INTENSIVE ELEMENTARY
ITAL-UA9010.F02-FA18,
M, T, W, R 9:00am-10:45am– 75’/Day
Classroom Location: VIAREGGIO
SYLLABUS OVERVIEW

Class Description
- ITAL-UA9010.F02-FA18
- Intensive Elementary Italian
- Prerequisites: none
- Meeting Days and Times: M, T, W, R – 75’/Day
- Classroom Location: VIAREGGIO

Instructor Details
- Name: Valentina Contini
- NYUHome Email Address: Valentina.Contini@nyu.edu
- Office Hours: by appointment
- Villa Ulivi Office Location: Aula Belvedere
- Villa Ulivi Office Extension: 316

Course Overview
Prerequisites: none

Comprehension: to understand brief oral and written texts containing standard phrases (questions, commands, forms of courtesy) and vocabulary at some speed, when presented contextually and in plain and clear language; to collect information during listening exercises and readings of authentic texts (for example: street directions, menu, advertisements, schedules, lists, etc.); to follow the main points of a conversation in a standard Italian that is clearly audible and occasionally dwells on known topics; to understand descriptions of events in the past that are narrated in a linear fashion and concerned with familiar environments.

Production and interaction: to communicate in daily life situations that require simple exchanges about already known topics and activities; to communicate primarily in exchanges between equals
(the first and second person of the verb); to respond to questions about activities and topics, even when unable to independently lead the conversation; to produce brief oral and written mono-directional texts that present events and experiences in the present tense or the recent past, connected to personal life or the life of friends and acquaintances; to write brief messages related to social interaction (for example, salutations, expressions of gratitude, etc.).

**Linguistic structures:** subject and object pronouns, articles, adjectives, indicative and imperative present, and the two most commonly used types of past tense in neo-standard Italian.

**Course Goals**

On Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

- get used to communicating with the language-goal in mind, focusing their attention on the contents of the communication;
- acquire linguistic control of some basic practical-communicative functions: to say hello, thank you, excuse oneself, ask for repetition, introduce oneself as well as his or her family and friends, to describe objects and places in daily life, to describe everyday activities, express desires, needs and abilities, to ask for something, express basic sentiments, describe basic situations and events and habits in the past;
- reflect on the grammatical aspects of language by learning basic grammar categories such as verb, subject, adjective, etc.
- acquire the forms of the Italian verb in some tenses of the Indicative Mood and the Imperative Mood; the forms of subjects and adjectives;
- master the vocabulary related to personal identification, free time, cities and places of residence, family and daily environments, food and beverages, shopping, weather, travel and services;
- know how to prepare an oral presentation for the class that demonstrates emerging mono-directional communicative abilities;
- know how to compile brief texts that require plain writing in areas related to practical needs and that refer to brief chains of events.

Note: Expected Learning Outcomes for each unit are indicated in the detailed weekly syllabus.

**Course Requirements**

Students will be graded based on the following criteria: the completion of tasks, projects and presentation; quizzes; class participation and homework; oral and written exams.

**Course Important Dates**

- Quizzes:
  - Quiz 1, Thursday September 20
  - Quiz 2, Thursday October 4
  - Quiz 3, Thursday October 18
  - Quiz 4, Thursday November 22
  - Quiz 5, Thursday December 6
• Midterm exam:
  - Oral Exam: Tuesday October 23 and Thursday October 25 by appointment;
  - Written Exam: Wednesday October 24.
• Final exam:
  - Oral Exam: Tuesday December 11 and Thursday December 13 by appointment;
  - Written Exam: Wednesday December 12.
• Italian Immersion Day: Friday November 9
• Site visits as specified by your Language Instructor.
• Tasks, Projects, Oral Presentation as specified by your Language Instructor.

**Assessment Components**

- Participation & Homework: 20%
- 4 Quiz: 10%
- Task, Project, Presentation: 15%
- Midterm: 25%
- Final: 30%

Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.

**Assessment Expectations**

**Grade A**
The Desired Outcomes are fully reached and supported by the results of the various tests (Quiz, Task, Presentation, Portfolio, Written and/or Oral Exams), which demonstrate that the student has acquired excellent linguistic comprehension, production and interaction for the determined level of competence. The student has furthermore manifested by his/her active and constructive behavior in class and in homework a profound commitment to going beyond the objectives of the course.

