



## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM - FIRENZE

### ITL 102 SYLLABUS

**Elementary Italian II**

**Office Hours: T/TH 15,30–16,30 or**

**Fall 2016-17**

by appointment

**Tuesday and Thursday 13:30-15:20**

**Email: g.poli@csufirenze.it**

**Instructor: Giacomo Poli**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is a sequel to Elementary Italian 101 offered during PLP. It builds upon the basic grammatical, linguistic, communicative and cultural concepts learned in ITL 101. It will cover the four areas of language acquisition: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Although the main emphasis will be on the grammar and the practical use of Italian to an everyday communication, during classes there will be plenty of opportunity to describe Italian everyday life and culture. A special focus will be put on vocabulary, considered a key tool in language learning.

**Prerequisite: ITL 101 (PLP)**

#### **COURSE CONTENT:**

Classes will cover the grammar aspects indicated in the schedule provided below (and including: direct, indirect, and double object pronouns; conditional and imperative tense; comparatives, and relative pronouns), the relevant vocabulary terms and expressions (including colloquial/idiomatic expressions), and will be oriented towards improving students speaking skills, through oral reports, short speaking activities (e.g. role plays), and conversation exchanges in class among students and/or between students and the instructor. In addition to regular exercises as homework, students will be asked to submit at least three short written compositions (two at home, one in class) to consolidate their writing skills. Please note: Homework are either checked in class or at home.

Up to two occasional visits might be arranged. These will be announced to students (in class or via email) as the course progresses, at least a week prior to the day of the visit.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

The course aims to build students' confidence to use the Italian language in a protected environment, and to give them the practical tools for communicating in everyday life and situations.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** (see more in the attached MEMORANDUM):

- Phones must be invisible and either turned off, or set to silent mode.
- Italian will be spoken in class at all times. Remember to ask questions in Italian. If you need to ask a question that is too complicated for you to say in Italian, you must ask for permission to

switch into English («Posso parlare un momento in inglese?») **You should, however, avoid the use of English as much as possible.**

- E-mails and communications from the instructor will be in Italian, while your e-mails to the instructor will have to be both **in Italian AND in English.**

**Students with special needs:** Students who have a disability that might affect participation in Italian courses and wish to discuss academic accommodations should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

### **TEXTBOOKS:**

M. la Bianca, *L'italiano all'università*, Edilingua, 2013

### **GRADING:**

Grading will be based on attendance, punctuality, home assignments, class participation, two tests (2 - 3 weeks after every break), quizzes, the mid-term exam (the day before Winter break), oral & written final exams.

#### **Grading weights:**

- attendance (**more than two unexcused absence will lower the grade**), punctuality, class participation, home assignments: **25%**
- tests and quizzes: **20%**
- mid-term exam: **20%**
- written and oral final exam: **25%**

#### **Grading scale:**

A	100 - 94	B -	83 - 80	D +	69 - 67	
A -	93 - 90	C +	79 - 77	D	66 - 64	
B +	89 - 87	C	76 - 74	D -	63 - 60	
B	86 - 84	C -	73 - 70	F	<	60

**All tests are mandatory.**

**Dates of exams cannot be changed to adjust to students' individual needs.**

#### **A final piece of advice from the instructor:**

Italian does not have word or expression to translate the English concept of "cramming." This is no accident. Learning a language does not happen overnight. You will get the most out of the course by continually building upon the concepts that you learned during Classes.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

**1<sup>st</sup> week:** Introduction

*L'italiano all'università:* review of Unit 8 and Unit 11, Unit 6.

