INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN (1)

The main objectives of this language and culture course are to strengthen the students’ speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills at the intermediate level. The course will review basic grammar skills and proceed to more advanced grammar, preparing students to describe, narrate, and ask and answer questions in the future and conditional tenses. Through a conversational-cultural approach this course will also introduce interesting facets of Italy, Italian culture, and contemporary Italian life. The course fulfills four competencies associated with career readiness by NACE (The National Association of Colleges and Employers): Oral and Written Communications, Teamwork/Collaboration, Digital Technology, and Global/Intercultural Fluency.

We will meet through the videoconferencing software ZOOM and we will engage in a variety of different activities: dialogues, conversations, interviews, surveys, discussions of films and poems, prepared and impromptu oral reports and skits, games, grammar-based exercises and drills, compositions, journal entries, internet readings and exercises, video-clips, art via internet or Power Point, and music. The textbook Prego! will be supplemented by other resources.

Classes are taught in Italian (about 90%, do not panic if you do not understand everything!) and are devoted to the practice of Italian, focusing on comprehension and dramatization of different situations and contexts. Your enthusiastic participation in class will help to create a positive, friendly, and interactive learning environment. Grammar will be explained only when necessary and useful for the whole class. Remember that it is your responsibility to prepare the assigned sections and complete the exercises before class. Students are expected to spend at least 1 hour preparing for each class. I encourage you to meet regularly with other students to study and practice your Italian aloud.

Required Textbooks and Audio-material:
- Course packet (available without charge at http://elearn.memphis.edu)
- Prego! podcasts (available without charge at http://elearn.memphis.edu)
- Roberto Benigni, Johnny Stecchino (dvd)

Recommended Online Textbooks:
- Prego! Online Laboratory Manual and Workbook (available online at http://books.mhcentro.com)

Technology and Software Requirements:
Students will need ready access to a reliable computer with high speed internet service (DSL or Cable). The minimum hardware requirements for this course can be found at this site: http://www.memphis.edu/uofmonline/technical.php. Test your device to ensure it is compatible with our LMS (Learning Management System) using the System Check Wizard. If your home internet connection is weak consider using hot-spots, wifi at libraries, or computers on campus. (Lack of internet access is not an acceptable excuse for missing course deadlines.) For technical difficulties with electronic submissions or viewing, consult the UM Help Desk by filling out a form at http://umhelppdesk.memphis.edu or call 901-678-8888. Students are strongly advised first to create and save all coursework with a word processor, and then to paste it into eCourseware, in case of a glitch with the browser or on-line connection! The software requirements are Microsoft Office Word and Power Point, Adobe Acrobat Reader, and VLC. Open PDF files using the free downloadable software. Use Microsoft Office for document creation (available for students via http://umapps.memphis.edu). Access Flash-based content with Adobe Flash Player (free).

Grading:
A+= 100-99; A= 98-93; A-=92-90; B+= 89-87; B= 86-83; B-= 82-80; C+= 79-77; C= 76-73; C-= 72-70; D+= 69-67; D= 66-60; F= below 60
- 15% Class Participation: Weekly grade
- 25% Homework in Dropbox and Discussions
- 30% Written Exams: Tests and Quizzes
- 10% Final Written Exam (T, May 4, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm)
ORAL/aural skills: midterm and final oral exam, oral individual report / group skit and group work video

- The Midterm Oral Exam and Final Oral Exam consist of reading a dialogue from your text Prego!, answering and asking questions (see review sheet in the Course Packet, p. 6-9), and describing pictures from the PPT shown in class during the semester and available in eCourseware (elearn.memphis.edu). The grade will consider your competency in pronunciation, fluency, grammar, and vocabulary. When taking the exams in ZOOM you should look directly at the computer camera.

- Oral Individual Report / Group Skit: Students must give an oral presentation in Italian in class in the form of an individual factual report or a group dramatic skit. A successful presentation will employ VERY SIMPLE WORDS and SENTENCES which have been learnt in class (so that other students can readily understand), GOOD PRONUNCIATION and FLUENCY (and, in the case of factual reports, PICTURES, MUSIC, and a GLOSSARY OF DIFFICULT TERMS to illustrate your subject to other students). The goals of your presentation should be to inform or entertain your audience and to practice the language. The presentation MUST BE MEMORIZED. NO READING IS ALLOWED (YOU MAY NOT USE CARDS OR WRITE OUT YOUR TEXT ON YOUR POWER POINT SLIDES, write only dates and names of people and monuments). Topics must be approved by instructor in advance. The deadline for handing in the script and the PPT for your presentation is March 25 (25% of the grade will be based on the quality of your uncorrected script.)

