



SYLLABUS

PALAZZI FLORENCE ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION FLORENCE UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS SQUOLA - CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ITALIAN STUDIES (IT)

SCHOOL OF ITALIAN STUDIES AND LINGUISTICS
DEPARTMENT OF ITALIAN LANGUAGE
COURSE TITLE INTENSIVE ITALIAN FOR SIX CREDITS (BEGINNER)
COURSE CODE ISITIB165
6 CREDITS

1. DESCRIPTION

ISITIIIB101 BEG + ISITII201 INT I

This is an intensive Italian language course that covers the following levels: ISITIB101 Beg + ISITII201 Int I. The intensive six-credit Italian course gives students the opportunity to experience a total language immersion. All lessons will be taught in Italian.

The beginning levels concentrate on the development of the spoken language and on the ability to understand.

The intermediate levels help students to master more complex grammatical structures and to enrich their vocabulary with the use of contemporary material such as newspapers and videos. In addition, students will compose short written essays.

2. OBJECTIVES

During the course emphasis will be given to all four different abilities to be developed while learning a language: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will be encouraged to try to speak both in and outside class, to have them become more familiar with the Italian language and culture environment in which they are immersed.

Students will be required to complete written hand-in assignments to strengthen the structures and vocabulary they acquired.

During this course, students will learn to communicate in everyday situations, recounting past events, make future plans and ask polite requests.

Grammar:

Acquiring the basic structures of the language.

Simple grammatical structures and sentence patterns.

Vocabulary:

Understanding and using the basic vocabulary regarding the concepts of space, time, quantity and quality.

Mastering the basic vocabulary necessary for the most common and concrete communicative situations.

Listening:

Understanding the most commonly used expressions in daily verbal communication, such a simple information and very brief dialogues, instructions addressed carefully and slowly.

Speaking:

Using the most common colloquial expressions in daily social communication for self- identification, greetings, asking for and giving basic information.

Reading:

Understanding simple texts for practical use.

Writing:

Writing short texts.

3. REQUIREMENTS

There are no prerequisites for this course.

4. METHOD

The teaching method is based on a communicative approach, while part of the study also will be dedicated to the Italian grammar. In order to facilitate the learning progress special emphasis will be given to conversational techniques and communication skills.

Tutoring services are also available in small group sessions. If necessary, individual tutoring can be provided if requested by the instructor on behalf of the student. Sign up is required in advance. Please refer to course website for details.

5. TEXT BOOK - FURTHER READINGS - RESOURCES

TEXT BOOK

Matteo La Grassa – *L'italiano all'università* 1, Corso di lingua per studenti stranieri A1-A2, Edizioni Edilingua

Webster or Oxford Italian - English Dictionary

These texts have been pre-ordered and should be purchased after the first class meeting **FELTRINELLI**, **Via de' Cerretani 40.**

You will receive a 15% discount upon showing this syllabus.

Open Monday to Friday from 9 to 7:30 pm and on Saturday from 10:30 to 7:30 pm.

FUA LIBRARY

The FUA library is located in Corso Tintori 21. Please consult the posted schedules for official opening times. Also note that the library is for consultation only and it is not possible to borrow materials. The library is equipped with a scanner and internet access so that you may save or email a digital copy of the pages needed.

Students may also utilize additional libraries and research centers within the local community:

Biblioteca Palagio di Parte Guelfa

Located in Piazzetta di Parte Guelfa between Piazza della Repubblica and Ponte Vecchio. Please consult the library website for hours of operation:

http://www.biblioteche.comune.fi.it/biblioteca palagio di parte guelfa/

Biblioteca delle Oblate

Located in via dell'Oriuolo, 26. Please consult the library website for hours of operation: www.bibliotecadelleoblate.it

The Harold Acton Library at the British Institute of Florence

Located in Lungarno Guicciardini 9. Please consult the library website for hours of operation. This library requires a fee-based student membership. For information: www.britishinstitute.it/en

6. FIELD LEARNING

This course does not include a field learning activity.

7. COURSE MATERIALS

No additional course materials are necessary.

8. COURSE FEES

Course fees cover course-related field learning activities, visits, and support the instructor's teaching methodologies. Book costs are not included in the course fee. The exact amount will be communicated by the instructor on the first day of class.

