

Instructor: Christina McGrath
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Intensive Elementary Italian

Monday: 9:00-12:00, 1:00-4:00

Wednesday: 1:00-4:00

Thursday: 12:30-4:30

Course book:

New Italian Espresso 1, Italian course for English speakers (Alma Edizioni, 2014) -- textbook and workbook

Course objectives:

This intensive first year course (which is the equivalent of Italian 1101/1102 at Columbia), is open to those with no previous training in Italian, and prepares students to move into intermediate Italian.

The course provides students with a foundation in the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions and activities, and to practice as often as possible outside of the classroom as well. Language acquisition will be achieved not only through exercises and conversation, but also through songs, audio clips, pictures, food, and games. Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- provide basic information in Italian about themselves, their interests, their daily activities;
- participate in a conversation on everyday topics using the major time frames of present and past;
- read short edited texts, understand the main ideas, and pick out important information from authentic texts (e.g. menus, signs, train schedules, etc.)
- write short compositions on familiar topics;
- identify basic cultural rituals and practices in the context of their occurrence.

Course expectations:

Regular attendance and active participation are necessities in this course, owing especially to its accelerated pace. Classes will be held in Italian, and students are strongly discouraged from using English during class. Students will be asked not to utilize any screens during our lessons (phones, tablets, laptops, etc.), as they detract from our collective engagement and attention. Additionally, the use of online translators is prohibited and will be considered plagiarism.

I am happy to meet with students not only to discuss questions related to the course, but also to help mitigate any questions or issues regarding your experience studying abroad -- I encourage all of my students to come chat with me outside of class!

Students with disabilities should register with ODS, and should also be in touch with me for any additional accommodations.

Grading:

Participation:	20%
Compositions:	10%
Quizzes:	15%
Midterm:	20%
Final exam:	25%
Oral presentation:	10%

Settimana 1:

lunedì 10 giugno -- giovedì 13 giugno

Lezione 1: Primi contatti (Contesto: la scuola, i compagni e la classe)

Communicative functions: greeting people (formal and informal), introducing one's self, and formulating simple questions

Grammar and vocabulary: essere, chiamarsi, alphabet, nationality, regular verbs

Lezione 2: Buon appetito! (Contesto: il cibo)

Communicative functions: ordering in a restaurant

Grammar and vocabulary: singular and plural nouns, definite and indefinite articles, numbers, fare, essere, avere

Compiti: Workbook lessons 1 and 2; tema 1

Settimana 2:

lunedì 17 giugno -- giovedì 20 giugno

Lezione 3: Io e gli altri (Contesto: vita professionale)

Communicative functions: asking for and providing personal information, discussing work, speaking formally

Grammar and vocabulary: -are verbs, professions, tu vs. lei

Lezione 4: Tempo libero (Contesto: hobbies)

Communicative functions: talking about leisure time, expressing preferences

Grammar and vocabulary: -ere and -ire verbs (*indicativo presente*), piacere, adverbs of frequency

Lezione 5: In giro per l'Italia (Contesto: la città)

Communicative functions: describing a place, asking for and giving directions, telling time

Grammar and vocabulary: adjectives, present indicative of irregular verbs, c'è e ci sono

Compiti: Workbook lessons 3, 4, and 5; tema 2

QUIZ 1

Settimana 3:

lunedì 24 giugno -- giovedì 27 giugno

MIDTERM -- TBA

Lezione 6: In albergo (Contesto: la città)

Communicative functions: booking a hotel, describing a house, giving travel information
Grammar and vocabulary: modal verbs, *preposizioni articolate*, *a che ora?*

Lezione 7: Un fine settimana (Contesto: le vacanze)

Communicative functions: planning and discussing a trip
Grammar and vocabulary: *passato prossimo*, adverbs of time

Compiti: Workbook lessons 6 and 7; tema 3

QUIZ 2

Settimana 4:

lunedì 30 giugno -- giovedì 3 luglio

Lezione 8: Vita quotidiana (Contesto: l'amore)

Communicative functions: describing a typical day, describing traditions and holidays
Grammar and vocabulary: reflexive verbs, possessive adjectives

Lezione 9: La famiglia

Communicative functions: describing family relations
Grammar and vocabulary: possessive adjectives (especially as related to family members), *passato prossimo* of reflexive verbs

Lezione 10: Sapori d'Italia (Contesto: cucina e ristoranti)

Communicative functions: describing food and dietary habits
Grammar and vocabulary: direct object pronouns, *ne* as partitive expression

Compiti: Workbook lessons 8, 9 and 10; tema 4

QUIZ 3

Settimana 5:

lunedì 7 luglio -- giovedì 10 luglio

lunedì 7 luglio: presentazioni orali

Lezione 11: Fare acquisti (Contesto: la moda)

Communicative functions: shopping for clothes, making polite requests
Grammar and vocabulary: indirect object pronouns, *condizionale presente*

Lezione 12: I nostri ricordi

Communicative functions: describing past situations and habits, talking about your childhood
Grammar and vocabulary: *imperfetto*

Compiti: Workbook lessons 11 and 12; tema 5

QUIZ 4

Settimana 6:

lunedì 14 luglio -- giovedì 17 luglio

Lezione 13: Non è bello ciò che è bello... (Contesto: arte e artisti)

Communicative functions: describing someone's appearance and personality, making comparisons
Grammar and vocabulary: comparatives and superlatives, *condizionale presente*

FINAL EXAM: TBA (3 hours)