

INTENSIVE BASIC ITALIAN SUMMER 2018

Instructor: Giuseppe Tosi
Email: tosig@georgetown.edu
Office#: ICC#519F
Office hours: *tba*

I. Course Description.

Basic Italian is course that wish to provide a first approach to the Italian language for absolute beginners. Attention is devoted to the four skills of speaking, understanding, reading and writing. Aspects of Italian history, culture, and contemporary life are also introduced through readings, listening materials, videos and films and through the use of language technologies (such as Canvas and other web tools). The general objectives are to provide students with basic tools for oral and written communication in Italian, but also to offer them the opportunity to learn about Italian culture and life and to reflect about intercultural differences and similarities.

II. Course Objectives.

The main objectives of this course are the following:

- To develop students' ability to communicate both orally in basic situations of everyday life such as informal encounters, transactions in shops or tourist facilities, and in writing, through the composition of simple texts such as letters, messages and brief essays on cultural topics.
- To develop analytical skills through reading and writing.
- To develop students' ability to use language both functionally (for example, to introduce themselves, ask for information, order food at a restaurant) and expressively (for example, to describe what kind of people they are, or their likes and dislikes)
- To promote intercultural awareness and contact through discussions and reflection on Italian customs, traditions, and daily life.

III. Methodology.

Since this is a communicatively-oriented course, 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 almost exclusively in Italian. However, the textbook presents grammatical explanations in English.

IV. Resources.

a. Textbook

Parliamo italiano! 5th Edition by Suzanne Branciforte and Elvira Di Fabio, Binder Ready Version with WileyPLUS Learning Space Registration Card
ISBN: 9781119228783

b. Technology

Use of technology is strongly encouraged and Canvas, the textbook, 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.

c. Video and Films

During the course students watch and work on at least one Italian film and different types of video materials.

V. Guidelines for Student Participation and Work.

Attendance and daily preparation are essential. Students are expected to attend class regularly, to do homework daily and to hand it in on time, even if they have been absent from class. Homework may include assignments in the workbook, Canvas activities, projects, etc. Students will be assigned compositions in order to develop written ability. They are encouraged to participate actively in class. The maximum of unexcused absences accepted is 3 for the entire course

VI. Evaluation.

Students are regularly evaluated, both through quizzes and tests, but the final grade is assigned taking into account oral performance, compositions, attendance, homework, and class participation. Quizzes are given for each unit, while tests cover materials from two units (1-2 for the first test, 3-4 for the second test and 5-6 for the third test). There is a final exam that covers units 1 (and preliminary) through 6. No make-up tests are allowed unless exceptional circumstances (such as medical emergencies) occur. In addition, there is a final oral test that will be scheduled with the instructor outside of class time towards the end of the semester. The grade for oral performance is assigned based on daily performance and the final oral test. 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 (3)	30%
Quizzes (3)	10%
Oral performance	15%
Writing	15%
Homework, attendance and participation	10%
Final exam	20%

Grade scale:

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE ON HONOR CODE.

An important point of the HONOR CODE at Georgetown refers to the elaboration and presentation of compositions and other written work. Although students are encouraged to work with language tutors on grammar and other aspects of the language on which they may need help, **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD THEY HAND IN WRITTEN WORK THAT HAS BEEN REVISED, PROOF READ, PARTLY OR TOTALLY ELABORATED BY THEIR TUTORS.** Students may seek their tutor's advice on specific language-related questions, but not on the elaboration of compositions, written projects, etc. Assignments that are written with the help of online tools such as *Google translator* are unacceptable and will result in serious sanctions as will assignments that copy materials from the internet without quoting sources. Ignoring these rules will be considered a breach of the honor code and will lead to serious academic consequences.

For more information about the honor code at Georgetown follow this link:

<https://honorcouncil.georgetown.edu/system>

NOTE ABOUT DISABILITIES.

If you believe you have a disability, you should contact the Academic Resource Center (<https://academicsupport.georgetown.edu/http://academicsupport.georgetown.edu/disability>) for further information. The ARC is located in the Leavey Center, Suite 335. The Academic Resource Center is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students with disabilities and for determining reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and University policies.