

ADVANCED COURSE IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

BCSP – Fall 2024

Prof. Guendalina Bamboli (with Clara Piovaccari)

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HOURS:

1° preliminary period (January 15 - 26)
Monday - Friday 10am-12.30pm

2° period (February 15 - May 9)
Tuesdays - Thursdays 1pm - 3pm

Cultural part

See calendar
BCSP classroom

DESCRIPTION: Students will approach complex grammar structures and syntax through research and analysis of traits of famous historical figures and events that have influenced Italian history, art, politics, culture and society. Throughout the course students will improve their language skills and, with each discussion topic, deepen their understanding of contemporary Italy.

The course's preliminary period includes a general review of grammatical rules and activities designed to help discover of the city of Bologna, its history and culture, with a special focus on student life: the university and preparation for oral and written exams.

ACTIVITIES: The activities performed during the course include: reading/analyzing/summarizing of articles and biographies, grammar exercises, conversation, oral presentations, writing assignments. Homework, including composition writing and project preparation, is regularly assigned. All written work must be corrected and revised.

INSTRUCTORS: Guendalina Bamboli has taught at various language centers in Bologna. She is particularly interested in foreign student integration in the Italian school system.

Clara Piovaccari teaches Italian as a foreign language at the language center of the University of Bologna, Bolzano and Ferrara. Prof. Piovaccari couples her teaching activity with the role of Chief of the Italian Language Certification panel.

CONTENT: Discovering Italian culture: our territory as seen through the lens of literature, history, cinema and the arts. Also, current events in the Italian contemporary society will be taken into consideration.

GRAMMAR CONTENT:

Pronouns “ci” and “ne”; Future tense; Future in the past; Relative and possessive pronouns; Combined pronouns; Past simple (*passato remoto*); Passive form; Conditional; Pronominal verbs; Conjunctions; Impersonal and passive use of “si”; Subjunctive in dependent and independent clauses; Conditional/hypothetical sentences; Correct use of verb tense; Adverbs and adjectives; Prepositions; Direct/indirect discourse

TEXTS:

Preliminary period:

Course packet designed by instructor

Second period:

Course packet designed by instructor

FINAL GRADE:

<p>LANGUAGE (by completion of both course periods) 80% Factors that determine final grade: Class participation: 20%</p> <p>(To obtain a high grade in class participation, the student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - demonstrate interest in the content - interact constantly with the teacher - ask questions when material is not clear - contribute to discussions) <p>Homework, compositions / summaries / analysis / summary of articles: 20% (To obtain a high grade the student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - punctually turn in carefully written, well-prepared assignments - turn in assignments having clearly paid attention to spelling, grammar, structure <p>Failure to observe these requirements for class participation and homework/written assignments will gradually contribute to lowering the grade and risk not passing the course.</p> <p>Oral presentation: 20%</p> <p>In-class grammar test: 40% (10% preliminary period test, 10% mid-term and 20% final exam)</p>	<p>CULTURE (by completion of both course periods) 20%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understanding of the main concepts in Italian history and art history from late antiquity to the Renaissance and beyond - visit important locations for their historical and artistic relevance - Final exam: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16
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ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is mandatory. Only one absence will be tolerated. Additional absences due to illness must be justified by a doctor's note. **½ point will be reduced from the final grade** for every other absence.

If you cannot attend class, you are expected to get information from your classmates about readings and assignments and to be prepared for the next class. Unjustified lateness will negatively affect your grade in class participation.

CALENDAR:

1	Monday, January 15	Course presentation. Instructions for completing final project. Introductions, getting to know each other: present yourself in past tense. Review of past tenses.
2	Tuesday, January 16	<i>Bologna</i> : history and culture of the city. Treasure hunt presentations. Contexts in past tense.
*	<i>Tuesday, January 16</i>	Cultural component (1): <i>Food and Wine in the Italian culinary heritage</i> – Lecture by prof. Massimo Montanari and visit to Enoteca Italiana
3	Wednesday, January 17	Adjusting and living in Bologna. Review of the passive form.
*	<i>Wednesday, January 17</i>	Cultural component (2): <i>Presentation on Bologna and guided tour</i>
4	Thursday, January 18	Studying at the university: organization, history and comparisons with the U.S. academic system. Express an opinion: present and past subjunctive.
5	Friday, January 19	Studying at the university: strategies for taking oral exams. Review of direct and indirect objects.
6	Monday, January 22	Studying at the university: writing an email to a professor. Review of combined pronouns.
7	Tuesday, January 23	First group's project presentation. Expectations for your semester in Italy: imperfect and past perfect subjunctive.
*	<i>Tuesday, January 23</i>	Cultural component (3): - <i>Lecture by Prof. Massimo Montanari</i>
8	Wednesday, January 24	Second group's project presentation. Correct use of subjunctive tenses.
9	Thursday, January 25	Third group's project presentation. Correct use of verb tenses.
10	Friday, January 26	Fourth group's project presentation. Pronominal verbs.
#	Monday, January 29	Final preliminary period exam

*	<i>Tuesday, January 30</i>	Cultural component (4): - <i>Lecture by Prof. Massimo Montanari</i>
*	<i>Friday, February 2</i>	BCSP Cultural component (5): <i>Excursion to Castello di Torrechiara and lunch with Prosciutto di Parma</i>
*	<i>Friday, February 9</i>	Cultural component (6): <i>Excursion to Casa Artusi, Forlimpopoli – Piadina romagnola – Visit to Rimini</i>
1	Thursday, February 15	Course presentation and student introductions. Brief overview of Italian food and wine culture. Discussion. Vocabulary building. Grammar topic: use of future tense and future in the past.
**	<i>Friday, February 16</i>	CULTURAL COMPONENT - FINAL EXAM
2	Tuesday, February 20	Linguistic analysis of texts on Italian food. Discussion. Grammar topic: pronouns 'ci' and 'ne' (idiomatic expressions).

3	Thursday, February 22	Vocabulary building and content analysis of an art work. Discussion. Grammar topic: the conditional.
4	Tuesday, February 27	Discussion on music and the concept of Festival. Grammar topic: the use of subjunctive and connectors.
5	Thursday, February 29	Listening and analysis of a music piece. Discussion. Activity of lexicon reinforcement and expansion. Grammar topic: indefinite adjectives and pronouns and brief review of the passive form.
6	Tuesday, March 5	Discussion on eating habits. Activity of lexicon reinforcement and expansion. Grammar topic: use of the passive and impersonal "si"
7	Thursday, March 7	Vocabulary building and content analysis of a literary text. Activity of lexicon reinforcement and expansion. Review of impersonal forms.
8	Tuesday, March 12	Deeper analysis of aspects of the Italian language (first part). Discussion. Grammar topic: agreement of moods and tenses.. Review of grammar topics and vocabulary.
9	Thursday, March 14	Deeper analysis of aspects of the Italian language (second part). Discussion. Grammar topic: agreement of moods and tenses. Review of grammar topics and vocabulary.
10	Tuesday, March 19	MID-TERM (WRITTEN)
11	Thursday, March 21	Reflections and discussion on the theme of traveling. Grammar topic: agreement of moods and tenses (review) and relative pronouns.
Easter		
12	Tuesday, April 9	Film screening
13	Thursday, April 11	Analysis and reflections on the film watched in class. Grammar topic: review of combined pronouns.
14	Tuesday, April 16	Content and vocabulary analysis of a video production. Vocabulary reinforcement/expansion. Discussion. Grammar topic: pronominal verbs.
15	Thursday, April 18	Reflections and discussion on contemporary Italian cinema. Grammar topic: the hypothetical clause.
16	Tuesday, April 23	Analysis of various literary genres. Discussion. Grammar topic: direct and indirect clauses.
17	Tuesday, April 30	Analysis of various literary genres. Vocabulary building and content analysis of a text. Discussion. Grammar topic: altered forms.
18	Thursday, May 2	Review of grammar and vocabulary topics
19	Tuesday, May 7	ORAL PRESENTATIONS
20	Thursday, May 9	FINAL EXAM (WRITTEN)