9. EVALUATION - GRADING SYSTEM

For each 3-week session:

20% Quiz 1

20% Quiz 2

30% Final Exam

10% Oral Presentation

20% Attendance and Participation

A = 93-100 %, A- = 90-92%, B+= 87-89%, B = 83-86%, B-=80-82%, C+ = 77-79%, C=73-76%, C=70-72%, D = 60-69%, F= 0-59%, W = Official Withdrawal, W/F = Failure to withdraw by the designated date.

10. ATTENDANCE - PARTICIPATION

Academic integrity and mutual respect between the instructor and student are the foundation of any academic institution. This is reflected in the attendance policy. Class attendance is mandatory and counts towards the final grade. The number of absences is based on the number of class meetings missed. Students who arrive late or depart early from class may be counted as absent.

Standard Attendance Policy

Absences are based on academic hours – 1 absence equals 3 academic hours.

On the second absence the attendance and participation grade will be impacted.

On the third absence the instructor may lower the final grade by one letter grade.

The fourth absence constitutes automatic failure of the course, regardless of when absences are made.

Late Arrival and Early Departure

Arriving late or departing early from class is not acceptable. Two late arrivals or early departures or a combination will result in an unexcused absence. Travel is not an exceptional circumstance.

Travel (or delays due to travel) is NEVER an excuse for absence from class.

It is always the student's responsibility to know how many absences he or she has in a course. If in doubt, speak with your instructor!

Participation: Learning a foreign language is an incremental process which requires active involvement, commitment, and preparation. Students will be assessed based on these three factors evidenced by enthusiastic participation and demonstration of effort and genuine attempts to master verbal, comprehension, and writing skills. Participation will be evaluated during individual and group work, and encompasses overall effort, cooperation during activities, responsible behavior, and timely completion of assignments.

11. EXAMS - PAPERS - PROJECTS

| Session 1 | Assignments: assigned in class by your instructor |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Quiz 1 – Lesson 5 | |
| Quiz 2 – Lesson 10 | |
| Oral presentation – Lesson 14 | |
| Session Exam - Lesson 15 | |

| Session 2 | Assignments: assigned in class by your instructor |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Quiz 1 – Lesson 5 | |
| Quiz 2 – Lesson 10 | |
| Oral presentation – Lesson 14 | |
| Session Exam - Lesson 15 | |

For each 3-week session:

Two **quizzes** will account for a total of 40% of the final course grade. For time and date consult the course addendum. **The time and date of the exam cannot be changed for any reason.** Format:

- Quizzes are cumulative and will be based on grammar topics presented in class from the beginning of the session.
- The number of points given for each exercise will be clearly stated at the top of the exercise
 itself
- Time will be clearly stated at the top of the test.

The **Final** exam accounts for 30% of the final course grade. For exam time and date consult the course addendum. **The time and date of the exam cannot be changed for any reason.** Format:

- Exams are cumulative and will be based on grammar topics presented in class from the beginning of the session and will test all four abilities (Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking).
- Exams may include multiple choice questions, fill-in the blanks, vocabulary exercises, reading with true/false replies, a listening comprehension, and an essential writing exercise.
- The number of points given for each exercise will be clearly stated at the top of the exercise itself

The **Oral Presentation** accounts for 10% of the course grade. Topic, length, guidelines, and due date will be provided in the course addendum.

 Vocabulary knowledge and appropriate usage, comprehensibility, pronunciation, content (not reading from notes), ability to answer instructor/classmates and questions during class and completion of all tasks assigned will be assessed.

12. LESSONS

SESSION 1

| | LESSON 1 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Presentation of the course and introduction to the class syllabus. Information on method, objectives, exams, assignments and oral presentation. |
| | Unit 1: Ciao, io sono Anna. E tu? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | Introducing yourself, asking/giving personal details |
| | Greeting people upon arriving |

| Asking about pronunciation and spelling, asking about meaning and translation of a word, asking someone to repeat something |
|---|
| Asking question in formal and informal register |
| GRAMMAR: |
| Italian alphabet, Italian spelling with examples and question words Adjectives of nationality |
| Negation form non |
| VOCABULARY: |
| Greetings |
| Country names and adjectives of nationalities |