**Grammar:** Review of past tenses (Passato prossimo e Imperfetto), Reflexive verbs and frequency adverbs.

**Oral Expression:** Talk about habitual actions and daily activities.

**Vocabulary:** Words related to university life.

**2<sup>nd</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 6 and Unit 7.

**Grammar:** Reflexive forms, direct object pronouns, **stare**+gerund (progressive form), weather, seasons.

**Oral Expression:** Small talk or Talking about weather conditions

**Vocabulary:** Months, seasons and time expression.

**3<sup>rd</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 7 and Review.

**Grammar:** Review of topics previously covered.

**!!!First test!!! Nov. 17**

**4<sup>th</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 9 and Unit 10

**Grammar:** Future tense, possessives, indirect object pronouns and general adjectives.

**Oral Expression:** Describe family ties, talk about family and relationships

**Vocabulary:** Family tree and relationships.

**5<sup>th</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 12 and Unit 1 from **Book 2**.

**Grammar:** Imperative form (tu, noi, voi).

**Oral Expression:** Giving instruction, treasure hunt (in Firenze city centre), review of past tenses.

**Vocabulary:** Clothes, colors, sizes, quality.

**6<sup>th</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 2.

**Grammar:** Review of future tense, present conditional, comparatives.

**Oral Expression:** Talk about personal tastes and make comparisons.

**Vocabulary:** Sports..

**7<sup>th</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 2 and General Review

**Grammar:** Review of topics previously covered.

**!!!Mid-Term exam!!! Dec. 22**

**8<sup>th</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 3

**Grammar:** Past conditional, past perfect, relative pronouns.

**Oral Expression:** "What if..." and "I wish..."

**Vocabulary:** \_\_\_\_\_

**9<sup>th</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 3 and Unit 4.

**Grammar:** Review of the past tenses, intro to simple past.

**Oral Expression:** Describe biographies, talk about historical events.

**Vocabulary:** \_\_\_\_\_

**10<sup>th</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 3 and Unit 4.

**Grammar:** Simple past (part II), review of topics previously covered.

**!!!Second test!!! Jan. 19**

**11<sup>th</sup> week:**

*L'italiano all'università:* Unit 4.

**Grammar:** Final review of topics previously covered (part I)

**Oral Expression:** Small talk or Talking about weather conditions

**Vocabulary:** Months, seasons and time expression.

**12<sup>th</sup> week:**

**Grammar:** Final review; Q&A

**13<sup>th</sup> week:**

**Final exam – Feb. 6 -9. Exact day and time to be announced.**

**Examination schedule:**

Tests: **November 17 (Test 1), January 19 (Test 2)**

Mid-term: **December 22**

Final exam: **February 6-9, exact date and time to be announced**

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Attendance to these courses is mandatory and more than two unexcused absences will lower the grade (excused absences will be accepted for serious medical reasons or serious emergencies).

More than **five unexcused absences** will result in failure of the course.

In order not to disrupt the class, punctuality is required. Students are expected to be in class at the beginning of the class hour; any delay exceeding five minutes will be considered as an absence.

During the academic year photocopies and other material will be distributed in class by the instructors. Students who have not been in class are responsible for getting the material from their classmates and making their own photocopies. All assigned homework should be completed prior to entering the class. Use of the computer in class is restricted to oral presentations.

The language spoken in class is Italian. No other activities such as eating, etc. are allowed.

Dates of exams cannot be changed for individual needs. Students should take note of the dates and hours of the midterm and final exams and plan their trips after the last exam. It is important to tell friends and relatives about this so they do not surprise you by buying tickets for you for trips to be made before that date. Missing the midterm or the final exam will mean failure of the course.

Remember that during the PLP there are weekly exams every Friday from 10:00 – 12:00, students missing that exam will receive an F.

The completion during the PLP of one of the Italian Language courses ITL101 I, ITL102 I, ITL201 I or ITL301 I is prerequisite for admission to Italian classes in the Fall Semester. The completion of two of the Fall Semester Italian courses is prerequisite for admission to Italian classes in the Spring Semester. Incompletes will be allowed only for serious emergencies and must be completed within two weeks.

Professors are available, by prior appointment, for short clarifications and explanations, during office hours.