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<tr>
<th>INDIVIDUAL REPORT</th>
<th>GROUP SKIT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum Length</td>
<td>At least 3 minutes of speaking per person (about 10 questions and 10 answers). Please time yourselves.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topics</td>
<td>ドラマ化された旅行代理店、喫茶店、礼装店など。語彙および発音を含むプレゼンテーション。</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cities, food, traditions, and festivals in the regions of Le Marche, Sardegna, Basilicata, Calabria, Puglia, Abruzzo, and Molise or a presentation on any Italian subject that interests you.</td>
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- Group Work in class, Video 1-4 (Lavoro di Gruppo in classe, video1-4): In class, in groups of 2-4, students will create and perform a skit. The skit must be recorded through ZOOM and uploaded in the appropriate section in Dropbox.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

- Class Participation means punctual daily attendance, adequate preparation, and positive contribution to class. A participation grade will be assigned and based on the following: 1) attending the virtual class on time every day; 2) preparing every assignment before we cover it in class; 3) answering in Italian when called on or volunteering when the instructor asks a question; 4) responding correctly when called upon (i.e., grammatical accuracy and correct pronunciation); 5) trying to ask questions in Italian; 6) actively participating in group activities and continuing to speak in Italian even after you and your classmate have completed a group activity; 7) participating in positive ways, without creating a disturbance (being respectful of the instructor and other students). ZOOM policy: always have your camera on, make sure to use a reliable internet connection, connect in a quiet area, wear clothing appropriate for a regular class meeting on campus and do not eat food.

HOMEWORK

- Homework: Since the class is conducted in Italian, not in English, **you are required to prepare and study dialogues, vocabulary, and grammar before you come to class. (Please see schedule of assignments.)** Homework is due before class starts: you must complete the exercises assigned for the day in Dropbox and submit them in Word format. All written assignments must be fully written out using complete sentences.

- Discussion Forums: Throughout the semester Discussion Forums will be posted online in eCourseware (elearn.memphis.edu) which will require students to post responses practicing the newly-studied grammar and vocabulary and to interact with each other’s responses (at least ten sentences long).

- Film journal: Over the course of the semester you will view an Italian film (Johnny Stocco). At the end of each screening there will be a discussion, and then you will be asked to write at least ten sentences about the film sequences seen that day as homework to be turned in the next class period so that I can correct it. This task is referred to in the schedule of assignments as “film journal.” Your film journal should be written using vocabulary and expressions
studied in class.

WRITTEN EXAMS: QUIZZES, TESTS, AND FINAL WRITTEN EXAM

- Quizzes, tests, and final written exam will be taken remotely synchronously and monitored by me through ZOOM. All assessments will be recorded in order to keep material proof of your exams. In the first part of each assessment there will be an oral component worth 25% of the total grade. This oral assessment allows me to better understand how well you know the material and also helps the class review before the main part of the quizzes, tests and final written exam.
- Students are required to use a reliable internet connection and computer (if you do not own one you can go to the university’s computer room). In case of technical difficulties during a quiz or test and you cannot take or submit it in time, you will be able to retake it orally with me using ZOOM on a day we agree on (ideally on the same day when it is scheduled in order to be fair to the other students). Students should not expect to be given multiple opportunities to take quizzes, tests or the final written exam because this would be unfair to their classmates. If you regularly need extra time to take exams you should contact the Disability Center (Contact DRS at 901.678.2880 or at drs@memphis.edu, [https://www.memphis.edu/drs/index.php]).
- The structure of quizzes, tests, and the final written exam is explained and sample exercises are provided the meeting time before they are scheduled.

