



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM - FIRENZE

SYLLABUS Fall Semester 2017-2018

ITL 125

Elementary Italian Conversation & Reading

Class: Mon/Wed 14.00-15:50

Instructor Luciano Albertocchi

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 16-17

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AIMS OF THE COURSE

The aim of this course is to develop oral comprehension, reading and oral skills. All work is centered on giving students confidence and developing language proficiency in reading and speaking. No less important is the more extensive exposure to Italian culture that will result from direct contact with such sources as contemporary literature, cinema, music and art.

CLASS FORMAT

Short stories and newspaper and magazine articles will be read, and special emphasis will be placed on literary, art and movies terminology. Students will make oral presentations consisting of research on and summary of the assigned readings, and will also be asked to present individually assigned readings to the class. Four feature films will be shown, with an introduction by the instructor and class discussion afterwards. Oral reading of passages appropriate to students level of proficiency will also be required. Visit and discussion of temporary exhibitions that may come up. The following list is tentative and may be changed at the discretion of the instructor to reflect the class's rate of progress.

Contemporary culture and society in Italy:

Readings on Campania, Sicilia, Lazio.

Readings on La Cucina italiana and newspaper articles.

Firenze, il Fiume Arno e S.Croce.

Art and architecture:

Visit to the Museo Marino Marini.

Discussion of works by Alberto Burri and Arturo Martini.

I Grandi Fotografi Italiani e l'Architettura.

Individual presentation of an artwork or architecture work chosen by the student.

La Biennale d'arte di Venezia 2017.

Literature: selected readings to include:

Federica Campanini, L'ultimo Caravaggio

Niccolò Ammaniti, Fango

Movies:

La Pazza Gioia by Paolo Virzì

Smetto quando voglio by Sydney Sibilia

La Grande Bellezza by Paolo Sorrentino

GRADING and CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Grading will be based on attendance, punctuality, outside assignments, quizzes, class participation, class presentations, and a final oral examination.

Grading weights:

Final oral exam 35%

Class participation and attendance: 30%

Oral presentations: 35%.

More than two unexcused absences will lower grade.

Dates of exams can not be changed to adjust to students' individual needs.

CLASS COSTS

Entrance to Museo Marini, € 6.

Book: Federica Campanini, L'ultimo Caravaggio, Alma Edizioni, 8 Euro.

BIBLIOGRAPHY – REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS & Other

Photocopies (provided by the instructor): excerpts from works by Niccolò Ammaniti.

Magazines (purchased by the students). Films (provided by the instructor).

Novel: Federica Campanini, L'ultimo Caravaggio, Alma Edizioni

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Short quizzes at the beginning of selected class hours.

Oral reports assigned periodically.

Written Summaries assigned periodically.

Final oral examination: Date to be announced

CLASS SCHEDULE

The following schedule is tentative and may be changed at the discretion of the instructor to reflect the class' rate of progress.

1st week	presentation and conversation. La Cucina italiana, reading and question answering.
2nd week	Movie: La Grande Bellezza by Sorrentino. Introduction and class discussion.
3rd week	Works of A. Burri and A. Martini, reading and question answering.
4th week	Visit to museum Marino Marini and individual presentation of an art work.
5th week	La Sicilia, reading and question answering.
6th week	Movie: Smetto quando voglio by Sydney Sibilia. Introduction and class discussion.
7th week	La Campania, reading and question answering. Movie: La Pazza Gioia by Paolo Virzì.
8th week	Literature, selected readings.
9th week	I Grandi Fotografi Italiani e l'Architettura. La Biennale d'Arte di Venezia

10th week	Literature, selected readings.
11th week	Readings on Firenze, il fiume Arno e S.Croce.
12th week	Il Lazio, reading and question answering. Each student presents a program's topic for the final review.
13th week	Final Oral Exam: Feb. 12-14, exact day and time to be announced.

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Oral reports: assigned periodically.

Final Oral Exam: Feb. 12 - 14 (exact date and time to be announced.)

15 minutes for each student, will be divided into two parts:

1. - a presentation on Art, movies, Literature, society topics, etc.(taking models from the course's contents);
2. - the readings done and the movies seen during the course.

The calendar is tentative and may be changed at the discretion of the instructor to reflect the class's rate of progress.

CSU ATTENDANCE POLICIES 2017-2018

General Attendance Policy 2017-2018 (for classes that meet twice a week)

Attendance to all CSU courses is mandatory. Two unexcused absences are allowed during the semester but more than two unexcused absences will lower your grade (excused absences will be accepted for serious medical reasons or emergencies) as follows: 3 unexcused absences, lowers one letter grade; 4 unexcused absences, lowers two letter grades; 5 unexcused absences, lowers 3 letter grades. More than **five unexcused absences could 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 an absence.

Dates of mid-term and final exams **can not** be changed for individual travel plans or personal 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 inform friends and relatives about these exam dates so that no tickets are purchased for you that will interfere with these exam dates. Missing the midterm or the final exam could result in failure of the course.

During the academic year photocopies and other material may be distributed in class by the instructors. Students who were not in class are responsible for getting the material from their classmates and making their own photocopies.

Other class policies:

Use of the computer in class is restricted to oral presentations, unless previously approved by the professor.

Eating is **NOT** allowed in class.

Cellular phones must be **turned off** or placed on *silent mode* during class.
