



Department of Italian Language and Culture

ITA101 Italian Language I

Italian Language: Level I [4-Week Summer Intensive Course]

email: info@sienaschool.com

Course Description

The objective of the intensive first level course is to introduce the student to the Italian language, covering the basic communicative tools useful for everyday interaction while in Italy.

We will utilize an integrated communication method that puts the student at the center of the learning process in a cooperative relationship with the teacher. This perspective is based on the principle of the negotiation of the content of the course and the teaching strategies.

Grammatical theory will be always connected with the practical use of the language.

The students will be taught not only the linguistic system, but they will be given strategies and techniques that facilitate the learning process.

All of the didactic materials used throughout the course, such as textbooks and multimedia devices, are in Italian.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites

Course Hours

The course meets five times a week for a total of 15 hours a week.

Student Learning Expectations

At the end of the course the student is expected to have a basic knowledge of the Italian language, while being capable of using a "current and up-to-date" language. Thus the student will be an active "social actor", able to reach the communicative goals (socialization, understanding of the culture) and to be confident with the use of the Italian language in the Italian environment to fulfill his or her personal objectives.

Course Outline

Week by Week Description:

Week I Communicative functions: greeting people, introducing yourself, pronunciation and spelling of a word, asking nationality, asking for telephone numbers, ordering in a bar and in a restaurant, asking prices, introducing someone, asking and giving personal details, talking about your work, speaking formally.

Grammar: "essere" and "chiamarsi", the alphabet, adjectives and nouns of the first and the second group, regular verbs, numbers, articles, verbs "fare" and "avere", simple prepositions.

Week II Communicative functions: talking about leisure time, expressing likes and preferences, describing a place, asking and giving directions, asking and telling time, booking a hotel room, complaining and offering a solution, describing a house, asking and giving timetable information.

Grammar: verbs "fare", "andare", "stare", regular verbs at presente indicativo, the construction of the verb "piacere", words introducing a question, other simple prepositions, irregular verbs (introduction), the construction of "c'è/ci sono", the hour, the months, compound prepositions.

Week III Communicative functions: planning a trip, talking about the weather, asking information in a travel agency, talking about working hours, describing a typical day, describing your daily routine, best wishes and congratulations, describing holidays and traditions, identify family relationships, describing your family.

Grammar: passato prossimo, past time expressions, adverbs of time (già, appena, non ancora), reflexive verbs at present and passato prossimo, position of the reflexive pronouns, possessive adjectives.

Week IV Communicative functions: describing food and eating habits, grocery shopping, shopping for clothes, making polite requests, expressing tastes and preferences, describing animals, talking about your childhood, talking about habitual activities in the past.

Grammar: direct objects pronouns, indirect object pronouns, adverbs "più", "meno", "troppo", imperfetto, the use of the imperfetto compared with the passato prossimo.

Assignments:

Daily homework will consist of readings, writing, exercises on the text book, short papers.

They may be both individual or collective.

Textbook and required materials:

Course pack distributed by teacher.

Recommended optional materials/references:

- Gruppo Italiaidea, "Italian Espresso 1", Alma, Firenze 2008
- Toffolo L., Nuti N., and Merklingshaus R., "Allegro 1", Edilingua, Atene 2003
- Nocchi S., "Grammatica pratica della lingua italiana" Alma, Firenze 2002
- Bailini S., and Consonno S., "Ricette per parlare", Alma, Firenze 2003
- Bertoni S., and Nocchi S., "Le parole italiane", Alma, Firenze 2003
- Blok Boas A., Materassi E., and Vedder I., "Letture in corso 1", Bonacci, Roma 2003

Grading System

Participation	30 %
Homework	20 %
Final Exam (Written and oral)	50 %

The evaluation method is based on an attentive daily observation (through frequent testing). Evaluation will take into consideration not only linguistic competence, but also the psychological and emotional aspects related to the individual and to the classroom dynamic.

Final Exam.
 The final written test will last an hour and a half. It will consist of multiple choice questions, short answers, short essays, reading and comprehension tests, etc. Concerning the oral test, the subject will be agreed upon with the teacher. It will consist of a presentation on the aforementioned subject lasting 10 minutes as well as 10 minutes for the teacher's questions.

Grading scale

98-100 A+	88-89,99 B+	78-79,99 C+	68-69,99 D+
93-97,99 A	83-87,99 B	73-77,99 C	63-67,99 D
90-92,99 A-	80-82,99 B-	70-72,99 C-	60-62,99 D-
<59,99 F			

Course Policy

Attendance



Only one absence is allowed during the 4 weeks of the program. All other absences are considered unexcused. Each unexcused absence will incur an academic penalty of 10% off the overall grade of the class missed. A student having more than 3 unexcused absences will earn an 'F' in their course work and if they accumulate such absences in more than one course, will be dismissed from the program.

Retests/makeup tests

Students can do the exam on a different date only for justified reasons (health reasons, etc.). In any case, it cannot be held a second time just because the result is not satisfactory.

Excursions

N/A