



# Survival Italian Language

## Course Details

**Course Designator & Number: SCLY 1201**

**Number of Credits: 1**

**Language of Instruction: English and Italian**

**Contact Hours: 15**

## Course Description

The course is designed for college students who are approaching the study of the Italian language for the first time. Lessons are held exclusively in Italian and take into consideration the need to combine the study of lexis and grammar with the development of communication skills and cultural awareness. The instructor encourages students to put the language structures and vocabulary studied in class into practice in real-life situations, thus accelerating the learning process and bringing students into contact with local society so that they may fully appreciate the way of life and cultural differences. This knowledge is an integral part of linguistic competence.

## Learning Outcomes

The aim of the course is to develop all four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The course will focus on nurturing an appreciation for the Italian language and awareness of Italian culture. At the end of the course, students will be able to understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of immediate relevance and perform simple and routine tasks which require an exchange of information on familiar and common topics. Students will be able to interact using simple phrases to describe themselves, their background, the immediate environment, and express needs. They will be able to ask for and understand simple directions and express personal preferences and needs.

## Required Readings/Materials

- *Progetto italiano 1, Corso multimediale di lingua e cultura italiana* by Edizioni Edilingua, 2015.
- *Arrivederci 1, Corso multimediale di italiano per stranieri* by Edilingua, 2015.
- *Facilissimo, Corso rapido di italiano per turisti* by Alma Edizioni, 2014.
- *Un tuffo nell'azzurro 1, Nuovo corso di italiano per stranieri* by Panozzo Editore, 2009.
- Additional readings and handouts will be provided by the Syracuse Academy.

## Elements of Grammar

- Present simple of the verbs: *to be, to have, to go, to do*
- Present simple of common verbs, such as *to speak, to live, to study, to take*
- Verb *to like*
- Definite and indefinite articles
- Common adverbs: *sometimes, always, never, usually*
- Prepositions (*from, to, in, between, etc.*)
- Food and drinks, bars and restaurants, places around the city, classroom objects, places of interest

## Course Method

The course is based on the communicative approach aimed at engaging the student in a meaningful and authentic use of the language. The lessons use written or audio-visual input as a starting point to develop and strengthen lexical and grammatical structures; language is presented in context, comprehension is checked, and activities are introduced where tasks are completed by means of interaction with other learners. To this end, there is considerable use of pair and group role-playing activities, with the emphasis on completing the task successfully through communication with others. The approach is task-based, in which the learners are given a communicative task monitored by the teacher and their language use is fine-tuned by the teacher.

# Grading

## Grading Rubric

Letter Grade	Score or Percentage	Description
A	93–100	Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
A-	90–92	Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
B+	87–89	
B	83–86	
B-	80–82	Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
C+	77–79	
C	73–76	
C-	70–72	Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to fully meet the course requirements.
D+	67–69	
D	60–66	
F	0–59	Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I.

## Summary of How Grades Are Weighted

Assignments	Percentage of Grade
Attendance and participation	20%
Class activities and continuous assignments	30%
Final examination	50%
<b>Overall grade</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Assessment Details

The teacher's role is to facilitate and monitor and to provide feedback on the success or otherwise of the communication and on the linguistic performance of the learners in the form of post-activity error correction.

Note: Participation will be assessed on the basis of active participation, punctuality, attention, and homework. Class activities will be graded on grammatical accuracy, range of vocabulary used, pronunciation, and delivery.

## Course Content

### Unit 1

#### Getting to Know You

- **Communicative skills:** introducing oneself and other people; asking how you are; greeting; spelling one's name; speaking about nationality.
- **Grammar and lexicon:** personal pronouns; present indicative of the verb: *essere* and *avere e chiamarsi*; number and gender agreement of nouns and adjectives; days of the week; cardinal numbers 1 to 10.
- **Classroom activities:** pair work and role-play.
- **Culture:** *Ciao o buongiorno?*; introducing oneself and others.

## Unit 2

### Getting to Know Others

- **Communicative skill:** introducing your classmates.
- **Grammar and lexicon:** definite and indefinite articles, demonstratives (*questo, quello...*); negative form of a sentence; the present indicative tense of regular verbs in *-are*;
- **Classroom activity:** self-evaluation (*Arrivederci* 1 p. 16).
- **Culture:** social interaction.

## Unit 3

### At the Restaurant

- **Communicative skill:** how to order at the restaurant/bar.
- **Grammar and lexicon:** the present indicative tense of regular verbs in *-ere*; verb *to like*; verb *to go*; verb *would like to*; months of the year.
- **Classroom activity:** pair and group language practice.
- **Culture:** How Italians behave at the restaurant/bar.

## Unit 4

### Around the City

- **Communicative skill:** Asking and giving directions.
- **Grammar and lexicon:** verb *andare* and prepositions *in* and *a*; verb *fare* with specific expressions (*fare la spesa, fare una passeggiata...*); the present indicative tense of regular verbs in *-ire*; *city and means of transportation*.
- **Classroom activity:** role-play.
- **Culture:** Italian places of interest.

## Unit 5

### Course Review

- Review of topics, vocabulary, and grammatical structures covered during the course.

## Unit 6

### Final Examination

- The final examination will test all four linguistic skills and assess the degree to which students have achieved the objectives of the course. The test will be structured based on the evaluation criteria of the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for languages) and the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) proficiency guidelines.

# Policies

## Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be on time and attend all classes while abroad. Many instructors assess both attendance and participation when assigning a final course grade. Attendance alone does not guarantee a positive participation grade; the student should be prepared for class and engage in class discussion. See the on-site syllabus for specific class requirements.

## University of Minnesota Policies & Procedures

Academic integrity is essential to a positive teaching and learning environment. All students enrolled in University courses are expected to complete coursework responsibilities with fairness and honesty. Failure to do so by seeking unfair advantage over others or misrepresenting someone else's work as your own can result in disciplinary action. The University Student Conduct Code defines scholastic dishonesty as follows:

### Scholastic Dishonesty

Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Within this course, a student responsible for scholastic dishonesty can be assigned a penalty up to and including an "F" or "N" for the course. If you have any questions regarding the expectations for a specific assignment or exam, ask.

### Student Conduct

The University of Minnesota has specific policies concerning student conduct. This information can be found [on the Learning Abroad Center website](#).