



ITAL 202: Experiencing Perugia: Intermediate Language, Culture, and Reflection II

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Italian Faculty

Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 60

Class Hours: Mo., Tu., We., Th. 10-10:50

Office Hours: TBD, Italian Language Office, first floor Umbra Institute

Course Type: Standard course

Pre-requisites: Two semesters of college level Italian or permission of the Instructor

Course Description

Experiencing Perugia II is an interdisciplinary course that focuses on achieving and strengthening an Intermediate level in cultural and linguistic-communicative competences (speaking, writing, reading and comprehension) regarding main points of clear standard input on familiar and more complex matters regularly encountered in work, school, and leisure and while traveling. At the same time, it asks students to reflect on various aspects of contemporary Perugian life and Italian culture, asking them to analyze their own experience of immersion in a different cultural environment. This course has three pillars: language, culture, and reflection. Advanced Intermediate Italian language instruction is at the core of the class. Students will consolidate fundamentals of the Italian language already learned and be exposed to new grammatical concepts in order to interact on a more sophisticated basis with Italians in various real-world settings. Second, they will use their language learning as a vehicle for delving into the richness and complexity of Italian culture. Third, students reflect on their experiences living in a new culture and understanding how this has impacted their perspective on the United States and their sense of their own identities. Through engaging in interactive assignments, maintaining a reflective course journal, and participating in group activities, students will learn to live in their new environment, build competence and confidence as global citizens, and understand how they can leverage their Perugia experience for their future personal and professional success.

Course Purpose

Students will strengthen and improve upon their skills in speaking, reading, and understanding Italian, study Italian culture and experience it first-hand, and reflect on what they have learned both about Italy, the United States, and themselves through their study abroad experience. At the end of the semester, students should reach the level B2 of the Common European Framework in the four basic competencies: listening, speaking and interacting, reading, and writing.

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of the semester, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate foundational skills in speaking and understanding Italian, including:
 1. *recognizing* and using words and expressions of daily and common use;
 2. *participating in* conversations at a basic level in everyday situations (talking about oneself, asking information, giving and receiving instructions, shopping, reading notices, etc.);
 3. *understanding* short texts (menus, signs, announcements, timetables, notices, recipes, short newspaper articles, etc.);
 4. *composing* short passages about their daily lives and direct experiences.
2. Participate in discussions of contemporary Italian culture.

3. Engage in critical evaluation of their own culture, Italian culture, and other foreign cultures, including:
 1. *articulating* U.S. cultural rules, norms and biases;
 2. *understanding* how their own experiences have shaped their values and priorities;
 3. *knowing* how to respond productively to cultural differences;
 4. *valuing* what is important to members of another culture, including their history, politics, communication styles, economy, beliefs and social practices;
 5. *interpreting* cross-cultural experiences from multiple worldviews and *respecting* the rights and feelings of other cultural groups;
 6. *asking* complex questions about their own culture and other cultures, *seeking out* answers to those questions that reflect multiple cultural perspectives.
4. Understand and articulate the unique benefits of their study abroad experience and anticipate how to leverage those benefits for their future personal and professional success.

Course Materials:

All students are required to purchase their personal copies of the following:

Textbook: Nuovo Espresso Italiano 3: B1, ALMA Edizione (ISBN 9788861826847)

Assessments

Final grades will be based on the following:

Participation (10%)

Class participation grades are based on oral contributions to the collective learning experience of the class.

Participation means active engagement in the course: being consistently prepared for class having carefully read the assigned readings, asking questions, responding to questions, listening attentively to others, and offering your own insights and opinions.

Participation at Tandem (15%)

One of the great advantages students have in studying in Perugia is to make connections with local university students and exchange viewpoints and perspectives. Participation at Tandem and co-curricular events is required.

Online exercises (20%)

Each week will include Moodle links to self-correcting online exercises. You may repeat these exercises as often as you want. Clicking on these exercises will mark them as completed.

Caffè culturale (5%)

At the end of each Unit, the *caffè culturale* asks you to dig a bit deeper into Italian culture. Oftentimes they include, which asks you to reflect on cultural differences. These short activities must be turned in via Moodle and are worth 5% of your final grade.

Videocorso (5%)

At the end of each Unit, the *Videocorso* reinforces new vocabulary and grammatical concepts through a fun, continuing series of videos that are available with and without subtitles. The short accompanying activities must be completed and turned in via Moodle.

