

Western University
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

**Italian 1030 (204) Italian for Beginners
Fall/Winter 2018-2019**

Monday 1.30-3.30 pm, TC 202
Wednesday 1.30-2.30 pm, TC 204

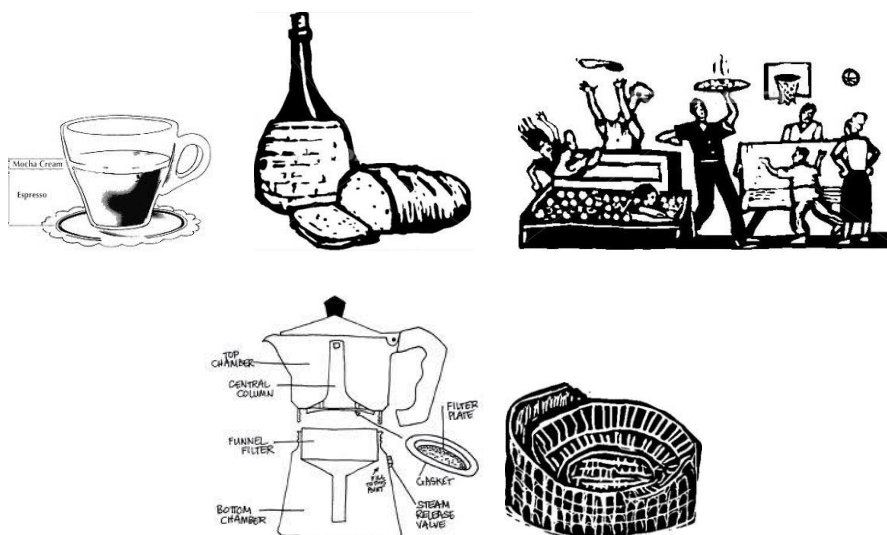
Professor Yuri M. Sangalli, UC 4313

office hours: by appointment

☎: 661-2111 ext. 87390

✉: Please use OWL for all course correspondence

(login: <http://owl.uwo.ca/>)



<https://westernitalian.wordpress.com/category/events/>

(Unofficial blog of the Italian Program)

You are responsible for the information that follows. Please read it carefully.

Antirequisite: Students with Grade 12U Italian or OAC Italian, or with previous knowledge of Italian must consult the Department before registering for this course.

Benvenuti! Welcome to Italian 1030 - Italian for Beginners! This course is designed for students with little or no previous knowledge of Italian. In its new engaging format, the course is composed of three hours per week of in-class instruction, and one hour of online activities at home. It is a dynamic introductory course to the Italian language and culture that blends traditional classroom interaction and online activities. Students are provided with immediate online feedback and engage in active learning, so as to acquire beginners' communicative skills by collaborating in a positive, constructive manner. This course will introduce you to the standard Italian language in an active and practical way!

Please refer to this syllabus **regularly** for important information related to the course.

Course Objectives

- to develop the ability to understand, speak, read, and write basic Italian
- to provide students with the understanding of elementary grammatical structures
- to enable students to express themselves in different cultural contexts
- to build solid foundations for progression to Italian 2200 as well as for other Italian courses/modules in the Italian program at Western
- to enable students to build a strong basis for learning outside the classroom to collaborate and practice in class in a dynamic manner via interaction with their peers
- to encourage a positive attitude towards language learning and the exploring and understanding of different cultures to enhance students' intercultural competence, with reference to the Italian and the North American context in particular, but not exclusively.

Learning Outcomes

Upon **successful** completion of this course, students will be able to:

- understand questions and short texts in the target language
- carry on basic conversations within the range of topics explored
- read short passages dealing with contemporary social issues and daily life in Italy
- create oral presentations and written texts on specific topics
- master basic grammatical structures and use them actively in oral and written expression
- articulate a basic knowledge and understanding of Italian culture and an appreciation of cultural similarities and differences in relation to specific values and communication styles

Required Text (available at Western's Book Store):

Sentieri (Loose-leaf Edition; Units 1 to 6 + Access code to Super Site Plus with access to vText and wSAM, web Student Activity Manual). Julia M. Cozzatrelli. Vista Higher Learning, Edition: 2nd.

Recommended Supplementary Material:

English Grammar for Students of Italian: The Study Guide for Those Learning Italian
Authors: Sergio Adorni and Karen Primorac; Publisher (O&H Study Guides)

Bilingual Dictionary: **Collins** or **Oxford Italian Dictionary**.

