

Fall Semester 2025

Course Title: Italian Language & Culture

Credits: 3

Section	Meeting Times + Locations	Faculty
XXXX	Studio: M,W,Th 8:30 – 9:45/10:00 Room: VIA Studio	Franca Stocco francastocco@ufl.vicenza.it
	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 fundamentals 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, which 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.

COMPETENCIES	GRAMMAR	VOCABULARY
--------------	---------	------------

Lezione 1 – Cominciamo!

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

Lezione 2 - Presentiamoci bene!

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!

Describe yourself and places Asking about someone's place of origin Descriptions with colours Telling time	Nouns and gender Indefinite articles Plural forms of nouns Definite articles Adjectives Position of descriptive adjectives	Adjectives and their opposites Adjectives of nationality Adjectives describing colours Exercises in class to memorize new words. 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!

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

Lezione 5 - Mi scusi, posso?

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
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

COMPETENCIES	GRAMMAR	VOCABULARY
--------------	---------	------------

Lezione 6 - Questo o quello? Che bello!

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

Lezione 7 – Cosa fai? Che tempo fa?

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

Lezione 8 – Adesso basta!

<i>Giving orders ...</i> <i>Giving advises ...</i>	I Informal Imperative of –Are verbs Informal Imperative of Stare, Andare, Dare and Fare Informal Imperative of –Ere and –Ire verbs	<i>Exercises in class to memorize conjugation of imperative tense and new words</i>
-------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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

<i>Being able to express an action of the past</i>	Passato Prossimo (Present Perfect) With Avere Adverbs with the Passato Prossimo Passato Prossimo (Present Perfect) with Essere	<i>Expressions of time</i> <i>Adverbs of time</i> <i>Readings in class</i>
----------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Lezione 10 – Oggi mi sono alzata presto!

<i>Describing your day and your actions</i> <i>Describing actions involving two people</i>	Reflexive verbs Present Indicative and Present Perfect The reciprocal construction	<i>Most common reflexive verbs</i> <i>Most common reflexive with reciprocal constructions</i>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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

<i>Expressing one's likes and dislikes</i>	Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns. Mi, Ti, Ci Vi Direct and Indirect Object Pronouns: Summary The verb Piacere Informal Imperative with pronouns	<i>Exercises in class to improve the vocabulary</i> <i>Exercises in class to learn how to use the verb Piacere</i> <i>Exercises in class to learn how to use informal imperative conjunction contracted with the pronouns</i>
--------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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
- Fantasma 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
- Buono 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.

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>

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.

UF ACADEMIC POLICIES AND RESOURCES

For additional UF "Academic Policies & Resources," go to: <https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolices>. These resources include information about:

- Requirements for class attendance, make-up exams, and assignments
- Processes for students with disabilities who may require accommodations
- Current UF grading policies
- Expectations for course evaluations and constructive feedback
- The University's Honesty Policy regarding cheating, plagiarism, etc.
- In-class recording of class lectures for personal use
- Academic resources, including contact information
- Campus health and wellness resources, including contact information