Quizzes (15%)

There are five quizzes on Moodle, which you may retake once in order to reinforce vocabulary and key grammatical concepts. If you choose to retake the test, you must spend at least half a day studying between attempts.

Student Report (10%)

Students will prepare a report on a *personaggio storico* in week 13.

Final Exam (20%)

The final exam will assess student mastery of course content during the first half of the semester and the final exam will be cumulative of the entire semester. In addition to a written component, each exam will include an oral component that will assess students' language competency.

Grading

Letter grades for student work are based on the following percentage scale:

Letter Grade Range	Numerical Score Equivalent	Student Performance
A	93% - 100%	Exceptional Excellent
A-	90% - 92%	
B+	87% - 89%	Superior
B	83% - 86%	
B-	80% - 82%	
C+	77% - 79%	Satisfactory
C	73% - 76%	
C-	70% - 72%	
D+	67% - 69%	Low Pass
D	63% - 66%	
D-	60% - 62%	
F	59% or less	Fail (no credit)

Attendance Policy

Class attendance (in person or through live connection) is mandatory. Students are allowed four “free” absences, which do not need to be justified. However, it is considered common courtesy to inform the instructor of your absence when possible. It is the students’ responsibility to keep them in case of real necessity (sickness or any other unforeseen inconvenience that may prevent students from being in class). Each additional absence, unless for a very serious reason, will lower the students’ grade by one grade level (i.e., a final grade of a B+ would be lowered to a B). If students miss class, they are responsible for obtaining class notes from other students and/or for meeting the professor during office hours. It is also the policy of the Institute that any student who has eight or more absences automatically fails the class.

Except in the case of medical emergencies, absences are not accepted when tests are scheduled; tests cannot be made up. Furthermore, scheduled times and dates indicated for exams, quizzes, oral presentations, and any other graded assignments cannot be changed for any reason. Even if more sections of the same class are activated, students may only take exams during the scheduled times and dates for the section they are enrolled in. *Covid-related note:* Should conditions warrant it, the Director may modify the absence policy to include the possibility of remote work, without students being penalized for not being physically present in the classroom.

Academic Integrity

All forms of cheating (i.e., copying during exam either from a fellow student or making unauthorized use of notes) and plagiarism (i.e., presenting the ideas or words of another person for academic evaluation without acknowledging the source) will be handled according to the Institute Academic Policy, which can be found in the Umbra Institute Academic Policies and Conduct Guidelines.

Classroom Policy

Students are expected to follow the policy of the Institute and demonstrate the appropriate respect for the historical premises that the school occupies. Please note that cell phones must be turned off before the beginning of each class.

Week 1

Review of grammar and competencies already studied in previous semesters

Cultura e conversazione: un'escursione alla stazione e al supermercato

Week 2

Review of grammar and competencies already studied in previous semesters

Week 3

Textbook: Unità 1

Cultura e Conversazione: Tandem

Competencies:

- fare delle analogie
- invitare qualcuno a fare qualcosa insieme
- chiedere un parere
- esprimere sorpresa / sollievo / gioia / comprensione
- esprimere un dubbio
- chiedere in prestito
- raccontare un incidente culturale o linguistico
- esprimere la propria opinione
- esprimere accordo/disaccordo

Grammar

- Il trapassato prossimo
- Prima di + infinito
- Il verbo dovere per esprimere un'ipotesi
- I pronomi combinati
- Il prefisso negativo *in-*

Week 4

Textbook: Unità 2

Cultura e Conversazione: visita Museo Tessile + aperitivo al Tempio, 17:00 - 19.00

Competencies

- chiedere aiuto
- lamentarsi
- esprimere speranza
- esprimere disapprovazione
- esprimere desideri
- esprimere un divieto
- chiedere la causa
- motivare
- insistere
- fare progetti
- esprimere una preferenza

- indicare la posizione geografica di un luogo

Grammar:

- Il condizionale passato per esprimere un desiderio irrealizzato
- Le particelle pronominali ci e ne
- Alcuni verbi pronominali
- I pronomi possessivi

Test 1

Week 5

Textbook Unità 3

Cultura e Conversazione colazione e visita della Società Operaia di Mutuo Soccorso, ore 9.00

Competencies

- descrivere un prodotto
- descrivere un oggetto, dirne il materiale, l'utilità e le caratteristiche
- chiedere / dare conferma di un'intenzione
- dire la causa
- fare una supposizione
- esprimere emozioni e stati d'animo
- esprimere il timore
- esprimere una condizione
- fare un reclamo
- esprimere un dubbio
- scusare / giustificarsi
- dare la colpa

