Introduction to Italian
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO
Department of Modern Languages & Literatures

ITAL 101-ONLINE
SUMMER SESSION A
SYNCHRONOUS SESSIONS
TUESDAYS: 10-11 A.M.

Professor: Wiley Feinstein
Virtual Office Hours: Adobe connect:
Monday 11-12:30
Wednesday: 8-9:30 p
Thursday: 4-5:30 p
E-mail: wfeinst@luc.edu
Office Phone: (773) 508-2868

Required Materials: The following materials will be posted as "Word" files on "Sakai"

Italian pronunciation guide and weekly online exercises
Italian vocabulary overview and weekly online exercises
Grammar in English, grammar in Italian and grammar exercises
Conversational situations in Italy: model dialogues and exercises
Italian glossary
Film to view: "Io non ho paura"

Recommended reference materials:
English grammar for students of Italian

Websites:
Loyola Sakai: http://sakai.luc.edu
First-year Italian language courses are designed to introduce students to the fundamental elements of linguistic competency in speaking, reading, writing and listening in Italian. In the Online version of the course, students will language skills through direct practice in exercises (pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar) and online quizzes and through weekly synthesis sessions in which students will work with a partner on dialogues and in exchanging basis information. The course will also devote significant attention to the study of Italian culture. Students will complete individual blog assignments on an Italian city or region (or an aspect of Italian culture that can be studied in relation to a particular city or region). There will also be a film viewing and discussion of aspects of Italian culture that can be seen in the film.

**Learning Outcomes:** By the end of Italian 101 online students will be able to:

*Speaking skills:* students will be able to pronounce individual words and expressions accurately and also be able to ask and answer simple questions about themselves in simple conversations (including online conversations) with classmates on "Voicethread". Students will also be able to combine short spoken sentences to provide basic information, about themselves, their everyday activities and leisure activities and the city they are from as well as of the Italian city (or region) they are most interested in living in or visiting.

*Listening skills:* Demonstrate understanding of individual words and phrases by viewing/listening to exercises and conversations (or monologues) involving native speakers and then correctly answering questions about words, phrases and main concepts.

*Reading skills:* Show understanding of the content of written texts by answering questions about the content of everyday written texts.

**Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:**

The pursuit of truth is the prime activity in a University community. All students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honest In addition to the Loyola University Chicago policy on Academic Honesty (see Loyola website: http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicintegrity.shtml), the following rules apply in all modern language courses:

1. Students may not use automated translators when completing exercises or in preparing the end-of-unit assignments.
2. Students may not ask friends, relatives or native speakers to complete their assignments.
3. Students may not recycle their own or other people’s work.
4. Students must explicitly cite any material that has been taken from the Internet or other sources and in most cases are urged to paraphrase rather than copy and paste.

Plagiarism or dishonest examination behavior will result minimally in the instructor assigning the grade of “F” for the assignment or examination. A pattern of academic honesty may lead to a failing grade for the course.

**Students with Disabilities:**

Students with documented disabilities who wish to discuss academic accommodations should contact me the first week of class, as well as the appropriate office in the Sullivan Center.

**Email Communication**

I will do my best to reply to emails sent during business hours M-F within 1 day. Emails sent after 9 pm will be considered received the next business day. I will not answer emails on Friday evening or Saturday.

**Final grade scale:**

- A (=93-100)  
- A-= (90-92)  
- B+ (= 87-89)  
- B (= 82-86)  
- B-= (80-81)  
- C+ (= 77-79)  
- C (= 72-76)  
- C- (= 70-71)  
- D+ (= 66-69)  
- D (= 60-65)

**Grading:**

1. Regular exercises (including online assignment-check quizzes) 25%
2. End of unit synthesis (on VoiceThread) with partner 25%
4. Blog assignment 20%
5. Film viewing and assignments (Beginning 3rd week of class) 10%
6. Final Exam-including oral (administered in breakout sessions) 20%
II. Course structure:

After Introduction There will be four essential units based that will introduce the basic elements of Italian pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar and demonstrate key conversational situations involving greetings, providing basic personal information, talking about everyday activities. Each unit will contain the following elements

