



## **SYLLABUS**

### **ITALIAN LANGUAGE LEVELS 1 TO 4**

**Contact Hrs: 80**

**Language of Instruction: Italian**

**MACERATA, ITALY**

### **Notes for all levels**

The Italian Language courses include 4 (four) courses corresponding to the different levels: Beginning, Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced.

#### Duration of courses:

The three months Italian Language courses consist of 80 hours of lessons. Classes are held Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8.15 to 11.00

#### Objectives:

The courses include the development of the four linguistic skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) in a balanced way, as well as the study and practice of functional grammar, that is, grammatical structures needed to fulfill specific functions of language: naming, asking questions, giving directions, describing, defending opinions, etc.

Method: From the beginning the student is immersed in a truly Italian atmosphere. The student commence at an early stage to understand and utilize common expressions and to handle a daily conversation. Both instructions, the linguistic structures and the pronouncing, orthography and grammar present in that structures are shown in contexts that reflect every day life, resulting motivated and useful. The development of the situation determines the presence of the grammatical argument.

Placement Exam: A test will be administered to each student on the first course day in order to place him in the appropriate level. Students with absolute no knowledge of Italian Language will begin immediately with the first lesson of Beginning Italian.

Requirements: Attendance is very important for the continuity of class activities and it is mandatory. There will be no unexcused absences.

1-2 absences: student will be warned;

3-4 absences: student will receive a lower grade – a deduction of 4%;

5 or more absences: student cannot receive a passing grade and must formally withdraw from the course.

Exceptions to this scale may be made for extreme, unforeseen circumstances, and only at the instructor's discretion.

Consistently late arrival or early departure may affect your attendance grade, at your instructor's discretion.

Exams: There will be, besides the daily assignments, a mid-term exam and a final exam both in the form of oral and written.

Evaluation: The final grade will be based on the following ratio:

- 25% attendance, complete the assignments and in-class participation;
- 25% mid-term exam;
- 10% oral presentation;
- 20% written final exam;
- 20% oral final exam.

Course Descriptions: (As professors will have the best appreciation of the Italian level of each particular group, variations on the following descriptions might occur in a given term. Course content is complemented and enriched by student's personal experience of the Italian culture and every day life outside the classroom. For student's who do their work conscientiously, improvement is significant.)

## **BEGINNING - LEVEL 1**

This is a course designed for students who have never studied the Italian language before. The main goal of the course is to give a basic knowledge of the Italian language through the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, and to provide the necessary foundations of grammar.

### **1. *Al corso di lingua – Primi contatti***

- \* The Italian alphabet: vowels and consonants spelling
- \* Question words (*Come ti chiami? Di dove sei?*)
- \* Personal pronouns (*Io, tu...*)
- \* Adjectives of nationality
- \* Verb to be (*essere*); affirmative, negative and interrogative form.
- \* Demonstrative adjectives (*questo ragazzo, questa ragazza*)

### **2. *Vita quotidiana – Abitare in Italia***

- \* Verb to have (*avere*); affirmative, negative and interrogative form.
- \* Italian expression with the verb to have (*Io vorrei...*)
- \* Question words (*come si dice?, come si pronuncia?, che cosa significa?, che fai?, che lavoro fai?*)
- \* Definite and indefinite articles
- \* Nouns: gender and number
- \* Numbers (0-30)
- \* Regular verbs: Present tense (*abitare, scrivere, aprire*)

### **3. *Attività della settimana – La giornata di Stella***

- \* Prepositions (*a, di, in, con, da, per*)
- \* The time (hours)
- \* Question words (*Che ore sono?*)
- \* There is, there are (*C'è, ci sono*)
- \* Adverbs of frequency (*Spesso, sempre, mai*)
- \* Present tense (*Finire*)
- \* Modal verbs: Present tense (*Volere, potere, dovere*)
- \* Present tense (*andare, venire*)

### **4. *In Vacanza – Tempo libero***

- \* Present perfect with auxiliary verb to have (*ho comprato il biglietto*)
- \* Question words (*perche?, dove è?, dove sono?, quanto costa?, quanto pago?*)
- \* Numbers (30-100)
- \* Use of preposition showing direction or time (*da, a, fino a*)
- \* *Tu* vs *Lei*
- \* Present perfect with auxiliary verb to be (*sono andato*)

### 5. *Le cose proprie – La famiglia*

- \* Possessive adjectives and pronouns
- \* Direct pronouns
- \* Ways of expressing what you like or dislike (*mi piace, mi piacciono, non mi piace, non mi piacciono*)
- \* Ways of expressing happiness or regret.