| | LESSON 2 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 1 – Ciao, io sono Anna. E tu? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | Asking for address and telephone number |
| | Using numbers from 0 to 100 |
| | Learning the names of the classroom objects |
| | GRAMMAR: |
| | Personal pronouns |
| | Present tense: conjugation of essere and avere |
| | Present tense: singular forms of <i>chiamarsi</i> |
| | Singular and plural forms of nouns ending with -o and -a |
| | Singular and plural forms of adjectives ending with -o, -a and -e |
| | VOCABULARY: |
| | Classroom objects |
| | Cardinal numbers from 0 to 100 |
| | CULTURE: |
| | Reading: Conosciamo gli italiani |
| | Students of Italian in the world |
| | Motivations for studying Italian |
| | |

| | LESSON 3 | |
|---------|---|--|
| Meet | In class | |
| Lecture | Unit 2 – Lavori o studi? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: | |
| | Introducing someone | |
| | Asking someone how he/she is and saying how one is doing | |
| | Greeting people upon leaving | |
| | Asking for someone's profession and mentioning one's occupation | |
| | Talking about different kind of jobs | |
| | GRAMMAR: | |
| | Nouns of the second group (ending in "e ") | |
| | Present tense: regular verbs in the three conjugations -are, -ere, -ire | |

| VOCABULARY: |
|-----------------------|
| Come stai? / Come va? |
| What do you study? |
| Profession names |
| Workplaces |

| | LESSON 4 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 2 – Lavori o studi? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: Using verbs in conversation Using the most common adjectives and find their opposite Using prepositions in relation to places |
| | GRAMMAR: Definite articles, use of definite articles in front of consonant, s + consonant and z, vowel Articles – nouns - adjectives agreement Present tense: conjugation of irregular verbs stare, fare, andare, dare, bere, venire Simple prepositions in, a, da, di |
| | VOCABULARY: Opposite pairs of common adjectives Useful expressions for asking something |
| | CULTURE: • Reading: Il mondo del lavoro • Work in Italy |

| | LESSON 5 | |
|---------|---|--|
| Meet | In class | |
| Lecture | Unit 3 – Una bottiiglia d'acqua, per favore COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: Ordering in a cafè Reading a menù Getting someone's attention Asking for things in a polite way Thanking someone Asking for, saying prices and paying Expressing one's likes and dislikes | |
| | Expressing opinions and preferences about food and beverages GRAMMAR: Piacere: mi piace / non mi piace, mi piacciono / non mi piacciono Present tense: third conjugation of -isc verbs Use of vorrei VOCABULARY: | |

| Food, beverages and objects in a cafè Menù Vorrei Scusil, Per favore, per cortesia, per piacere, grazie, prego |
|---|
| QUIZ 1 |

| | LESSON 6 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 3 – Una bottiiglia d'acqua, per favore COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | GRAMMAR: • Use of <i>ci locativo</i> |
| | VOCABULARY: Measurement units: grammo, etto, chilo, litro Food packaging Shops and stores |
| | CULTURE: Reading: Gli italiani e il cappuccino Gli italiani e il bar: understanding and analyzing habits and social behaviours Italian breakfast |

| | LESSON 7 |
|------|-------------------------------|
| Meet | In class |
| Film | Screening of an Italian movie |

| | LESSON 8 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 4 – Vado a piedi o prendo l'autobus? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: Describing a city, a neighborhood, a street Giving and following street directions Asking and telling time Reading timetables Asking for and giving information about shops and stores opening hours Expressing indecision and ability |
| | GRAMMAR: Indefinite articles, use of indefinite articles in front of consonant, s + consonant and z, vowel Present tense: conjugation and use of modal verbs potere, dovere, volere |

| • | Present tense: conjugation of sapere and use in different situations |
|-----------|--|
| VOCA | ABULARY: |
| • | Cities and buildings, signposts, urban landscape vocabulary (street, boulevard, square, bridge, traffic lights, junctions etc.) Street directions |
| • | Expressions denoting position: davanti a / prima di, dietro a / dopo, a destra, a sinistra, dritto, di fronte, in mezzo a / tra, accanto a Means of transport Che ore sono? Che ora è? Sono/ E' Timetable and opening hours Days of the week |
| CULT • | |

| | LESSON 9 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 5 – Dove abiti? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: Describing a house: talking about rooms, objects and furniture found inside a typical Italian house. Describe one's own home Submitting a questionnaire in order to find the "ideal" roommate Talking about pros and cons of living with peers Booking a hotel room: asking for information on accommodation and services |
| | GRAMMAR: • E' / C'è, Sono / Ci sono • Compound prepositions |
| | VOCABULARY: Houses, apartments and rooms Home furniture and features Adjectives referring to houses or apartments Home cleaning routine Description of different types of hotels Hotel room type and features |
| | CULTURE: Reading: Gli italiani in albergo? Spendono poco e vogliono molto Italian tourists |