Assignment Part 1: Vocabulary and idioms (including flash-card making activity)

Assignment Part 2. Focus on pronunciation: introduction of words and dictation exercises

Assignment Part 3: Grammar concepts- theory and practice

Assignment Part 4: Dialogues: Listening comprehension/ Reading comprehension

Assignment Part 5: Oral skill development: answering questions, reacting to what is said

Assignment Part 6: Culture blog assignment: follow instructions

End-of-unit synthesis Assignment on VoiceThread: Dictation, pronunciation, questions and answers, dialogues, elements of culture/civilization: detailed instructions will be given for each

III. Presentation of materials

A. Synchronous session will be conducted on Adobe Connect: They will serve for setting up and explaining assignments for the coming week and also reviewing problems that have arisen on the previous week's assignments

We will be using Adobe Connect for online synchronous sessions. If you have not used Adobe Connect before please visit https://connect.luc.edu/common/help/en/support/meeting_test.htm to test your connection. For these sessions please have one of the following:

Headset with Microphone (Click to see an example headset)

Earphone & Microphone (Earphones from you MP3 player & Microphone on your laptop)

Web camera is required but you may be asked to turn it on only when you are speaking

B. For each part of each week's lesson there will be a brief narrated lesson which will contain material in Italian and explanations in Italian and English.
C. Online exercises – after viewing the lessons, you will complete exercises that will be corrected automatically - - or that you will correct by checking answer sheet. If questions arises about a particular assignment, it is important to use the Assignment Forum to a raise a question that will be answer by the Instructor within 24 hours of your posting it. Once you are confident that you understand a particular element of a unit (pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, questions and answers, conversational exchanges, culture), you can go ahead and complete the online quiz that will determine your assignment grade for the unit.

D) Blog assignment: instructions will be given

E. Unit Review VoiceThreads exercises with partner: you can meet your partner in person or else complete the assignment virtually

V: Assessment/grading components

A: Regular pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar assignments and assignment-check quizzes: completed by Friday (with extension to Sunday): 25% of grade

In these assignments, students develop and demonstrate listening, speaking and reading skills and learn to understand how to develop skill in pronunciation, and knowledge vocabulary and grammar that is the basis for successful communication in a foreign language. Exercises provide regular opportunities for satisfying personal self-expression in Italian.

B. Weekly cultural blog entries: 20% of grade

Students develop and demonstrate cultural knowledge by choosing a city or region in Italy and report regularly on the geography, cuisine, art, music, modern industry etc found in this city

C: End of Unit VoiceThread exercises with Partner quizzes (5): 20% or grade (include Voicethread oral component):

Students will demonstrate listening, speaking language and writing skills directly or show knowledge of vocabulary and grammar that is essential for effective communication.

Final exam: 20%: (includes written exam completed during last synchronous session and comprehensive oral component scheduled online with partner instructor):

WEEK-BY-WEEK UNIT TOPICS
I. Introduction to course: “Perché l'Italiano? Why Italian? The Italian Alphabet and its pronunciation. Basic greeting exchanges

II. Week Two. “Benvenuti al Belpaese!” Talking about people and places in Italy (and about yourself) The Italian noun: masculine and feminine: Vocabulary areas: People and places: countries and people from those countries, cities in Italy and people from those cities; Minor topics: school subjects and professions, objects in the room of an online student

III. Week Three: “Il piacere della normalità” Daily activities: The Italian verb: Studying, reading, writing, understading, eating and drinking, going out, etc

IV Week Four: “I panni sporchi si lavano in famiglia” Family and friends: Descriptions and Activities: The adjective to describe people: physical and personality characteristics of people and places and the Italian adverb: the way people do things, how often they do things

V Week Five: “Sorretto da un insensata voglia di equilibrio” Tempo libero (Leisure Time) and planning a trip to Italy: The verbs “want” “can” “have to” + infinitive; Review of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs

VI Week Six: Written exam completed during synchronous sessions. Oral exams scheduled individually or in pairs on Adobe Connect