### 6. *Abitudini*

- \* Reflexive verbs: daily routine (*vestirsi*)
- \* Present perfect of the reflexive verbs (auxiliary *essere*)

### 7. *Ricordi*

- \* Imperfect tense (*Da bambino abitavo in una casa molto grande*)
- \* How to use the Imperfect to express two contemporary actions (*mentre*)
- \* How to use the Imperfect and Perfect (*all'improvviso*)

### 8. *I giovani e lo studio – I progetti di Angelo*

- \* Future tense

### 9. *Negozi – Vestiario*

- \* Past tense and direct pronouns (*-Hai comprato la giacca?-No. Non non la ho comprata*)
- \* Partitive pronoun *ne*

### 10. *Mezzi di trasporto*

- \* Comparative and superlative
- \* Ways of expressing agreement, disagreement, doubt.

**Text-book:** A. Mazzetti, M. Falcinelli, B. Servadio, *Qui Italia. Corso elementare di lingua italiana per*

*Stranieri* (units 1-9 and 12), Le Monnier, Firenze, 2002.

Supplementary material (provided by the instructor)

## **ELEMENTARY – LEVEL 2**

This is a course designed for students with basic knowledge of Italian language. The main goal of the course is to consolidate the basic knowledge of the Italian language through the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and to provide more foundations of grammar.

### 1. *Mi presento – le professioni*

\* General review of foundations of grammar: Definite and indefinite articles. Present tense (Regular verbs and some irregular forms). Simple prepositions.

### 2. *L'appartamento di Anna*

- \* Prepositions of place
- \* Complement pronoun of place (*ci*)
- \* Ordinal numbers
- \* Telling the time

### 3. *La mia giornata*

- \* Reflexive verbs
- \* Modal verbs (*Volere, potere, dovere*)
- \* Present perfect (*essere o avere*)
- \* Irregular participles

#### **4. La famiglia di Marco**

- \* Possessive Adjectives
- \* Ordinal numbers
- \* Possessive pronouns

#### **5. Che tempo farà questo fine settimana**

- \* Future tense
- \* Verbs *sapere* and *conoscere*
- \* Future perfect tense

#### **6. Alberto Moravia: lo scrittore ricorda**

- \* Imperfect tense
- \* Imperfect or Present perfect tense

#### **7. Lo sport**

- \* Direct and indirect personal pronouns

#### **8. Fare acquisti**

- \* Articulated prepositions

#### **9. Regali**

- \* Ways of expressing you like or dislike something (*mi è piaciuto*, *mi sono piaciuti*)

#### **10. Natura – Città e Campagna**

- \* Relative pronouns
- \* Ways of expressing disapproval

**Text-book:** A. Mazzetti, M. Falcinelli, B. Servadio, *Qui Italia. Corso elementare di lingua italiana per*

*Stranieri* (units 4 - 10, 12, 14) Le Monnier, Firenze, 2002.

Supplementary material (provided by the instructor)

### **INTERMEDIATE – LEVEL 3**

This is a course designed for students with a solid basic knowledge of Italian language. The main goal of the course is to improve their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, and to introduce them new and more complex aspects of Italian grammar.

#### **1. Da piccola, in famiglia**

- \* General review of foundations of grammar: Present tense, Present perfect, Imperfect, Future, Future perfect
- \* Italian song: *Donne* (Zuccherò)

#### **2. Non è bello ciò che è bello...**

- \* The verb *farcela*
- \* *Cominciare* and *finire*: transitive and intransitive verbs
- \* Comparative (*come / quanto*)
- \* The form *Andarsene*
- \* Present Conditional
- \* How to give advice, to ask politely and to make a proposal with the Present Conditional
- \* Newspaper's article

#### **3. Appuntamenti**

- \* Present progressive tense (*stò studiando*)
- \* Object pronouns with the Present perfect

- \* Adverbs *già / non...ancora*
- \* Object pronouns with the Infinitive
- \* Relative pronouns *che* and *cui*
- \* Italian song: *Mitico amore* (Antonello Venditti)