**Grade B**
The Desired Outcomes are reached completely and the results of the various tests (Quiz, Task, Presentation, Portfolio, Written and/or Oral Exams) demonstrate that the student has acquired a good linguistic comprehension, production and interaction for the determined competences. The student has furthermore manifested by his/her active participation in class and in homework a serious commitment to fully reaching the objectives of the course.

**Grade C**
The Desired Outcomes are reached in a satisfactory way and the results of the various tests (Quiz, Task, Presentation, Portfolio, Written and/or Oral Exams) demonstrate that the student has acquired an acceptable level of linguistic comprehension, production and interaction for the determined competences. The student has furthermore manifested by his/her positive behavior in class and in homework a satisfactory commitment to reaching the objectives of the course.
Grade D
The Desired Outcomes are reached to a degree that is barely sufficient to pass the course; the results of the various tests (Quiz, Task, Presentation, Portfolio, Written and/or Oral Exams) demonstrate that the student has acquired only a partial linguistic comprehension, production and interaction for the determined competences. The student has furthermore manifested by his/her behavior in class and in homework – only sporadically positive – a scarce commitment to reaching positive results.

Grade F
The Desired Outcomes are not reached in a sufficient way and the results of the various tests (Quiz, Task, Presentation, Portfolio, Written and/or Oral Exams) demonstrate that the student has not acquired the linguistic comprehension, production and interaction at a sufficient level for the determined competences. The student has furthermore failed to manifest by his/her behavior in class and in homework – inconsistent and often unfocused – a commitment to reaching the objectives of the course.

Grading Guidelines

A = 94-100
A- = 90-93
B+ = 87-89
B = 84-86
B- = 80-83
C+ = 77-79
C = 74-76
C- = 70-73
D+ = 67-69
D = 65-66
F = below 65

Grading Policy

Please refer to Assessment Expectations and the policy on late submission of work.

Academic Accommodations

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980 or see their website for further information.

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in a class are encouraged to contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at (212) 998-4980 as
soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. For more information, see Study Away and Disability.

**Attendance Policy**

Study abroad at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. **To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers is mandatory, and unexcused absences will be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student's final course grade.** Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence. Repeated absences in a course may result in failure.

For courses that meet once a week, **one unexcused absence will be penalized by a two percent deduction from the student’s final course grade.** For courses that meet two or more times a week, the same penalty will apply to the number of class times over a single week.

**Excused Absences:**

In case of absence, **regardless of the reason**, the student is responsible for completing missed assignments, getting notes and making up missed work in a timely manner based upon a schedule that is mutually agreed upon between the faculty member and the student. **The only excused absences are those approved by the Office of Academic Support; they are as follows:**

**Absence Due to Illness**

- If you are sick, please see a doctor. Contact the Office of Student Life for assistance.
- For absences that last for two or more consecutive days, a **doctor's certificate, “certificato medico” is required.** The doctor will indicate in writing the number of days of bed rest required. Please note **these certificates can only be obtained on the day you see the doctor** and cannot be written for you afterwards.
- Absences can ONLY be excused if they are reported WITHIN 48 HRS of your return to class via the online NYU Florence Absence Form [insert new hyperlink]
- OAS will not accept a student email or telephone call regarding an absence due to illness
- OAS will only notify faculty of absences REPORTED on the ABSENCE FORM
- The Office of Student Life, when assisting you in cases of severe or extended illness, will coordinate with the Office of Academic Support to properly record your absences
Due to Religious Observance

- Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the holiday only and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday.
- Information regarding absences due to religious observance must be provided at least SEVEN DAYS PRIOR to the date(s) in question using the online NYU Florence Absence Form [insert new hyperlink].
- Please note that no excused absences for reasons other than illness can be applied retroactively.

Due to a class conflict with a program sponsored lecture, event, or activity

- All students are entitled to miss one class period without any penalty to their grade in order to attend a lecture, event or activity that is sponsored by La Pietra Dialogues, Acton Miscellany or the Graduate Lecture series.
- Information regarding absences due to a class conflict must be provided at least SEVEN DAYS PRIOR to the date(s) in question using the online NYU Florence Absence Form [insert new hyperlink].
- Please note that no excused absences for reasons other than illness can be applied retroactively.

