



## **ITL 101 I Intensive Elementary Italian I**

**PLP 2019**

**Credits – 5 CSU units**

**Instructor: Prof.ssa Giorgia Bassani**

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**Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.**

**Office hours: Tuesday 12:10 p.m. - 1:10 p.m. and by appointment**

**Location of Course – California State University, Florence~Via G. Leopardi, 12~50121 Florence, Italy**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The objective of this course is to provide students with the basic linguistic abilities to cope with everyday situations intertwined with a basic but solid grammar backbone structure. Practice will take place in all four basic skills: listening, understanding, speaking, reading, and writing, with opportunities for self-expression in concrete situations. A specific focus will be given to build up tools to express and interact in daily contexts. Intended for students with no previous structured study of Italian.

**CSU GE CATEGORY: – C1, C2 or C elective**

### **REQUIRED BOOKS AND READINGS**

La Grassa, M., *L'Italiano all'Università*, Roma, Edilingua, 2013 vol. I.

**CLASS COSTS: 21,51 euro** (discounted 10% as original price is 23,90 euro, discounted price for CSU students only, at the Feltrinelli Bookshop in via Cerretani) for the textbook:

\*Thursday, Sept., 5: from 10:30 a.m to 12:00 p.m: Teacher will walk students to purchase the textbook at the Feltrinelli Bookstore. Bring money!

On a regular basis, additional material (videos, songs, images, etc.) will be provided to each student by the instructor in class and/or by email or through online tools (Students are responsible for their own material).

### **LIBRARY SESSION**

**To be announced in class once the semester begins.**

### **COURSE METHODS**

Presentation (introduction of new material in context), practice (a controlled practice phase to enhance listening, understanding, comprehension and expression skills) and production (activities in class and home

assignments designed for less-controlled practice to enhance memorization and writing & vocabulary skills). Teaching method may incorporate visual aids such as computer, tv and listening aids such as radio to make the learning of the language enjoyable students (such as learning songs).

### **GENERAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

You are responsible for the weekly readings, the information given to you in class, on handouts **and via email**. Part of your grade will be determined by regular attendance, participation in class discussions and active engagement in all activities of this course. ***Make sure to check your email on a regular basis for updates and additional information.***

### **CLASS SITE VISITS**

Visits to various public sites (gardens, libraries, markets, etc.) are included in this course and you are required to attend all of them.

### **COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Students will learn to: use the basic language structures and common vocabulary and to accomplish communication goals corresponding to levels A1 and A2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of the semester students will be able to: talk about interests and hobbies, daily activities, weather, food, travels, and studies, in present and past tenses. They will be able to understand written and oral inputs about the same topics as well as to produce short written texts.

### **GRADES/EXAMS AND WEEKLY TESTS**

**MANDATORY WEEKLY TESTS:** They will take place usually **each Friday but sometimes on Thursdays.**

**Review:** From 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**Weekly test:** then from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Weekly test format: 6 sections. a) listening comprehension b) written comprehension, (multiple-choice exercises, fill-in exercises) c) vocabulary oriented exercises, d) grammar review exercises e) brief written compositions f) reading comprehension (complete sentence, fill-in exercises) (2h length).**

Weekly tests will be returned to students at the beginning of the week with comments and grades., On Friday, before the weekly test, there will be an hour review upon issues dealt in class along the week.

**ORAL EXAMS: October, 22 23, 24 - time and schedule to be announced.**

**Oral exam format:** Students are required to set an oral conversation with a peer about daily life topics such as:

1. Presentations and self-description: personality, moods, daily and/or weekly habits;
2. ask for/give information downtown;
3. describe a recent trip ( by using the past tense);
4. shopping (grocery, pharmacy, clothing store);
5. Going to a restaurant/bar/pizzeria;

Oral exam **will last 10 minutes** for each student. Topic will be chosen by lot during the oral exam session among the above mentioned.

**WRITTEN EXAM:** The final exam will take place **October 25 from 9:00 a.m-12:00 p.m.**

**Written exam format:** It will include all issues dealt with in class during the course.

### **IMPORTANT: EXAMS**

You must attend all exams and quizzes as scheduled. Make-up exams are given only for valid reasons. Please check your academic calendar **BEFORE** you book trips, flights and hotels.