| | LESSON 10 |
|------|-----------|
| Meet | In class |

| Walking Tour | Florence Walking Tour: visit to interesting sites of the Florence historical center, in connection to the cultural aspects discussed in class |
|-----------------|---|
| | QUIZ 2 |

| | LESSON 11 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 6 – La mia giornata a Firenze COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: • Describing habits • Describing a typical day • Talking about how often one does something |
| | GRAMMAR: Present tense: reflexive verbs in the three conjugations -are, -ere, -ire Adverbs of frequency |
| | VOCABULARY: Everyday actions Mai, quasi mai, qualche volta, spesso, quasi sempre, sempre Words referring to university: main university programs |
| | CULTURE: • Reading: La giornata degli italiani: tra lavoro e tempo libero • A typical day in Italians' life |

| | LESSON 12 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 7 - Che tempo fa? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: • Searching out Italian cities on a map • Talking about weather conditions • Asking and saying how the weather is in a place |
| | GRAMMAR: Direct pronouns: forms and position Use of direct pronouns with modal verbs + infinitive |
| | VOCABULARY: Italian geography: regions and most important cities Months and seasons Weather conditions |

| | LESSON 13 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 7 – Che tempo fa? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |

- Asking a partner what is someone doing
- Using molto as an adjective and as an adverb
- Describing actions which are going on right now
- · Watching weather forecast videos.

GRAMMAR:

- Progressive form with stare + gerundio
- Present gerund forms of regular and irregular verbs dire, fare, bere
- Adverbs of quantity molto, abbastanza, poco, per niente
- Molto as an adjective and as an adverb

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VOCABULARY:

- Useful expressions for asking and giving information about the weather
- Climate and temperature

CULTURE:

- Reading: Espressioni metaforiche e luoghi comuni sul tempo
- Weather in Italy
- Idiomatic expressions related to the weather

| | LESSON 14 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION, GRAMMAR, VOCABULARY: general review |
| | ORAL PRESENTATION |

| | LESSON 15 | |
|------|--------------|--|
| Meet | In class | |
| Exam | SESSION EXAM | |

SESSION 2

| | LESSON 1 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Present tense: review of regular verbs and most important irregular verbs in the three conjugations -are, -ere, -ire |

| | LESSON 2 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 7 - Che tempo fa? |
| | COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | Searching out Italian cities on a map |
| | Talking about weather conditions |
| | Asking and saying how the weather is in a place |
| | GRAMMAR: |
| | Direct pronouns: forms and position |

| Use of direct pronouns with modal verbs + infinitive |
|---|
| VOCABULARY: Italian geography: regions and most important cities Months and seasons Weather conditions |

| | LESSON 3 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 7 – Che tempo fa? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: • Asking a partner what is someone doing • Using molto as an adjective and as an adverb • Describing actions which are going on right now • Watching weather forecast videos. |
| | GRAMMAR: Progressive form with stare + gerundio Present gerund forms of regular and irregular verbs dire, fare, bere Adverbs of quantity molto, abbastanza, poco, per niente Molto as an adjective and as an adverb |
| | VOCABULARY: Useful expressions for asking and giving information about the weather Climate and temperature |
| | CULTURE: Reading: Espressioni metaforiche e luoghi comuni sul tempo Weather in Italy Idiomatic expressions related to the weather |

| | LESSON 4 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 8 – Che cosa hai fatto nel fine settimana? |
| | COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | Talking about Saturday nights and week-end activities |
| | Reading a cultural program |
| | Using time expressions già, ancora |
| | Inquiring about someone's past actions |
| | Describing one's daily routine in the past |
| | GRAMMAR: |
| | Di + definite articles |
| | Past tense: review (verbs taking essere and agreement of the past participles) |
| | Past tense: passato prossimo form of reflexive verbs |
| | |

| VOCABULARY: • Leisure activities |
|--|
| CULTURE: • Reading: newspaper article |

| | LESSON 5 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 9 – La nuova famiglia italiana COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: • Talking about one's family and family relationships • Describing a family tree |
| | GRAMMAR: Possessive adjectives (all forms) Possessive adjectives + nouns referring to family relationships Verbs related to love relationships |
| | VOCABULARY: Family Marital status Innamorarsi, fidanzarsi, sposarsi, litigare, separarsi, divorziare |
| | QUIZ 1 |
| | Assignment number 1 |

