

**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
SYLLABUS
Fall Semester 2017-2018**

**ITL 125
Elementary Italian Conversation
& Reading**

**Instructor: Gloria Venturini
Office Hours: Mon/Wed., 16:00-17:00**

Email: g.venturini@csufirenze.it

**Class:
Mon/Wed 14:00 - 15:50**

AIMS OF THE COURSE

The focus is on the oral abilities: reading and speaking. This course is designed to prepare students for concentration courses offered in Italian during spring semester. Attention will be on Art, History, Literature, Cinema, cultural and sociological aspects of Italy. All work is focused on giving student confidence and developing language proficiency in reading comprehension, vocabulary, oral comprehension; focus will be on new words and expressions, oral summary of readings, speaking.

CLASS FORMAT

Reading and comprehension of short stories and passages; introduction, viewing and discussion of Italian movies, lexical studies; oral reports following the material of class.

CLASS CALENDAR

Week 1 - Islands of Italy: Sardegna.	Week 2 – Regioni italiane: Valle d’Aosta.	Week 3 – Regioni italiane: Piemonte.
Week 4 – Regioni italiane: Veneto.	Week 5 – film: “Non ci posso credere!” by Philippe Claudel.	Week 6 – Biografia: Enzo Ferrari. Emilia-Romagna
Week 7 - Architettura. Renzo Piano e il restauro per l’Auditorium di Parma.	Week 8 – Arte: “l’Allegoria della Primavera” by Sandro Botticelli.	Week 9 – film: “Mediterraneo” di Gabriele Salvatores.
Week 10 – Letteratura: short story by Dino Buzzati.	Week 11 – Letteratura: interview to Italo Calvino.	Week 12 :-Letteratura: short story by Primo Levi. Review for the oral exam.

Week 13

The **final oral exam, Feb. 12 – 14** (exact days and times 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.

GRADING

The grading will be based on attendance, punctuality, assignments, class participation, oral reports, mandatory attendance of movies, final oral examination.

Grading weights:

class participation: 30%

oral presentations: 35%

final oral exam: 35%

More than two unexcused absences will lower the grade.

Dates of exams can not be changed to adjust to students'

ATTENDANCE POLICY

FROM: The Italian Language Department

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.

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The completion during the PLP of one of the Italian Language courses ITL101 I, ITL102 I, ITL201 I or ITL 301 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.