



FALL 2018 – Conversations in Italian ITAL-UA.9101.001

M, W, R – 75' / Day

Classroom Location: aula San Gimignano

Class Description:

- Prerequisites: Advanced Review of Modern Italian.

This course aims to improve the students' ability to listen and speak in Italian through conversations on relevant aspects of Italian social life specified in the program*. The lessons will also include moments of lexical analysis and clarification of the linguistic structures.

Particular emphasis will be given to: vocabulary, diversity of linguistic registers, current use of written and spoken language, idioms and idiomatic expression, pronunciation and intonation, slang and dialectal elements.

The lectures will be conducted in an interactive way in order to let the students be actors of their own learning process. Texts of various kinds, written, oral or audiovisual, will be used in order to encourage and stimulate the conversation.

Conversations may be preceded or followed by written assignment to consolidate the above listed linguistic contents.

* Conversation themes will be subject to change based on specific student needs.

Desired Outcomes:

A the end of the course, students are expected to have improved their comprehension and oral expression skills in general and in particular their ability to interact clearly and effectively with Italian speakers.

Instructor Details:

Name: Mara Simonti

NYUGlobal Home Email Address: mara.simonti@nyu.edu

Office Hours: by appointments

Villa Ulivi Office Location: Aula Belvedere – secondo piano

Assessment Components

- Attendance and Participation: 10%
- Homework 10%
- Quizzes 10%
- Tasks 10%
- Presentation 10%
- Midterm 25%
- Final 25%

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 the [Moses Center](#) 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.academicssupport@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.

Required Text:

- ***Nuovo Espresso 5***, Giorgio Massei, Marcella Bellagamba, Alma Edizioni, 2017

Supplemental Texts: Ulteriori testi e/o fotocopie saranno forniti dall'insegnante durante il corso.

Si consiglia l'uso del dizionario online www.wordreference.com e del dizionario "Sansoni" anche online su Corriere.it: [Dizionario inglese](#)

Si consiglia anche la lettura di quotidiani italiani online, come [Corriere](#) ed altri

Internet Research Guidelines:

The careful use of internet resources is encouraged and a list of recommended websites will be given. Failure to cite internet and other non-traditional media sources in your written work constitutes plagiarism.

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

Class Assignments and Topics:

N.B. I compiti per casa saranno assegnati in classe.

Session 1

Lunedì 3 settembre

Mercoledì 5 settembre

Giovedì 6 settembre

- **Conoscersi** - Presentazione del Programma.

Unità 1: Quanta Italia c'è in te?

Comunicare in un registro colloquiale, esprimere enfasi in base al contenuto. Utilizzare latinismi di uso comune.

La formazione del superlativo degli aggettivi mediante i prefissi *arci – stra – super – iper*

Session 2

Lunedì 10 settembre

Mercoledì 12 settembre

Giovedì 20 settembre

Unità 2: La nuova letteratura

Capire testi di narrativa contemporanea, raccontare fatti passati, evitare la volgarità;

La frase scissa esplicita e implicita

L'uso dei tempi passati dell'indicativo.

Session 3

Lunedì 17 settembre

Mercoledì 19 settembre

Giovedì 20 settembre

Unità 3: Con la testa nel pallone. Parlare di sport, esprimere intenzioni, consigli e desideri. Riconoscere alcune varianti regionali dell'italiano.

La concordanza dei tempi al congiuntivo (anteriorità); usi regionali dei verbi essere/stare (centro-sud) e avere/tenere (sud)

Session 4

Lunedì 24 settembre
Mercoledì 26 settembre
Giovedì 27 settembre - **TASK 1**

Unità 4: La grande bellezza. Fornire descrizioni e narrazioni precise di un evento o di una serie di eventi. Usare aggettivi ricercati per descrivere positivamente o negativamente una persona, una cosa o un luogo.

Session 5

Lunedì 1° Ottobre
Martedì 3 ottobre
Mercoledì 4 ottobre – **QUIZ 1**

Unità 5: Il buon mangiare. Conoscere un paese attraverso il suo cibo; esprimere previsioni ed intenzioni future nel passato in modo più accurato. Usare alcuni aggettivi come intensificatori di altri elementi della frase.

