ITAL 300
Italian: Advanced Conversation
Spring 2011

Plan of Work

January 17, M ☺ Martin Luther King Jr. Day Recess
January 19, W ● Introduzione al corso

January 24, M ● Per Cominciare (2-9)
January 26, W ● Per Cominciare (10-18)

January 31, M ● Capitolo 1 (20-26)
February 2, W ● Capitolo 1 (27-35)

February 7, M ● Capitolo 1 (35-40)
February 9, W ● Capitolo 1 (41-42)

February 14, M ● Capitolo 2 (44-51) ► Test 1
February 16, W ● Capitolo 2 (52-60)

February 21, M ☺ President’s Day Recess
February 23, W ● Capitolo 2 (61-66)

February 28, M ● Capitolo 2 (67-68)
March 2, W ● Capitolo 3 (70-77) ► Test 2

March 7, M ● Capitolo 3 (77-88)
March 9, W ● Capitolo 3 (88-97)

March 14, M ☺ Spring Break Recess
March 16, W ☺ Spring Break Recess

March 21, M ● Capitolo 3 (98)
March 23, W ● Capitolo 4 (100-105) ► Test 3

March 28, M ● Capitolo 4 (106-116)
March 30, W ● Capitolo 4 (116-125)

April 4, M ● Capitolo 4 (126-127)
April 6, W ● Capitolo 5 (129-137) ► Test 4
April 11,      M  • Capitolo 5 (138-147)
April 13,      W  • Capitolo 5 (147-157)

April 18,      M  • Capitolo 5 (158)
April 20,      W  • Capitolo 6 (160-167) ► Test 5

April 25,      M  • Capitolo 6 (168-181)
April 27,      W  • Capitolo 6 (181-189)

May 2,         M  • Capitolo 6 (190)
May 4,         W  • Ripasso

May 9,         M  ► Esame Finale  (10:10a.m. - 12:10p.m.)

Course Description

The course will be organized around a series of topics related to Italy and Italian life taken from a cultural reader. The class will be conducted entirely in Italian.

Objectives

This course, designed for third-year level students, stresses oral self-expression in Italian. Its main goal is to develop two of the students’ basic skills – listening and speaking - and to bring those skills to an intermediate/advanced level. This is to be attained through a series of conversations and presentations based on selected readings and recordings. Readings and recordings are culture-oriented, since language skills are directly linked to cultural awareness. Through the required readings, relevant exercises, and class presentations students will be able to considerably enhance and expand their knowledge of Italian vocabulary while improving their communicative abilities. The course presumes that students already possess an intermediate knowledge of Italian grammar, and therefore it has no grammatical component per se. Grammatical points, however, will be discussed if needed.

Evaluation and Grading Distribution

Evaluation will be based on participation, presentations, attendance, and proficiency tests. Special consideration will be given to the linguistic improvements achieved by the students during the course of the semester. The final grade will be calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tests</th>
<th>20%</th>
<th>Final exam</th>
<th>20%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class presentations</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Attendance/Class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-88</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>87-84</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>83-80</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79-78</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>77-74</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>73-70</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>D-</td>
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General Guidelines

Attendance. Attendance is the essential part of a conversation class. Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to come to class regularly, on time, and to participate in all class activities. They are allowed two absences. Each additional absence will result in the loss of 2% from their 20% class participation.

Class presentations. Students are expected to give six class presentations on the topics covered during the course, based on the sections Parlando del tema in the textbook. Each presentation counts for 5% of the final grade.

Test and final exam. There will be five short tests administered during the semester, aimed at ascertaining vocabulary acquisition and listening comprehension. Each test counts for 4% of the final grade. NO MAKEUPS ALLOWED. A missed test counts zero points. The final exam is also intended to ascertain the same type of skills and may include any material covered in class during the semester. A missed final counts zero points.

Textbook and other class materials

Audio CD Program (available at the Resource Language Center, in FDH 237)

Useful Websites

Italian newspapers and news organizations

- La Repubblica [www.repubblica.it]
- La Stampa [www.lastampa.it]
- Corriere della Sera [www.corriere.it]
- Il Manifesto [www.mir.it]
- L’Avvenire [www.avvenire.it]
- CNN ITALIA [www.cnnitalia.it]
- DADA MEDIA [dr.dada.it]
- INFOCITY [www.mclink.it/n/infocity/]
- SUPEREVA [www.supereva.it/welcframe.shtml]
- ANSA [www.ansa.it]

Italian Magazines

- L’Espresso [www.espressoedit.kataweb.it]
- Panorama [www.mondadori.com/panorama]

General reference

- The Italian Embassy [www.italyemb.org]
- General Subject Tree [http://www.mi.cnr.it/IGST/]
- Italian Studies [www.emory.edu/COLLEGE/ITALIAN/links/Comprehensive_Italian_Sites/]
- Il sussidiario [http://www.sussidiario.it]
- Yahoo! [http://it.yahoo.com]

Italian Radio and Television

- Italia Radio [www.italiaradio.kataweb.it]
- Rai [www.rai.it]
- Radio Capital [http://www.capital.kataweb.it]

Learning Enhancement Services (LES) houses Disability Services, Learning Strategies and Supplemental Instruction. If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact LES for coordination in your academic accommodations. LES is located in the Reynolds Student Service Complex, suite 137. The phone is 702-895-0866, or TDD 702-895-0652. You may also visit our website at [www.unlv.edu/studentlife/les]

Feel free to come and see me whenever you need help!