



## ITALIAN LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT

### IT 301 EMERGING INDEPENDENT ABROAD

IES Abroad Siena

#### DESCRIPTION:

This 6-credit course is designed to provide students with a general knowledge of Italian language. They will be able to express themselves in a simple and clear manner, other than write on familiar topics and daily life, expressing their own opinions. Students will also understand the essential points of clear messages spoken in standard language and will describe experiences, events, hopes and ambitions.

**CREDITS:** 6 credits

**CONTACT HOURS:** 90

**LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION:** Italian

**PREREQUISITES:** students who enter this course will have mastered most of the outcomes of the Independent Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad *MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication*. Students have to know the following grammar topics:

1. regular verbs
2. main irregular verbs
3. personal pronouns
4. comparisons
5. singular and plural of irregular nouns
6. basic uses of subjunctive
7. conditional clause

A review activity of some of those and other grammar topics will be promoted in class during the course

**ADDITIONAL COST:** None

#### METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

The teaching method is based on a communicative approach. This involves: accent on communication, with the objective to enable the student, from the beginning, to speak and interact in Italian. Each lesson is structured with an activity to build vocabulary and an oral or written text. The text guides the student to recognize and analyze grammatical structures. Those structures are used in oral and written exercises that the students tackle in pairs or in small groups. Free oral and/or written production exercises give students the opportunity to communicate between themselves in Italian in realistic situations.

#### REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

active participation and class discussion (10%); weekly homework (10%); special assignments and moodle assignments (10%); two quizzes (10%); midterm written exam(10%), midterm oral exam(10%); final written exam (20%); final oral exam (20%)

#### LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

#### Intercultural Communication



- A. Students will begin to recognize and describe key host cultures, subcultures, habits, norms, and behaviors in a variety of settings, and they will be aware of the risk that generalizations can lead to stereotypes.
- B. Students will be able to reflect on and discuss the validity of their own cultural beliefs, behaviors, and values by contrasting and comparing them with those of the host cultures.
- C. Students will demonstrate openness toward different beliefs and styles even when they do not agree with them.
- D. Students will accept responsibility for their own learning by defining their linguistic goals and demonstrating independence in their exploration of the culture.

### **Listening**

- A. Students will be able to identify a range of social and cultural accents and some regional differences of the spoken language.
- B. Students will be able to understand a variety of native speakers and non-native experts and comprehend an array of moderately complex interactions.

### **Speaking**

- A. Students will participate reasonably well in most academic and social interactions using, when appropriate, complex language including slang, colloquial expressions, double meaning, and humor with increasing confidence.
- B. Students will be able to communicate with certain effectiveness in phone conversations and other non face-to-face interactions.
- C. Students will be able to make arguments and form opinions on almost any topic of their interest.

### **Reading**

- A. Students will be able to read and understand textbooks, literary works, and academic articles for classes taught in the host language as well as some popular texts for enjoyment.
- B. Students will be able to read and understand authentic materials including newspapers, advertisements, brochures, instruction manuals, etc. on abstract topics with some assistance at times.

### **Writing**

- A. Students will be able to write for certain native audiences and express themselves somewhat clearly and effectively.
- B. Students will be able to write essays for classes incorporating aspects of appropriate academic style with some assistance at times.

### **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**



Successful progress of the Ies Abroad Siena program depends on the full cooperation of both students and faculty members: regular attendance and active participation in class are essential parts of the learning process. Attendance at and participation in all class meetings and field-studies are required. More than THREE absences will result in a lowering of your grade by two percentage points for every absence (ONE in the intensive portion of the course, TWO in the extensive portion of the course).

**CONTENT:**

| Week          | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Assignments                                                                        | Learning Outcome(s)                                                     |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 1</b> | <p>Presentation of the course, syllabus, book and expectations</p> <p>1.Functional (Unità 1):</p> <p>describing clothes; expressing doubts, tastes, opinions;</p> <p>2.Grammatical (Unità 1):</p> <p><i>Piacere; colours; troppo; questo/quello; imperativo (tu)</i></p> <p>3.Functional (Unità 2):</p> <p>Talking about the past; describing situations;</p> <p>4.Grammatical (Unità 2):</p> <p><i>imperfetto; passato prossimo; ci; fare</i></p> <p>5. Vocabulary:</p> <p><i>shops, childhood</i></p> <p>6. Field-studies:</p> <p>Supermarket</p> <p>Shopping</p> <p>Ticket office</p> | <p><b>Unità 1:In giro per negozi</b></p> <p><b>Unità 2: Quando ero piccola</b></p> | <p>II.A</p> <p>I.A,C</p> <p>II.A, III.A</p> <p>II.A</p> <p>III. A,B</p> |