Session 6 - TASK 2

Lunedì 8 ottobre
Mercoledì 10 ottobre
Giovedì 11 ottobre: **site visit**

Unità 6: Parole in musica. Acquisire consapevolezza di alcune forme “scorrette” diffuse nell’italiano colloquiale; Usare dei giochi di parole; Riconoscere le differenze di significato delle parole omografe; Varianti linguistiche e stilistiche del periodo.

- **Site Visit:** Accademia della Crusca, Villa di Castello, with an historical **tour of the Accademia**, from 1583 (year of its stable constitution) until the present day. Special attention is given to the five editions of the *Vocabolario degli Accademici*, which have proven fundamental in the difficult path towards the establishment of Italian as a national language.
schedule TBD

Session 7

Lunedì 15 ottobre
Mercoledì 17 ottobre
Giovedì 18 ottobre

Unità 7: Quanto sei figo? Fare esclamazioni, esprimere dubbi e desideri, dare ordini ; Usare frasi enunciative, usare forme cristallizzate, Descrivere e definire le persone in base all'aspetto, Usare espressioni idiomatiche derivanti dalla gestualità.

L'infinito presente e passato

Il gerundio assoluto (presente e passato) • Il gerundio in forme cristallizzate

La posizione del soggetto con il gerundio • La parola *Ancora*

Session 8 - Midterm exam

Lunedì 22 ottobre: Ripasso
Mercoledì 24 ottobre: Esame Scritto
Giovedì 25 ottobre: Esame Orale

29 ottobre – 4 novembre

FALL BREAK

Session 9

Lunedì 5 novembre
Mercoledì 7 novembre
Giovedì 8 novembre **TASK 3**

Unità 8: Tutti all'Opera. Descrivere un genere musicale, enfatizzare un elemento del discorso, la pronuncia con raddoppiamento fonosintattico

Session 10 –

Venerdì 9 novembre: Italian Immersion Day – Mandatory All Day Activity

Visita All' Abbazia di San Miniato al Monte – Firenze -

Session 11

Lunedì 12 novembre

Mercoledì 14 novembre

Giovedì 15 novembre - **Quiz 2**

Unità 9: Donne d'Italia. Commentare delle statistiche, esprimere ipotesi, esprimere un concetto in modo ridondante

Session 12

Lunedì 19 novembre

Mercoledì 21 novembre

Giovedì 22 novembre

Unità 10: L'italiano mi cambia. Parlare del proprio rapporto con l'apprendimento linguistico. Comprendere il significato ed usare neologismi; Usare forme idiomatiche per intensificare gli aggettivi; Riprodurre enunciati passati contenenti comandi ed espressioni relative al tempo;

Session 13

Lunedì 26 novembre

Mercoledì 28 novembre

Giovedì 29 novembre: **Site Visit**

Site visit: Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale. La Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze è una delle più importanti biblioteche italiane ed europee. Insieme alla Biblioteca nazionale di Roma, svolge le funzioni di biblioteca nazionale centrale. [schedule TBD](#)

Session 14 –

Lunedì 3 dicembre

Mercoledì 5 dicembre

Giovedì 6 dicembre

TASK 4 - Presentazioni

Session 15 – FINAL EXAM

Lunedì 10 dicembre

Mercoledì 12 dicembre – Esame scritto

Giovedì 13 dicembre – Esame Orale

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

Required Co-curricular Activities

NOTE: Instructors may vary the syllabus slightly to meet the needs of each individual class.

- Sessione 6 : Accademia della Crusca, Thursday October 11 or TBD
- Sessione 12 : Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Thursday November 29 or TBD
- Sessione 10 : Italian Immersion Day, Friday November 9

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

Mara Simonti received her degree in Italian Literature from the University of Florence and a “Certificazione di Competenza” in teaching as a foreign language from the University of Siena for Foreigners.

She taught Italian Language at the *Centro di Cultura per Stranieri* of the University of Florence, at *Middlebury College – Italian School-* in Vermont (USA), 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.