



**UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY**
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH, ITALIAN AND SPANISH
ITALIAN 307 - Communication
FALL 2013
Location: CHD 425 Days: MWF 11:00 – 11:50

INSTRUCTOR: Maria Oss-Cech Chiacchia (cmcosce@ucalgary.ca)

OFFICE: CHE 204

PHONE: 220-4559

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Study of different types of communication (print and electronic media, correspondence, business). Analysis of relevant aspects of Italian contemporary life. During the course students will develop a language and cultural competence based on the analysis of several current issues in the Italian world as seen through various media sources such as newspapers, magazines, movies, and the web. To have a better understanding of Italian culture contemporary literary texts such as poems, excerpts from a narrative text, short stories, will also be studied. Attention will be given to reading and writing skills and strategies as well as the pragmatic skills of the social language. Students, through a wide range of evidence, including artistic works, written documents, will explore some of the questions the material elicit. Cross-cultural comparisons will highlight the relevance of the Italian language and culture in the Canadian Context.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students should be able to understand the topic of discussion conducted slowly and clearly, in a standard spoken language, to guess the meaning of unknown words from the context, to follow the main points of extended discussion around them. Students should be able to interact with the instructor and the other students, answering and asking questions, to express their point of view in a clear way, using appropriate vocabulary. Students should be able to read and understand general and specific information, significant points in many kinds of texts on contemporary issues such as articles, reports, short stories etc. (skimming and scanning reading strategies), to identify the main conclusions in clearly written argumentative texts, to guess the meaning of unknown words from the context, to use a dictionary to confirm meaning. Students should be able to summarize the content of a text, the plot of a short story, to write short essays on a topic and express personal opinions, giving reasons and explanations.

PREREQUISITES

Italian 301, or consent of the Department.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

3 Tests (3 at 20% each)	60 %
In-class Assignment (1 at 10%)	10 %
Attendance and Active Participation (class and tutorial)	15 %
Final Oral presentation	15 %

There will be **no final examination**

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

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS

Romana Capek-Habekovic, Claudio Mazzola – A Vicenda Cultura – McGraw Hill Higher Education

RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Any textbook of Italian Grammar and syntax

A good Italian-English, English-Italian Dictionary

COURSE NOTES

- The course will be conducted in Italian. Student's text will include:
- Reading comprehension, summaries and short compositions. The assignment will deal with a small research on a cultural topic.
- The final oral presentation will be on a topic chosen by students among the ones covered in class. A list of possible topics will be posted on blackboard. This is a course requirement. No substitution for another assignment or test will be allowed.
- In class participation comprises of students' partaking and actively contributing to in-class activities and conversations, and brief at home research assignments (compiti) to be discussed in class.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND MISSED TEST POLICY:

- Missed tests will be graded as an F unless it is a case of emergency in which case a doctor's note is required.
- There will be a 10% penalty for each day of delay on assignments up to two days. They will NOT be accepted afterwards.
- Assignments have to be submitted in hard copies.
- There will be no make-up times for oral presentations.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

DISABILITIES AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. Students with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre should contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Students also required to discuss their needs with the instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)
Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)
Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)
For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Please note:

NO laptops, personal cells or any other electronic devices are allowed.

Recording is strictly prohibited. This is a class where participation is essential and free.

Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SAFEWALK

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

STUDENT UNION INFORMATION

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.