



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

ITAL 201 L01
BEGINNERS' ITALIAN
Fall 2021
MoWeFr 11:00AM - 11:50AM – Web based section

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Peter Peltekov

OFFICE HOURS: W 12- 1 pm [<https://ucalgary.zoom.us/j/98910376136>] / by appointment

E-MAIL: pnpeltek@ucalgary.ca

I will try my best to give a timely response, but as a policy, I will respond to e-mails within 48 hours.

DESCRIPTION

This course is designed for students with no previous knowledge of the language and it provides the basic skills in the comprehension, speaking, reading, writing of Italian. Emphasis will be on developing the students' communicative competence and in learning basic grammatical structures as well as introducing them to Italian culture through the use of authentic material, including songs, short videos, etc. There will also be an experiential learning component. This is a completely web-based course. The course is completely Web-based and this is the Zoom link to our meetings:

<https://ucalgary.zoom.us/j/91753523685>

PREREQUISITES: Not open to students with credit in Italian 30 or equivalent.

OBJECTIVES

This course aims to prepare the students:

- to understand familiar words and basic sentences, concerning themselves and a variety of familiar topics (e.g. family, travel, food, some current events, technology, professions, etc.) when people speak slowly and clearly.
- to read short, simple texts. The students will be able to utilize reading strategies to find specific, predictable information in everyday materials such as advertisements, short online videos, menus and brief personal communications.
- to use the target language with a basic level of conversational fluency on familiar topics. The students will be able to ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on familiar topics. They will be able to request simple information and to order simple food. In addition, they will be able to describe where they live and people they know.
- to write short, simple messages dealing with everyday issues. The students will be able to describe, in basic sentences, themselves, their friends and family, their immediate surroundings, and their daily routines.
- to give examples of the relationship between language and culture. The students will be able to identify some characteristics of the target language culture(s) and distinguish patterns from stereotypes. They will begin to note similarities and differences between target cultures and their own.



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

- to reflect on the experience of learning a new language and on different pedagogies. The students will begin to identify their personal learning style.

OUTCOMES

By the end of the course the students will be able to:

Speaking: Speak Italian well enough to greet and take leave appropriately in formal and informal contexts; ask and answer basic information questions; order simple food and beverages; talk in simple ways about yourself, your family, your student life, your likes and dislikes, your wishes, both in the present and in the past tense.

Listening: Comprehend spoken Italian well enough to grasp the main idea and some supporting details in short conversations that relate to daily life and represent authentic situations. Understand audio and video material that accompanies the textbook, as well as basic songs and videos in Italian.

Reading: Read and understand the main idea and some details from both authentic and edited material (including newspaper articles, short narratives, advertisements and brochures).

Writing: Create simple text and short compositions on familiar topics; write messages and letters that relate to personal interests and practical needs.

Culture: Demonstrate awareness of the basic cultural differences between Italian and North American culture. Recognize that learning a language enables a person to better understand and interact with the people who use the language natively.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

- *Prego! An invitation to Italian, 8th edition.* by Lazzarino/Aski, published by MC GRAW- HILL + AVANTI CONNECT ACCESS (Online workbook) [Package available for delivery at the U of C bookstore]
- *Other selected written, video and audio material (links available on D2L)*

As per University requirements for Web-based sections, students need to have reliable access to technology, as follows:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone; In order to be able to listen to media and to record themselves.
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Stable internet connection

Moreover, students will need to access Zoom and they will need an app to scan their course materials (homework) such as TurboScan (or similar).



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

Any good Italian dictionary, for instance *The Oxford College Italian Dictionary*.
As for on-line dictionaries, the use of Wordreference.com is recommended.

COURSE NOTES

The course will be conducted entirely in Italian as permitted by the online medium. Be prepared to speak Italian as much as possible. Welcome to Italy!



- Regular attendance to all synchronous class meetings is strongly recommended. Active participation is warmly encouraged. Active participation is defined as connecting to the zoom link with your camera and your audio ON. Please dress as if you were in an in-person class. It is essential that you do your homework and read the materials before class. Participation includes being prepared and ready to give active and positive contributions in Italian to class interactions, including the breakout sessions and tutorial sessions. Lack of attendance or of participation will adversely affect your overall performance and will have a negative impact on your final grade. The instructor should be informed of any reasons for prolonged absence. Attendance to 3 web-based co-curricular events during the term is mandatory and in general, attendance to all co-curricular events is encouraged in order to have more occasions to practice your language skills, and can help make up absences for your participation grade as well as be counted as extra-credit (when you submit a write-up describing the event you participated to).
- Students are strongly encouraged to communicate consistently in the target language during the synchronous web-based class meetings and to attend the Web based zoom meetings of IL CIRCOLINO to practice Italian.