#### 4. **Buon Viaggio!**

- \* How to express a request or a wish with the Imperfect tense
- \* Use of Imperfect vs Present Perfect
- \* Present Perfect and Imperfect tense of the verbs *sapere* and *conoscere*
- \* Indefinites
- \* Italian song: *Solo ieri* (Eros Ramazzotti)

#### 6. **L'importante è mangiare bene!**

- \* The Imperative form: affirmative and negative, 2nd. Person singular (Tu)
- \* Imperative form followed by pronouns
- \* Verb *servire*
- \* Italian song: *Alba chiara* (Vasco Rossi)

#### 7. **Mens sana...**

- \* Imperative form: affirmative and negative, 3rd person singular and 2<sup>nd</sup> person plural (Lei and voi)
- \* Imperative form followed by pronouns
- \* *Buono* and *bene*: comparative and superlative
- \* Italian song: *Fisico bestiale* (Luca Carboni)

#### 8. **Il mondo del lavoro**

- \* Future tense
- \* *Bisogna* + Infinitive
- \* Verbs usually followed by direct object and verbs usually followed by indirect object
- \* Partitive pronoun *ne*
- \* Hypothetical sentences (*se* + present or future)
- \* Italian song: *Piccola Stella senza cielo* (Ligabue)

#### 9. **Casa dolce casa...**

- \* The Subjunctive mood. Regular verbs and some irregular verbs
- \* How to express a doubt, a personal opinion, feelings, necessities with the Subjunctive mood.
- \* Hypothetical sentences with gerund (Comprando dei mobile nuovi l'appartamento diventerà...)
- \* Comparative (più... di / che)
- \* Use of the adjective *bello*
- \* Newspaper's article

#### 10. **Incontri**

- \* Present Perfect of Modal verbs (*Avere / essere*)
- \* use of *mentre* and *durante*
- \* Subjunctive/Indicative (*Non sopporto che... / non sopporto quando...*)
- \* The Past Perfect
- \* Italian song: *Due* (Raf)

#### 11. **I nostri sogni e desideri**

- \* Past Conditional
- \* Relative and absolute superlative
- \* Main irregular forms of superlative

**Text-book:** M. Balì, G. Rizzo, *Espresso 2*, Alma Edizioni, Firenze, 2002.  
Supplementary material (provided by the instructor)

## **ADVANCED – LEVEL 4**

This is a course designed for students with a large knowledge of the fundamental structure of Italian Language. The main goal of the course is to consolidate linguistic and communication skills; to improve the ability to produce written texts from dictation and one's own and to complete a general view of Italian grammar.

### **1. *Prima di cominciare***

- \* General review of the basic linguistic structures of Italian language

### **2. *Esami...che stress!***

- \* Combined pronouns (*me lo, glielo...*)
- \* Interrogative Adjectives, pronouns and adverbs

### **3. *Un conto corrente***

- \* Relative pronouns
- \* *Chi*
- \* *Coloro, colei, colui che*
- \* *Cui*

### **4. *Città italiane***

- \* Comparison
- \* Relative superlative
- \* Absolute superlative
- \* The verbs *farcela e andarsene*

### **5. *Un po' di storia***

- \* The *Passato Remoto*: regular verbs
- \* The *Passato Remoto*: irregular verbs
- \* The *Trapassato Prossimo*
- \* The Adverbs of manner

### **6. *Stare bene***

- \* The *Congiuntivo presente*
- \* The *Congiuntivo passato*
- \* The *Congiuntivo presente*: some irregular verbs

### **7. *Andiamo a vivere in campagna***

- \* The *Congiuntivo imperfetto*
- \* The *Congiuntivo trapassato*

### **8. *Tempo libero e tecnologia***

- \* A hypothetical statement which expresses a possibility
- \* A Hypothetical statement which is contrary-to-fact (Possible/Impossible)
- \* Uses of *ci*
- \* Uses of *ne*

### **9. *L'arte ... è di tutti***

- \* Passive voice
- \* Passive voice with verbs *dovere e potere*
- \* Passive voice with verb *andare*
- \* *Si* - construction

### **10. *L'Italia moderna e i suoi problemi***

- \* Reported speech

**11. *Che bello leggere!***

- \* Use of the *Gerundio*
- \* Use of the *Infinito*
- \* Use of the *Partecipio*

**Text-book:** T. Marin, Z. Magnelli, Nuovo ***Progetto Italiano 2, Corso multimediale di Lingua e civiltà***

***Italiana***, Edilingua, Roma-Atene.

Supplementary material (provided by the instructor)