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**IT 205: INTERMEDIATE ITALIAN I**  
Fondazione IES Abroad Italy: Rome

**DESCRIPTION:**

The course is designed to meet the needs of intermediate students participating in a study abroad program. In this course the student will be able to express self in a broad array of scenarios talking about self or others with precision and with a large degree of understanding. The student will be able to correct own utterances to ensure a correct understanding. Grammar and vocabulary will always be presented, analysed and practice in a context which is meaningful to the students.

Oral skills will be emphasized while a grounding in grammar will consolidate the understanding and use of the language structures. Vocabulary is based on everyday situations.

**STUDENT PROFILE:**

Students entering this level must be able to fulfill the learning outcomes of the Novice Abroad level, as defined by the IES Abroad *MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication*. Specifically, they should already be able to express themselves on a variety of concrete, everyday topics and meet their basic needs in the language. Students who enter this level may be more proficient in reading and writing skills than oral communication, especially if they have never traveled or studied abroad previously. Although students may have been exposed previously to certain competencies taught at this level, they need additional practice and instruction to move toward mastery of these competencies. As students gain more self-awareness and self-confidence, they will attempt more in the community. Paradoxically, this means they may also experience more miscommunications and frustration. Reading and writing require effort, and many students will need to commit themselves in this regard. Students will also develop cultural awareness and skills to work through the challenges of adaptation in the local culture and learn to celebrate their successes. Increasingly, they will appreciate the value of these language and intercultural skills. This course builds upon skills introduced in Novice Abroad. By the end of the course, the successful student will have begun to develop some communicative and cultural self-confidence necessary to attempt moderately complex tasks in the language, as described in the learning outcomes below.

**CREDITS:** 3

**CONTACT HOURS:** 45

**LANGUE OF PRESENTATION:** Italian

**PREREQUISITES:**

Students typically will have completed 1/2 semesters of Italian and will have met the completion of IES Abroad's Novice Abroad outcomes, determined by placement test.

**ADDITIONAL COST:** None

**METHOD OF PRESENTATION:**

Classes are taught with a communicative approach to facilitate students' ability to use their own resources and to develop confidence and familiarity with the target language.

The instructor will lead the students through the process of learning using various techniques. Working in pairs or small groups is especially emphasized.

Students are expected to use only Italian during the class. The instructor will use task-based field trips and class activities to make the students aware of the strong relationship between language and culture. For this purpose the instructor will reinforce students' independence by providing them historic and cultural background before they go on field trips.

#### **REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:**

Exclusive use of Italian language in class, active participation in all class activities, homework, research regularly completed as indicated by the instructor, oral and written tests and exams, attendance and punctuality. Students will be required to enter the Moodle course page on a regular basis in order to access readings, exercises, and any other regular and extra material.

- Class participation, engagement and homework (including field studies and use of the online Moodle page) – 30%
- 1 Quiz - 5%
- Oral competence, including two oral tests - 30%
- Midterm exam - 15%
- Final exam - 20%.

#### **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Students who are placed in this level should be capable of achieving the outcomes in the Novice Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad *MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication*.

By the end of the course, students will be able to achieve some of the outcomes for the Emerging Independent Abroad level as defined by the *MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication*. The key learning outcomes from the MAP are summarized below:

##### **I) Intercultural Communication**

- A) Students will be able to solve some daily troublesome situations and meet needs with limited help.
- B) Students will be able to make some informed comparisons between the host culture and the students' home cultures.
- C) Students will be able to distinguish between verbal and nonverbal communication that reflects politeness, formality, or informality.
- D) Students will be able to recognize simple patterns of intonation and their meaning.

##### **II) Listening**

- A) Students will be able to understand some interactions (media, speeches, music, directives, conversations, etc.), especially if the speaker is used to interacting with non-native speakers.
- B) Students will be able to understand direct requests, questions, and simple conversations on familiar and concrete topics.