Students with questions or needing clarification about this policy are instructed to contact a member of the Office of Academic Support located in Villa Ulivi or to email florence.academicsupport@nyu.edu

Late Submission of Work

- All course work must be submitted on time, in class on the date specified on the syllabus.
- To request an extension on a deadline for an assignment, students must speak to the professor one week prior to the due date.
- To receive an incomplete for a course at the end of the semester, two weeks before final exams, both the student and the faculty member must meet with the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs to review the request and if granted, they must both sign an Incomplete Contract detailing the terms for completing missing coursework.

Plagiarism Policy

PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN ANY FORM:
The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

In the event of suspected or confirmed cases of plagiarism, The faculty member will consult
first with the Assistant Director for Academic Affairs as definitions and procedures vary from school to school. Please consult the “Academic Guidelines for Success” distributed on your USB key at Check-in and on the NYU Florence Global Wiki.

For a detailed description of some possible forms of plagiarism and cheating please consult the Community Compact that you signed at Orientation, a copy of which is on the above mentioned Wiki and USB key.

Classroom Etiquette

- Eating is not permitted in the classrooms. Bottled water is permitted.
- Cell phones should be turned off during class time.
- The use of personal laptops and other electronic handheld devices are prohibited in the classroom unless otherwise specified by the professor.

We recycle! So keep it green! Please dispose of trash in the clearly marked recycle bins located throughout the on campus buildings.

Course Materials

Required Textbooks & Materials

Copies of each textbook are available for consultation and short term loans in the Villa Ulivi Library. Extra copies of some textbooks are also available for semester long loans. More information on Books and Course Materials.

Textual Resources:

- **Allora: Corso di Italiano. Livello Elementare.** Department of Italian Studies, NYU Edition 2013 [from now on AE]. Bookshop: Paperback Exchange, via delle Oche, 4red, Firenze
- **Parole per Oggi.** Department of Italian Studies, NYU Edition 2013, [from now on PO]. PDF version in NYU class or Printed version at the Paperback Exchange, via delle Oche, 4red, Firenze

Online Resources (all available within NYU Classes):

- **Allora: Grammar Guide** [from now on G]
- **Allora: Glossario & Flashcards**
- **Allora: Grammar Videos**
- **Allora: Allora Videos**
- **Allora: Audio files**
- **Allora: Test&Quizzes (Assignments)**
- **Allora: Come si pronuncia**
- **Allora: La mia lezione**
Optional Textbooks & Materials
Additional assistance for this class is available to you free of charge at Villa Ulivi (La Pietra campus). To schedule one-on-one or small groups tutoring sessions contact our in-house tutor: TBD

Required Co-Curricular Activities

- **Site Visits:**
  Conosciamo Firenze: visite in città.

- **Field Trip: Italian Immersion Day**
  Visita alle cantine della Tenuta di Capezzana e assaggio dell’olio biologico nuovo.
  NOTE: Instructors may vary the syllabus slightly to meet the needs of each individual class.

Suggested Co-Curricular Activities

Suggested optional co-curricular activities will be announced in class and/or via email by the professor throughout the semester.

Your Instructor

Valentina Contini received her PhD in Italian Studies from the Facolta’ di Lettere e Filosofia of the University of Florence. She taught Italian and Italian Literature at the Centro di Cultura per Stranieri and Italian language at the Centro Linguistico di Ateneo of the University of Florence. She is currently an Adjunct Professor of Italian language at the NYU in Florence where she has been teaching since 1999.

Important Italian Class Rules

- Please remember that you are in Florence to learn the Italian language and culture, so Italian will be spoken in class at all times.
- Coming prepared to class having done the assignments, making an effort to constantly speak Italian, asking questions, participating in all activities with a positive attitude, are all criteria in assessing your own class participation. For our detailed policy, please check the enclosed Grading Class Participation.
- Relying on used textbooks with marked answers is considered a matter of academic honesty and will be regarded by your instructor as cheating, negatively affecting your grade.
- All Quizzes and Exams will be taken as scheduled. Examinations may be anticipated or made up only with the permission of the Office of Academic Support, Villa Ulivi.
- Personal travel arrangements will never constitute a satisfactory excuse for requesting an early or make-up exam.