



## **ITL 301 I Intensive Advanced Italian**

**PLP 2019**

**Credits – 5 CSU units**

**Instructor: Prof. Beatrice Fabbri**

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**Class Days/Times: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m-12:00 p.m.**

**Office hours: Monday/Wednesday 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

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

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Presentation (introduction of new material in context), practice (initial guided 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 language oral fluency 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). Also, some room will be devoted to practice reading and writing as well. In addition, the instructor will focus on Realia, authentic documents, and mass media as they are living daily proof of the value of language. Their authenticity, specialized vocabulary, reinforced grammatical structures, and topics of interest can help encourage interest in the target language and culture. They contain current language on all imaginable topics, and are not artificial or contrived. Also, some class time will be devoted to non-traditional activities such as role-play and drama games to be done in class to train different tones of language. Occasional site visits in town will help students gain confidence in their ability to use, experience and grown their language proficiency awareness in an autonomous way.

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

### **REQUIRED BOOKS AND READINGS:**

**G. Venturini, *Lezioni di Italiano*, Livello Intermedio e Avanzato, Ed. Medicea, 2012 (available for purchase at Academic advisor Connie Perkins's office, **cost: 40 euro**)**

- handouts provided by the Instructor.

**CLASS COSTS: Textbook 40 euro + around 10euro max. (for site visits to Museums or Boboli Garden)**

## **LIBRARY SESSION**

To be announced in class once the semester begins.

## **GENERAL 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 daily work, i.e oral and written practice done in class and assignments as well as further information given to you in class, on handouts **and via email**. Part of your grade will be determined by regular attendance, participation in class discussion and active engagement in all activities of this course. **Make sure to check your email on a regular basis for updates and additional information.**

### **Home assignments:**

- 4-5 exercises per day (reading comprehensions, gap fill-in, short composition, completion exercise, etc. ).
- 1 oral report/role-play/dialogues to be done alone and/or in group about daily situations, art history, culture, food history and recipes, travelling, shopping,etc.
- Vocabulary charts: from 5 to 10 max words and/or idiomatic expressions to memorize per day.

### **CLASS SITE VISITS:**

Occasional site visits in town will be scheduled to explore Italian culture at large, uses and habits and most of all, to practice language in daily contexts such as farmers market, public libraries, shops, museums, etc. Schedule to be announced.

## **COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

This full immersion course is designed to enhance and consolidate oral/written/listening abilities to use the language correctly and appropriately to accomplish communication goals corresponding to level C1(Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). Commitment and persistence are the major factors in language learning and the instructor will be willing to help students keeping on track with short-terms goals week per week so to make them confident with communication. Feel free to meet the instructor during office hours if you need extra-explanations and practice.

In summary:

- Students will gain full confidence and awareness in speaking, listening and writing in Italian language.
- Students will have an appreciation for listening, speaking at different paces so to fully understand the nuances of Italian language in different social settings.

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the end of this course:

- Students will enjoy speaking and interacting, writing in Italian fluently and will be able to use idiomatic expressions used in daily routine.
- Students will fully grasp the significance of Italian language (and will be able to handle paces) in various contexts.
- Students will fully appreciate basics of Italian culture, history, habits and manners.

### **ABOUT WEEKLY TESTS /EXAMS/ GRADES:**

**WEEKLY TESTS:** They will take place **each Friday (occasionally on Thursday when CSU field trips are scheduled).**

**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 EXAM: 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:**

**GRADES: 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%.**

### **GRADES AND EXAMS**

Your grades will be determined by the following assignments;

- Class participation (Attendance & punctuality; work in class, completion of the homework assigned) 20%
- Weekly tests 40%
- Final exam (oral & written) 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

The + and – symbols will be used for grading (except for A+). Specific information about the paper, exams and other projects will be given to you during the semester.

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

#### **POLICY FOR LATE WORK**

**PLEASE NOTE: Your final grade will lower down 0,5% for each time you submit late work.**

#### **CLASS CODE OF CONDUCT:**

Activities unrelated to the course (including private conversations, emailing text messaging reading, websurfing, 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 accommodations for learning and evaluations. For more information, contact the Resident Director.

