



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH, ITALIAN AND SPANISH
ITALIAN 307 – Italian Culture and Communication
FALL 2014
Location: CHC 309 Days: MWF 9:00 – 9:50

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

OFFICE: CHE 204B

PHONE: 403 4775984

OFFICE HOURS: Wed. 8:00-9:00

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Analysis of different types of communication relevant to aspects of Italian contemporary life.

The focus will be on language and cultural competence based on the analysis of several current issues in the Italian world as seen through contemporary literary texts such as poems, excerpts from a narrative text, business communication, music and media. Students, through a wide range of evidence, 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. Attention will be given to the pragmatic skills of the social language, reading and creative writing.

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 in many kinds of texts on contemporary issues through skimming and scanning reading strategies and be able to summarize texts.

Students should be able to identify the main conclusion in clearly written argumentative texts, to guess the meaning of unknown words from the context, to use a dictionary to confirm meaning.

PREREQUISITES

Italian 301, or consent of the Department.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

3 Tests (3 at 20% each) 60 %

Attendance and Participation (class and tutorial) 15 %

Final Oral presentation 15 %

Final Assignment 10 %

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

Other reading material will be posted on D2L

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.
- Tests will include:
Reading comprehension, summaries, short compositions and vocabulary.
- The final assignment will deal with a small research on a cultural topic.
- The final oral presentation will be on a topic chosen by students or chosen from a list of topics. Preparation begins early and support will be provided throughout the semester.
- 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.
- Informal *compiti* will be returned with suggestions for improvement and an opportunity to re-write. In this case the student will receive a ✓+ (or ✓++ if the re-write is excellent) towards participation.

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.
- The Final assignment must be submitted in a hard copy and on the due date. Late assignment will not be accepted.
- 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 in class. 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.