EXTRA HELP

- If you encounter difficulties with the material please contact me immediately! Please use my cgaudenz@memphis.edu email. I will respond within 24 hours. Additionally, the Italian Program provides a free Italian tutor for improving and practicing your Italian. (Meeting times will be announced in late January.)
- The eighth edition of *Prego!* comes with an Online Workbook (recommended) and an Online Laboratory Manual (recommended) which may be purchased at [http://books.mhcentro.com](http://books.mhcentro.com). The Online Workbook is divided into chapters and provides further exercises for practicing the material presented in class (with instant feedback). The Online Laboratory Manual is also divided into chapters and provides exercises for practicing oral comprehension.
- In eCourseware (elearn.memphis.edu) for each chapter of *Prego!* you may find Audio files for improving your pronunciation, podcasts which will help you memorize each chapter’s vocabulary and grammar, and a copy of the videos and PPT shown in class.
- For memorizing new vocabulary and verb conjugations you can also use QUIZLET.com (recommended, in QUIZLET you can find exercises for all of the chapters of your text *Prego!*)
- In eCourseware (elearn.memphis.edu) you will find Screenshot notes for each class meeting.
- For technical difficulties with electronic submissions or viewing, use the UM Help Desk by filling out a form at [http://umhelpdesk.memphis.edu](http://umhelpdesk.memphis.edu) or calling 901-678 8888.
- For typing accents in Italian go to [https://www.thoughtco.com/how-to-type-italian-language-characters-2011138](https://www.thoughtco.com/how-to-type-italian-language-characters-2011138)

COURSE POLICIES

- 3 tardies = 1 absence.
- Absences in excess of 4 will negatively affect the grade in the course (leave absences for genuine emergencies).
- Late homework will not be accepted for credit except for a documented emergency.
- If you miss a lesson you are responsible for the material covered.
- You must take tests and exams the days they are scheduled. No make-up tests will be given except in case of documented medical or family emergencies.
- Academic integrity policy: the university Student Code of Conduct prohibits all forms of academic dishonesty. In compliance with this policy, no form of cheating will be tolerated. At the instructor’s discretion, students who are believed to be violating this code will be questioned immediately. Possible consequences include a failing grade (F) on the assignment, course failure and/or referral to judiciaries. ([https://www.memphis.edu/osa/](https://www.memphis.edu/osa/)). The Student Code of Conduct applies to all aspects of this course. Examples of misconduct include, but are not limited to: plagiarism; failure to cite sources in an essay; assistance from human or translation software and/or online translators in the preparation of any assignment, exam, or composition to be submitted for a grade.
- Students’ cell phones must be turned off.
- You can leave the virtual classroom only for emergencies.
- ZOOM policy: always have your camera on, make sure to use a reliable internet connection, connect in a quiet area, wear clothing appropriate for a regular class meeting on campus and do not eat food.
❖ Students with accessibility issues or learning accommodation issues due to a disability should contact Disability Resources for Students (DRS) to submit an official request for course accommodations. Contact DRS at 901.678.2880 or at ddrs@memphis.edu. (https://www.memphis.edu/ds/index.php).
❖ To comply with the government’s FERPA regulations, I will not reply to emails from non-university email accounts and I will not send emails to non-university email accounts.
❖ The University is committed to ensuring equality in education and eliminating any and all acts of sexual misconduct from its campus. Sexual misconduct includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can make a report to the Office for Institutional Equity at oie@memphis.edu (mailto: oie@memphis.edu) or 901-678-2713. Please note that if you make a report to me I am required to relay the information to the university. If you want to make a confidential report you can contact the University Counseling Center, 214 Wilder Tower, 901-678-2068.
❖ All course materials uploaded in elearn.memphis.edu have been provided for the personal education of students enrolled in this course and only during the present term of enrollment. Under no circumstances will materials be considered intellectual property of Cosetta Gaudenzi and cannot be used by other instructors without her express permission.
❖ Syllabus changes: The instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary to this syllabus. If changes are necessitated during the term of the course, the instructor will immediately notify students of such changes both by individual email communication and posting both notification and nature of change(s) on the course bulletin board.
❖ COVID-19: The latest updates on university policies, guidelines, and resources related to COVID-19: memphis.edu/coronavirusupdates. Students who have a positive COVID-19 test should contact the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@memphis.edu. Students who need additional resources can visit the Dean of Students Office website at https://www.memphis.edu/deanofstudents/crisis/index.php.

