

ADVANCED COURSE IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

BCSP - Spring 2020

Prof. Christine Dodd and Clara Piovaccari

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HOURS:

1° preliminary period (January 13 -24)
Monday – Friday 10am-12:30pm

2° period from February 20th to May 4th
BCSP classroom

Cultural part

See calendar

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 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 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 teaches Italian language at various Italian university language centers (CLA University of Bologna, University of Siena – Arezzo, CLA University of Ferrara) and for foreign 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. She also works with foreign students entering the Italian school system, including at the postsecondary level.

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 available through your instructor

Second period:

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



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: - demonstrate interest in the content - interact constantly with the teacher - ask questions when material is not clear - contribute to discussions)</p> <p>Homework, compositions / summaries / analysis/summary of articles: 20% (To obtain a high grade the student must: - punctually turn in carefully written, well-prepared assignments - turn in assignments having clearly paid attention to spelling, grammar, structure</p> <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 the history of Italian industrial development, the history of food and fashion in Northern Italy, the Emilia-Romagna region and Bologna - visit of the most relevant locations related to the historical periods and technical aspects presented during the course - Final exam: FRIDAY MARCH 6
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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. **1/2 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:

1	Monday, January 13	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 14	Bologna: history and culture of the city. Treasure hunt presentations. Contexts in past tense.
3	Wednesday, January 15	Adjusting and living in Bologna. Review of past tenses.
4	Thursday, January 16	Studying at the university: organization, history and comparisons with the U.S. academic system. Express an opinion: present and past subjunctive.
5	Friday, January 17	Studying at the university: strategies for taking oral exams. Review of direct and indirect objects.
6	Monday, January 20	Studying at the university: writing an email to a professor. Review of combined pronouns.
7	Tuesday, January 21	First group's project presentation. Expectations for your semester in Italy: imperfect and past perfect subjunctive.
8	Wednesday, January 22	Second group's project presentation. Correct use of subjunctive tenses.
9	Thursday, January 23	Third group's project presentation. Correct use of verb tenses.
10	Friday, January 24	Fourth group's project presentation. Pronominal verbs.
#	Monday, January 27	Final preliminary period grammar exam

*	<i>Tuesday, February 28</i>	<i>Introductory lesson on Italian industrial development Prof. Botta and visit to the Bologna Industrial Heritage Museum</i>
*	<i>Thursday, January 30</i>	<i>Second lesson on northern Italy industrial development. Prof. Botta</i>
*	<i>Friday, January 31</i>	<i>Visit to the Lamborghini museum</i>
*	<i>Wednesday, February 5</i>	<i>Lesson on fashion and its history (Prof. Benevolo)</i>
*	<i>Saturday, February 8</i>	<i>Visit to Milan Armani Museum</i>
*	<i>Wednesday, February 12</i>	<i>First lesson on the history and culture of food Prof. M. Montanari</i>
*	<i>Friday, February 14</i>	<i>Excursion to Parmigiano Reggiano production site</i>
1	Thursday, February 20	Course presentation. Introduction to the Italian press. Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Discussion. Activity to reinforce and expand vocabulary. Idiomatic expressions.
2	Monday, February 24	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Activity to reinforce and expand vocabulary. Discussion. Grammar topic: pronouns "ci" and "ne."
*	<i>Wednesday, February 26</i>	<i>Second lesson on culinary excellence of Emilia-Romagna - Prof. M. Montanari</i>
3	Thursday, February 27	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Activity to reinforce and expand vocabulary. Discussion. Grammar topic: relative pronouns. Possessive pronouns.
*	<i>Saturday, February 29</i>	<i>Excursion and pasta making at Agriturismo Al di là del fiume</i>
4	Monday, March 2	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Activity to reinforce and expand vocabulary. Discussion. Grammar topic: future tense. Future in the past.

5	Thursday, March 5	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary. Discussion. Grammar topic: impersonal and passive use of "si"
*	<i>Friday, March 6</i>	FINAL EXAM – CULTURAL PART
6	Monday, March 9	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Discussion of articles turned in by students. Grammar topic: passive form. The conditional used in hypothetical, unconfirmed news story. First written summary due.
7	Thursday, March 12	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. Summary of two articles due.
8	Monday, March 16	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Journalistic writing and stylistics. Instructions for drafting and writing a news story. Linguistic analysis of song. Discussion. Grammar topic: conjunctive verb tenses.
9	Thursday, March 19	MID-TERM (WRITTEN)
10	Monday, March 23	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar review.
11	Thursday, March 26	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: conjugation and subjunctive.
12	Monday, March 30	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: hypothetical sentences.
13	Thursday, April 2	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: combined pronouns. Pronominal verbs.
14	Monday, April 6	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: adjectives and adverbs.
Easter break		
15	Thursday, April 16	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: direct and indirect discourse.
16	Monday, April 20	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Grammar topic: direct and indirect discourse. Second written summary due.
17	Thursday, April 23	Article analysis: content and vocabulary. Reinforce and expand vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Discussion. Review of grammar topics and vocabulary.
18	Monday, April 27	ORAL PRESENTATION OF AN ARTICLE (first group). Written assignments due.
19	Thursday, April 30	ORAL PRESENTATION OF AN ARTICLE (second group). Written assignments due.
20	Thursday, April 4	FINAL EXAM (WRITTEN)