### **GRADING:**

Attendance (more than two unexcused absences will lower the grade – see below **attendance policy** for details), punctuality, outside assignments and class participation 20%, weekly tests on Friday 40%, written and oral final exams 40%.

### **GRADE AVERAGE SYSTEM:**

A 100-94, A- 93-90, B+ 89-87, B 86-84, B- 83-80, C+ 79-77, C 76-74, C- 73-70,  
D+ 69-67, D 66-64, D- 63-60, F 59-0

**A** Student performance has been outstanding and indicates an exceptional degree of academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

**B** Student performance has been at a high level and indicates solid academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

**C** Student performance has been adequate and indicates satisfactory academic achievement in meeting learning outcomes and course requirements

**D** Student performance has been less than adequate and indicates deficiencies in meeting the learning outcomes and/or course requirements

**F** Student performance has been unacceptable and indicates a failure to meet the learning outcomes and/or course requirements

**VERY IMPORTANT: Failure to complete all work assigned in the course could result in failure of the class..**

### **CLASS CODE OF CONDUCT**

Activities unrelated to the course (including private conversations, emailing, text messaging, reading, web surfing, etc.) are not permitted during class time. Please turn off or put all electronic devices on silent mode prior to the beginning of the class.

### **SAFETY**

All students are expected to respect the safety and security policies in place at CSU Firenze. Students will be expected to follow the procedures outlined by CSU Firenze for the safe use of all spaces, including the upstairs. Refusal to respect these policies and procedures could lead to access restrictions or disciplinary actions.

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**

Any form of plagiarism or cheating may result in a failing final grade in the course and might be reported to IP and your campus. You are better off spending your time studying for the class. If you have questions about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please refer to the student handbook and catalog of your campus and also ask me and/ or the Resident Director for more information.

### **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Upon identifying yourself to the instructor and the university, students with disabilities will receive reasonable accommodation for learning and evaluations. For more information, contact the Resident Director.

## **COPYRIGHT AND PRIVACY LAWS**

No portion of the texts, films, videos, and other material used in this course can be reproduced in any format including scanning, electronic downloading or sharing of files.

**In addition, no portion of class lectures, discussions, and activities can be reproduced and used in any format, including electronic, without the written consent of the instructor and/or guest speakers.**

## **CHANGES - IMPORTANT**

Information contained in this syllabus, including the class calendar, other than that mandated by the University, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY PLP 2019**

Attendance to PLP CSU courses is mandatory. Two unexcused absences are allowed during the course 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** (see **Grading** – attendance counts for up to 20% of your final grade).

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 ten minutes will be considered 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 in class.

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 weekly tests (40% of the grade) or the final exam (40% of the grade) could 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 ITL 101 I, ITL 102 I, ITL 201 I or ITL 301 I is a 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 clarifications and explanations, during office hours.

## **IMPORTANT: EXAMS**

You must attend all exams and quizzes as scheduled. Make-up exams are given only for valid reasons. Please check your academic calendar **BEFORE** you book trips, flights and hotels.

## **CLASS CALENDAR**

**1<sup>st</sup> week: Sept. 3 – Sept. 6**

**Oral Expression:** greetings, and presentations (name, age, country and nationality); useful phrases in class.

**Grammar and vocabulary:** the alphabet; present tense of “essere” (to be) and “avere” (to have); gender of nouns and adjectives; some adjectives of quality; negative sentence; cardinal numbers from 0 to 100; nationalities and countries.

**Tuesday, Sept. 3, Codice Fiscale in class (the second half of class)**

**Thursday, Sep. 5: from 10:30 am to 11:30 am: Teacher will walk students to Feltrinelli’s bookstore to purchase the textbook. Teacher will accompany students back to CSU for General Meeting at 12:00. Day and time to be confirmed.**

**Friday, Sept. 6: review for 1.5 hours (9:00-10.30 a.m), followed by General Meeting in aula magna at 10:30 am Completion of Resident Permit Kits (permesso di soggiorno) with CSU staff and PLP faculty. No weekly test.**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> week: Sept. 9-12**

**Oral Expression:** Making friends: greetings; asking about your studies; making plans and arrangements. Daily activities (at school, at home, with friends, etc.).

