ITAL 301: Perugia and Beyond:
Advanced Grammar, Conversation and Cultural Reflection

Course Syllabus

Spring Semester 2022

Instructor: Livia Matarazzo, M.A.
Credits: 4
Contact Hours: 60
Class Hours:
Office Hours: Italian Faculty Office, first floor, Umbra Institute
Email:
Course Type: Standard course
Pre-requisites: 4 semesters of college level language instruction of permission of the instructor
Lab Fee:

Course Description
Perugia and Beyond: Advanced Grammar, Conversation and Cultural Reflection is an interdisciplinary course that focuses on achieving and strengthening an Advanced level in cultural and linguistic-communicative competences (speaking, writing, reading and comprehension) regarding a wide variety of topics. 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 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 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 or 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:
   a. Understanding a wide range of demanding, longer clauses, and recognize implicit meaning.
   b. Expressing ideas fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions.
   c. Using language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes.
   d. Producing clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

2. Convey their understanding of contemporary political and economic issues in Italy

3. Participate in sophisticated discussions of contemporary Italian culture.

4. 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.

5. 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:
QuiItaliana, intermediate (B1), Le Monnier (ISBN 978-8800802680)

Assessments
Final grades will be based on the following:

Participating in class with completed homework (15%)

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.
Weekly quizzes (15%)

Test di passaggio (20%)
There is one test di passaggio on Moodle, which you 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 Exam (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:

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

**Note:** This course may have one or more meetings in the didactic garden located in Via delle Prome 17.
### Week 1: Feb 7, 8, 9, 10

**Review Week**

**Textbook:** Unit 1

Quiz on Moodle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competencies</th>
<th>Grammar</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Chiedere e dare informazioni (su sé stessi)</td>
<td>- Ripresa del passato prossimo e imperfetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Chiedere e dire le proprie preferenze</td>
<td>- Ripresa dei pronomi</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Esprimere gradimento e non gradimento</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Esprimere capacità e incapacità</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Fare paragoni</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Raccontare</td>
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### Week 2: Feb 14, 15, 16, 17

**Textbook:** Unit 2

Quiz on Moodle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competencies</th>
<th>Grammar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Chiedere di raccontare e raccontare al passato (esperienze personali e di amici)</td>
<td>- Passato prossimo e imperfetto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Esprimere emozioni e stati d'animo al passato</td>
<td>- Trapassato prossimo</td>
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### Week 3: Feb 21, 22, 23, 24

**Textbook:** Unit 3

Quiz on Moodle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competencies</th>
<th>Grammar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Esprimere desideri realizzabili e non realizzabili</td>
<td>- Verbi modali con il passato prossimo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Dare consigli</td>
<td>- Condizionale semplice e composto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Week 4: Feb 28, Mar 1, 2, 3

Textbook: Unit 6
Quiz on Moodle

Competencies:
▪ Chiedere di descrivere e descrivere (sintomi)
▪ Dare consigli
▪ Dare istruzioni

Grammar:
▪ Ripresa dell'imperativo (informale e formale)
▪ Imperativo con i pronomi
▪ Imperativo negativo

Week 5: Mar 7, 8, 9, 10

Textbook: Unit 8
Quiz on Moodle

Ripasso

***March 10 – Midterm Examination***

Week 6: Mar 14, 15, 16, 17

Textbook: Unit 9
Quiz on Moodle

Competencies:
▪ Esprimere opinioni, speranze e stati d'animo
▪ Esprimere necessità

Grammar:
▪ Il congiuntivo presente e passato
▪ Concordanza dei tempi

***March 17-27, Friday-Sunday: Semester Break***
### Week 7: Mar 28, 29, 30, 31

**Textbook:** Unit Unit 10, Handouts Intro congiuntivo imperfetto  
**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:**
- Esprimere probabilità/possibilità  
- Esprimere dubbi  
- Fare supposizioni  

**Grammar:**
- Congiuntivo presente e passato  
- Congiuntivo imperfetto e trapassato  
- Concordanza dei tempi  

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

**Textbook:** Handouts  
**Quiz on Moodle**

**Competencies:**
- Fare delle ipotesi  

**Grammar**
- Il periodo ipotetico  

### Week 9: Apr 11, 12, 13, 14

**Textbook:** Handouts  
**Quiz on Moodle**  
**Cultura e Conversazione** 14 April - TANDEM! Tandem is your chance to get to know Italian students and have a relaxed, semi-structured conversation with them.

**Competencies:**
- Raccontare  
- Scrivere e leggere biografie  

**Grammar**
- Ripasso dell'indicativo  
- Passato remoto  

### Week 10: 19, 20, 21, 22

**General Review**  

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**Final Examination**