Office hours
By appointment or simply open door policy
Email:

Textbook
*Parliamo italiano* by S.Branciforte and A.Grassi. Houghton Mifflin Company

Daily explanations by the professor will supplement, expand and simplify the material of the textbook, so that students will be assisted in learning the language and culture of Italy

Course description
In this course the student will increase his/her skills in speaking, writing, reading and listening to Italian, while building their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary. We will talk about some aspects of contemporary Italian life and culture; in order to improve reading comprehension skills, once a week we will read an article from a newspaper and converse or discuss about it.

Specific outcomes
Upon successfully completing this course, students should be able to:
- communicate effectively and comfortably in Italian
- define skills expressing desires, doubts, opinions and emotions
- comprehend dialogues and conversations in different communicative situations
- read and comprehend texts dealing with cultural topics as well as current events
- improve skills constructing cohesive written texts on the following topics: descriptions of past experiences and expression of personal plans and ambitions
- Conduct a critical analysis of the new culture and society

Course outline
September
review and deepening the knowledge of the material covered in ITA 102

October
present subjunctive of regular and irregular verbs
conjunctions and the use of subjunctive relative pronouns

November
perfect subjunctive
past perfect

December
past absolute

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
Students are graded on the basis of two exams, two quizzes and class participation. Also, oral presentations will be asked.
All quizzes and exams are cumulative in terms of their content
Final : 25%
Mid Term : 20%
Quizzes (2) : 30%
Class Participation : 15%
Oral presentations : 10%

Quiz n. 1 - T.B.A.
Mid-Term - T.B.A.
Quiz n. 2 - T.B:A:
Final Exam - T.B.A.

Homework: students are expected to complete all the assigned homework in order to be well prepared for each class.

Significance for the final grade of attendance and participation
A: the student has no absence, is punctual and respectful with the professors and the classmates, is always prepared for class (has done the reading and writing assignments); He/she actively participates in class activities.

B i the student is respectful and punctual, is prepared for class, participates in class activities and has a good level of understanding and an appropriate use of language.

C i the student is not always prepared for class. He/she has a minimal participation.

Grading scale:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94 – 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 93</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84 – 86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 83</td>
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<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td>C-</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 – 69</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>below 65</td>
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**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

**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.

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.