Online bilingual dictionaries:

<http://www.garzantilinguistica.it/>

<http://oxfordparavia.it/>

Contact Hours:

1 two-hour and 1 one-hour class meeting per week. Students are required to spend one additional hour working on mandatory online activities at home. At least one hour of study and revision for every one hour spent in class/online each week are **strongly** recommended. Students will also benefit from study partners and weekly tutorials (tutorial schedule to be announced in OWL once available).

Method of Evaluation

Online Learning Preparation and Activities*	5%
Preparation and active class participation:	20%**
4 Tests:	32%
Group Work:	5%
Final Poster Presentation:	8%
Final Exam:	30%
Total: 100%	

A+	90-100
A	80-89
B	70-79
C	60-69
D	50-59
F	below 50

***“Activities”** include practice and quizzes as outlined in the “Online Activities Schedule”
****3% bonus points (maximum) are available for Participation marks:** Italian Studies @ Western organizes several cultural activities throughout the year that enhance the learning of Italian. A list of extra-course activities will be provided once available. These activities may include, but are not limited to, guest speakers, end-of-the-year theatrical performance, Italian cooking classes, a “Cineclub Italiano” film series, a Conversation Club, and more. Students will be provided with an “activity passport”, to be signed by activity leaders for proof of attendance. Bonus participation points will be credited for completed activities recorded on the Passport. Note: it is your responsibility to remember to submit the activity passport to your Professor for credit no later than on the last day of classes!

Online Learning Activities: The Online Learning Activities are an integral part of the course and the foundations of class participation. Students are asked to prepare for the in-class portion of the course by completing the selected activities as indicated in the weekly calendar distributed at the beginning of the course (please note: your professor will add other practice activities, as necessary).

Preparation and participation: Students are expected to maintain regular attendance, participate actively in class (i.e. asking questions, participating in activities etc.), complete all textbook and/or online assignments on their own and before coming to class, and show willingness to communicate in the target language. Participation is assessed on the basis of day-to-day preparation (completing readings and online assignments in a timely fashion), overall in-class performance and progress, willingness to communicate in Italian, and participation in group work and in-class activities and discussions. Students who miss classes or parts of classes **are responsible for the material they missed**. Your professor is **not obliged** to review the contents of lectures, repeat announcements, or retain notes, handouts or overheads. *More than 10 absences may result in a zero in this grade component. For complete details regarding your responsibilities and information concerning missed classes and final exam debarment, please check <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>

Testing: There will be 4 tests (2 hours each) that will include grammar sections, a composition section, and a listening comprehension section. Students will be given general guidelines concerning upcoming tests in advance.

Students must be in class for all evaluations. They will be allowed to write make-up tests *only* if exceptional circumstances arise. In such cases students are expected to contact their instructor *before* class and *must* provide appropriate medical documentation to their home Faculty in order to write a make-up. Faculty approval is required. See “Missed assignments policy” below for more details and important links.

Please note: The Final Exam is timetabled by the Office of the Registrar during the April examination period. Please, plan your travels accordingly. NO special examinations can be granted without approval of the Dean’s Office. See “Missed Assignments”, below.

Group Work presentation: Students will be divided into groups and will prepare a 10 (roughly) minute presentation based on a previously selected short story or reading. Through their presentations students must demonstrate that they have *understood* the text and that they *are able to share this comprehension* with their classmates. Students must speak in Italian (reading is **not** permitted), and are strongly encouraged to supplement their work with drawings, acting, ppt, videos, or any visual or musical material deemed appropriate. Videos must be brief and can only integrate the in-class presentation; they *cannot* be a substitute for the in-class presentation. Scheduling will be discussed in class with the instructor. Tutoring hours can be very helpful to prepare for this assignment! Please note: reading directly from your notes, or from the selected text, from slides, or from any type of written material will result in a minimum 50% loss of the component mark. Students will be evaluated individually on their own performance, and will not receive a group mark.

Final Poster Presentation:

On Thursday, March 28, students (in groups of 3 or 4) will present a poster on aspects of Italian culture in a global context, for the “Italian Studies Cultural Awareness Day”, to be held in the UCC atrium. Each group will be in attendance for one hour. With the assistance of their professors, students will select a topic and a time slot for their poster presentation in advance. While posters will be bilingual, Italian and English, the poster presentation will be in Italian, in order to allow for an oral performance assessment. As such, NO reading from the poster or notes is allowed. Reading will result in a minimum 50% off the component mark. Practicing beforehand with group mates as often as required is highly recommended. Students will be assessed on their individual contributions; an evaluation grid will be made available in advance. This activity encourages intercultural communication, and will give students the opportunity to showcase their ability to speak Italian at the appropriate level for Beginners.

