The verb Piacere  Informal Imperative with pronouns | *Exercises in class to improve the vocabulary*  *Exercises in class to learn how to us the verb Piacere*  *Exercises in class to learn how to use informal imperative conjunction contracted with the pronouns* |

Many grammatical structures will be presented, practiced and reinforced through the class activities during the semester such as “Letture in Gioco” or “Conversazioni” as well as “Giochiamo Insieme”, or readings in Italian followed by questionnaires, to encourage either the writing as well as the reading and the comprehension.

# BIBLIOGRAPHY

*Any pocket dictionary Italiano-Inglese / English-Italian*

## The following bibliography will be available at VIA library One of the readings proposed during the semester:

* + Il Signor Rigoni, by Giovanni Ducci,
  + Pasta per Due by Giovanni Ducci
  + Fantasmi by A. De Giuli – C.M. Naddeo
  + Dov’è Yuko? by A. De Giuli – C.M. Naddeo
  + Dolomiti by A. De Giuli

## Regarding grammar fundamentals:

* + L’Italiano Facile

Corso di lingua per stranieri by Francine Pellegrini, Chiara Gaglieri, Hoepli, 2003

* + Dieci lezioni Italiano A1

By Massimo Naddeo e Euridice Orlandino, Alma Edizioni 2019

* + Dieci lezioni Italiano A2

By Massimo Naddeo e Euridice Orlandino, Alma Edizioni 2019

* + Buovo Espresso – Corso di Italiano

By Luciana Ziglio e Giovanna Rizzo, Alma Edizioni 2015

* + Parliamo Italiano!

by Suzanne Branciforte, Anna Grassi, Houghton Mifflin Company 2006

* + Prego! An Invitation to Italian

by Lazzarino, Aski, Dini, Peccianti, McGraw-Hill 2000

* + Nuovo Progetto Italiano

by Marin, Magnelli, Edilingua 2006

**Movies:** (3 to 5 movies will be assigned during the semester for vision and written comment, chosen from the list below or downloaded from Netflix or Prime Video).

The movies listed below are available in CD (Cd player provided by VIA):

* + ROMA CITTA’ APERTA by Roberto Rossellini, 1945
  + LADRI DI BICICLETTE by Vittorio de Sica, 1948
  + LA STRADA by Federico Fellini, 1954
  + LA GRANDE GUERRA by Mario Monicelli, 1959
  + LA DOLCE VITA by Federico Fellini, 1960
  + L’ECLISSE by Michelangelo Antonioni, 1962
  + MAMMA ROMA by Pier Paolo Pasolini, 1962
  + IL DESERTO ROSSO by Michelangelo Antonioni, 1964
  + MATRIMONIO ALL'ITALIANA by Vittorio De Sica, 1964
  + UNA GIORNATA PARTICOLARE by Ettore Scola, 1977
  + AMARCORD by Federico Fellini 1978
  + IL NOME DELLA ROSA by Jean Jacques Annaud, 1986
  + TURNE' by Gabriele Salvatores, 1990
  + MEDITERRANEO by Gabriele Salvatores, 1991
  + CARO DIARIO by Nanni Moretti, 1993
  + L'UOMO DELLE STELLE by Giuseppe Tornatore, 1995
  + LA SECONDA VOLTA by Mimmo Calopresti, 1995
  + MARIANNA UCRIA by Roberto Faenza 1997
  + IL TESTIMONE DELLO SPOSO by Pupi Avati, 1997
  + OVOSODO by Paolo Virzì, 1998
  + LA VITA E' BELLA by Roberto Benigni, 1998
  + COME TE NESSUNO MAI by Gabriele Muccino, 1999
  + PANE E TULIPANI by Silvio Soldini, 2000
  + LA STANZA DEL FIGLIO by Nanni Moretti, 2000
  + L'ULTIMO BACIO by Gabriele Muccino, 2001
  + LE FATE IGNORANTI by Ferzan Ozpetek, 2001
  + IO NON HO PAURA by Gabriele Salvatores, 2003
  + RICORDATI DI ME by Gabriele Muccino, 2003
  + CATERINA VA IN CITTA' by Paolo Virzì, 2003
  + PRIMO AMORE by Matteo Garrone, 2003
  + SE DEVO ESSERE SINCERA by Davide Ferrario, 2004
  + I GIORNI DELL'ABBANDONO by Roberto Faenza, 2005
  + LA BESTIA NEL CUORE by Cristina Comencini, 2005
  + MANUALE D'AMORE by Giovanni Veronesi, 2005
  + LA VITA CHE VORREI by Giuseppe Piccioni, 2005
  + LA FEBBRE by Alessandro D’Alatri, 2005
  + CASOMAI by Alessandro D’Alatri, 2005
  + MANUALE D'AMORE 2, by Giovanni Veronesi, 2006
  + NOTTE PRIMA DEGLI ESAMI by Fausto Brizzi 2006
  + IL VENTO FA IL SUO GIRO by Giorgio Diritti, 2006
  + MIO FRATELLO E' FIGLIO UNICO by Daniele Lucchetti, 2007
  + COMMEDIASEXY by Alessandro D’Alatri, 2007
  + L'AMICO DI FAMIGLIA by Paolo Sorrentino, 2007
  + SATURNO CONTRO by Ferzan Ozpetek, 2007
  + TUTTA LA VITA DAVANTI by Paolo Virzì, 2008
  + CAOS CALMO by Antonello Grimaldi, 2008
  + GIORNI E NUVOLE by Silvio Soldini, 2007
  + NON C'E' PIU' NIENTE DA FARE by Emanuele Barresi, 2007
  + GOMORRA by Matteo Garrone, 2008
  + LA GIUSTA DISTANZA by Carlo Mazzacurati, 2008
  + AMORE BUGIE & CALCETTO by Luca Lucini, 2008
  + IL PASSATO E' UNA TERRA STRANIERA by Daniele Vicari, 2009
  + MAR NERO by Federico Bondi, 2009
  + PRANZO DI FERRAGOSTO by Gianni di Gregorio, 2009
  + IO SONO L’AMORE by Luca Guadagnino, 2009
  + L’UOMO CHE VERRA’ by Giorgio Diritti, 2010
  + E’ STATO IL FIGLIO by Daniele Cipri, 2012
  + TERRAFERMA by Emanuele Crialese, 2012
  + IO SONO LI by Andrea Segre, 2013