##### **III) Speaking**

- A) Students will be able to talk to a limited extent with and about persons and about things in their immediate environment, and they will be able to discuss their plans, wishes, and experiences.
- B) Students will be able to address moderately complicated situations involving familiar subjects.

##### **IV) Reading**

- A) Students will be able to read passages and short texts (notes, lyrics, uncomplicated literary passages, detailed instructions, etc.) on familiar topics and understand the general meaning.
- B) Students will actively support their understanding of texts through the use of context, visual aids, dictionaries, or with the assistance of others in order to facilitate comprehension.

##### **V) Writing**

- A) Students will be able to communicate with some effectiveness through notes, emails, and simple online discussions and chats.
- B) Students will be able to write short essays on concrete topics of limited levels of complexity, with reliance on the communicative patterns of their native language.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Attendance is mandatory for all IES classes, including field studies. If a student misses more than one classes in this course, 2 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical emergencies or family emergencies. IES will only consider extreme emergency cases and will strictly adhere to this policy.

**CONTENT:**

| WEEKS | CONTENT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ASSIGNMENTS                                                                                                                                                  | CORRESPONDING LEARNING OUTCOMES                |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1     | (Unit 1: Benvenuti a Roma)<br><br>1. Functional: Describing a city, giving and asking for street directions.<br>2. Grammatical: Review of present tense of regular, irregular verbs, adjectives.<br>3. Vocabulary: The city and the daily life in Rome, public transportation, city services.<br>4. Culture: <i>Rioni</i> and <i>quartieri</i> of Rome.                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor activity: around IES</li> </ul>                                                                               | I.A, II.B, I.A, III.A, IV.A, V.A, V.B          |
| 2     | (Unit 2: In giro per Roma)<br><br>1. Functional: Making polite requests, asking for information, interacting in local stores<br>2. Grammatical: Direct pronouns and <i>ne</i> , present conditional. Use of conditional to give advices reinforce of past tense (passato prossimo and imperfetto).<br>3. Vocabulary: Food, clothes and shopping.<br>4. Culture: Shopping in Italy and in the US. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>QUIZ 1</b></li> <li>Field assignment: Un viaggio in autobus</li> <li>Outdoor activity: shopping in Rome</li> </ul> | I.B, I.DII.A, II.B, III.B, IV.A, IV.B          |
| 3     | Intensive review                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>Oral presentation 1</b><br><b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>                                                                                                            | I.B, I.D, I.C, II.A, II.B, III.B<br>IV.A, IV.B |
| 4     | (Unit 3: Il cibo e Roma)<br><br>1. Functional: Expressing likes and dislikes, talking about food, giving advices about restaurants in Rome<br>2. Grammatical: Indirect pronouns, imperative with direct and indirect pronouns.<br>3. Vocabulary: related to restaurants and places where to eat in Rome.                                                                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Field study: Eataly</i></li> </ul>                                                                                 | I A, I.B, II.A, II.B, IV.A, V.A, V.B           |

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|   | 4. Culture: The Roman cooking tradition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                              |                                                                |
| 5 | (Unit 4-5: I miei viaggi / La mia Roma)<br>1. Functional: Talking about trips, describing the visited places, planning future events, telling dreams and wishes.<br>2. Grammatical: simple future, <i>trapassato prossimo</i> .<br>3. Vocabulary: Traveling, holidays, wishes.<br>4. Culture: How do I describe Rome? Studying abroad. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Composition: my study abroad experience</li> <li><i>Field study: the traveler bookshop</i></li> </ul> | I.A, I.B, I.C, I.D, II.A, II.B<br>III.A, III.B, IV.A, V.A, V.B |
| 6 | General review                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>FINAL EXAM</b><br><b>Oral presentation 2</b>                                                                                              | I. B, I. C, I. D, II. A, III. A, III. B, IV. A, IV. B, V. A    |

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

- 205 IES Abroad Reader – Italian Faculty IES Roma
- Supplementary materials (handouts, pictures, readings, videos and films scenes, song lyrics, games, etc.) will be provided by the teacher or available on the Moodle course page.