
Intermediate Italian

COURSE DESIGNATOR: FLOR 1003

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: Italian

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 5

CONTACT HOURS: 75 hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This communication-based intermediate course of Italian helps you develop the ability to communicate effectively in everyday, practical situations and to read authentic materials in Italian. The course reviews and completes all basic grammar structures, reinforces the mastering of these elements in real life situations, and expands your vocabulary and knowledge of more complex grammar and syntax structures.

As the language learning progresses, you will be expected to produce more Italian while actively engaging in communicative activities that have real world relevance both in and out of class, and practice all four linguistic abilities.

You will be encouraged through a variety of in- and out-of-class activities to explore the city of Florence and engage in guided interactions with the local culture. You will also be exposed to a variety of registers and uses of the language. Site visits and authentic materials in a variety of media are used extensively in order to facilitate your communication and comprehension skills and with the culture and society of Italy at large.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, you will be able to demonstrate knowledge of Italian culture and society, including daily life, contemporary social issues, demographics, and notions of Italian art history and literature, and history of the Italian language.

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- Understand discussions by native speakers on familiar topics
- Participate in class discussions on a variety of subjects related to Italian culture
- Read and understand oral and written authentic materials, such as newspaper/magazine articles, excerpts from literary works, songs, TV programs and movies
- Participate in increasingly complex conversations on topics found in everyday situations including talking about what people do in general, explaining how things are done, verifying whether or not a person can do something, etc.
- Acquire some cross-cultural pragmatic information, including how to express opinions, thoughts, desires, and emotions and how to recognize regional varieties of Italian (reinforced through in-class activities and out-of-class interviews, also during the Taormina study tour)
- Write essays on topics related to materials and themes covered in class using the structures learned in previous Italian classes. Recognize and employ Italian grammar and syntax, expressions of subjective judgments via the subjunctive mood, and different registers
- Speak succinctly about past and present events

METHODOLOGY

Through the integration of the different language skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing as well as the exploration of various aspects of contemporary Italian culture, you will learn to communicate in the target language in progressively more involved daily life situations.

Since language and culture are deeply connected (language is culture and culture is language), each class will introduce you to linguistic skills such as communicative structures, grammar structures, vocabulary, and pronunciation, but will at the same time provide you with a deeper knowledge of Italian culture.

Grammatical theory will be always connected with the practical use of the language. All of the didactic materials used throughout the course, such as readings and multimedia sources, are in Italian.

You will be asked to write papers and dialogue with the teacher and people outside the class. You will be encouraged to participate in conversation exchange activities organized at the Study Center. Constant interaction in Italian is the core of the learning process.

The city of Florence will become a cultural laboratory where language will be studied in context: with its world-famous fashion traditions, museums and lively markets and its characteristic stores and artisans’ workshops, the city represents a composite of contemporary Italian culture that you will discover through out-of-class activities, projects, and visits.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Study of Italian language at an elementary level

REQUIRED READINGS/ MATERIALS

Aski, Musumeci, *Avanti! Beginning Italian* - Student Edition 3rd edition – New York, McGraw Hill, 2013

Handouts distribuiti in classe

GRADING

Grading Rubric		
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 meet fully 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

Two quizzes	20%
Mid-term exam	20%
Composition (TEMA)	10%
Oral presentation	10%
Written final exam	20%
Oral final exam	10%
Participation and homework	10%
Overall grade	100%

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

TEST, QUIZZES AND FINAL EXAM

Throughout the semester, you will be given 1 test and 2 grammar quizzes and a final exam (written and oral). The test will focus on specific grammatical and cultural elements but will also include review material, so anything already taught may appear. Grammar quizzes will be about 30 minutes long and will test grammar structures and vocabulary studied in the previous weeks.

COMPOSITION

During the semester, you will be asked to write one major double draft composition in Italian. The first draft will be written in class. No dictionary or notes will be allowed. Your instructor will give you feedback which you may use to develop a second draft. Your second draft will be completed at home and handed in to your instructor within the deadline stated on the syllabus and will be worth up to five extra points. The revision is mandatory with a grade other than A. Failure to turn in the revision will lower your final composition grade by two points.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

During the semester, you will complete one individual oral presentation. Presentation will take place during class time. The information you will present during the in-class presentation will provide some of the content for the face-to-face oral exam you will have with your instructor at the end of the semester. Your instructor will provide further details during the semester.