| | LESSON 6 |
|---------|--|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 9 – La nuova famiglia italiana COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: • Talking about events that will occur in the future • Making planes • Writing a short story using future tense |
| | GRAMMAR: Future tense: regular and irregular forms Ma, o, perché Time expressions: all'inizio, alla fine, dopo, poi |
| | VOCABULARY: • Italian family |
| | CULTURE: • Reading: L'evoluzione della famiglia italiana Italia family in modern society |

| | LESSON 7 |
|------|----------|
| Meet | In class |

| Lecture | Unit 10 – Mi sembra |
|---------|---|
| | COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | Understanding and giving physical descriptions |
| | Describing someone |
| | Describing one's personality |
| | Expressing opinions on someone |
| | Expressing agreement and disagreement |
| | Submitting a questionnaire and presenting its results |
| | GRAMMAR: |
| | Indirect pronouns |
| | Direct pronouns vs indirect pronouns |
| | Anche / neanche |
| | A me sì / A me no |
| | Mi sembra / mi sembrano |
| | VOCABULARY: |
| | Nouns and adjectives for physical description |
| | Personality adjectives |
| | Questionnaire Che tipo sei? |
| | CULTURE: |
| | Reading: Essere o apparire? |
| | Italians and look |
| | |

| | LESSON 8 |
|------|-------------------------------|
| Meet | In class |
| Film | Screening of an Italian movie |

| | LESSON 9 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 11 – Prendiamo il treno? |
| | COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | Pros and cons of travelling by train |
| | Making, accepting and refusing an invitation |
| | Reading timetables |
| | Buying a ticket |
| | Asking for and providing information on means of transport, prices and time |
| | Expressing distances and durations |
| | GRAMMAR: |
| | Use of nessuno, niente |
| | Past tense: imperfetto indicativo (forms and use) |
| | Imperfetto forms of irregular verbs essere, fare, bere, dire |
| | VOCABULARY: |
| | Means of transport |
| | Trains and stations |

| | LESSON 10 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 11 – Prendiamo il treno? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: Describing past situations and actions that occurred repeatelly Describing a place Talking about one's childhood Writing a short story about one's childhood GRAMMAR: Passato prossimo vs imperfetto VOCABULARY: High speed trains CULTURE: Reading: Frecciarossa. L'eccellenza italiana al servizio del Paese |
| | High speed trains in Italy |
| | QUIZ 2 |
| | Assignment number 2 |

| | LESSON 11 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 12 – Ti vesti alla moda? |
| | COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | Expressing opinions |
| | Pointing something |
| | Asking for and saying one's size |
| | Asking for discounts |
| | Expressing likes and dislikes |
| | GRAMMAR: |
| | Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns: questo, quello |
| | VOCABULARY: |
| | Colours, fabrics and fabrics patterns |
| | • Clothing |
| | Clothing and shoe sizes |
| | Ti sta bene, ti sta male |

| | LESSON 12 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | Unit 12 – Ti vesti alla moda? COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: • Shopping for clothes and shoes • Describing one's look • Giving advice |

| GRAMMAR: | |
|--|------------|
| Imperativo informale singolare (affirmative and nega | ive forms) |
| Irregular forms of imperativo: abbi, bevi, sii | |
| Contracted forms of imperativo: va', da', sta', fa', dì' | |
| Position of direct and inderct pronouns with imperative | <i>1</i> 0 |
| VOCABULARY: | |
| Accessories and shops | |
| CULTURE: | |
| Reading: Pitti Immagine, la moda a Firenze | |
| Italian fashion | |
| | |
| Assignment number 3 | |

| | LESSON 13 |
|---------|---|
| Meet | In class |
| Lecture | COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTION: |
| | Watching short videos |
| | Making polite requests |
| | Expressing wishes |
| | Giving advice and recommendations |
| | GRAMMAR: |
| | Present conditional (regular and irregular forms) |
| | • |
| | General review |

| | LESSON 14 |
|------|-------------------|
| Meet | In class |
| Exam | ORAL PRESENTATION |

| | LESSON 15 |
|------|------------|
| Meet | In class |
| Exam | |
| | FINAL EXAM |