

**Virginia Commonwealth University**  
**School of World Studies**  
**Italian@VCU**

<http://www.has.vcu.edu/wld/academics/minors/italian/italian.htm>

**Syllabus for Italian 101**

**Instructor:** Paola Carlucci

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Office hours: by appointment in room 316 in the School of World Studies

Class meeting: MWF, 11-11:50, Oliver Hall 4063

TR, 11-11:50, Oliver Hall 4084

**Instructional Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of Italian spelling and pronunciation (assessment: Homework; oral participation in class; oral comprehension quizzes; dictations).
2. Demonstrate a basic understanding of part of the Italian grammar and syntax (assessment: Homework--workbook; essay; quizzes).
3. Participate in simple conversations about everyday situations such as work, education, food, time, weather... (reinforced through in-class group activities).
4. Demonstrate basic reading comprehension skills (in-class or homework reading assignments from textbook).
5. Demonstrate some knowledge of Italian geography, history, culture and daily life.

**Textbook Information:**

Lazzarino, Dini, Peccianti; *Prego!* 7<sup>th</sup> ed., McGraw Hill (with relative Workbook and Lab Manual).

**About the course:**

\*Italian 101 is a course for beginners. After successful completion of this two courses, students may take ITAL 102, 201, 202, 205, 30 , 320, 330, 391 here or in Italy (Perugia) to complete the requirement for Italian Minor. Elementary Italian is conducted in Italian.

\***Class attendance** is mandatory and will be marked every day.. Three tardies (more than 15 minutes) will count as one absence.

**The number of absences must not exceed: 8, or 10 points will be taken off of your final grade.**

\***Homework.** Students are expected to spend at least two (2) hours (per week) doing homework. Written exercises: late assignments will receive a lower grade.

**\*CLASS PARTICIPATION.** Students receive a grade for participation based upon their in-class interaction with other class members and with the instructor, and their willingness to speak Italian as much as possible.

**"A"** Pays close attention to grammar and vocabulary explanations, and asks questions for clarification; shows initiative by participating fully and actively at all times and in all class activities; often takes leadership role in small group activities in class; does all homework thoroughly; and is respectful of classmates and their responses.

**"B"** Pays close attention to class explanations and answers readily; tries to participate in all class activities; usually does homework thoroughly; participates in all group activities, though not necessarily as a leader; and is respectful of classmates and their responses.

**"C"** Is more passive than students described above; cooperates in group and other types of activities; does homework; and is respectful of classmates and their responses.

**"D"** Participates grudgingly and unenthusiastically; generally does not participate actively in-group activities; often comes to class unprepared.

**"F"** Is usually unprepared and uninterested in class; is disruptive and/or prevents others from learning or participating by talking, laughing, passing notes, reading magazines, etc.; is disrespectful of students and instructor.

**\*Quizzes.** Vocabulary, grammar, dictations, translations, compositions and culture. There will be a quiz on the following Mondays: Sept. 10, Sept. 17, Oct. 1, Oct. 15, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, Nov. 26. NO MAKE UP QUIZ ALLOWED.

**\*Compositions.** Students will have to hand in three compositions (60, 90, and 120 words each, respectively) during the semester. Each composition must be on a different topic, chosen by the student. Composition 1 is due on Sept. 28. Composition 2 is due on Oct. 30. Composition 3 is due on Nov. 30.

**\*Oral presentations.** At the end of the semester each student will select and present a topic among those suggested by the teacher. Part of the presentation will be prepared in the language lab. No reading from a script, please. Points will be taken off for reading. The oral presentations will take place in class during the last two weeks of classes.

**\*Italian films:** Students are encouraged to see an Italian opera or film in the language lab on their own time, and to write a brief report on it, **for extra credit**. Videos and DVD are available at the Language Lab.

**\* Language Lab Activities:** Beginning from Sept. 7, the class will meet in the language lab on Fridays to work on the *Online Learning Center* at [www.mhhe.com/prego7](http://www.mhhe.com/prego7) or other possible online audio-visual activities. Please sign in every time you visit the language lab.

**\*Final exam** (comprehensive). Oral Comprehension, Grammar, Culture. The final exam will take place on Mon., Dec. 10 from 8 to 10:50.

**\*Grading criteria:**

Class attendance and participation	20%
Quizzes	25%
Composition	10%
Lab Activities and Oral Presentation	20%
Final Exam	25%

**Calendario di lavoro.**  
(Temptative work schedule)

**August 23-25:**

Greetings, introductions, the Italian alphabet , numbers, the calendar (Capitolo preliminare).

**Settimana (week) del 27 agosto (August):** Chapter 1 from page 18 to 25.

**Settimana del 3 settembre (Sept.):** Chapter 1, pages 26-35.

**Settimana del 10 settembre:** Chapter 2.

**Settimana del 17 settembre:** Chapter 3, pages 56-64.

**Settimana del 24 settembre:** Chapter 3, pages 65-73.

**Settimana del primo ottobre:** Chapter 4, pages 76-84.

**Settimana dell'8 ottobre:** Chapter 4, pages 84-93.

**Settimana del 15 ottobre:** Chapter 5, pages 99-108.

**Settimana del 22 ottobre:** Chapter 5, pages 109-119.

**Settimana del 29 ottobre:** Chapter 6, pages 122-130.

**Settimana del 5 novembre:** Chapter 6, pages 131-139.

**Settimana del 12 novembre:** Chapter 7.

**Settimana del 19 novembre:** Review chapter 7 and videoteca, page 157.

**Settimana del 26 novembre:** Review and movie showing and discussion.

**Settimana del 3 dicembre:** Review, and oral presentations.