OUT-OF-CLASS ACTIVITIES

Out-of-class activities are meant to make you practice vocabulary and reemploy in real life situations the linguistic structures learned in class. Possible out of class activities include: using a local library; interviewing people around the city; visiting and commenting an art exhibit in a Florence museum. During a special conversation class, you will have the opportunity to meet with Italian students and talk about young people's life in Italy.

COURSE CONTENT

WEEK 1: REVIEW: CAPITOLI 3-7					
Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing yourself Talking about daily activities and hobbies Saying what you like to do in your free time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present tense Adverbs of frequency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing yourself Introduction to the class 	Handout + Scriviamo! <i>Describe yourself, your personality and your hobbies (80 words)</i>	
Tue 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepositions Talking about actions in progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present progressive Prepositions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describing people in piazza Santo Spirito 	Handout	
Wed 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about weekend activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present perfect of regular and irregular verbs Adverbs of time Negative expressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening: <i>Una vacanza in Toscana</i> Interviewing locals about their favorite weekend activities 	Handout	

WEEK 2: REVIEW: CAPITOLI 8-10

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking about Italian and American holiday celebrations • Describing how things used to be • Talking about education and professions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The present perfect (modal and reflexive verbs) • The imperfect • The past progressive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Italian holiday celebrations • Reading: <i>Natale in Italia</i> 	Handout	
Tue 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telling a story in the past • School and university terms • Understanding, describing, and discussing movie scenes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The present perfect vs. the imperfect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Italian school system • Selected scenes from the movies <i>La scuola</i> e <i>Il rosso e il blu</i> • Visit to the <i>Oblate</i> library! 	Handout	
Wed 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities, hobbies and well-being • Parts of the body • Health and wellness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The future • Hypotheticals of probability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Italians and sports 	<p>Scriviamo!</p> <p><i>Describe your childhood and write about an important event during that time. Imagine how you will be in 20 years (100 words).</i></p>	

WEEK 3: CAPITOLI 3-7

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describing houses and furniture Describing the location of people and objects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adverbs/ prepositions of place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural and geographical Italy info – hunt!!! 	Handout	
Tue 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referring to people and things already mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objects pronouns and the Present Perfect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Song: #<i>Fuoric'èil sole</i> by Lorenzo Fragola (Sicilian singer) 	Scriviamo! <i>Write a journal of your stay in Taormina (120 words)</i>	
Wed 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about weekend activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present perfect of regular and irregular verbs Adverbs of time Negative expressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening: <i>Una vacanza in Toscana</i> Interviewing locals about their favorite week-end activities 	Handout	

WEEK 4: TAORMINA STUDY TOUR

WEEK 5: CAPITOLO 11: "CASA DOLCE CASA"

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referring to non-specific people and things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indefinite pronouns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation about the trip to Taormina 	Handout	

Tue 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referring to people and things already mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relative pronouns “che” and “cui” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening: <i>Una casa in Italia</i> 	Handout	
Wed 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit to <i>Palazzo Davanzati!</i> 	Handout	QUIZ ONE

WEEK 6: CAPITOLO 12: “IN CITTÀ”					
Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describing cities and countryside Describing and commenting on different lifestyles Comparing people, things and places 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The comparative (review) and the irregular comparative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life in Florence vs. life in the Chianti countryside 	Handout	
Tue 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describing and comparing stores and public places in the present and in the past 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More about the verb <i>piacere</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: <i>In giro per vetrine</i> 	Handout	
Wed 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Italian cities in the present and in the past 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review: the Imperfect vs. the Present Perfect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit to the <i>Museo del Novecento!</i> 	Handout + Scriviamo! <i>Compare life in your city to life in Florence (140 words).</i>	

WEEK 7: CAPITOLO 12: "CASA DOLCE CASA"

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doing grocery shopping in Florence • Asking and comparing prices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Italian street market: • Visit to <i>Il Mercato Centrale!</i> 	Handout	
Tue 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referring to people and things already mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double object pronouns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: <i>Un'amica a Firenze</i> 	Handout	
Wed 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking about street art 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street art in Florence: Clet signs 	Handout	ORAL PRESENTATION ONE

FALL BREAK

WEEK 9: CAPITOLO 13: "ANDIAMO IN FERIE!"