TIPS ON STUDYING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE
❖ A foreign language course is different from any other course you have taken before: you must study every day; you cannot study for the course only on TR or MWF or Sunday night and expect to do well or come close to learning or mastering the language. The three most important ingredients for success in studying a foreign language are: 1. A disciplined attitude; 2. A willingness to participate in class; 3. Doing assignments regularly. Schedule your time to allow daily study periods. Approximately 80% of your study time should be spent in recitation or practice aloud. The key to speaking the language is imitation and memorization through repetition. In class, when others are called on, you should still participate silently rather than just sitting there passively. It is much harder to catch up than to keep up. Neglected work tends to ‘snowball.’ In learning a foreign language the elementary blocks of information are the basis for all the rest of the material you will have to learn. Do ‘bother’ your teacher at once if you need help. Do NOT CUT CLASS. You will pay for that cut. You will get behind. LEARNING GRAMMAR IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR MASTERY OF THE LANGUAGE. Grammar rules are a language’s bones—words are only flesh. Vocabulary can be looked up or asked for, but grammar is essential. Relate new grammatical terms to equivalent features of your own language. Understand the grammatical terms; do not just memorize tenses, rules, etc., mindlessly. But ultimately a memorization process must take place. It is impossible to function without memorizing vocabulary and verb forms for the various tenses. The trick is not to memorize by using lists of isolated words, instead, SHORT SENTENCES AND PHRASES. You should learn how to do things with the language, how to perform certain tasks and communicate in Italian. Also in learning to read the language, study by phrases and sentences. Avoid word-by-word translation. Always read for context. Read the full context in which any unfamiliar word appears before looking it up. If you do not recognize a form try to parse it; that is, analyze the phrase grammatically: first identify the verb (this often tells you whether the subject is singular, plural, etc.), then identify the subject, etc. For memorizing new vocabulary and verb conjugations you can either make your own flashcards or use QUIZLET.com (recommended, in QUIZLET you can find vocabulary exercises for all of the chapters of your text Prego! and/or the PODCASTS related to the chapters of your text Prego! which you may find in elearn.memphis.edu. BREAK UP YOUR PRACTICE TIME INTO REPEATED MORE TIMES. For example, it is much better to study for ten minutes at a stretch five different times than to study for one hour straight. FORM STUDY / CONVERSATION GROUPS and practice your speaking skills outside of the classroom. WATCH ITALIAN MOVIES on NETFLIX or AMAZON PRIME. PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS organized by the Circolo Italiano each semester. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TUTORING / CONVERSATION hours provided by the World Languages and Literature Department. Consider STUDY ABROAD in Bologna, Italy.

CIRCOLO ITALIANO
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<td><strong>QUIZ 3, Video Calabria</strong></td>
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<td>HW15: Course Packet p. 32; 23, 24 p. 46, Film journal</td>
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<td><strong>LAVORO DI GRUPPO (Video 3), Ripasso, Video Prego!</strong></td>
<td>HW16: C, E p. 245, Dopo la lettura B p. 247</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td><strong>Last day to drop a grade with ‘W’</strong></td>
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<td>23</td>
<td><strong>TEST 3, Cap. 12, Video Johnny Stecchino</strong></td>
<td>HW17: Discussion Forum 3 due, A p. 252</td>
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<td><strong>QUIZ 4, Video Johnny Stecchino</strong></td>
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<td>8-9</td>
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<td><strong>Presentazione, Video Molise, Video Johnny Stecchino</strong></td>
<td>HW22: B, C p. 279, Film journal</td>
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<td><strong>Presentazione, Video Abruzzo, Ripasso quiz 5 e esame orale finale (1), Lettura, Nuovo codice della strada (Course Packet p. 35-36)</strong></td>
<td>HW23: Film Journal, Course Packet p. 6-9</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td><strong>QUIZ 5, Video Johnny Stecchino, Ripasso esame orale finale (2)</strong></td>
<td>HW24: B, C p. 282, Course Packet p. 6-9</td>
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<td><strong>ESAME ORALE FINALE</strong></td>
<td>HW25: C p. 284, Film Journal</td>
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<td>4 maggio</td>
<td><strong>ESAME SCRITTO FINALE 10:30 am – 12:30 pm</strong></td>
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