

**ADVANCED COURSE IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

BCSP - Fall 2024

Prof. Christine Dodd

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**HOURS:**

From September 24 to December 12

Tuesdays - Thursdays 11am - 1pm

**Cultural part**

Prof. Giancarlo Benevolo

See calendar

BCSP classroom

**DESCRIPTION:** Through readings of Italian newspaper articles, students will build their vocabulary and analyze syntax and language structure. Students will discuss current events in class, thereby deepening their knowledge of Italian culture.

The first four class meetings will focus on activities of general grammatical review, on a first approach to understanding the city of Bologna, its university, the preparation to oral and written exams and the crucial aspects of the *bolognese* history and culture.

**ACTIVITIES:** The activities performed during the course include: reading/analyzing/summarizing newspapers articles, grammar exercises, conversation, oral presentations, writing assignments. Homework is regularly assigned, and students are required to correct and revise their compositions.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Christine Dodd is Italian Language Expert Collaborator at the CLA (Centro Linguistico di Ateneo) of the University of Bologna. She has taught Italian L2 in several Language Centers (University of Siena – Arezzo, University of Ferrara) and for American universities with campuses in Italy (Johns Hopkins University, Brown University in Bologna). At University of Bologna, she is Adjunct Assistant Professor of Italian in the Foreign Languages and Literature Department. Her interests deal with the inclusion of foreign students entering the Italian school system.

**CONTENT:** Past tenses (Passato prossimo, Imperfetto; Trapassato prossimo, Passato remoto); 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:**

Christine Dodd, *ITALIANO QUOTIDIANO: Percorso di lingua e cultura italiana attraverso la stampa*. Bononia University Press, 2013.

**FINAL GRADE:**

<p><b>LANGUAGE 80%</b></p> <p>Factors that determine final grade:  <b>Class participation: 20%</b></p> <p>(To obtain a high grade in class participation, the student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- demonstrate interest in the content</li> <li>- interact constantly with the teacher</li> <li>- ask questions when material is not clear</li> <li>- contribute to discussions)</li> </ul> <p><b>Homework, compositions / summaries / analysis/summary of articles: 20%</b></p> <p>(To obtain a high grade the student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- punctually turn in carefully written, well-prepared assignments</li> <li>- turn in assignments having clearly paid attention to spelling, grammar, structure</li> </ul> <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><b>Oral presentation: 20%</b></p> <p><b>In-class grammar test: 40%</b> (15% mid-term and 25% final exam)</p>	<p><b>CULTURE 20%</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- understanding of the main concepts in Italian history and art history from late antiquity to the Renaissance and beyond</li> <li>- visit important locations for their historical and artistic relevance</li> <li>- Final exam: WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 2</li> </ul>
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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 will be 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:

**	<b>Monday, September 9</b>	<i>First cultural lesson: Introduction to Bologna and its history, followed by walking tour of the city center. (Prof. Benevolo)</i>
**	<b>Wednesday, September 11</b>	<i>Introductory lesson on Ravenna- Prof. G. Benevolo</i>
**	<b>Saturday, September 14</b>	<i>Excursion to Ravenna</i>
**	<b>Wednesday, September 18</b>	<i>Introductory lesson on the Medieval period – Prof. G. Benevolo</i>
**	<b>Friday, September 20</b>	<i>Visit to the Medieval Museum</i>
1	Tuesday, September 24	Course presentation. <i>Bologna and its University:</i> activity on authentic materials and discussion. Grammar: review of the past tenses (passato prossimo, imperfetto, passato remoto)
2	Thursday, September 26	<i>Bologna and its University:</i> activity on authentic materials and discussion. Grammar: review of the past tenses (passato prossimo, imperfetto, passato remoto)
**	<b>Friday, September 27</b>	<i>Introductory lesson on the Renaissance – Prof. G. Benevolo</i>
**	<b>Saturday, September 28</b>	<i>Excursion to Urbino</i>
3	Tuesday, October 1	<i>Bologna and its University:</i> activity on authentic materials and discussion. Grammar: review of the subjunctive (congiuntivo imperfetto e passato)
**	<b>Wednesday, October 2</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM - CULTURE</b> (Prof. Benevolo)
4	Thursday, October 3	<i>Bologna and its University:</i> activity on authentic materials and discussion. Grammar: review of the subjunctive (congiuntivo imperfetto e trapassato)
5	Tuesday, October 8	Introduction to the Italian press. Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Discussion. Activity to reinforce and expand vocabulary. Idiomatic expressions.
6	Thursday, October 10	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Activity to reinforce and expand vocabulary. Discussion. Grammar topic: pronouns "ci" and "ne."
7	Tuesday, October 15	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Activity to reinforce and expand vocabulary. Discussion. Grammar topic: relative pronouns. Possessive pronouns.
8	Thursday, October 17	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Activity to reinforce and expand vocabulary. Discussion. Grammar topic: future tense. Future in the past.
9	Tuesday, October 22	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary. Discussion. Grammar topic: impersonal and passive use of "si"
10	Thursday, October 24	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Discussion of articles turned in by students. Grammar topic: passive form. The conditional used in hypothetical, unconfirmed news story. <b>First written summary due.</b>

11	Tuesday, October 29	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Journalistic writing and stylistics. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. In groups: oral presentation of a news article. Grammar topic: nominalization. <b>Summary of two articles due.</b>
12	Thursday, October 31	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Journalistic writing and stylistics. Instructions for drafting and writing a news story. Linguistic analysis of song. Discussion. Grammar topic: subjunctive verb tenses.
13	Tuesday, November 5	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar review: conjunctions and subjunctive
14	Thursday, November 7	<b>MID-TERM (WRITTEN)</b>
15	Tuesday, November 12	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: conditional clause I
16	Thursday, November 14	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: conditional clause II.
13	Tuesday, November 19	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: combined pronouns. Pronominal verbs.
14	Thursday, November 21	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: altered forms.
15	Tuesday, November 26	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: direct and indirect discourse.
16	Thursday, November 28	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: direct and indirect discourse.
17	Tuesday, December 3	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Review of grammar topics and vocabulary.
18	Thursday, December 5	<b>ORAL PRESENTATION OF AN ARTICLE (first group). Written assignments due.</b>
19	Tuesday, December 10	<b>ORAL PRESENTATION OF AN ARTICLE (second group). Written assignments due.</b>
20	Thursday, December 12	<b>FINAL EXAM (WRITTEN)</b>