



ITAL 201: Experiencing Perugia:
Intermediate Language, Culture, and Reflection I
Course Syllabus
Spring Semester 2022

Instructor: Elena Cavicchi, M.A.

Credits: 4

Contact Hours: 60

Class Hours:

Office Hours:

Course Type: Standard course

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

Lab Fee:

Course Description

Experiencing Perugia I 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 B1 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:
 - a. *recognizing* and using words and expressions of daily and common use;
 - b. *participating in* conversations at a basic level in everyday situations (talking about oneself, asking information, giving and receiving instructions, shopping, reading notices, etc.);
 - c. *understanding* short texts (menus, signs, announcements, timetables, notices, recipes, short newspaper articles, etc.);
 - d. *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:
 - a. *articulating* U.S. cultural rules, norms and biases;
 - b. *understanding* how their own experiences have shaped their values and priorities;
 - c. *knowing* how to respond productively to cultural differences;
 - d. *valuing* what is important to members of another culture, including their history, politics, communication styles, economy, beliefs and social practices;
 - e. *interpreting* cross-cultural experiences from multiple worldviews and *respecting* the rights and feelings of other cultural groups;
 - f. *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:
QuiItalia, beginner edition (A1 to A2/B1), Le Monnier (ISBN 978-8800802680)

Assessments

Final grades will be based on the following:

Attendances in class (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 and "solo italiano" (10%)

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.

Participating in class with completed homework (15%)

Weekly quizzes (15%)

Test di passaggio (20%)

There is one **test di passaggio** 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.

Final Exams (30%)

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
A-	90% - 92%	Excellent
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

Absences for Covid-related circumstances: in order to keep the entire Umbra community healthy and to comply with local laws, you may not enter the Umbra premises if you have a temperature of 37.5 °C (99.5 °F) or higher. For all students who display any relevant symptoms, the procedure will be the following:

1. avoid going to class;
2. immediately notify the Student Services staff;
3. be prepared to get tested for COVID at a local pharmacy within the day.

The following additional conditions apply:

- Students may attend classes remotely and without academic penalty via Zoom or Skype but only if they are waiting for the test to be scheduled or performed.
- Students with a positive test result (or who have been in close contact with someone who tested positive) must follow all applicable quarantine or isolation requirements and may attend classes remotely, without academic penalty.
- Students with a negative test result are allowed to attend class in person.

It is Institute policy that students with symptoms be tested. Any student refusing testing will not be admitted to the Institute under any circumstances and any absences will not be considered eligible for an extra absence for any classes missed. In other words, refusing a test and staying in one's apartment is considered an unexcused absence.

Class attendance (in person or through live connection) is mandatory. Students are allowed two "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).

Additional absences relating to illness may be approved by the Academic Director but only if a medical certification is provided.

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.

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: Feb. 7, 8, 9, 10

Textbook: Unit 4-5

Quiz on Moodle

Competencies:

- Chiedere e dire l'ora
- Chiedere e dare informazioni sugli orari
- Parlare delle proprie abitudini
- Chiedere e dare informazioni per darsi appuntamento
- Parlare del proprio tempo libero
- Formulare, accettare e rifiutare un invito
- Esprimere volontà
- Esprimere obbligo o necessità

Grammar:

- ripasso presente indicativo
- verbi modali
- preposizioni
- avverbi di frequenza

Week 2: Feb. 14, 15, 16 17

Textbook: Unit 6

Quiz on Moodle

Competencies:

- Chiedere di raccontare e raccontare al passato
- Raccontare la biografia di qualcuno

Grammar:

- passato prossimo
- passato prossimo riflessivi
- espressioni di tempo al passato

Week 3: Feb. 21, 22, 23, 24

Textbook: Unit 7

Quiz on Moodle

Competencies

- Chiedere per avere
- Chiedere e dare informazioni
- Chiedere di raccontare e raccontare al passato

Grammar

- Grammatica: scelta dell'ausiliare nel passato prossimo dei verbi iniziare, finire, ecc...

Week 4: Feb. 28, 1, 2, 3

Textbook: Unit 8

Quiz on Moodle

Competencies

- Chiedere e dire il prezzo
- Chiedere il permesso
- Chiedere una quantità
- Chiedere qualcosa in modo gentile
- Chiedere e dare informazioni su un'azione in un momento preciso
- Chiedere di raccontare e raccontare al passato

Grammar

- Pronomi diretti
- Ne partitivo
- *Ce l'ho*
- le forme: *ci vuole, ci vogliono*

Week 5: March 7, 8, 9, 10

Review week : Ripasso, presente, passato prossimo e pronomi

*****March 10 - Midterm Examination*****

Week 6: March 14, 15, 16, 17

Textbook: Unit 10

Quiz on Moodle

Competencies:

- Raccontare al passato
- Descrivere al passato
- Ricordare
- Descrivere abitudini al passato
- Fare confronti (tra il presente e il passato)Grammatica: imperfetto, espressioni di tempo relative al passato (una volta, da bambino, all'epoca...

Grammar:

- imperfetto
- espressioni di tempo relative al passato (*una volta, da bambino, all'epoca...*)

*****March 17-27, Friday-Sunday: Semester break*****

Week 7: March 28, 29, 30, 31

Textbook: Unit 9

Quiz on Moodle

Cultura e Conversazione: March 30 - TANDEM! Tandem is your chance to get to know Italian students and have a relaxed, semi-structured conversation with them.

Competencies:

- Chiedere ed esprimere i propri gusti
- Esprimere gradimento e non gradimento

Grammar

- pronomi indiretti
- presente e passato del verbo piacere

Week 8: Apr. 4, 5, 6, 7

Textbook: Unit 11

Quiz on Moodle

Competencies:

- Esprimere un desiderio
- Chiedere e dare consigli
- Dare informazioni (esempio: in un annuncio)

Grammar

- Il Condizionale semplice

Week 9: Apr 11, 12, 13, 14

Textbook: Unit 13

Quiz on Moodle

Competencies:

- Richiamare l'attenzione
- Chiedere e dare informazioni
- Dare indicazioni stradale
- Dare istruzioni
- Dare consigli

Grammar

- Imperativo diretto e indiretto, imperativo negativo, imperativo con pronomi

Week 10: Apr 18, 19, 20, 21

Ripasso generale

*****Finale Exam*****