

Virginia Commonwealth University
School of World Studies
Elementary Italian – 17225 – Ital 102 - 002
<http://www.has.vcu.edu/wld/academics/minors/italian/italian.htm>

Language Course Director : Dr. Bernardo Picichè, PhD
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Instructor: Vera Di Trocchio – Abbate
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Office hours: T-R : 10:00 – 10:45 (by appointment)
Class meeting: MWF – Business Building 5162 – 11:00-11:50
TR – Business Building 5167 – 11:00-11:50

Instructional Objectives

At the end of this Elementary Italian 102 course students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a basic understanding of Italian spelling and pronunciation;
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of part of the Italian grammar and syntax
- Participate in simple conversations on topics on everyday situations such as work, education, food, time, weather... (reinforced through in-class group activities).
- Demonstrate basic reading comprehension skills (in-class or homework reading assignments-from textbook or internet sites; quizzes and tests).
- Demonstrate basic knowledge of Italian geography, history, culture and daily life activities.

Textbook:

Daniela Melia. **Pronti...via! Beginning Italian.** Yale University Press. 2005.

About the course: Italian 102 is a course for beginning students of the Italian language. After successful completion of this course, students may take ITAL 201, 202, 205, 300, 320, 330, and 391 here or in Perugia (Italy) to complete the requirement for Italian Minor. Elementary Italian is taught in Italian.

Class attendance is mandatory and will be marked every day. Regular attendance and participation in class activities are essential for learning a foreign language. In order to make progress in understanding and speaking Italian, students must hear and speak it on a daily basis. Therefore, prepare carefully for class by completing all assignments in

advance, and be ready to participate in class. If you have been absent, contact a classmate, the instructor or check blackboard to find out the assignments that you missed.

The number of absences, either excused or unexcused, must not exceed **5 absences for classes meeting 5 times per week**. Instructors ARE NOT REQUIRED to give reminders of attendance status to each student.

Homework. Students are expected to spend at least four (4) hours (per credit) doing homework. Homework will be regularly assigned and corrected in class. Late assignments will not receive a grade. Students should find out about assigned homework given in a day that they have been absent.

Partecipation. Students receive a grade for participation based on their in-class interaction with other class members and with the instructor, and their willingness to speak Italian as much as possible.

Quizzes. Vocabulary, grammar, spelling exercises, compositions and culture will be tested. There will be a quiz every week and the final test at the end of the semester.

Make-up quizzes and tests are not allowed.

Compositions. Three compositions will be assigned during the semester. The instructor will mark the mistakes in the rough compositions (first draft), but he/she will not provide the exact correction: students must find the error. The rewritten composition (final draft) will be graded and the mistakes will be explained.

Oral presentation. Students will work in group of three or four to perform an oral presentation for their classmates at the end of the semester. The date of the performance will be given you during the month of October by the Instructor. First each group will select and discuss the topic with the instructor. Then students can work on the chosen subject and make an oral presentation (not a reading presentation). Each student will be graded based on the vocabulary and pronunciation of the performance. Again, no reading from a script, please.

Final exam : The final exam will cover all the grammar, vocabulary and culture topics that have been taught in class during the semester. The final exam date is Monday, **December 10th from 8:00pm to 10:30** in regular meeting rooms.

Grading scale

A (90-100)

B (80-89)

C (70-79)

D (60-69)

F (59 and below)

Grading criteria:

Homework, attendance and participation	20%
Quizzes	25%
3 Compositions	10%
Lab activity - Oral presentation	20%
Final Exam	25%

Calendario di lavoro [Note: In Italian titles do not capitalize all words]**Settimana (week) del 23 agosto (August)**

G: Ripasso (Overview)

V: Ripasso

Settimana del 27 agosto

L: Ripasso

M: Ripasso - passato prossimo

M: Capitolo 7

G: Correzione esercizi

V: 31/8 Quiz 1

Settimana del 3 settembre (September 3rd is a national holiday)

M: Capitolo 7 – Imperfetto

M: Capitolo 7

G: Capitolo 7 – correzione esercizi

V: 7/9 Quiz 2

Settimana del 10 settembre

L: Capitolo 7 – Imperfetto e passato prossimo

M: Capitolo 7

M: Capitolo 7

G: Capitolo 7 – correzione esercizi

V: 14/9 Quiz 3

Settimana del 17 settembre

L: Capitolo 7 – Imperfetto e passato prossimo

M: Capitolo 7

M: Capitolo 7

G: Capitolo 7 – Correzione esercizi

V: 21/9 Quiz 4

Settimana del 24 settembre

L: Capitolo 8 – Passato e Comparativi di maggioranza e minoranza

M: Capitolo 8

M: Capitolo 8

G: Capitolo 8 – correzione esercizi

V: 28/9 Quiz 5

Settimana del 1 ottobre

L: Capitolo 8
M: Capitolo 8
M: Capitolo 8
G: Capitolo 8
V: 5/10 Quiz 6

Settimana del 8 ottobre

L: Capitolo 9 - Impeativo
M: Capitolo 9
M: Capitolo 9
G: Capitolo 9
V: Capitolo 9 – correzione esercizi

Settimana del 15 ottobre (18 and 19 no classes)

L: Capitolo 9
M: Capitolo 9
M: 17/10 Quiz 7

Settimana del 22 ottobre

L: Capitolo 10 – Futuro
M: Capitolo 10
M: Capitolo 10
G: Capitolo 10 – correzione esercizi
V: 26/10 Quiz 8

Settimana del 29 ottobre

L: Capitolo 10 – Condizionale
M: Capitolo 10
M: Capitolo 10
G: Capitolo 10 – correzione esercizi
V: 2/11 Quiz 9

Settimana del 5 novembre

L: Capitolo 11 – Pronomi doppi – Ripasso pronomi diretti e indiretti
M: Capitolo 11
M: Capitolo 11
G: Capitolo 11 – correzione esercizi
V: 9/11 Quiz 10

Settimana del 12 novembre

L: Capitolo 11
M: Capitolo 11
M: Capitolo 11
G: Capitolo 11 – correzione esercizi
V: 16/11 Quiz 11

Settimana del 19 novembre (22-23 no classes – no quiz)

Presentazioni orali
Presentazioni orali
Laboratorio

Settimana del 26 novembre

Ripasso – Presentazioni orali

Settimana del 3 dicembre

Ripasso

Test Finale: Mon - Dec 10th - 8:00-10:50 - in regular meeting rooms

In bocca al lupo!