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressing wishes and desires • Making polite requests • Making suggestions and giving advice • Talking about vacations • Terms related to travel and vacation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The present conditional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Song: <i>50 Special</i> by Lunapop • Reading: <i>Una compagna di viaggio</i> 	Handout	

Tue 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about desires not fulfilled and suggestions not followed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The past conditional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacations and tourism in Italy 	Handout	
Wed 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interviewing Italians about their favorite vacation place 	Scriviamo! <i>Write to your best friend giving suggestions for a vacation in Italy (160 words)</i>	MID-TERM TEST

WEEK 10: CAPITOLO 13: "ANDIAMO IN FERIE!"					
Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making suggestions and giving advice Giving commands and instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The informal imperative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation with Italian students 	Handout	
Tue 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making suggestions and giving advice Giving commands and instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The formal imperative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacations and tourism in Italy Asking for/giving information to reach places 	Handout	
Wed 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Making suggestions and giving advice Giving commands and instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imperative and pronouns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asking for/giving information to reach places 	Handout	

WEEK 11: CAPITOLO 14: "CHI SONO GLI ITALIANI?"

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about Italian society today Explaining how things are done Talking about what people do in general 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Si</i> + verb 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Italian newspapers and magazines Song: <i>In Italia</i> by Fabri Fibra 	Handout	
Tue 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about stereotypes about Italians and Americans Expressing opinions Understanding, describing and discussing a video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The present subjunctive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video: Stereotypes and truths about Italy and Italians 	Handout	
Wed 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	Handout	TEMA

WEEK 12: CAPITOLO 14: "CASA DOLCE CASA"

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about issues in Italian society today Expressing doubt or opinions Expressing desire, necessity, emotions and subjective judgments Talking about Italian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbs and Expressions followed by the subjunctive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immigration in Italy Selected scenes from the movies <i>Nuovo Mondo</i> (2006) e <i>Terraferma</i> (2011) di E. Crialesi Treasure Hunt in Santo Spirito! 	Handout	

	immigration in America and immigration in Italy				
Tue 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about issues in Italian society today Expressing doubt or opinions Expressing desire, necessity, emotions and subjective judgments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More irregular verbs the subjunctive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listening: <i>La storia di Hamid</i> Interviewing Italians about issues in Italian society 	Handout	
Wed 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about issues in Italian society today Expressing doubt or opinions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a/di</i> + infinitive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Italian family today: marriage, divorce, <i>coppie di fatto</i> and legal rights 	Scriviamo! <i>Write an article for a newspaper/ magazine of your city, describing Italian society as you see it (180 words)</i>	QUIZ TWO

WEEK 13: CAPITOLO 15: "CHE LINGUE PARLI?"					
Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The languages of Italy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The past subjunctive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: <i>Brief history of the Italian language</i> Treasure Hunt in Santo Spirito! 	Handout	Deadline to turn in the revised TEMA
Tue 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizing regional varieties of Italian Geosinonims 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subjunctive vs. Indicative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The varieties of Italian Geosinonims 	Handout	

Wed 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about dialects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The imperfect subjunctive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A song in dialect: <i>Nu journo buono</i> by Rocco Hunt Interviewing Italians about language varieties and language learning 	Handout	
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WEEK 14: CAPITOLO 15: "CASA DOLCE CASA"

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking about the language of young people Young people's slang 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hypotheticals of possibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video: <i>Come parlano i giovani italiani?</i> The language of sms 	Handout	
Tue 8	NO CLASS				
Wed 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using Italian gestures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the tenses of indicative and subjunctive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video: <i>I gesti italiani</i> 	Handout	

WEEK 15: CONCLUSION

Date	Communicative functions and vocabulary	Grammar	In- and out-of-class activities and cultural contents	Homework	Exams
Mon 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation: <i>From foreigner to "resident"</i>: thoughts and feelings on a three months Florentine experience 	Handout	

Tue 15				Handout	ORAL FINAL
Wed 16				Handout	WRIT- TEN FINAL

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 onsite syllabus for specific class requirements.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA POLICIES AND 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.