

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
WINTER 2020

Italian 2220B: Italian Conversation
Italian 3320B: Advanced Italian Conversations

Instructor: Luca Pocci (lpocci@uwo.ca)
Classes: Tuesday 11:30-1:30, Thursday 11:30-12:30
TC 203



Course Content

A selection of guided conversations in Italian dealing with a range of issues relating to contemporary Italy. Students will develop their communicative skills in Italian through discussion of a number of topics, ranging from social and political issues to media, pop culture, films, music, fashion, food, and sports.

Please note: in this course second-year and upper-year Italian students will share one and the same classroom. They will interact in Italian and learn from each other under their instructor's guidance. While the course content will be the same, course aims and learning outcomes will differ, i.e. they will reflect the students' different levels of proficiency in Italian.

Course Aims for Italian 2220B

Improve oral fluency through guided conversations and presentations in Italian

Expand students' vocabulary in a way that will benefit both general conversation and discussion of specific topics

Familiarize students with a variety of current issues relating to Italy through different sources (short readings, websites, videos, music etc.)

Provide a solid foundation for advanced courses in the target language

Course Aims for Italian 3320B

Strengthen and refine oral fluency through guided conversations and presentations in Italian

Enrich students' vocabulary and verbal expressiveness in a way that will benefit both general conversation and discussion of specific topics

Enhance students' familiarity with a variety of current issues relating to Italy through different sources (short readings, websites, videos, music etc.)

Learning Outcomes for Italian 2220B

It is expected that, upon successful completion of this course, students will have the ability to accomplish the following:

Speak with greater confidence and fluency in the target language

Have a broader passive and active vocabulary

Be able to express opinions and doubt, as well as agreement and disagreement

Be able to give meaningful oral presentations using only a list of key words

Have a broader cultural awareness of some current issues relating to Italy

Learning Outcomes for Italian 3320B

It is expected that, upon successful completion of this course, students will have the ability to accomplish the following:

Communicate with a greater degree of verbal competence in the target language

Have a sound awareness of the different language registers in Italian

Be able to advance and defend a position on relatively complex topics

Be able to improvise short oral presentations using only a list of key words

Demonstrate critical understanding of some current issues relating to Italy

Contact Hours

One two-hour class meeting, and one one-hour meeting per week

Course Text (available at the UWO Bookstore)

T. Marin, *La Prova Orale 2*

Evaluation

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| • Participation and Preparation | 20% |
| • Role Plays | 30% |
| • Vocabulary Quizzes | 20% |
| • Oral Assessments | 30% |

Participation and preparation

Students will need to bring the required course material to every class and are expected to attend all lectures and to complete all assigned readings. This is a CONVERSATION class, so there is no such thing as passive participation. Expanding and strengthening oral communication skills requires active participation, which is assessed on the basis of day-to-day preparation (i.e., completion of assigned readings) and involvement in all in-class activities (discussions, group work, etc.).

Role plays (Three)

Students will be divided into small groups and will engage in role playing activities based on examples of real-life settings and contexts explored in class. Students will be expected to use the structures and vocabulary that they have learned.

Quizzes (Three)

Short vocabulary quizzes will be administered on selected dates, based on specific readings and topics covered throughout the term.

Oral assessments (Two)

Individual oral assessments will be held approximately one month after the beginning of classes (OA 1), and at the end of the course (OA 2). Feedback on strong and weak points will be provided.

Absences

Students must provide medical documentation in order to write make-up quizzes or to be permitted to reschedule their oral and written assessments and role plays.

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures Policies (which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in the department's courses) are available [here](#). It is your responsibility to understand these policies, and thus ignorance thereof cannot be used as grounds for appeal.