**Grammar and vocabulary:** Present tense regular and irregular verbs (3 conjugations –are, -ere, ire), focus some movement verbs (“andare”, “venire”, “tornare”, “partire”); definite articles, article+noun+adjective agreement; prepositions; jobs, activities, hobbies, sites, colors.

**Thursday, Sept. 12: Weekly test: review and test 1.**

**Friday Sep. 13: NO CLASS DUE TO CSU FIELD TRIP: Vinci, Certaldo, Albergaccio Machiavelli, (1 day trip)**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> week: Sept. 16-20**

**Oral Expression:** how to express like/dislike; how to express agreement and/or disagreement, ordering food and beverages. Going to a restaurant/bar.

**Grammar and vocabulary:** Present tense irregular verbs; how to say like/dislike something (at the present tense, singular/plural: “mi piace”/ “non mi piace”; “mi piacciono”/ “non mi piacciono”); food and beverages, shops and shopping.

**Weekly test: Friday, Sept. 20: review and test 2.**

### **4<sup>th</sup> week: Sept. 23-27**

**Oral expression:** asking for information/giving information; asking for permission; what time is it? How to express will, obligation, desire, uncertainty, refusal, need, ability. Finding your way around, using a city map. Describe your own living space and buildings.

**Grammar and vocabulary:** indefinite articles; modal verbs: “potere”, “volere”, “dovere”, “sapere” at the present tense; time; road directions; the city: buildings and locations; travelling.

**Weekly test: Thursday, Sept. 26 – review for one hour, then test 3.**

**Friday, Sep. 27 : NO PLP CLASSES TODAY DUE TO PASSPORT CHECK AND RESIDENT PERMIT KIT DELIVERY AT THE CENTRAL POST OFFICE. STUDENTS MUST MEET PAOLA AND THEIR ITALIAN TEACHER DIRECTLY AT THE CENTRAL POST OFFICE IN FLORENCE, Piazza della Repubblica,. The exact time will be announced once PLP begins.**

**STUDENTS MUST BRING THEIR ORIGINAL PASSPORT WITH THEM TO THE POST OFFICE.**

**5<sup>th</sup> week : Sept. 30-Oct. 4**

**Oral Expression:** how describe the living space, housekeeping activities, living with roommates; how to book a room in hotel, buying a ticket and asking for general information when travelling in another city and/or country.

**Grammar and vocabulary:** prepositions; there is/there are; some adverbs; prepositions; the living space: the apartment: furniture and appliances and related activities.

**Weekly test: Friday, Oct. 4: review and test 4.**

**6<sup>th</sup> week: Oct. 7-10**

**Oral Expression:** share daily habits; talk about seasons and weather.

**Grammar and vocabulary:** reflexive verbs (verbi riflessivi), some adverbs and adjectives; daily activities, seasons and weather.

**Weekly test: Thursday, Oct. 10 review and test 5.**

**Friday, Oct. 11: NO class today due to field trip (Padova, Verona, Vicenza, Venezia)**

**7<sup>th</sup> week: Oct. 14-18**

**Oral Expression:** Travelling: share a fieldtrip experience with others (using past tense sentence).

**Grammar and vocabulary:** Past tense (passato prossimo); adjectives to describe sites, emotions and feelings; leisure activities.

**Weekly test: Friday, Oct. 18: review and test 6.**

**8<sup>th</sup> week: Oct. 21-25**

**Oct. 21: Last day of class:** General Review and Practice.

**FINAL EXAMS: OCT. 22 – 25**

**ORAL EXAMS: October, 22, 23, 24 - time and schedule to be announced.**

**Oral exam format:** Students are required to set an oral conversation about daily life topics such as:

- presentations and self-description: personality, moods, daily and/or weekly habits;
- ask for/give information;
- describe a trip;
- shopping (grocery, clothing store, etc.);
- going to a restaurant/bar/pizzeria/gelateria/market;

Oral exam **will last about 10 minutes** for each student. Topic will be chosen by lot during the oral exam session among the above mentioned.

**FINAL WRITTEN EXAM:** The final exam will take place **on Friday, October 25, 9:00 a.m-12:00 p.m.**

**Written exam format:** It will include all issues dealt with in class during the course.