

## **INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN SYLLABUS ITAL – 032-20 – SUMMER 2017**

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### **I. Course Description:**

Intermediate Italian is a course designed for those students who have completed Basic Italian, or have, somehow, already been exposed to the language. In this sense, the course aims to further develop the language ability and the knowledge of the Italian culture. As in Basic Italian, the four skills of speaking, understanding, reading and writing will be expanded in a balanced way, and aspects of Italian history, culture, and contemporary life will also be brought to students' attention through readings, listening materials, videos, films and the use of language technologies (like BlackBoard/Canvas and other web tools).

### **II. Course Objectives:**

These are the main objectives of Intermediate Italian:

- To develop students' ability to communicate in situations of everyday life (such as informal encounters, transactions in shops or public offices), and through the production of short essays.
- To develop analytical skills through reading and writing.
- To develop students' ability to use language both functionally (for example, to describe people and places, to make requests, to give advice) and expressively (for example, to express feelings and states of mind).
- To promote intercultural awareness and contact through discussions and reflections on Italian customs, traditions, and daily life.

### **III. Methodology:**

Intermediate Italian is a communicatively-oriented course, and the language is taught through exposure to authentic situations and texts, which constitute the basis for formal and grammatical reflection. Thus, grammar is not taught independently of the texts presented in class and the focus is not on the formal aspects of the language, but on communication. Most of the materials and explanations are in Italian and classes are conducted for most part in Italian, though the textbook's grammatical explanations are in English.

### **IV. Resources:**

#### ***a. Textbooks:***

***Parliamo italiano!*** 5th Edition by Suzanne Branciforte and Elvira Di Fabio, Binder Ready Version with Activities Manual or Wiley Plus Access Code **ISBN: 9781119312857**

#### ***b. Technology, Videos and Films:***

Use of technology is strongly encouraged and BlackBoard/Canvas, web resources and/or other technologies are used in all classes to provide further practice on specific grammatical points, to offer guided access to culturally salient Internet sites and up to date materials for the development of oral and written skills. Students will also watch and work on at least one Italian film and different types of video materials.

### **V. Guidelines for Student Participation and Work:**

General university guidelines apply also to this course. Students are expected to attend class regularly, to do homework daily and to hand it in on time. Homework may include a variety of assignments, including some compositions aimed at developing written ability.

### **VI. Evaluation:**

Students in this class are regularly evaluated, both through quizzes and tests, but the final grade is assigned taking into account oral performance and oral presentations, compositions, attendance, homework, and class participation. Quizzes are given for each unit, while tests cover materials from two units. In addition, there is a final exam that covers Units 7 through 11. No make-up tests are allowed unless exceptional circumstances (such as medical emergencies) occur. The grade for oral performance is assigned based on two oral exams and the daily performance in class.

Students in this class also complete, and are graded for 3 writing assignments. Grades will be assigned according to the following criteria:

#### **Grading system:**

Tests (2)	20%
Quizzes (4)	20%
Oral performance	15%
Writing	15%
Homework, attendance and participation	15%
Final exam	15%

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+ 67-69, D 65-66, F 0-64