GONZAGA-IN-FLORENCE SYLLABUS
Course: ITA 105 ITALIAN CONVERSATION
Credits: 3 Credits
Instructor: TBD

Office hours: by appointment or simply open door policy

COURSE DESCRIPTION
In the first part of the semester, students will learn how to interact with the Italian environment during everyday life situations, such as:

- going to the open-air markets for grocery shopping
- going shopping and bargaining for clothing and souvenirs
- going to cafes, bars and restaurants
- asking for an information on the street
- visiting new places
- meeting new friends

Also, students will be encouraged to tell and talk about themselves and so, the second part of the course will be focused on conversations and discussions about American and Italian cultures (with their peculiarities and differences).

Field trips and visits in downtown (during class hours) will be integrating part of the course, in order to make immediate use of the material covered in class.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
The main focus of this course is to help students develop the practical skills necessary to use the language in everyday situations and their curiosity for a different society.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
It provides the students with a better knowledge of Italian life-style, social culture and traditions, so that they will read, understand and enjoy better their experience here.

During targeted class activities, students will be placed in situations which are linguistically challenging and culturally new for them, and asked to overcome communication barriers (e.g. speaking to Italians using both verbal and non-verbal forms of communication)

In this way, students will develop and demonstrate an awareness of and empathy toward people who face similar struggles in their environment, language and culture (immigrants, social linguistic minorities...).

The outcome is for students to begin the process of becoming open minded global citizens.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
Students are graded on two oral exams, a weekly composition and class participation
Final : 25%
Mid Term : 20%
Class participation : 30%
Compositions / Presentations : 25%

EXAMS
Oral Midterm Examination to be announced
Oral Final Examination to be announced

GRADING SCALE

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94 – 100</td>
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<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 93</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>F</td>
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ACADEMIC HONESTY
Academic honesty is essential to education and represents the bond of trust between the university, the instructor and the student.

Academic dishonesty is any action by which a student seeks to claim credit for the intellectual effort of another person or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic exercise. It includes unauthorized assistance in tests and examinations; intentionally impeding or damaging the academic work of others; submitting another person’s work as your own, or providing work for this purpose; submitting work of your own that has been substantially edited and revised by another person, or providing such an editing and revision service for others; submitting material from a source (books, articles, internet sites) without proper citation and bibliographic reference; paraphrasing material from a source without appropriate reference and citation; submitting substantially the same piece of work in more than one course without the explicit consent of all the instructors concerned; assisting other students in any of the above acts.
Students who are academically dishonest will receive 0 zero on the work in question or a failing grade for the course as a whole, depending on the importance of the work to the overall course grade and the judgment of the instructor.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES
Documented learning disabilities or other medically certified problems that need special accommodation for any of the student's expected academic performances will be treated with the due attention.

DECORUM
Cell-phones must be off. Food and beverage are not admitted in class, except for bottled water. No technical devices (laptops, I pads etc.) are accepted without teacher permission. Disruptive behavior is not accepted and if repeated it will negatively affect the attendance and participation part of the final grade or may result in removal from the course.

GONZAGA IN FLORENCE ATTENDANCE POLICY
Attendance is taken at the beginning of class from the first day of the semester. The student entering class after attendance is taken has to contact the professor at the end and announce his/her presence. However, this does not mean that coming late is accepted. Two late arrivals may be excused, three turn automatically into an absence and will affect the attendance and participation part of the final grade.

Students can miss one week’s work, irrespective of the course formula (three sessions, two sessions, one session). It is their responsibility to make up for the missed work. If they miss a quiz or a report they are not allowed to have it at another time, unless the absence is for certified medical reasons and the professor and Dean agree.

More than one week’s work missed is going to be penalized as follows:

One extra absence:
1. by lowering the attendance and participation grade as determined by the professor

Two extra absences
2. by lowering the final grade by a whole letter grade

Three extra absences
3. by grading the whole course F

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL LEARNING:
Use Italian as much as possible, even when you know that you would probably be understood just as well using English.

Find Italian friends- Join the organized activities and meet Italian students
Don’t be afraid to make mistakes when speaking

Ask people to repeat when you don’t understand. Ask a lot of questions (in class and after class).

HAVE FUN !! Putting to practice the language you learn in class is exciting and rewarding.