Grammar

- Il congiuntivo passato
- Ripasso del congiuntivo
- La concordanza dei tempi e dei modi (I)
- Il suffisso -accio
- A patto che, purché, a condizione che + congiuntivo
- Gli avverbi in -mente

Week 6

Textbook: Unità 4

Cultura e Conversazione: martedì 2 novembre, lezione di cucina

Competencies:

- esprimersi in modo adeguato al mezzo di comunicazione
- fare paragoni
- dare una spiegazione
- iniziare una conversazione telefonica
- offrire aiuto o disponibilità
- chiedere di una persona
- segnalare un errore
- riferire le parole di una terza persona
- trascrivere un messaggio lasciato da una persona

Grammar:

- Il congiuntivo imperfetto
- *Come se* + congiuntivo
- Il discorso indiretto
- I verbi andare e venire nel discorso indiretto

Week 7

Textbook: Unità 5

Competencies:

- raccontare la trama di un libro
- esprimere interesse /disinteresse /preferenza
- dare un suggerimento
- chiedere la ragione e spiegare
- esprimere interesse
- dare un giudizio

Grammar

- La costruzione che io sappia
- La concordanza dei tempi e dei modi (II)
- La forma passiva con essere e con venire
- Il passato remoto
- Il presente storico

Test 2**SEMESTER BREAK****Week 8**

Textbook: Unità 6

Cultura e Conversazione: visita al Museo del Vetro + aperitivo al Numero Zero, ore 17.00

Competencies:

- introdurre un nuovo argomento con una domanda
- argomentare, chiedere conferma e confermare
- indicare le ragioni di una tesi
- commentare una statistica
- indicare le conseguenze di un fatto
- motivare
- indicare vantaggi e svantaggi di una condizione

Grammar:

- Sebbene, nonostante, malgrado, benché + congiuntivo; anche se + indicativo
- Comparativi e superlativi particolari
- Fare + infinito
- La forma impersonale di un verbo riflessivo (*ci si*)

Week 9

Textbook: Unit 7

Cultura e conversazione: Tandem

Competencies:

- indicare la mancanza di voglia di fare qualcosa
- esplicitare il proprio dissenso
- ammettere la ragione dell'interlocutore
- prendere in giro
- fare dell'ironia
- ricordare a qualcuno una promessa fatta
- esprimere preferenze
- raccontare una brutta figura
- dare consigli
- fare delle ipotesi
- parlare del proprio comportamento in determinate situazioni

Grammar

- L'avverbio *mica*
- Il condizionale passato come futuro nel passato
- Il periodo ipotetico del II tipo (possibilità)

Test 3

Week 10

Textbook: Unit 8

Competencies:

- raccontare la vita di un personaggio storico
- raccontare un viaggio
- esprimere incredulità
- interrompere

Grammar

- Il gerundio modale e temporale
- Gli aggettivi in -bile
- La terza persona plurale in funzione impersonale
- La posizione dei pronomi con il gerundio

Week 11

Textbook: Unit 9

Cultura e conversazione: Tandem

Competencies

- fare una domanda in modo indiretto
- informarsi sulle caratteristiche di un luogo
- chiedere ulteriori spiegazioni
- chiedere e fornire informazioni
- chiedere conferma
- riportare quello che ha detto un'altra persona
- segnalare le bellezze di un luogo
- esprimere il proprio disappunto

Grammatica

- La frase interrogativa indiretta
- Il discorso indiretto con frase principale al passato
- *prima che* - *prima di*

Week 13

Un personaggio Storico: Student Report

Il vocabolario del cinema

Cultura e conversazione: Movie Night

Week 13

Textbook: Unit 10

Competencies

- parlare dei propri errori linguistici
- ironizzare
- attenuare / invitare ad attenuare il tono di una discussione
- esprimere un netto disaccordo
- fare delle ipotesi nel passato
- riflettere sull'apprendimento linguistico

Grammar

- parlare dei propri errori linguistici
- ironizzare
- attenuare / invitare ad attenuare il tono di una discussione
- esprimere un netto disaccordo
- fare delle ipotesi nel passato
- riflettere sull'apprendimento linguistico

Week 14

Review: Unità 1-10

Week 15

Final Examination