IT 101 ITALIAN LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT: NOVICE ABROAD I
IES Abroad Rome

DESCRIPTION:
This course is designed to meet the needs of beginner students participating in a study abroad program. The course will introduce the students to the most frequent everyday situations to facilitate their ability to communicate and function in a new environment. Grammar and vocabulary will always be presented, analyzed and practiced 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:
This course is designed for students with little or no prior knowledge of Italian.
By the end of the course, students will develop a basic foundation in the five skills: intercultural communication, reading, writing, listening, and speaking to accomplish a variety of basic everyday needs in the Italian culture as described in the learning outcomes below.

CREDITS: 4

CONTACT HOURS: 60

LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION: Italian

PREREQUISITES: 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.
Starting from the first week and throughout the rest of the course students will be assigned various "on site" interactive activities, to encourage them to use the language in practical situations, to interact with locals and with their Italian student companions in order to find out about Italian lifestyle and culture.
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.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course, students will be able to achieve some of the outcomes for the Novice 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 meet basic everyday needs using verbal communication, use compensatory strategies when they do not know the word or expression (repetition, body language, etc.), and identify some basic nonverbal communication strategies.

B) Students will be able to recognize basic appropriate and inappropriate expressions and behaviors in the host language.

C) Students will be able to distinguish between basic representations of formality and informality in the language.

D) Students will understand that there may be differences between cultural stereotypes and generalizations between the home culture and host culture.

II) Listening

A) Students will be able to understand basic statements, requests, descriptions, and questions in specific cultural context relevant to them (hosts' interactions, Center interactions, studying, shopping, transportation, meals).

B) Students will be able to use context to understand the gist of some basic spoken language they overhear, including the media, conversations between others, and announcements.

III) Speaking

A) Students will be able to use some basic phrases appropriately in some everyday situations (home, the IES Abroad Center, the community).

B) Students will be able to express some basic needs by asking questions, and get what they need in uncomplicated, everyday situations.

IV) Reading

A) Students will be able to identify and understand basic sentences.

B) Students will be able to interpret main ideas in short passages and news headlines, but their understanding is often limited to the words or groups of words that they have seen in class.

V) Writing

A) With limited accuracy, students will be able to write short sentences and short paragraphs about basic and concrete topics they have studied, such as themselves, their families, their friends, their likes and dislikes, and their daily routines.

B) Students will be able to send basic emails, text messages, postcards, and online posts, and fill out some basic forms.

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%
- 3 Quizzes - 15%
- Oral competence, including two oral tests - 20%
- Midterm Exam – 15%
- Final Exam – 20%

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments	Corresponding Learning Outcome(s)
Survival Session	Developing survival skills: a brief overview of important concepts of Italian culture and useful Italian phrases	• Outdoor activity life around IES Abroad	
Week 1	Bella festa, vero? 1. Functional: Greetings (formal/informal), introducing yourself, asking pronunciation and spelling of a word. 2. Grammatical: Essere, avere, and chiamarsi, alphabet, phonetic, personal pronouns. 3. Vocabulary: Useful class language, greetings	• Assignment: My Identity card	I.A, I/C, II.A, IIIA, IV. B, V.A

	4. Culture: Getting to know the Italians.		
Week 2	Bella festa, vero? 1. Functional: Asking for information about someone, talking about oneself 2. Grammatical: Adjectives of nationality, question words, indefinite articles 3. Vocabulary: Nationalities, professions, numbers from 0 to 30 4. Culture: Italian gestures	• Video assignment: Amici • Quiz 1	
Week 3	Vorrei un' informazione 1. Functional: Making a polite request, asking for information 2. Grammatical: Regular verbs, nouns and adjectives, formal and informal register 3. Vocabulary: The city 4. Culture: Moving in Rome	• Course-Related Trip Assignment: My bar in Rome • Course-Related Trip: Discovering the Prati Neighborhood	I.A., I.D., II.A., III.A., IV., B., V.A.
Week 4	Vorrei un' informazione 1. Functional: Asking prices, asking the time 2. Grammatical: Definite articles, prepositions, connectors 3. Vocabulary: Numbers from 30 to 100, euros 4. Culture: Italian cities	• Course-Related Trip Assignment: Mapping my neighborhood	I.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., IV.B., V.A.
Week 5	Intensive Review MIDTERM EXAM	Oral Presentation 1	
Week 6	Che cosa fai oggi? 1. Functional: Talking about daily activities, talking about leisure time 2. Grammatical: Adverbs of frequency, reflexible verbs, possessive adjectives 3. Vocabulary: Free time activities and days of the week 4. Culture: Italians and leisure time	• Assignment: A park in Rome	I.A., I.C., I.D., II.A., II.B., III.B., IV.A.
Week 7	Che cosa fai oggi? 1. Functional: Inviting someone, accepting and refusing invitations 2. Grammatical: Irregular verbs, volere and dovere 3. Vocabulary: Free time activities and days of the week 4. Culture: Italian contemporary music bands, nightlife in Rome	• Course-Related Trip: Villa Borghese • Worksheet: Senti, cosa fai stasera?	
Week 8	Tu che cosa prendi? 1. Functional: Communicating in a restaurant, expressing likes and dislikes 2. Grammatical: Modal verbs, the verb piacere 3. Vocabulary: food and courses	• Assignment: My favorite restaurant in Rome • Quiz 2	I.A., I.B., I.C., II.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., IV.B., V.B

	4. Culture: The biggest mistakes about Italian food		
Week 9	Tu che cosa prendi? 1. Functional: Describing Food 2. Grammatical: di + articles, connectors ma, invece, allora, perché	• Course-Related Trip: Eataly	I.A., I.C., II.A., III.A., III.B., IV.B., V.A.
Week 10	Scusi, dov'è la fermata dell'autobus? 1. Functional: Describing places 2. Grammatical: Prepositions of place, compound prepositions 3. Vocabulary: The street, the piazza, colors 4. Culture: Everyday life around the Italian piazza, Roman arts and monuments	• Outdoor Activity: Per strada	I.A., I.C., II.A., III.A., III.B., IV.B, V.A.
Week 11	Handouts 1. Functional: Talking about past events and experiences 2. Grammatical: Passato prossimo, adverbs of time 3. Vocabulary: Own memories 4. Culture: Being young in Italy	• Quiz 3	I.A., II.A., II.B., III.A., IV.A., IV.B., V.A.
Week 12	1. Functional: Telling about trips & travel 2. Grammatical: Irregular past participles, past time expressions 3. Vocabulary: Traveling, geography 4. Culture: Different travelers, different travels	• Composition: My study abroad experience	I.A., II.A., II.B., III.A., IV.A., IV.B., V.A.
Week 13	General Review		
Week 14	FINAL EXAM	Oral Presentation 2	I.C., II.A., II.B., III.A., III.B., IV.B., V.A

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance is mandatory for all IES classes, including field studies. If a student misses more than two 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.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:
- Nuovo Contatto A1. Corso di lingua e civiltà italiana per stranieri, by Bozzone Costa, Ghezzi, Piantoni – Loescher 2014.
- 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.