



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

ITAL 201 L01  
BEGINNERS' ITALIAN I  
Fall 2022  
MoWeFr 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM – in person (Room CHE 114)  
COURSE OUTLINE

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Dr. Eleonora Buonocore

**OFFICE HOURS:** M 10-11 am and W 1pm – 2pm or by appointment (Please use email. Zoom appointments are welcome) in CHC 320

**E-MAIL:** [Eleonora.buonocore@ucalgary.ca](mailto:Eleonora.buonocore@ucalgary.ca)

*I will try my best to give a timely response, but as a policy, I will respond to e-mails within 48 hours during weekdays and within 72 hours during weekends*

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 403.220.4424

**DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed for students with no previous knowledge of the language and it provides the basic skills in the comprehension, speaking, reading, writing of Italian. Emphasis will be on developing the students' communicative competence and in learning basic grammatical structures as well as introducing them to Italian culture through the use of authentic material, including songs, short videos, etc. There will also be an experiential learning component. This is a in person course and regular attendance is warmly encouraged.

**NO PREREQUISITES**

**ANTEREQUISITES:** Not open to students with credit in Italian 30 or equivalent.

**OBJECTIVES**

This course aims to prepare the students:

- to understand familiar words and basic sentences, concerning themselves and a variety of familiar topics (e.g. family, travel, food, some current events, technology, professions, etc.) when people speak slowly and clearly.
- to read short, simple texts. The students will be able to utilize reading strategies to find specific, predictable information in everyday materials such as advertisements, short online videos, menus and brief personal communications.
- to use the target language with a basic level of conversational fluency on familiar topics. The students will be able to ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics. They will be able to request simple information and to order simple food. In addition, they will be able to describe where they live and people they know.
- to write short, simple messages dealing with everyday issues. The students will be able to describe, in basic sentences, themselves, their friends and family, their immediate surroundings, and their daily routines.



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- to give examples of the relationship between language and culture. The students will be able to identify some characteristics of the target language culture(s) and distinguish patterns from stereotypes. They will begin to note similarities and differences between target cultures and their own.
- to reflect on the experience of learning a new language and on different pedagogies. The students will begin to identify their personal learning style.

**OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course the students will be able to:

**Speaking:** Speak Italian well enough to greet and take leave appropriately in formal and informal contexts; ask and answer basic information questions; order simple food and beverages; talk in simple ways about yourself, your family, your student life, your likes and dislikes, your wishes, both in the present and in the past tense.

**Listening:** Comprehend spoken Italian well enough to grasp the main idea and some supporting details in short conversations that relate to daily life and represent authentic situations. Understand audio and video material that accompanies the textbook, as well as basic songs and videos in Italian.

**Reading:** Read and understand the main idea and some details from both authentic and edited material (including newspaper articles, short narratives, advertisements and brochures).

**Writing:** Create simple text and short compositions on familiar topics; write messages and letters that relate to personal interests and practical needs.

**Culture:** Demonstrate awareness of the basic cultural differences between Italian and North American culture. Recognize that learning a language enables a person to better understand and interact with the people who use the language natively.

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

- *Prego! An invitation to Italian, 8th edition.* by Lazzarino/Aski, published by MC GRAW- HILL + AVANTI CONNECT ACCESS (Online workbook) [Package available for delivery at the U of C bookstore]
- *Other selected written, video and audio material (links available on D2L)*

For the online workbook component as well as for using D2L, students need to have reliable access to technology, as follows:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone; In order to be able to listen to media and to record themselves.
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

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Moreover, students will need to access Zoom and they will need an app to scan their course materials (homework) such as TurboScan (or similar).

**RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS**

Any good Italian dictionary, for instance *The Oxford College Italian Dictionary*.  
As for on-line dictionaries, the use of Wordreference.com is recommended.

**COURSE NOTES**



The course will be conducted entirely in Italian. Welcome to Italy!

- Regular attendance is strongly recommended. Active participation is warmly encouraged. Active participation is defined as coming to class prepared and ready to give active and positive contributions in Italian to class interactions and tutorial sessions. Lack of attendance or of participation will adversely affect your overall performance and will have a negative impact on your final grade. The instructor should be informed of any reasons for prolonged absence as soon as possible.
- **Cultural Passport:** 2% of your Final Grade (20% of your Participation Grade) will be determined by participation to 3 co-curricular activities organized by the Italian Studies Program, lectures and events at IL CIRCOLINO, the Italian Cultural Center. Students will also have a chance to earn 1% extra credit in their participation mark, if they submit a written reflection after their participation to a co-curricular event. Attendance to all co-curricular events is encouraged in order to have more occasions to practice your language skills.
- Students are strongly encouraged to communicate consistently in the target language and to attend IL CIRCOLINO (CHC 318) to practice Italian.
- Attendance at all tests and examinations is mandatory. Missed tests, assignments and examinations will be given a grade of F. A student who is absent from a test for any reason must inform the instructor ahead of time (or immediately) and an alternative course of action may be considered.