Details to follow both in class and via the Owl course website.

USEFUL TIP:

You are strongly encouraged to use Italian from day 1: willingness to interact in the target language from the beginning will be crucial!

Classroom conduct and etiquette:

In an emergency, if you miss class, having someone take notes during your absence is better than nothing. However, please keep in mind that no set of notes, no matter how exhaustive, can duplicate the classroom experience. The best learning takes place in the space between professor and students. In addition, please note that it is your responsibility to get notes from a classmate, and that the instructor is not obliged to share notes or PowerPoint presentations with students.

Recording of lectures is not permitted. Exception: students with my permission, following a request from the Student Development Service.

Lectures in this course provide students with an opportunity to learn. Be courteous to your classmates, respect their right to benefit from the lectures by refraining from loud conversations or chatting. If a quick exchange is necessary, please be considerate: limit the discussion to what is essential to the lecture, be brief, and whisper!

Please **do not**: leave during lectures, come to class habitually late, surf the web, check your messages, go on Facebook, or otherwise engage in activities that distract from the classroom learning experience and demonstrate a lack of concern for the instructor and your classmates. Such behavior will not be tolerated.

At times your instructor may employ “active learning” techniques to help students engage with new material. During such activities, all students are strongly encouraged to participate in the group or class discussion, and to ask questions. As all of you know, participation will supplement your learning and enhance your class experience, so do your best to participate and show enthusiasm! Students who disrupt these activities or refuse to participate, will be asked to leave.

Email policy:

Emails from students are very welcome, however please make sure that the answer to your questions is **NOT** included in the syllabus or course outline before emailing your instructor. In particular, students are to refrain from emailing the instructor to ask about assigned readings, or drill page/numbers: **all readings** and drills are listed in the course schedule and the textbook website. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the information in your course schedule and with the use of the online website at the beginning of the course.

For all other questions, I will do my best to reply as promptly as I can, however, please keep in mind that I may not always find sufficient time to give your email a same day reply, especially later in the day, or on weekends.

When a reply to a question requires meeting in person or setting up a phone appointment, I will notify you.

Electronic devices:

Under **no circumstances** is texting (writing or reading), listening to music, or playing with any kind of handheld devices permissible or tolerable while in class! As a courtesy to your classmates and to avoid disrupting the lecture or distracting your fellow students always turn off your cellular phone before entering class and be sure to keep cell phones, ipods or any other hand-held device in your bag, at all times.

Use of laptops for purposes other than taking notes (i.e., to access the Internet, watch videos, play games, etc.) is **strictly prohibited**. Please be advised that the instructor may require a student to shut down a computer or any electronic device if used for purposes others than those related to the course.

If you do plan to take notes on your lap-top, please discuss your needs with the Instructor. To avoid distracting fellow students seated behind you, you will be kindly requested to sit at the back of the class.



Prerequisite: None. **Antirequisite:** Students with Grade 12U Italian or OAC Italian must consult the Department before registering for this course. **Please note:** You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites (or have special permission from your Dean to waive the prerequisite) and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. If you are not eligible for the course, you may be removed from it at any time, and it will be deleted from your record. In addition, you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.



Common statement for all MLL courses on academic accommodation, academic offenses, support services

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Modern Languages and Literatures courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html>. It is your responsibility to understand the policies set out by the Senate and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, and thus ignorance of these policies cannot be used as grounds of appeal.

Missed Assignments

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical or non-medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments must apply to the Academic Counseling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Please refer to the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> and download a Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca>

Please keep in mind that you might have more than one test during the same week. This does not constitute a valid justification for missing an assignment in Italian 1030. Gather all assignments dates and deadlines for all your courses to plan ahead your study time and avoid unnecessary stress.

Students who find themselves in emotional/mental distress are encouraged to refer to Mental Health@Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of confidential options about how to obtain help.

University policy regarding missed classes, absenteeism and admission to exams:

Please note that attendance is a crucial, integral part of a language course. The University Policy states that “Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent *too frequently* from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of Registration”. For the full text, please go to <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/exam/attendance.pdf>

*Ciao a tutti e
benvenuti!*



*Buono studio e buon
divertimento!*