## **COPYRIGHT AND PRIVACY LAWS**

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

For a better performance, a good attendance and participation at assignments is recommended. In particular, reading one's textbooks as a regular home assignment is mandatory to develop one's knowledge appropriately.

Attendance to all CSU courses is mandatory. One unexcused absence is allowed during the semester but more than one unexcused absence will lower your grade as follows (excused absences will be accepted for serious medical reasons or emergencies): **TWO** unexcused absences, lowers by 1.5 letter grades (i.e., B to C-); **THREE** unexcused absences, lowers by 3 letter grades (i.e., A to D). More than **THREE 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 ten 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 will mean 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.

**Participation:** Continuous lateness as well as leaving the class for long breaks without your instructor's permission definitely influences the evaluation of your participation. **It is important that students come to class on time. Three delays/early departures will be considered one absence.** A correct, active and responsible participation is strictly recommended. You are strongly urged to ask questions and express opinions in this course, approaching readings and ideas actively and critic

ally. As you do so, however, please strive to be courteous to your fellow students. During lectures, students are not allowed to use any electronic devices (cell-phones, Ipad, Blackberry etc.). Use of the computer in class is restricted to oral presentations, unless previously approved by the professor. **Note-taking is mandatory.** Eating is NOT allowed in class. Cellular phones must be **turned off** or placed on **silent mode** during class.

## **CLASS CALENDAR:**

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Week :** From 03/09/2019 to 06/09

**G.Venturini, Lezioni di Italiano, Lezione preliminare I**

**Oral Expression Vocabulary & Idiomatic expressions:** Presentations, food shopping and going to a café/restaurant (table talk, food and lifestyle) renting an apartment and finding your way around in a new town (directions and looking for shops). Food shopping. Idiomatic expressions with to have and to be (health, leisure time, food, sport, travel, etc.)

**Grammar** determinative articles and indeterminate ones (gender & number); nouns (gender & number); adjectives of quality (gender & number); demonstrative adjectives (gender & number); nouns and adjectives (number and gender agreement); simple present tense 3 conjugations (-are, -ere, -ire) and irregular verbs (among those: andare, venire, stare fare, preferire, uscire, partire and some others);

**Reading & Writing:** introduction to basics of written composition for daily routine: letters, emails, documents, fulfill sheets, bills, etc.(formal and informal address).

**Culture & Lifestyle:** History of Pizza and types of bread in Italy; Some history of Florence from Medieval to Renaissance times: artists and poets.

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

**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:** from 09/09 to 13/09

G.Venturini, Lezioni di Italiano, Lezione Preliminare II; Cap.I

**Oral Expression, Vocabulary & Idiomatic expressions:** Use of Like/Dislike (Mi piace/non mi piace) in daily routine. Hobbies and habits, relationships and emotions I. How to solve misunderstanding. At the pharmacy and/or doctor's.

**Grammar:** Simple present tense with modal verbs (potere, volere, dovere); use of adverbs in context (i.e, però, anzi, sempre, mai, qualche volta, etc.); use of main conjunctions in context clues. Present perfect tense to be and to have and their usage with 3 conjugations; nouns and adjectives (number and gender match); Past continuous (Imperfetto), Past perfect and use of past tense in daily routine and activities (i.e meeting people, cooking, shopping, leisure time, etc. )

**Reading & Writing:** articles about travelling (some material and pictures provided from the instructor) and how to write a brief review on a trip,

**Culture & Lifestyle:** Rome and "Dolce Vita": beautiful spots, fashion and iconic women; recipe: la Carbonara. Machiavelli the Father of modern Political science (as for this material provided by the instructor).

**Thursday 12/09: Weekly Test 1**

**13/09 NO CLASSES TODAY due to CSU Field trip –Certaldo, Vinci ,Albergaccio Machiavelli**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Week :** From 16/09 to 20/09

G.Venturini, Lezioni di Italiano, cap. II

**Oral Expression, vocabulary & Idiomatic expressions:** how to express emotions and feelings (happiness, disappointment, enthusiasm, being tired, etc.), proverbs.

**Grammar:** how to talk about past actions (matching use of different past tenses) ; reported speech; Direct pronouns; reflexive pronouns; use of **ci** and **ne** in Italian; use of prepositions in context.

