

ADVANCED COURSE IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

BCSP – Spring 2025

Prof. Clara Piovaccari

clara.piovaccari@unibo.it

HOURS:

From January 28 to May 8

Tuesdays - Thursdays 1pm - 3pm

Cultural part See calendar

BCSP classroom

DESCRIPTION: Students will approach complex grammar structures and syntax through the linguistic analysis of texts and audio and visual materials. Students will learn about famous historical figures and contemporary cultural events that have influenced Italian history, art, politics, and society. While deepening their understanding of Italian culture, students enrich their vocabulary with each discussion topic and practice conversation.

The course's preliminary period includes a general review of grammatical rules and activities designed to help discover 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 will be corrected and each student asked to revise it.

INSTRUCTOR: 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.

GRAMMAR CONTENT:

This syllabus is based on the B2 level guidelines for Italian learning and it agrees with the European Common Guidelines related to the personal profile of each university student. Please see for details: <https://rm.coe.int/quadro-comune-europeo-di-riferimento-per-le-lingue-appendimento-inseg/1680a52d52>

FINAL GRADE:

LANGUAGE 80%	CULTURE 20%
<p>Factors that determine final grade:</p> <p>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%</p> <p>(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% (15% mid-term and 25% final exam)</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: MONDAY FEBRUARY 10

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:

*	<i>Friday January 17</i>	Cultural component (1): Presentation on <i>Bologna and guided tour</i> – Prof. Benevolo
*	<i>Monday January 20</i>	Cultural component (2): <i>Industrial development in Emilia-Romagna</i> – Lecture by Prof. Botta
*	<i>Tuesday January 21</i>	Cultural component (3): <i>Industrial development in Emilia-Romagna</i> – Excursion to Ferrari museum
*	<i>Thursday January 23</i>	Cultural component (4): <i>Industrial development in Emilia-Romagna</i> – Lecture by Prof. Botta
*	<i>Friday January 24</i>	Cultural component (5): <i>Industrial development in Emilia-Romagna</i> – Excursion to I.M.A. factory (Automatic Machines Industry)
1	Tuesday, January 28	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)
*	<i>Wednesday, January 29</i>	Cultural component (6): <i>The Culture of food</i> - Lecture by Prof. Massimo Montanari and visit to Enoteca italiana
2	Thursday, January 30	<i>Bologna and its University</i> : activity on authentic materials and discussion. Grammar: review of the past tenses (passato prossimo, imperfetto, passato remoto)
3	Tuesday, February 4	<i>Bologna and its University</i> : activity on authentic materials and discussion. Grammar: review of the subjunctive (congiuntivo imperfetto e passato)
*	<i>Wednesday, February 5</i>	Cultural component (7): <i>The Culture of food</i> - Lecture by Prof. Massimo Montanari on Foods of Romagna
4	Thursday, February 6	<i>Bologna and its University</i> : activity on authentic materials and discussion. Grammar: review of the subjunctive (congiuntivo imperfetto e trapassato)
*	<i>Friday, February 7</i>	Cultural component (7): <i>Excursion to Casa Artusi, Forlimpopoli – Piadina romagnola – Visit to Rimini</i>
*	<i>Monday, February 10</i>	CULTURAL COMPONENT - FINAL EXAM
5	Tuesday, February 18	Italians: between stereotypes and reality. Aspects of contemporary culture. Exercises and discussion. Grammar: the <i>ci</i> and <i>ne</i> pronouns
6	Thursday, February 20	The eternal city. The Romans, ancient but modern. Exercises and discussion. Grammar: <i>the passive form with essere and venire</i> .
7	Tuesday, February 25	Sciences: today and tomorrow. Technology discussed. Exercises and discussion. Grammar: <i>the past perfect subjunctive</i>
8	Thursday, February 27	The food of the future. Pros and cons of technology. Grammar: <i>the hypothetical period</i> .
9	Tuesday, March 4	Is provocation the base of contemporary art? Is anything art? Grammar: <i>uses of the conditional tense</i>
10	Thursday, March 6	The great beauty or Made in Italy. Grammar: <i>Conditional or Subjunctive</i> .



11	Tuesday, March 11	Italy in progress. Content and vocabulary analysis of a newspaper article. Activity of vocabulary reinforcement/expansion. Grammar: <i>pronominal verbs</i> .
12	Thursday, March 13	Rights and duties: the Italian political system. Grammar: <i>Verb tenses consistency</i>
13	Tuesday, March 18	The ideal neighborhood: feeling at home. Grammar: <i>The phrase "far fare" in its uses and forms</i> .
14	Thursday, March 20	MID-TERM (WRITTEN)
15	Tuesday, March 25	The Italian language yesterday and today: discussions on the language. Grammar: <i>the passive with "andare"</i> .
16	Thursday, March 27	Italians who made history: Italian leaderships. Grammar: <i>the historic present</i> .
17	Tuesday, April 1	Brains drain. Content and vocabulary analysis of a newspaper article. Activity of vocabulary and grammatical reinforcement/expansion.
18	Thursday, April 3	Nomen omen. Grammar: <i>the subjunctive after 'voglio che'/'vorrei che'</i> .
19	Tuesday, April 8	A place, a poem: L'infinito by Giacomo Leopardi. Grammar: <i>the subjunctive after the superlative</i> .
20	Thursday, April 10	The book fair: I read. You? Grammar: <i>the indirect discourse</i> .
21	Tuesday, April 15	Content and vocabulary analysis of a newspaper article. Activity of vocabulary and grammatical reinforcement/expansion. Discussion. Revision of grammar points presented in class and of lexicon.
Pasqua		
22	Tuesday, April 29	ORAL PRESENTATIONS
23	Tuesday, May 6	ORAL PRESENTATIONS
24	Thursday, May 8	FINAL EXAM (WRITTEN)