

GONZAGA-IN-FLORENCE SYLLABUS

Course: ITA 101 Elementary Italian I
Credits: 4 Credits
Instructor: G. Russo



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Course Description

In this course students will develop the basic language skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking in order to communicate successfully in Italian.

In addition there will be a focus on achieving “cultural competency”, by studying such topics as elementary Italian Geography, the Italian School system and the Italian family.

Texts adopted for this elementary course of Italian are written in Italian by Italian authors. They are obviously updated as far as Italian culture and style of life are concerned and nicely illustrated. There are simple schemes and tables related to grammar, and with the help of the teacher, students will be able to understand with no difficulty. This kind of textbook does not indulge in technicalities, stressing the direct communication and requesting the students’ skills in creating their own sentences only following certain examples in the exercises that will be the students’ guide-line.

The first semester will stress the communication in the present and past tenses of the “modo indicativo” (presente, passato prossimo) the present tense of “modo condizionale in order to be able to communicate with politeness and to express wishes and probabilities as well as give orders or advices with the use of “modo imperativo” Needless to say that subjects such as “il nome “, “l’articolo”, “l’aggettivo” “il pronome” will be fundamental in the practical approach to the written and spoken language.

Lists of necessary vocabulary will be studied, digested and used in communicating and students will also be stimulated to create their own vocabulary, observing the signs in the streets, the shop windows and whatever else can pair the theories listed in the books.

Exams and quizzes will be written but “class participation” means that also students’ oral performances in class have great importance.

Textbook: “Affresco Italiano” by Trifone, Filippone e Sgaglione
“Praticamente dimmi” by Battaglia and Tarini
Handouts and notes provided by the teacher
Italian-English dictionary

Grading scale: 90/100 = A
81/90 = B
71/80 = C
61/70 = D
Below 60 = E = failure

Grading system:

20% - Class participation, homework, absence
50% - Quizzes
30% - Final Exam

Quizzes & Exams:

Quiz n.1 – Dates to be announced
Quiz n. 2 –
Quiz n..3 -
Quiz n. 4 –

Final Exam – To be announced

Absence Policy:

University policy allows a maximum of 8 absences for a 4 creditcourse. It is however to be noted that a high number of absences will affect the final grade in its “class participation” part. In any case students are responsible for all material covered in class.

Office Hours:

By appointment.