**Reading & Writing:** N.Ginzburg, *Io e Lui* from *Piccole Virtù*. How to draft a mini short story (1-2 page) or monologue.

**Culture & Lifestyle:** Basics of Italian language history; Sardinia nature and culture, Garibaldi.

**Friday, 20/09: review and Weekly Test 2**

**4<sup>th</sup> Week:** From 23/09 to 27/09

G.Venturini, *Lezioni di Italiano*, cap.III

**Oral Expression, vocabulary & idiomatic expressions:** how to express will, obligation, need, permission, uncertainty, refusal in various contexts. How to express expectations, to make plans in several contexts (invitations, trips, projects, etc.)

**Grammar:** Simple Future tense regular and irregular verbs (auxiliaries and all conjugations); compound tense in the future; use of prepositions in context.

**Reading & Writing:** how to prepare an interview with an artist, celebrity, writer, etc. Some material provided by the instructor (1-2 pagg) then role-play in class.

**Culture & Lifestyle:** Milan: business, fashion and art; the enchanted Lake of Como; Feltrinelli publishing house; songs: Partirò (Bocelli); Salirò (Silvestri);

**Weekly test: Thursday, Sept. 26 – review 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:** From 30/09 to 04/10

G.Venturini, *Lezioni di Italiano*, cap.IV-V

**Oral Expression, vocabulary & idiomatic expressions:** How to express like/dislike in daily routine II; how to get through in various situations (i.e cavarsela; farcela); how to express regret, complain, etc. in various contexts.

**Grammar:** Indirect pronouns (gender & number); Direct & Indirect pronouns; impersonal verbs in use, combined pronouns.

**Reading & Writing:** Italo Calvino, *L'avventura di un poeta* from *Gli Amori Difficili*; how to make a short summary. (material provided by the instructor).

**Culture & Lifestyle:** Liguria (Genova, Cinque Terre), Pesto recipe; Songs: Genova per noi (Paolo Conte); Naples and Campania: the city, the volcan Vesuvio, Capri. Recipe: la Caprese.

**Friday, 04/10: Review and Weekly Test 4**

**6<sup>th</sup> Week:** From 07/10 to 11/10. G.Venturini, Lezioni di Italiano, cap.VI-VII

**Oral Expression, vocabulary & idiomatic expressions:** How to provide suggestions, how to make someone do something (formal and Informal); some basic rude expressions to handle “with care” in various situations (vattene; basta, vergognati, etc.)

**Grammar:** Formal and Informal Imperative: affirmative and negative tense; Imperative with pronouns; present and past conditional tense; expressing the “future in the past”.

**Reading & Writing:** T. Scarpa, Venezia è un pesce (excerpts provided from the instructor); how to sketch a poetic profile of the city (1 page).

**Culture & Lifestyle:** Emilia-Romagna: Bologna, Parma, Ravenna. Gastronomic treasures: Tagliatelle, tortellini, parmigiano.

**Thursday, 10/10: review and Weekly Test 5**

**11/10-13/10: Field Trip Padova, Verona, Vicenza, Biennale di Venezia**

**7<sup>th</sup> Week :** From 14/10 to 18/10. G.Venturini, Lezioni di Italiano, cap.VII-VIII

**Oral Expression, vocabulary & idiomatic expressions:** How to address a request (formal and informal) how to express desires and other expectations; short idiomatic expressions to open and close a conversation; funny expressions to express personal feelings (among others: bagnato fradicio; tipo tosto, accartocciarsi,etc.). How to making parallel/contrasts and how to judge a situation in your own terms.

**Grammar:** expressing the “future in the past” tenses; comparative & superlative adjectives & adverbs: regular and irregular ones; indefinite adjectives and pronouns. Use of prepositions in various contexts.

**Reading & Writing:** Articles on the history of Italian pastries ; article on the Jewish community in Italy (material provided by the instructor).

**Culture & Lifestyle:** Turin and Piedmont; Sicily: melting-pot of cultures; Song: Un mare in luce (Gualazzi). Luigi Pirandello: Nobel Prize for Literature (1937).

**Friday, 18/10: Review and Weekly Test 6**

**8<sup>th</sup> Week**

**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.