# CLASS REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend class regularly
2. Read all the readings
3. Participation. Active participation is necessary for language learning. 20% of your grade will be based on participation.

# GRADING

The final documented project, in combination with class participation will be the basis for grading. EVALUATION OUT 100%

* + Attendance/Class Participation; 20% *(for each absence 5 points will be deducted)*
  + Movies 15%
  + Homework & Tests 15%
  + Quiz 1 10%
  + Quiz 2 10%
  + Quiz 3 10%
  + Written final 20%

(The dates of all quizzes and finals will be coordinated to the V.I.A. schedule as soon as it is finalized)

All grading will follow UF policies that you can find at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

NUMERICAL TO LETTER GRADE CONVERSION

Grading Scale

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Letter Grade | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C+ | C | C- | D+ | D | D- | E |
| Numeric Grade | 93-100 | 90-92 | 87-89 | 83-86 | 80-82 | 77-79 | 73-76 | 70-72 | 67-69 | 63-66 | 60-62 | 0-59 |
| Quality Points | 4.0 | 3.67 | 3.33 | 3.0 | 2.67 | 2.33 | 2.0 | 1.67 | 1.33 | 1.0 | 0.67 | 0.0 |

E-MAIL POLICY: E-mail is appropriate only for quick messages and replies. You are welcome to e-mail instructor only with *brief* questions or comments (e.g., a request for an appointment, a question that can be answered in a sentence or two). I will answer your messages as I have the opportunity, but cannot guarantee immediate responses.

GENERAL INFORMATION: The instructor will follow the topics outlined above but these topics are by no means binding as a topic may be changed at any time according to the discretion of the instructor.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students are expected to attend all classes. The instructor will not provide class notes to students who miss class. In the event of an absence, a student may obtain “class notes” from other students. Acceptable reasons for absence are included in the UF attendance: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

LATE WORK POLICY: If have you a documented reason to turn in late work, this should be discussed with Instructor before the deadline. Unexcused late work will be devalued at the rate of 10 % per day late up to one week late. Zero credit for any work later than one week.

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY: At the end of the semester, late work for special justified reasons, will give a grade of incomplete. If an incomplete grade is issued, a make-up work plan and deadline will be determined by the instructor and student per UF policy: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation

HONOR CODE: As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honour Code, which includes the following pledge: “*We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. “* You are expected to exhibit behaviour consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honour, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment*." It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honour Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honour Code. Violations of the Honour Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honour Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php>