| Week   | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Assignments                                                                | Learning Outcome(s)                                                        |
|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Week 2 | <p>1.Functional (Unità 2):</p> <p>Talking about the past; describing situations;</p> <p>2.Grammatical (Unità 2):</p> <p><i>imperfetto; passato prossimo; ci; fare</i></p> <p>3.Functional (Unità 6):</p> <p>Giving advice; expressing needs and opinions about food</p> <p>4.Grammatical (Unità 6):</p> <p><i>Quello che; imperativo (tu) irregolare, negativo e con pronomi.</i></p> <p>5. Vocabulary:</p> <p><i>Food</i></p> <p>6. Field-study</p> <p>Market</p> <p>7.Documentary <i>PALIO</i> by Cosima Spender (2014)</p> <p>8. Assignment:</p> <p>Group activity on Italian different regional cuisines</p> <p>Review</p> <p><u><b>QUIZ 1</b></u></p> | <p><b>Unità 2: Quando ero piccola</b></p> <p><b>Unità 6: A tavola!</b></p> | <p>II.A</p> <p>I.A, CII.A</p> <p>I.A, C</p> <p>II.A, III.A</p> <p>II.A</p> |

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| Week                | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Assignments                          | Learning Outcome(s)                                         |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 4</b>       | 1.Functional:<br>describing people and personalities;<br>expressing hypothesis, desires,<br>advices;<br><br>2.Grammatical:<br><br><i>Né...né; farcela, sapere, andarsene;</i><br><i>comparativo; condizionale presente;</i><br><i>qualcuno - nessuno</i><br><br>3.Culture:<br><br>meeting people | <b>Unità 3: Un tipo interessante</b> | II.A<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>I.A,C                   |
| <b>Week 5 and 6</b> | 1.Functional:<br>asking for something formally;<br>expressing surprise and dislike;<br>asking for prices, information<br><br>2.Grammatical:<br><br><i>volere; sapere and conoscere;</i><br><i>passato prossimo – imperfetto;</i><br><i>volerci</i><br><br>3.Culture:<br><br>travels              | <b>Unità 5: Buon viaggio!</b>        | II.A, III.A, IV.A, V.A<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>I.A,C |

| Week                  | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Assignments                       | Learning Outcome(s)                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 7 and 8</b>   | <p>1.Functional:<br/>Talking about health and sports</p> <p>2.Grammatical:<br/><i>Imperative (Lei e voi); comparative and superlative of buono and bene; nouns in –tore e –ista; irregular plural of nouns</i></p> <p>3.Culture:<br/>Health and sports<br/>General review<br/><b><u>QUIZ 2</u></b></p> | <b>Unità 7: Come va?</b>          | <p>II.A, III.A</p> <p>I.A, B, C</p>          |
| <b>Week 9</b>         | Culture: Italian movie                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                   | III.A,B                                      |
| <b>Week 10 and 11</b> | <p>1.Functional:<br/>Expressing desires, intentions and conditions; talking about work.</p> <p>2.Grammatical:<br/><i>futuro semplice; bisogna; metterci; periodo ipotetico della realtà; pronomi: la and le.</i></p> <p>4.Culture:<br/>Work</p>                                                        | <b>Unità 8: Egregio Dottor...</b> | <p>II.A, III.A, IV.A, V.A</p> <p>III.A,B</p> |

| Week                  | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Assignments                         | Learning Outcome(s)                        |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 12 and 13</b> | <p>1.Functional:<br/>Apologizing; telling a story; expressing disappointment.</p> <p>2.Grammatical:<br/><i>Mentre/durante; stare per + infinito; passato prossimo of modal verbs</i></p> <p>3.Culture:<br/>Talking about love</p> | <b>Unità 9: Colpo di fulmine</b>    | <p>II.A, III.A, IV.A, V.A</p> <p>I.A,C</p> |
| <b>Week 14 and 15</b> | <p>1. Functional:<br/>Describing an apartment; expressing advantages and disadvantages; making comparisons</p> <p>2.Grammar:<br/><i>Bello; congiuntivo presente; comparativi</i></p> <p>3.Culture:<br/>Houses, apartments</p>     | <b>Unità 10: Casa dolce casa...</b> | II.A, III.B, IV.A, V.A                     |
| <b>Week 16</b>        | <b><u>FINAL EXAM</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                     |                                            |

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

1. Textbook: Maria Bali, Giovanna Rizzo, Nuovo Espresso 2. Alma Edizioni, Firenze, 2014
2. A good pocket dictionary Italian/Italian is strongly recommended.



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