**Important dates:**

- Class meetings will start on Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Tutorials on Zoom will start the week of September 12<sup>th</sup>.
- There will be no class for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Friday September 30<sup>th</sup> and for Thanksgiving on Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Term break will be the week of November 6<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup>
- The three exams (D2L quiz) will take place on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, November 4<sup>th</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The two writing assignments are due September 28<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup>
- Video Cultural projects will be uploaded to a dedicated D2L folder by November 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The Final Written Project will be uploaded to a dedicated D2L folder by December 7<sup>th</sup>
- Class meetings will end on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>
- Attendance at all tests and examinations is mandatory. Exams will be administered online through D2L quizzes. The Quiz will last a class period (50 mins, but the students will be allowed 75 minutes to complete it in order to account for technological issues). Students will be allowed a period of 48 hours to access the Quiz. Missed tests, assignments and examinations will be given a grade of F. A



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student who is unable to take the test in the 48h period must inform the instructor ahead of time (or immediately) and an alternative course of action may be considered.

- Assignments have to be submitted on D2L, in the specific created folder (electronic submission of assignments by email will not normally be accepted although can be used in case of technical issues). Rewrites of compositions MUST be submitted completed with the first version.
- Workbook assignments will be due on exams days or when otherwise specified on the syllabus document on D2L. The Workbook is online. Students will check their answers directly on the workbook website. The instructor will only check that the students have submitted the workbook assignments and have checked them. Late submission of workbook assignments will result in a lower mark.
- Written assignments should be completely original and should reflect the vocabulary and grammatic structures studied in class. Students are encouraged to be creative and to use a good Italian dictionary, but please refrain from using on-line translation websites. The using of on-line translation websites such as Google translate is forbidden because it is detrimental to students' learning.
- The topic of the Video Cultural project will be decided by the students and discussed with the instructor. It should involve researching an aspect of Italian culture particularly interesting to the student. The project will be then uploaded to a dedicated D2L folder by November 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The Final Written Project will be uploaded to a dedicated D2L folder by December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Final Oral Exam will be a 10 minutes interview with the instructor on Zoom: the students will interview each other and have an independent conversation in front of the Instructor. It will take place both on class time and on scheduled meetings.
- There will not be a final examination.

**ASSESSMENT**

- ⇒ **Exams:** 3 exams (Monday October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Friday November 4<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday November 30<sup>th</sup>) - delivered as D2L quizzes starting at class time on the day of the exam (each worth 10%, 10%, 10%) = **30%**
- ⇒ **Writing assignments:** 2 Writing assignments with possibility of rewriting (Due: September 28<sup>th</sup> and November 14<sup>th</sup>) - to be uploaded onto a D2L folder (each worth 10%, 10%) = **20%**
- ⇒ **Video Cultural Project:** 1 Video presentation (Due: November 25<sup>th</sup>) - to be uploaded onto a D2L folder = **10%**
- ⇒ **Tutorials:** = **5%**
- ⇒ **Workbook and Homework:** = **5%**
- ⇒ **Active Class Participation:** (8% in class participation + 2 % Cultural Passport - includes completion of 3 activities by December 7<sup>th</sup>) = **10%**
- ⇒ **Final Oral Exam:** = **10%**
- ⇒ **Final Written Project** (In Italian [at least 200 words]. Topic to be decided with the instructor, Due: December 7<sup>th</sup>) - to be uploaded onto a D2L folder = **10%**

A passing grade in all components of the course is necessary and every component will contribute to successfully pass the course.



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All exams are intended to be done without any external aid: access to course notes, textbook or online resources is expressly forbidden. Students can use scrap paper.

For writing assignments students are allowed to use a good Italian dictionary (see *Recommended course materials*). The writing should be entirely in Italian and entirely original, based on the vocabulary and the grammatical structures studied in class.

#### **GRADING SCALE**

A+ = 100-96 A= 95-91 A- =90-86

B+ = 85-81 B =80-76 B- =75-71

C+ = 70-67 C= 66-62 C- =61-58

D+ = 57-54 D= 53-50 F =49%

The official grading system (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) will be applied for the calculation of the final mark

#### **INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT**

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

##### **Academic misconduct**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

#### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.



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**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations> .

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Tower.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

**INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops and tablets are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

**SUPPORT AND RESOURCES**

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.