Important dates:

- Web-based class meetings will start on Wednesday September 8th.
- Web-based Tutorials on Zoom will start the week of September 13th.
- There will be no class for Thanksgiving on Monday, October 11th.
- Term break will be the week of November 7th- 14th
- The three exams (D2L quiz) will take place on October 4th, November 3rd and December 1st.
- The two writing assignments are due October 1st and November 15th
- Video Cultural projects will be uploaded to a dedicated D2L folder by November 26th.
- The Final Written Project will be uploaded to a dedicated D2L folder by December 8th
- Web-based class meetings will end on Wednesday, December 8th
- Attendance at all tests and examinations is mandatory. Exams will be administered online through D2L quizzes. The Exam/D2L quiz will last a class period (50 mins, but the students will be allowed 75 minutes to complete it in order to account for technological issues). Students will be allowed a period of 48 hours to access the Exam/D2L Quiz. Missed exams and assignments will be given a grade of F. A student who is absent /unable to take the test in the 48h period for legitimate reasons must inform the instructor immediately and an alternative course of action may be considered.
- Assignments have to be submitted on D2L, in the specific created folder (electronic submission of assignments by email will not normally be accepted although can be used in case of technical issues). Rewrites of compositions MUST be submitted completed with the first version.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

- Workbook assignments will be due on exam days or when otherwise specified on the syllabus document on D2L. The Workbook is online. Students will check their answers directly on the workbook website. The instructor will only check that the students have submitted the workbook assignments and have checked them. Late submission of workbook assignments will result in a lower mark.
- Written assignments should be completely original and should reflect the vocabulary and grammatic structures studied in class. Students are encouraged to be creative and to use a good Italian dictionary, but please refrain from using on-line translation websites. The using of on-line translation websites such as Google translate is forbidden because it is detrimental to students' learning.
- Please come on time to our Zoom meetings and behave as if we were in an in-person class. No outside use of technology will be allowed other than what you need to access zoom with Video and Audio ON. It is considered good class etiquette to respond to the questions the instructor poses in the breakout session and to contribute actively to the class discussion. If you have a question on the material, please write it in the class chat or raise your hand. Questions are always welcome!
- During the course, we will watch and discuss an Italian film and Italian videos.
- The topic of the Video Cultural project will be decided by the students and discussed with the instructor. It should involve researching an aspect of Italian culture particularly interesting to the student. The project will be then uploaded to a dedicated D2L folder by November 26th.
- The Final Written Project will be uploaded to a dedicated D2L folder by December 8th.
- Final Oral Exam will be a 5 minutes interview with the instructor on Zoom: the students will have a short dialogue with the instructor on familiar topics. It will take place both on class time and on scheduled meetings.
- There will not be a final examination.
- The Procedure for Course evaluation will be online via a dedicated D2L Link.

ASSESSMENT

- ⇒ 3 in class exams (Monday October 4th, Friday November 3rd, Wednesday December 1st) - delivered as D2L quizzes (10%, 10%, 10%) 30%
- ⇒ 2 writing assignments with possibility of rewriting (Due: October 1st and November 15th) - to be uploaded onto a D2L folder (10%, 10%) 20%
- ⇒ 1 Video Cultural Project (Due: November 26th) - to be uploaded onto a D2L folder 10%
- ⇒ Tutorials 5%
- ⇒ Workbook and Homework 5%
- ⇒ Active Class Participation 10%
- ⇒ Final Oral Exam 10%
- ⇒ Final Written Project (Due: December 8th) - to be uploaded onto a D2L folder 10%

A passing grade in all components of the course is necessary and every component will contribute to successfully pass the course.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

All exams are intended to be done without any external aid: access to course notes, textbook or online resources is expressly forbidden. Students can use scrap paper.

For writing assignments students are allowed to use a good Italian dictionary (see *Recommended course materials*). The writing should be entirely in Italian and entirely original, based on the vocabulary and the grammatical structures studied in class.

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-96 A= 95-91 A- =90-86

B+ = 85-81 B =80-76 B- =75-71

C+ = 70-67 C= 66-62 C- =61-58

D+ = 57-54 D= 53-50 F =49%

The official grading system (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) will be applied for the calculation of the final mark

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.